

Second Generation P-Values in Stata

Sven-Kristjan Bormann

University of Tartu, School Economics and Business Administration, Estonia

10th September 2020

- 1 Second Generation P-Values: An Introduction
- 2 The SGPV-package: Commands & Examples

Introduction

- Second Generation P-Values (SGPVs) first introduced by (Blume et al., 2018) with (Blume et al., 2019) being a simpler introduction.

Introduction

- Second Generation P-Values (SGPVs) first introduced by (Blume et al., 2018) with (Blume et al., 2019) being a simpler introduction.
- Alternative to traditional p-values -> better statistical properties, easier to understand. (p-value = $P(\text{data}|H_0) \neq P(H_0|\text{data}) = \text{posterior prob.}$) See also Blume and Peipert (2003).

Introduction

- Second Generation P-Values (SGPVs) first introduced by (Blume et al., 2018) with (Blume et al., 2019) being a simpler introduction.
- Alternative to traditional p-values -> better statistical properties, easier to understand. (p-value = $P(\text{data}|H_0) \neq P(H_0|\text{data}) = \text{posterior prob.}$) See also Blume and Peipert (2003).
- Require interval null-hypothesis to work best. Point null hypothesis possible but discouraged.

Introduction

- Second Generation P-Values (SGPVs) first introduced by (Blume et al., 2018) with (Blume et al., 2019) being a simpler introduction.
- Alternative to traditional p-values -> better statistical properties, easier to understand. (p-value = $P(\text{data}|H_0) \neq P(H_0|\text{data}) = \text{posterior prob.}$) See also Blume and Peipert (2003).
- Require interval null-hypothesis to work best. Point null hypothesis possible but discouraged.
- Package started out as a response to a [thread on Statalist](#).

Introduction

- Second Generation P-Values (SGPVs) first introduced by (Blume et al., 2018) with (Blume et al., 2019) being a simpler introduction.
- Alternative to traditional p-values -> better statistical properties, easier to understand. (p-value = $P(\text{data}|H_0) \neq P(H_0|\text{data}) = \text{posterior prob.}$) See also Blume and Peipert (2003).
- Require interval null-hypothesis to work best. Point null hypothesis possible but discouraged.
- Package started out as a response to a [thread on Statalist](#).
- A translation of the [original R-code](#) by Valerie F. Welty and Jeffrey D. Blume into Stata.

Introduction

- Second Generation P-Values (SGPVs) first introduced by (Blume et al., 2018) with (Blume et al., 2019) being a simpler introduction.
- Alternative to traditional p-values -> better statistical properties, easier to understand. (p-value = $P(\text{data}|H_0) \neq P(H_0|\text{data}) = \text{posterior prob.}$) See also Blume and Peipert (2003).
- Require interval null-hypothesis to work best. Point null hypothesis possible but discouraged.
- Package started out as a response to a [thread on Statalist](#).
- A translation of the [original R-code](#) by Valerie F. Welty and Jeffrey D. Blume into Stata.
- A [Python implementation](#) exists as well (but without the `sgpv`-command)

Introduction

- Second Generation P-Values (SGPVs) first introduced by (Blume et al., 2018) with (Blume et al., 2019) being a simpler introduction.
- Alternative to traditional p-values -> better statistical properties, easier to understand. (p-value = $P(\text{data}|H_0) \neq P(H_0|\text{data}) = \text{posterior prob.}$) See also Blume and Peipert (2003).
- Require interval null-hypothesis to work best. Point null hypothesis possible but discouraged.
- Package started out as a response to a [thread on Statalist](#).
- A translation of the [original R-code](#) by Valerie F. Welty and Jeffrey D. Blume into Stata.
- A [Python implementation](#) exists as well (but without the `sgpv`-command)
- Focus in this presentation only on SGPVs and not on their diagnostics (Power functions and False Confirmatory/Discovery Risk)

SGPV definition

Equation 1 of Blume et al. (2019)

$$p_{\delta} = \frac{|I \cap H_0|}{|I|} * \max \left\{ \frac{|I|}{2 * |H_0|}, 1 \right\}$$
$$= \begin{cases} \frac{|I \cap H_0|}{|I|} & \text{when } |I| \leq 2|H_0| \\ \frac{1}{2} \frac{|I \cap H_0|}{|H_0|} & \text{when } |I| > 2|H_0| \end{cases}$$

$$\delta = \frac{|H_0|}{2},$$

$I = [\theta_l, \theta_u]$ the interval estimate of θ ,

$|I| = \theta_u - \theta_l$ the length of the interval,

θ_u and θ_l upper and lower bound of a $100(1 - \alpha)\%$ confidence interval,

H_0 an interval null hypothesis, its length $|H_0|$,

$|I \cap H_0|$ the intersection or overlap of the two intervals,

$\max \left\{ \frac{|I|}{2|H_0|}, 1 \right\}$ a correction term

SGPV Illustration

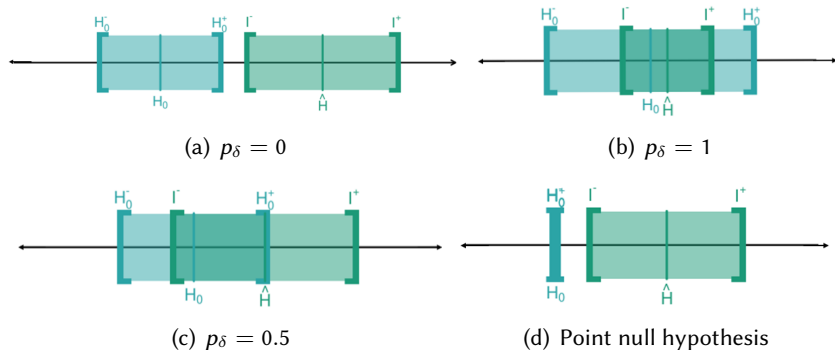


Figure: Illustration of interval and point null hypothesis, H_0 ; the estimated effect that is the best supported hypothesis, $\hat{H} = \hat{\theta}$; the 95% confidence interval (CI) for the estimated effect $[I^-, I^+]$; and the interval null hypothesis $[H_0^-, H_0^+]$.

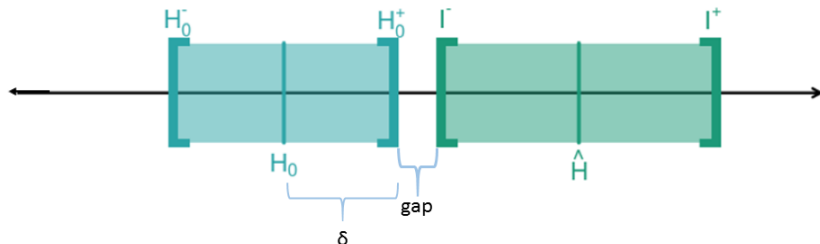
Delta-Gap: Formula and Illustration

A way of ranking two studies that both have second-generation p-values of zero ($p_\delta = 0$).

$$\text{Delta-Gap} = \frac{\text{gap}}{\delta}$$

$$\text{gap} = \max(\theta_l, H_{0l}) - \min(H_{0u}, \theta_u)$$

$$\delta = \frac{|H_0|}{2}$$



The SGPV-package

sgpv-package consists of:

- **sgpv** - a wrapper around the other commands, `sgpvalue` and `fdrisk`, to be used after estimations commands which return the matrix `r(table)`
- **sgpvalue** - calculate the SGPVs
- `sgpower` - power functions for the SGPVs
- `fdrisk` - false confirmation/discovery risks for the SGPVs
- `plotsgpv` - plot the SGPVs

sgpv command syntax

```
sgpv [subcommand] [, quietly estimate(name)  
matrix(name) coefficient(string) noconstant  
nulllo(string) nullhi(string)  
matlistopt(string asis) bonus(string) format(%fmt)  
nonullwarnings fdrisk_options permanent ]  
[ : estimation_command ]
```

sgpv command example 1

```
. sysuse auto, clear  
(1978 Automobile Data)  
. sgpv, bonus(all): regress price mpg weight foreign  
  (output omitted)
```

Comparison of ordinary P-Values and Second Generation P-Values for a point Null-Hypothesis of 0

Variables	P-Value	SGPV	Delta-Gap	Fdr
mpg	.7693	.5	.	.
weight	0	0	2.2067	.0479
foreign	0	0	2300	.048
_cons	.0874	.5	.	.

Warning:

You used the default point 0 null-hypothesis for calculating the SGPVs. This is allowed but you are strongly encouraged to set a more reasonable interval null-hypothesis.

The default point 0 null-hypothesis will result in having SGPVs of either 0 or 0.5.

sgpv command example 2

```
. sgpv ,coefficient(mpg weight foreign) nulllo(20 2 3000) nullhi(40 4 6000) quie  
> tly: sqreg price mpg rep78 foreign weight, q(10 25 50 75 90)
```

Comparison of ordinary P-Values and Second Generation P-Values with an individual null-hypothesis for each variable

Variables	P-Value	SGPV	Null-LB	Null-UB
q10				
mpg	.1004	0	20	40
weight	.5264	.1104	2	4
foreign	.3541	.0467	3000	6000
q25				
mpg	.9415	.5	20	40
weight	.1265	.4369	2	4
foreign	.2717	.2609	3000	6000
q50				
mpg	.9246	.5	20	40
weight	.0212	.5	2	4
foreign	.03	.5189	3000	6000
q75				
mpg	.7024	.5	20	40
weight	.156	.5	2	4
foreign	.2137	.5	3000	6000
q90				
mpg	.9113	.5	20	40
weight	.0703	.5	2	4
foreign	.226	.4998	3000	6000

sgpvalue command syntax

```
sgpvalue, estlo(string) esthi(string) nulllo(string)  
nullhi(string) [nowarnings infcorrection(real 1e-5)  
nodeltagap nomata noshow replace]
```

sgpvalue command

```
. local lb log(1.05) log(1.3) log(0.97)
. local ub log(1.8) log(1.8) log(1.02)
. sgpvalue , estlo(`lb`) esthi(`ub`) nulllo(log(1/1.1)) nullhi(log(1.1))
```

Second Generation P-Values

	SGPV	Delta-Gap
	<hr/>	
.1220227		.
0	1.752741	
1		.

Final remarks

- SGPVs are easy to understand and to use.
- Setting an interval null-hypothesis instead of a point null-hypothesis does not hurt.
- `sgpv`-package offers an easy way to integrate SGPVs into the standard workflow.

References

- Blume, J., and J. F. Peipert. 2003. What Your Statistician Never Told You about P-Values. *The Journal of the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists* 10(4): 439 – 444. URL <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1074380405601430>.
- Blume, J. D., R. A. Greevy, V. F. Welty, J. R. Smith, and W. D. Dupont. 2019. An Introduction to Second-Generation p-Values. *The American Statistician* 73(sup1): 157–167.
- Blume, J. D., L. D. McGowan, W. D. Dupont, and R. A. Greevy. 2018. Second-generation p-values: Improved rigor, reproducibility, & transparency in statistical analyses. *PLOS ONE* 13(3): e0188299.