

4 Testing Hypotheses about a Single Linear Combination of the Parameter

Consider

$$\log(wage) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 jc + \beta_2 univ + \beta_3 exp\ er + u$$

where jc = number of years attending a two-year college

$univ$ = number of years at a four-year college

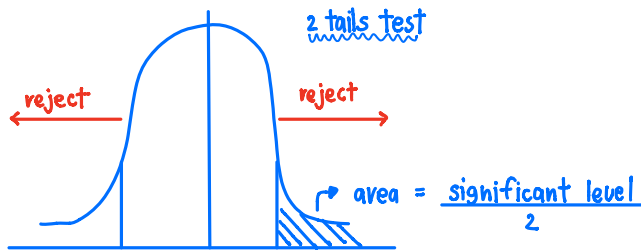
$exp\ er$ = months in the workforce.

We want to test whether $\beta_1 = \beta_2$. $\rightarrow$ if the returns from 1 more years of education at a Junior College is the same as that of the university

$$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 \Rightarrow H_0: \beta_1 - \beta_2 = 0$$

against

$$H_a: \beta_1 \neq \beta_2 \Rightarrow H_a: \beta_1 - \beta_2 \neq 0$$



$$t = \frac{(\hat{\beta}_1 - \hat{\beta}_2) - 0}{s.e.(\hat{\beta}_1 - \hat{\beta}_2)} \rightarrow \text{we compute this t-statistic and compare with the critical value}$$

where $s.e.(\hat{\beta}_1 - \hat{\beta}_2) = \sqrt{\text{var}(\hat{\beta}_1 - \hat{\beta}_2)}$

not very straight
forward to calculate

$$= \sqrt{\text{var}(\hat{\beta}_1) + \text{var}(\hat{\beta}_2) - 2\text{cov}(\hat{\beta}_1, \hat{\beta}_2)}$$

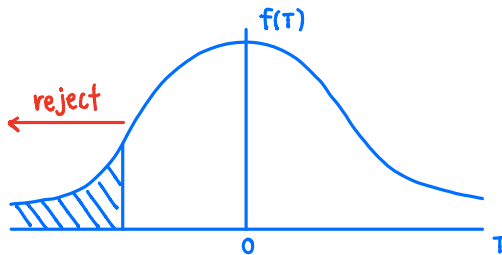
$\rightarrow$ we use a variable transformation trick $\leadsto$ see notes.

another possible hypothesis test (one-tailed alternative) ^{going to university give more return than going to college}

$$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 \Rightarrow H_0: \beta_1 - \beta_2 = 0$$

$$H_a: \beta_1 < \beta_2 \Rightarrow H_a: \beta_1 - \beta_2 < 0$$

- It is assume that β_1 would not be more than β_2 (return to a 2-year college would never be more than return to university education)

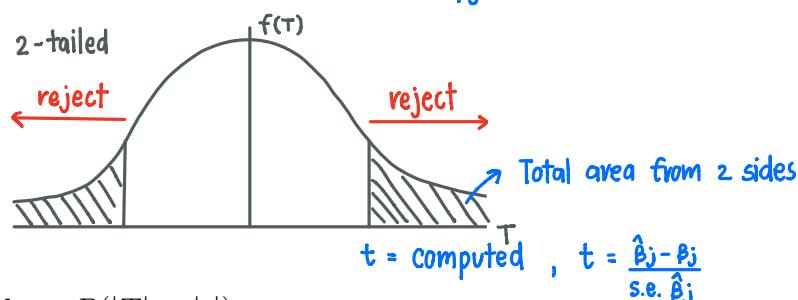
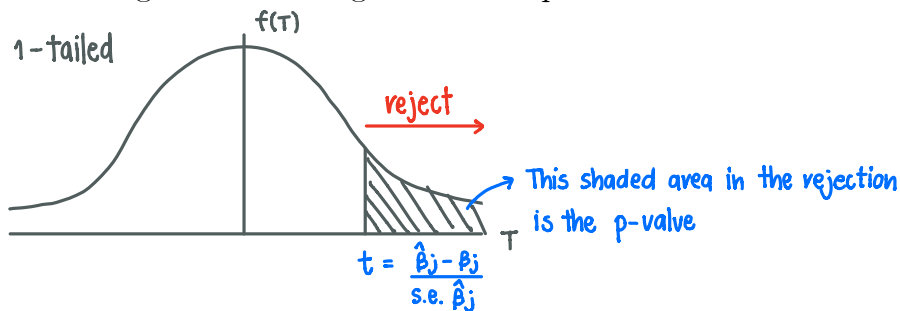


$$t = \frac{(\hat{\beta}_1 - \hat{\beta}_2) - 0}{\text{s.e.}(\hat{\beta}_1 - \hat{\beta}_2)}$$

* Then, go to the extra note

5 Computing p-Values for t-Tests

- What is the significance level given the computed t-statistics?



- p-value : $P(|T| > |t|)$

T = t-distributed random variable with d.f. = $n - k - 1$

t = computed t-statistic

→ p-value = probability that a random T value will be greater (in the $| |$ term) than our t-statistic in the H_0 testing

In class exercise

Consider the multiple regression model, assume MLR 1-6 are satisfied.

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \beta_3 x_3 + u$$

You would like to test the $H_0: \beta_1 - 3\beta_2 = 1$

H_a : Otherwise is true

1) write the T-statistic for testing H_0

$$t = \frac{(\hat{\beta}_1 - 3\hat{\beta}_2) - 1}{\text{s.e.}(\hat{\beta}_1 - 3\hat{\beta}_2)}$$

2) Define $\hat{\theta}_1 = \hat{\beta}_1 - 3\hat{\beta}_2 \Rightarrow H_0: \theta_1 = 1$

$H_a: \theta_1 \neq 1$

$t = \frac{\hat{\theta}_1 - 1}{\text{s.e.}(\hat{\theta}_1)} \rightarrow$ we need our regression to have θ_1 in it
So STATA or OLS estimator will automatically give $\hat{\theta}_1$ and s.e. $\hat{\theta}_1$

$$\text{Now, } \hat{\beta}_1 = \hat{\theta}_1 + 3\hat{\beta}_2$$

$$\text{or } \beta_1 = \theta_1 + 3\beta_2$$

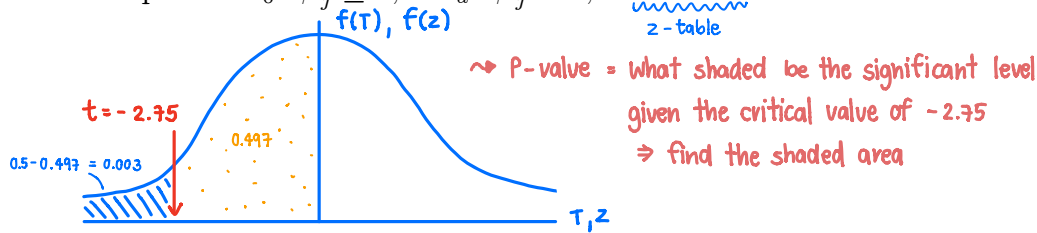
Substitute in the main regression and get

$$\begin{aligned} y &= \beta_0 + (\theta_1 + 3\beta_2)x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \beta_3 x_3 + u \\ &= \beta_0 + \theta_1 x_1 + 3\beta_2 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \beta_3 x_3 + u \\ &= \beta_0 + \theta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 (x_2 + 3x_1) + \beta_3 x_3 + u \end{aligned}$$

★ Now, the explanatory variables are going to be x_1 , $x_2 + 3x_1$, and x_3

• we can calculate $t = \frac{\hat{\theta}_1 - 1}{\text{s.e.} \hat{\theta}_1}$

Example 1: $H_0 : \beta_j \geq 0$, $H_a : \beta_j < 0$, d.f. = 140.



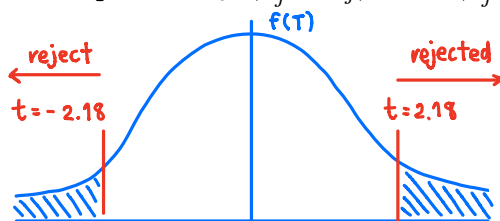
suppose the calculated $t_{\hat{\beta}_j} = -2.75$

$$t_{\hat{\beta}_j} = \frac{\hat{\beta}_j - \beta_j}{s.e.(\hat{\beta}_j)}$$

- From the z-table, the value -2.75 corresponds to area = 0.003
- Thus, p-value = 0.003
- Would we reject H_0 if we use the significance level = 5%? Yes

★ RULE : we reject H_0 if p-value < significant level

Example 2: $H_0 : \beta_j = a_j$, $H_a : \beta_j \neq a_j$, d.f. = 18.

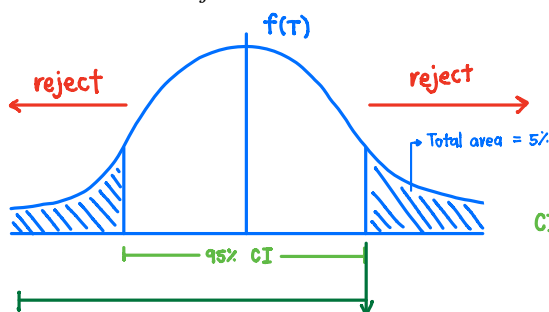


suppose the calculated $t_{\hat{\beta}_j} = -2.18$

- From the t-table, the value -2.18 corresponds to area = 0.02 to 0.05
- Thus, p-value = is between 0.02 - 0.05
- Would we reject H_0 if we use the significance level = 5%?
Yes, reject H_0 because the area is less than 0.05
or p-value < 0.05

6 Confidence Intervals (CI)

- Confidence Intervals for the POPULATION PARAMETER (β_j)
The range of value that would capture the true β_j at a 95% change
- A 95% CI of β_j is given by



$$CI \Rightarrow \hat{\beta}_j \pm C \times s.e.(\hat{\beta}_j)$$

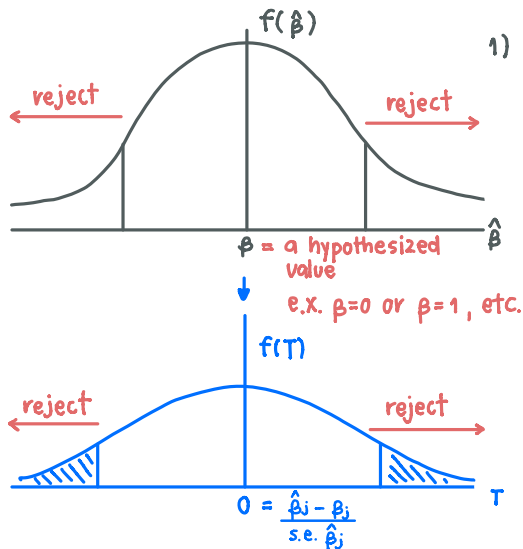
C is the 97.5 percentile in the t-distribution with n-k-1 df.

Inference $\rightarrow$ Hypothesis testing about " β " the true parameter

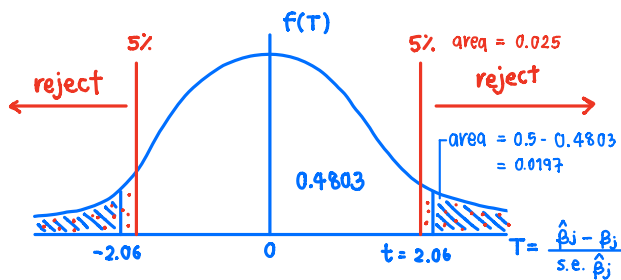
$$\text{wage} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{educ} + \beta_2 \text{exper} + \dots + u$$

we want to test hypotheses about the true impact (β) of each x variable (education, experience) on the dependent variable (y)

BUT. We don't know what the true β are. So, we use $\hat{\beta}$ (estimator) and $\text{s.e.}(\hat{\beta})$ to test the hypotheses



Significant level = total area in the rejection region



• Suppose, we calculate α
 $t\text{-statistic} = \frac{\hat{\beta}_j - \beta_j}{\text{s.e.}(\hat{\beta}_j)} = 2.06$

ass. d.f. 100

• Suppose we are testing, $H_0: \beta_j = 0$

$H_a: \beta_j \neq 0$

2-tailed test

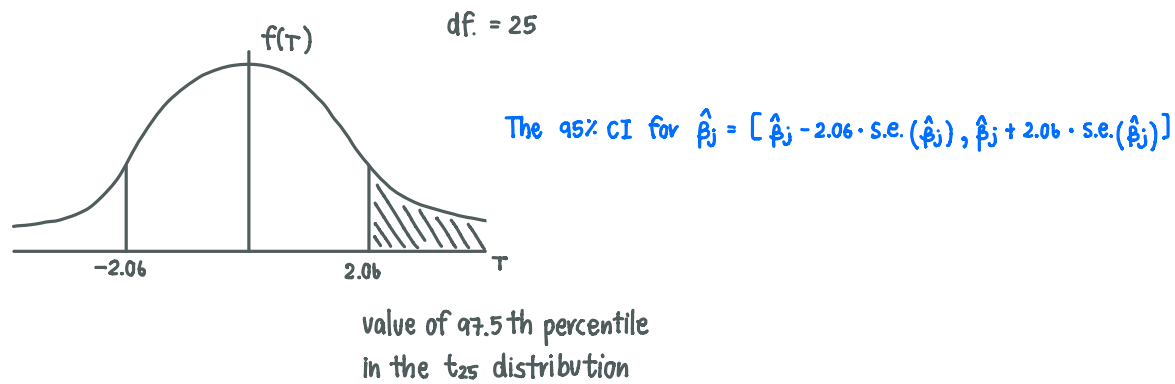
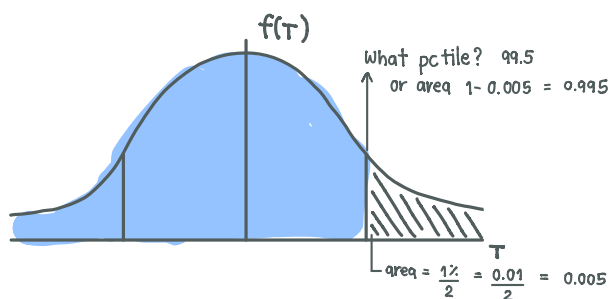
• p-value = total shaded area

P-value = significant level when we will reject the H_0 or prob that we will reject H_0

$$= 2(0.5 - 0.4803)$$

$$= 0.0394$$

* If p-value < significant level $\Rightarrow$ reject H_0

Example 1: **95% CI**Example 2: **99% CI**

The 99% CI for $\hat{\beta}_j = [\hat{\beta}_j - 2.787 \cdot \text{s.e.}(\hat{\beta}_j), \hat{\beta}_j + 2.787 \cdot \text{s.e.}(\hat{\beta}_j)]$

F-test motivation

⇒ We want to test the significance of a group of hypotheses (multiple hypotheses)

$$\text{Grade}_{325} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{times_front} + \beta_2 * \text{times_back} + \beta_3 \text{ hours_study} + \beta_4 \text{ past_GPA} + \beta_5 \text{ gender} + u$$

H_0 : seat position doesn't have impact on GPA

$$\beta_1 = 0 \text{ and } \beta_2 = 0 \Rightarrow \beta_1 = \beta_2 = 0$$

H_a : seat position matters

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \beta_1 \neq 0 \text{ and } \beta_2 \neq 0 \text{ or } \beta_1 \neq 0 \text{ and } \beta_2 = 0 \\ \beta_1 = 0 \text{ and } \beta_2 \neq 0 \end{array} \right\} \text{ at least one of the } \beta_1, \beta_2 \neq 0$$