

# Package: semTests (via r-universe)

May 8, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Goodness-of-Fit Testing for Structural Equation Models

**Description** Supports eigenvalue block-averaging p-values (Foldnes, Grønneberg, 2018) <doi:10.1080/10705511.2017.1373021>, penalized eigenvalue block-averaging p-values (Foldnes, Moss, Grønneberg, 2024) <doi:10.1080/10705511.2024.2372028>, penalized regression p-values (Foldnes, Moss, Grønneberg, 2024) <doi:10.1080/10705511.2024.2372028>, as well as traditional p-values such as Satorra-Bentler. All p-values can be calculated using unbiased or biased gamma estimates (Du, Bentler, 2022) <doi:10.1080/10705511.2022.2063870> and two choices of chi square statistics.

**Version** 0.7.1

**License** GPL (>= 3)

**Encoding** UTF-8

**URL** <https://github.com/JonasMoss/semTests>

**Depends** R (>= 3.5.0)

**Imports** lavaan (>= 0.6-16), CompQuadForm, progressr, future.apply, RSpectra, MASS, Matrix, methods

**Suggests** covr, testthat (>= 3.0.0), psych

**Config/testthat/edition** 3

**Roxygen** list(markdown = TRUE)

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.3

**Repository** <https://jonasmoss.r-universe.dev>

**Date/Publication** 2025-10-04 08:23:05 UTC

**RemoteUrl** <https://github.com/jonasmoss/semtests>

**RemoteRef** HEAD

**RemoteSha** 529f261d9220d92f550453d4dcebb347d1296b38

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pvalues	<i>Calculate p-values for one or two lavaan objects.</i>
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### Description

Calculate  $p$ -values for a lavaan object using several methods, including penalized eigenvalue block-averaging and penalized regression estimators. The recommended choices of  $p$ -values are included as default values. Multiple  $p$ -values can be returned simultaneously.

### Usage

```
pvalues(object, tests = c("pEBA4_RLS"))

pvalues_nested(m0, m1, method = c("2000", "2001"), tests = c("PALL_UG_ML"))
```

### Arguments

object, m0, m1	One or two lavaan objects. <code>pvalues</code> does goodness-of-fit testing on one object, <code>pvalues_nested</code> does hypothesis testing on two nested models.
tests	A list of tests to evaluate on the form " <code>(test)_(ug?)_(rls?)</code> "; see the default arguments and details below. The defaults are the recommended options.
method	For nested models, choose between 2000 and 2001. Note: 2001 and Satorra-Bentler will not correspond with the variant in the paper.

### Details

The test argument is a list of character strings on the form `(test)(ug?)(ml?)`, for instance, `SB_UG_RLS`.

- The first part of the string specifies the desired test. The supported tests are listed below.
- If UG is included in the string the unbiased estimator of the fourth order moment matrix (Du, Bentler, 2022) is used. If not, the standard biased matrix is used. There is no simple relationship between  $p$ -value performance and the choice of unbiased.
- The final part of specifies the chi square statistic. The ML choice uses the chi square based on the normal discrepancy function (Bollen, 2014). The RLS choice (default) uses the reweighted least squares statistic of Browne (1974).

The eba method partitions the eigenvalues into  $j$  equally sized sets (if not possible, the smallest set is incomplete), and takes the mean eigenvalue of these sets. Provide a list of integers  $j$  to partition with respect to. The method was proposed by Foldnes & Grønneberg (2018). eba with  $j=2 - j=4$  appear to work best.

The peba method is a penalized variant of eba, described in (Foldnes, Moss, Grønneberg, 2024). It typically outperforms eba, and the best choice of  $j$  are typically about 2–6.

pol $s$  is a penalized regression method with a penalization term from ranging from 0 to infinity. Foldnes, Moss, Grønneberg (2024) studied pol $s=2$ , which has good performance in a variety of contexts.

pa $ll$  uses all eigenvalues in u $\gamma$ , but penalizes them. This is the recommended option for nested models. a $ll$  uses all eigenvalues.

In addition, you may specify a

- std the standard  $p$ -value where the choice of chi $sq$  is approximated by a chi square distribution.
- sb Satorra-Bentler  $p$ -value. The  $p$ -value proposed by Satorra and Bentler (1994).
- ss The scaled and shifted  $p$ -value proposed by Asparouhov & Muthén (2010).
- sf The scaled  $F$   $p$ -value proposed by Wu and Lin (2016).

The unbiased argument is TRUE if the the unbiased estimator of the fourth order moment matrix (Du, Bentler, 2022) is used. If FALSE, the standard biased matrix is used. There is no simple relationship between  $p$ -value performance and the choice of unbiased.

The chi $sq$  argument controls which basic test statistic is used. The m $l$  choice uses the chi square based on the normal discrepancy function (Bollen, 2014). The r $ls$  choice uses the reweighted least squares statistic of Browne (1974).

## Value

A named vector of  $p$ -values.

## References

- Foldnes, N., Moss, J., & Grønneberg, S. (2024). Improved goodness of fit procedures for structural equation models. *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705511.2024.2063870>
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- Du, H., & Bentler, P. M. (2022). 40-Year Old Unbiased Distribution Free Estimator Reliably Improves SEM Statistics for Nonnormal Data. *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, 29(6), 872-887. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705511.2022.2063870>
- Bollen, K. A. (2014). *Structural Equations with Latent Variables* (Vol. 210). John Wiley & Sons. <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118619179>
- Browne. (1974). Generalized least squares estimators in the analysis of covariance structures. *South African Statistical Journal*. [https://doi.org/10.10520/aja0038271x\\_175](https://doi.org/10.10520/aja0038271x_175)

**Examples**

```
library("semTests")
library("lavaan")
model <- "A =~ A1+A2+A3+A4+A5;
         C =~ C1+C2+C3+C4+C5"
n <- 200
object <- sem(model, psych::bfi[1:n, 1:10], estimator = "MLM")
pvalues(object)

# For the pEBA6 method with biased gamma and ML chisq statistic:
pvalues(object, "pEBA6_ML")
```

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sparsify	<i>Create sparse matrix</i>
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**Description**

Create sparse matrix

**Usage**

```
sparsify(mat, lim = 1e-09)
```

**Arguments**

mat	Matrix input.
lim	Elements with absolute value less than lim get set to 0.

**Value**

Object of dgCMatrix.

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