Samples of sizes $n_1 = 45$ and $n_2 = 55$ were taken of Wisconsin homeowners with and without air conditioning, respectively. (Data courtesy of Statistical Laboratory, University of Wisconsin.) Two measurements of electrical usage (in kilowatt hours) were considered. The first is a measure of total on-peak consumption (X_1) during July and the second is a measure of total off-peak consumption (X_2) during July. The resulting summary statistics are

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 204.4 \\ 556.6 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{S}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 13825.3 & 23823.4 \\ 23823.4 & 73107.4 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad n_1 = 45$$
 $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 130.0 \\ 355.0 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{S}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 8632.0 & 19616.7 \\ 19616.7 & 55964.5 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad n_2 = 55$

(The off-peak consumption is higher than the on-peak consumption because there are more off-peak hours in a month.)

Let us find 95% simultaneous confidence intervals for the differences in the mean components.

Although there appears to be somewhat of a discrepancy in the sample variances, for illustrative purposes we proceed to a calculation of the pooled sample covariance matrix. Here

$$\mathbf{S}_{\text{pooled}} = \frac{(n_1 - 1)\mathbf{S}_1 + (n_2 - 1)\mathbf{S}_2}{n_1 + n_2 - 2} = \begin{bmatrix} 10963.7 & 21505.5\\ 21505.5 & 63661.3 \end{bmatrix}$$

The 95% confidence ellipse for $\mu_1 - \mu_2$ is determined from the eigenvalue-eigenvector pairs $\lambda_1 = 71323.5$, $\mathbf{e}'_1 = [.336, .942]$ and $\lambda_2 = 3301.5$, $\mathbf{e}'_2 = [.942, -.336]$.

Since

$$\sqrt{\lambda_1} \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{n_1} + \frac{1}{n_2}\right)c^2} = \sqrt{71323.5} \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{45} + \frac{1}{55}\right)6.26} = 134.3$$

and

$$\sqrt{\lambda_2} \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{n_1} + \frac{1}{n_2}\right)c^2} = \sqrt{3301.5} \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{45} + \frac{1}{55}\right)6.26} = 28.9$$

we obtain the 95% confidence ellipse for $\mu_1 - \mu_2$ sketched in Figure 6.2. Because the confidence ellipse for the difference in means does not cover 0' = [0, 0]

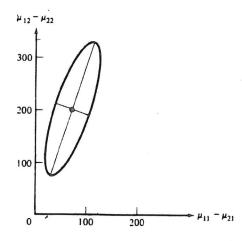


Figure 6.2 95% confidence ellipse for $\mu'_1 - \mu'_2 = (\mu_1, -\mu_2, \mu_3, -\mu_3)$