

# ROBUST ESTIMATORS – INFLUENCE FUNCTION

*Risk and Asset Allocation* - Springer – *symmys.com*

Attilio Meucci

[www.symmys.com](http://www.symmys.com)

Formulas and figures in this presentation refer to the book **Risk and Asset Allocation**, Springer.

The notation, say, (5.24) refers to Formula 24 in Chapter 5 of the book

The notation, say, (T4.12) refers to Formula 12 in the Technical Appendices for Chapter 4, which can be downloaded from [www.symmys.com](http://www.symmys.com)

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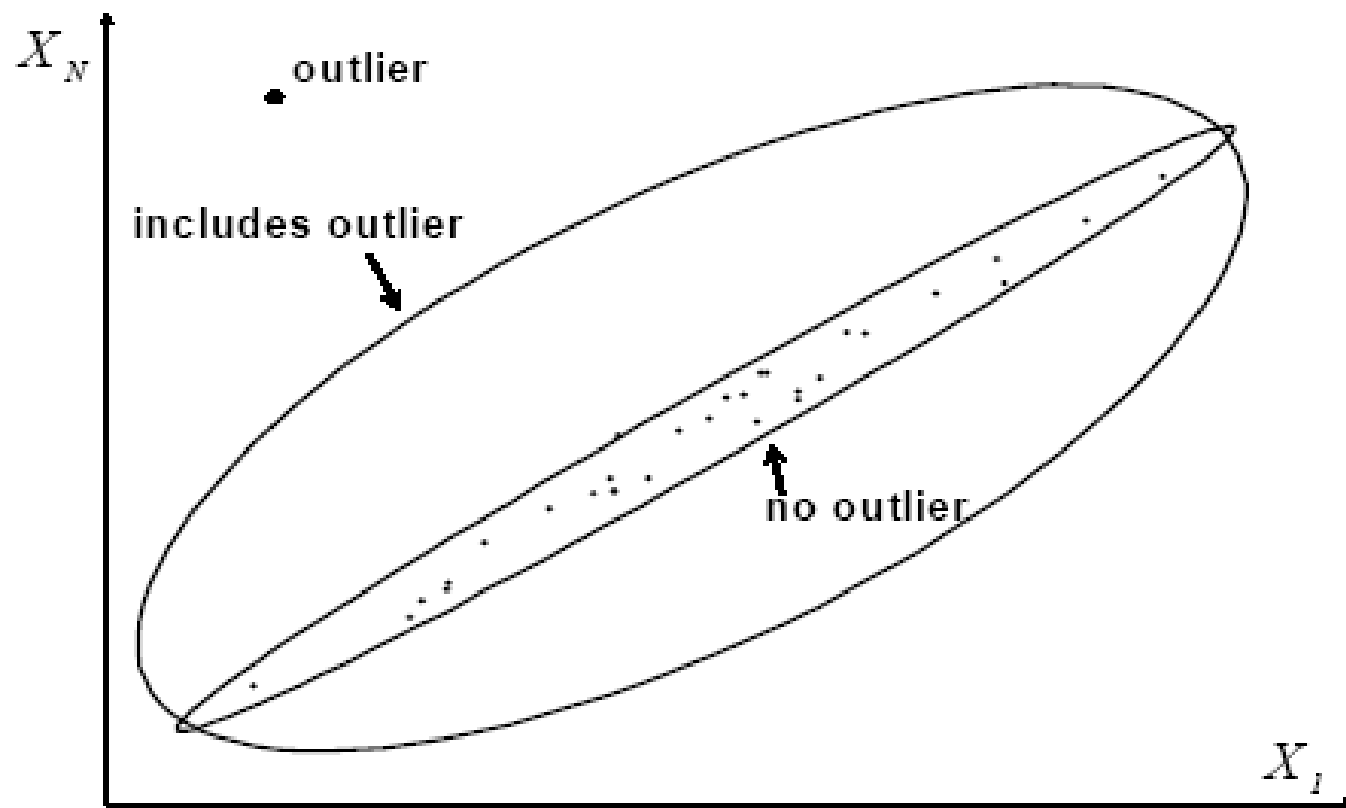


Fig. 4.18. Sample estimators: lack of robustness

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$$SC(x, \hat{G}) \equiv T\hat{G}(x_1, \dots, x_T, x) - T\hat{G}(x_1, \dots, x_T) \quad (4.166)$$

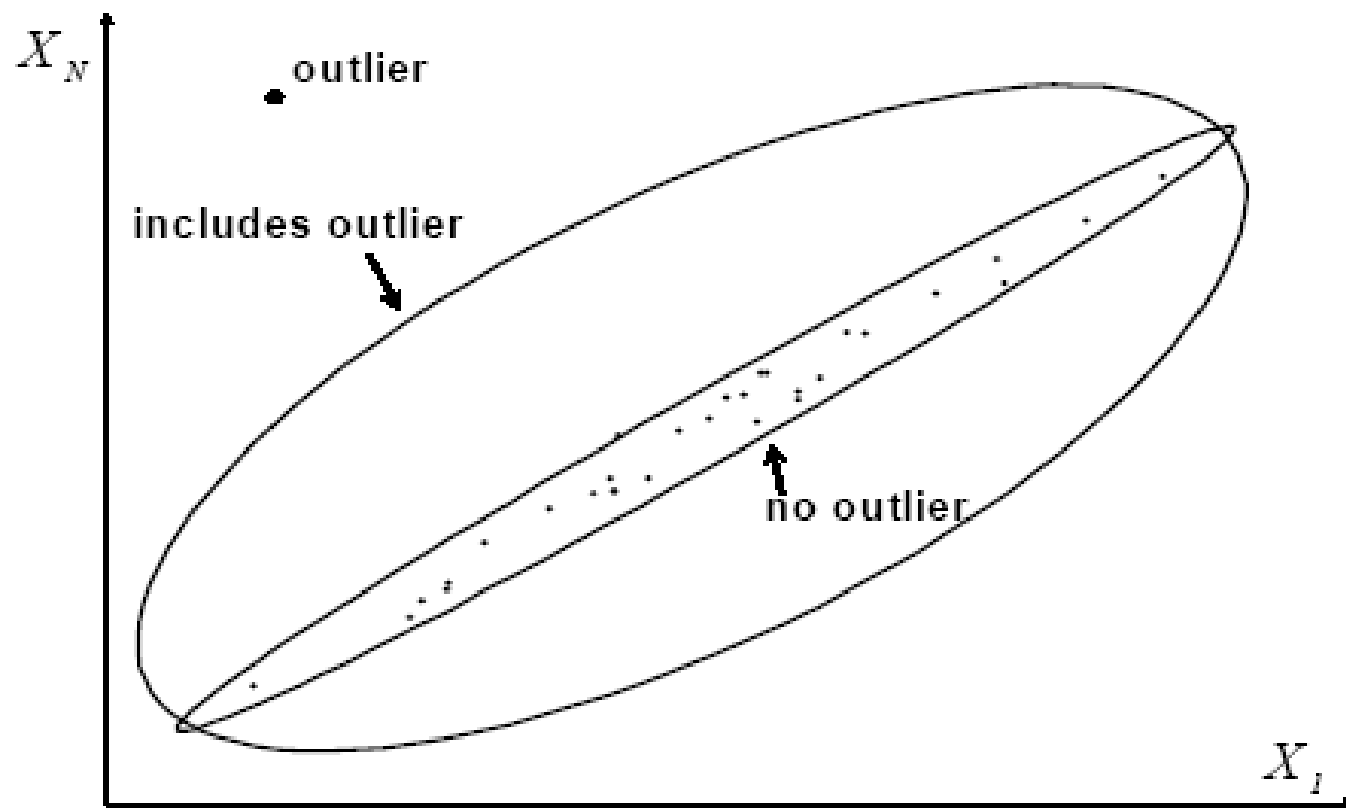


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$$f_{i_T} \mapsto (1 - \epsilon) f_{i_T} + \epsilon \delta^{(\mathbf{x})} \quad (4.183)$$

$$f_{i_T} \equiv \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \delta^{(\mathbf{x}_t)} \quad \epsilon \equiv 1/(T+1)$$

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- $$\boxed{\hat{\mathbf{G}} \equiv \tilde{\mathbf{G}}[f_{i_T}]} \quad (4.167)$$

- non-parametric**

$$\boxed{\hat{\mathbf{G}} \equiv \mathbf{G}[f_{i_T}]} \quad (4.169)$$

- maximum likelihood**

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \ln(f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{x})) \quad (4.176)$$

$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}[h] : \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \psi(\mathbf{x}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) h(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} \equiv \mathbf{0}. \quad (4.175)$$

$$\boxed{\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \equiv \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}[f_{i_T}]} \quad (4.177)$$

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$$\text{IF}(\mathbf{x}, f_{\mathbf{X}}, \hat{\mathbf{G}}) \equiv \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left( \tilde{\mathbf{G}} \left[ (1 - \epsilon) f_{\mathbf{X}} + \epsilon \delta^{(\mathbf{x})} \right] - \tilde{\mathbf{G}}[f_{\mathbf{X}}] \right) \quad (4.185)$$

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$$\widehat{\mathbf{Cov}} \equiv \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (\mathbf{x}_t - \widehat{\mathbf{E}}) (\mathbf{x}_t - \widehat{\mathbf{E}})' \quad (4.197)$$

$$\text{IF}(\mathbf{x}, f_{\mathbf{X}}, \widehat{\mathbf{E}}) = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{E}\{\mathbf{X}\} \quad (4.198)$$

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$$\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}} = \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{w\left(\text{Ma}^2\left(\mathbf{x}_t, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}\right)\right)}{\sum_{s=1}^T w\left(\text{Ma}^2\left(\mathbf{x}_s, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}\right)\right)} \mathbf{x}_t \quad (4.203)$$

$$\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (\mathbf{x}_t - \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}) (\mathbf{x}_t - \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}})' w\left(\text{Ma}^2\left(\mathbf{x}_t, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}\right)\right) \quad (4.204)$$

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$$w(z) \equiv -2 \frac{g'(z)}{g(z)} \quad (4.205)$$

$$f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{|\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|}} g(\text{Ma}^2(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})) \quad (4.201) \quad \leftarrow \text{Ma}^2(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) \equiv (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \quad (4.202)$$

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$$\|\text{IF}(\mathbf{x}, f_{\mathbf{X}}, (\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}))\| \propto \|\boldsymbol{\psi}\| \quad (4.208)$$

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$$\boldsymbol{\psi}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) \equiv \begin{pmatrix} w(\text{Ma}^2(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}))(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \\ w(\text{Ma}_{\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}}^2) \text{vec}[(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})'] - \text{vec}[\boldsymbol{\Sigma}] \end{pmatrix} \quad (4.207)$$

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normal

$$w \equiv 1$$

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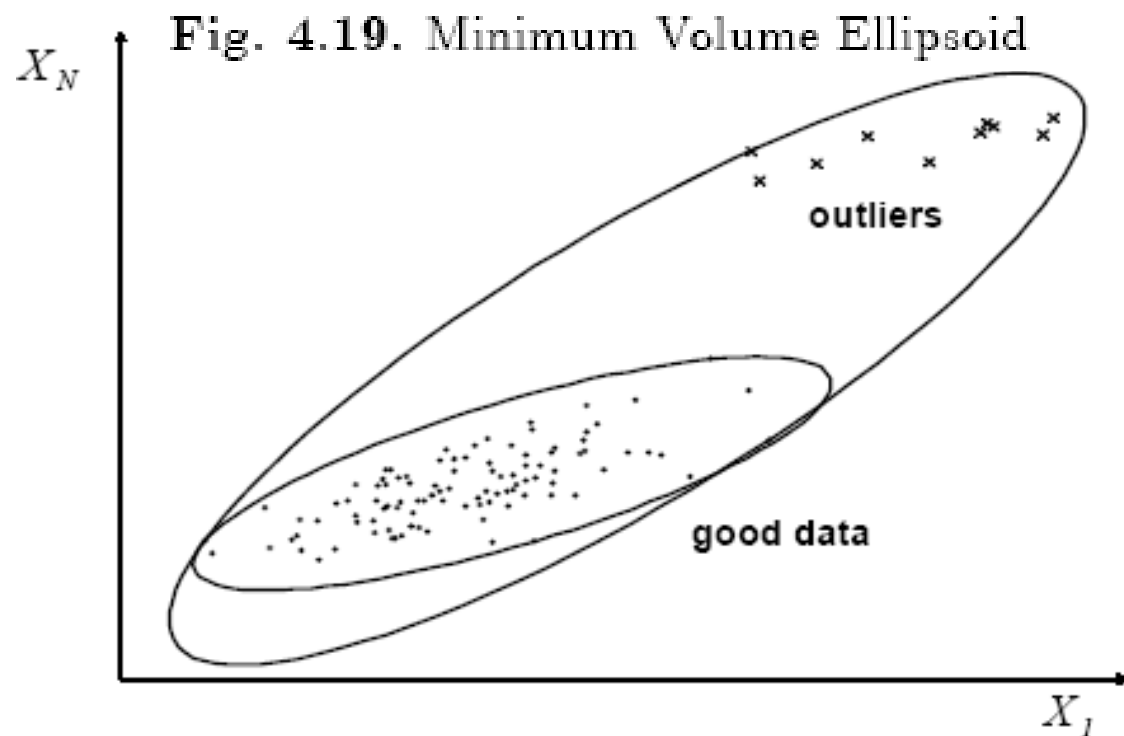
normal  
 $w \equiv 1$

$$\text{Cauchy} \\ w(z) = \frac{N+1}{1+z} \quad (4.209)$$

## ROBUST ESTIMATORS – HIGH BREAKDOWN

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$$\mathcal{E}_{\mu, \Sigma}^q \equiv \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N \text{ such that } (\mathbf{x} - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mu) \leq q^2 \right\} \quad (4.231)$$



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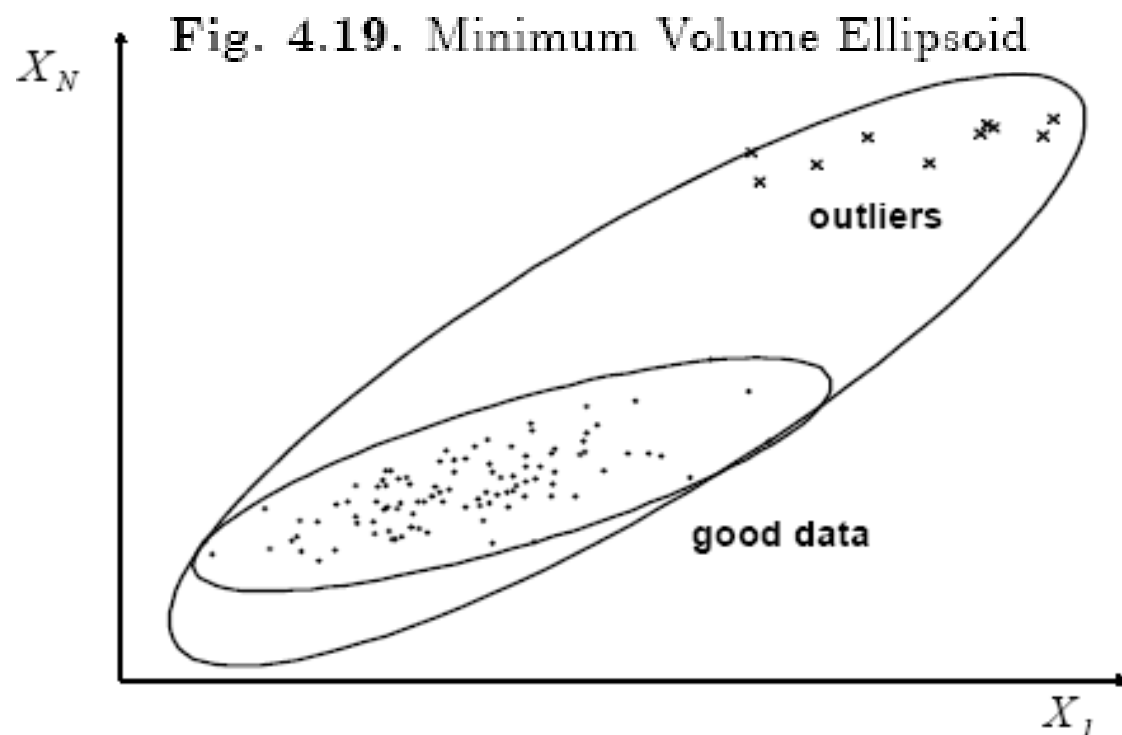
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$$\text{Ma}_t^{\mu, \Sigma} \equiv \sqrt{(x_t - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1} (x_t - \mu)}. \quad (4.234)$$

$$\text{Vol} \left\{ \mathcal{E}_{\mu, \Sigma}^{q_{T_G}} \right\} = \gamma_N \left( \text{Ma}_{T_G:T}^{\mu, \Sigma} \right)^N \sqrt{|\Sigma|}. \quad (4.236)$$

$$q_{T_G} \equiv \text{Ma}_{T_G:T}^{\mu, \Sigma} \quad (4.235)$$



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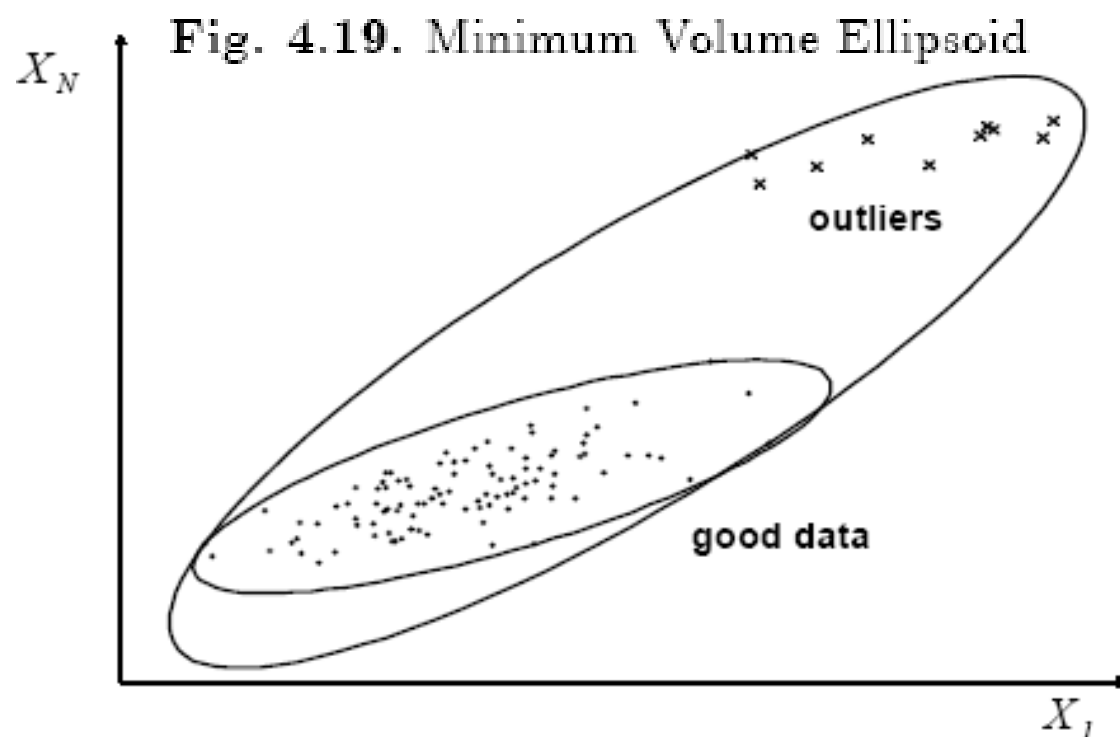
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$$\left( \hat{\mu}_{T_G}, \hat{\Sigma}_{T_G} \right) = \underset{\mu, \Sigma \succeq 0, |\Sigma|=1}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \text{Ma}_{T_G:T}^{\mu, \Sigma} \right\} \quad (4.237)$$