

# ROBUST RECURSIVE ESTIMATION OF GARCH MODELS

TOMÁŠ CIPRA AND RADEK HENDRYCH

The robust recursive algorithm for the parameter estimation and the volatility prediction in GARCH models is suggested. It seems to be useful for various financial time series, in particular for (high-frequency) log returns contaminated by additive outliers. The proposed procedure can be effective in the risk control and regulation when the prediction of volatility is the main concern since it is capable to distinguish and correct outlaid bursts of volatility. This conclusion is demonstrated by simulations and real data examples presented in the paper.

*Keywords:* GARCH model, Kalman filter, outlier, robust recursive estimation, volatility

*Classification:* 62M10, 62F35, 91G70

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Financial time series (in particular returns of financial assets) typically exhibit significant kurtosis and volatility clustering. The assets are usually stocks or stock indices (see e. g. [52]) or currencies (see e. g. [45]). The GARCH models introduced by [4] and [19] are commonly applied in order to model these typical properties with the aim to describe dynamics of conditional variances and forecast financial volatility. However, when fitted to real time series the residuals of the estimated models have frequently excess kurtosis explainable by the presence of outliers which are not captured by the GARCH models, see e. g. [8, 9, 10, 23] (on the other hand, some authors argue that extreme observations are not outliers and they should be incorporated into the model, see e. g. [2] or [20]).

The parameters of the GARCH models are routinely estimated by the (conditional) maximum likelihood but they are rarely calibrated recursively. Nevertheless, recursive estimates performed using recursive algorithms are undoubtedly advantageous. To evaluate the parameter estimates at a time step, recursive estimation methods operate only with the current measurements and parameters estimated in previous steps (see e. g. [1, 18, 26, 32, 37]). It is in sharp contrast to the non-recursive estimation where all data are collected at first and then the model is fitted. Therefore, recursive estimation techniques are effective in terms of memory storage and computational complexity. This efficiency can be employed just in the framework of (high-frequency) financial time series data. Alternatively, it is possible to adopt these methods to monitor or forecast volatility on-line, to evaluate risk measures (e. g. Value at Risk or Expected Shortfall), to detect

faults, to check model stability including detection of structural changes, etc. Moreover due to the previous arguments, the recursive GARCH estimation should be resistant (robust) to outliers. The primary goal of this paper is to suggest a robust recursive algorithm which is effective enough in the context of GARCH models to estimate and forecast volatility of contaminated (high-frequency) financial data.

Various methods of non recursive estimation of GARCH parameters and volatility in presence of outliers consist either in (i) identifying and correcting additive outliers (AO) or innovative outliers (IO) in (residual) time series (see e.g. [9, 10, 23, 24, 27, 28, 34]), or in (ii) robustifying classical statistical estimators of the type LS or ML to the form of M estimators and similar robust versions (see e.g. [7, 33, 44, 49, 55]), or in (iii) applying estimators with robust properties of the type LAD or median MAD (see e.g. [3, 36, 39, 45, 46, 58]).

As robust recursive estimation of GARCH model is concerned, initially one should remind a close connection to robustification of Kalman filter which is desirable including various engineering applications in the context of state space modelling with outliers (see e.g. [6, 12, 14, 21, 29, 30, 35, 38, 47, 48, 50, 53, 54]). Moreover, a special case of Kalman filter robustification is the robust exponential smoothing including Holt-Winters method (see e.g. [11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 25, 31, 43]).

The following sections of the paper deal in sequence with (1) the presentation of self weighted recursive estimation algorithm for GARCH models, (2) its robustification, (3) the simulation study for various types of outliers, and finally (4) real data applications.

## 2. GARCH MODELS: CONSTRUCTION OF RECURSIVE ESTIMATOR

The GARCH( $p, q$ ) process  $\{y_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{Z}}$  in financial applications is commonly defined as (refer to e.g. [22])

$$y_t = \sigma_t \varepsilon_t, \quad \sigma_t^2 = \omega + \sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i y_{t-i}^2 + \sum_{j=1}^q \beta_j \sigma_{t-j}^2, \quad (1)$$

where  $\{\varepsilon_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is a sequence of *i.i.d.* random variables with zero mean and unit variance, and  $\omega, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_q$  are the parameters of the process. The first two conditional and unconditional moments can be simply calculated as

$$\mathbb{E}(y_t | \mathcal{F}_{t-1}) = 0, \quad \mathbb{E}(y_t) = 0, \quad \text{var}(y_t | \mathcal{F}_{t-1}) = \sigma_t^2, \quad \text{var}(y_t) = \mathbb{E}(\sigma_t^2), \quad (2)$$

where  $\mathcal{F}_t$  denotes the smallest  $\sigma$ -algebra with respect to which  $y_s$  is measurable for all  $s \leq t$ . Sufficient conditions for  $\sigma_t^2$  being positive are  $\omega > 0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_q \geq 0$ . If  $\beta_1 = \dots = \beta_q = 0$ , the model is reduced to the ARCH( $p$ ) process. Additionally, sufficient conditions for  $y_t$  being (weakly) stationary are  $\omega > 0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_q \geq 0$ , and  $\sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i + \sum_{j=1}^q \beta_j < 1$ . The stationary GARCH( $p, q$ ) model has the finite variance:

$$\text{var}(y_t) = \frac{\omega}{1 - \sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i - \sum_{j=1}^q \beta_j}. \quad (3)$$

The one-step ahead prediction of  $\sigma_t^2$  is expressed as

$$\hat{\sigma}_{t+1|t}^2 = \omega + \sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i y_{t+1-i}^2 + \sum_{j=1}^q \beta_j \sigma_{t+1-j}^2. \quad (4)$$

The GARCH models are routinely estimated by the non-recursive conditional maximum likelihood method with normal distribution being usually preferred since the corresponding estimates stay consistent. Aknouche and Guerbyenne [1] proposed a couple of two-stage recursive estimation schemes appropriate for the standard GARCH( $p, q$ ) models extending the ideas presented in [5]. However, they focused mainly on the derivation and convergence analysis of the algorithm and not on its numerical evaluation, which might be regarded as a (crucial) objection (consult [42]). In particular, the whole computational implementation is based on recursive pseudo-linear regression estimation scheme applied to the following representation of the GARCH( $p, q$ ) process  $y_t$  (see e. g. [22]):

$$y_t^2 = \sigma_t^2(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + \nu_t, \quad (5)$$

where  $\sigma_t^2(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)$  is defined in (1) for the true values of model parameters collected in the vector  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_0$  and  $\nu_t = \sigma_t^2(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)(\varepsilon_t^2 - 1)$  is white noise with  $\mathbb{E}(\nu_t) = 0$  and  $\text{var}(\nu_t) = \mathbb{E}(\nu_t^2)$ . Independently, such a recursive pseudo-linear regression algorithm has been also proposed in [37] following analogical derivation schemes (see [26]).

Hendrych and Cipra [32] derived an alternative recursive formulas for estimating parameters of the standard GARCH( $p, q$ ) model which is based on the principle of self-weighted estimation (see also [40] and [57], but Hendrych and Cipra [32] made use of the opportunity to formulate this principle conveniently in a recursive way). Even though the Gaussian QMLE approach was applied for this purpose, theoretically it could be generalized to other types of QMLE (see e. g. [56] for an overview), but with much higher computational complexity.

The recursive identification instruments introduced by [41, 42], and [51] were applied to deliver one-stage recursive estimation procedures (in contrast to two-stage procedure suggested in [1]):

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_t = \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{t-1} + \frac{\hat{\mathbf{P}}_{t-1} \hat{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_t (y_t^2 - \hat{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_t^\top \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{t-1})}{\lambda_t (\hat{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_t^\top \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{t-1})^2 + \hat{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_t^\top \hat{\mathbf{P}}_{t-1} \hat{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_t}, \quad (6a)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{P}}_t = \frac{1}{\lambda_t} \left\{ \hat{\mathbf{P}}_{t-1} - \frac{\hat{\mathbf{P}}_{t-1} \hat{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_t \hat{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_t^\top \hat{\mathbf{P}}_{t-1}}{\lambda_t (\hat{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_t^\top \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{t-1})^2 + \hat{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_t^\top \hat{\mathbf{P}}_{t-1} \hat{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_t} \right\}, \quad (6b)$$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_{t+1} = (1, y_t^2, \dots, y_{t+1-p}^2, \hat{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_t^\top \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_t, \dots, \hat{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_{t+1-q}^\top \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{t+1-q})^\top, \quad (6c)$$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_{t+1} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_{t+1} + \sum_{j=1}^q \hat{\beta}_{j,t} \hat{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_{t+1-j}, \quad (6d)$$

$$\lambda_t = \tilde{\lambda} \cdot \lambda_{t-1} + (1 - \tilde{\lambda}), \quad \lambda_0, \tilde{\lambda} \in (0, 1), \quad t \in \mathbb{N}, \quad (6e)$$

where the recursive estimates are collected in  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_t$  (the parameters in (1) are ordered to a single vector  $\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\omega, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_q)^\top$ ). The *forgetting factor*  $\{\lambda_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{N}}$  is

a deterministic sequence of positive real numbers less or equal to one. It represents the observation weight over time. One commonly puts  $\lambda_0 = 0.95$  and  $\tilde{\lambda} = 0.99$ . The initialization of the algorithm is thoroughly discussed in [32] (see p. 320). Finally, one should introduce the simple projection, which completes the algorithm (6) and ensures that it will not degenerate:

$$[\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_t]_{\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{M}}} = \begin{cases} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_t & \text{if } \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_t \in \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{M}}, \\ \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{t-1} & \text{if } \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_t \notin \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{M}}, \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

where  $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{M}} := \{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^{p+q+1} | \tilde{\delta}_1 \leq \theta_1 \leq \tilde{\Delta}_1; \theta_i \geq 0, i = 2, \dots, p+q+1; \sum_{j=2}^{p+q+1} \theta_j \leq 1 - \tilde{\delta}_2\}$  and one usually puts  $0 < \tilde{\delta}_1 \leq \tilde{\Delta}_1 < \infty$ ,  $0 < \tilde{\delta}_2 < 1$ , e. g.  $\tilde{\delta}_1 = 10^{-9}$  and  $\tilde{\Delta}_1 = 10^2$ .

The performance of this algorithm was (fairly) compared by means of the various Monte Carlo experiments with other methods mentioned above. The one-stage recursive estimate has proven to be at least competitive amongst the others (and usually better, see [32]). The simulations have also shown that the initialization of the algorithms must be handled carefully, since it can significantly influence the speed of its convergence. For more details, consult [32] and the references therein.

Remark that the introduced recursive estimation technique (6) might be an appealing alternative to the moving-window estimation approach which can be also applied to detect outliers and structural changes. The latter approach is based on repeating minimization of the negative conditional log-likelihood function (after excluding the constant term), which corresponds to the model (1) when assuming normally distributed innovations  $\varepsilon_t$ . It can be expressed as follows:

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_t^M = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{M}}} \sum_{\tau=t-M+1}^t \left[ \frac{y_\tau^2}{\sigma_\tau^2} + \log(\sigma_\tau^2) \right], \quad t \geq M, \quad (8)$$

where  $M \in \mathbb{N}$  denotes the moving-window width. At each time the minimum (8) is repeatedly calculated and  $\hat{\sigma}_{t+1}^2$  is evaluated using the most recent estimate  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_t^M$  and  $M$  consecutive observations. The estimation can be initialized similarly as above. It is obvious that the estimation can start only after observing at least  $M$  financial returns. This scheme or its alternatives are frequently applied in practice. However, such an estimator is computationally very complex since the optimization task is obviously solved by an iterative procedure based on  $M$  consecutive measurements at each time. On the contrary, recursive estimation algorithms of the type (6) are computationally much more effective (as we stated in Section 1). Therefore, they are primarily preferred in real time applications (especially in the context of high-frequency data).

### 3. ROBUST RECURSIVE ESTIMATION OF GARCH MODELS

Using GARCH models, it is necessary to be concerned about outliers that may occur in data (see also the first introduction section and the last section on real data applications). Outliers can be caused by many reasons, e. g. by additive innovations, measurement failures, operational risk problems, management decisions, etc. They can influence the estimation and prediction in the applied model considerably if no specific action is taken.

Therefore, if such defects are expected in the data set, one should modify the estimation algorithms to make them more robust. The outliers tend to appear as spikes in the sequence of  $\{y_t/\sqrt{\sigma_t^2}\}$ , which obviously result in large contributions to the loss function. There exist various ways how to robustify recursive estimation algorithms (refer to the first introduction section above). In this contribution, a simple way of handling outliers is applied based on testing a measurement at each time  $t$ . If it is large compared with a given limit, it is indicated as erroneous and substituted immediately by another value (see e.g. [13, 42, 47], and others). According to simulations, this strategy seems to be efficient for additive outliers (AD) mainly.

Under the previous arguments, the algorithm (6) can be robustified to the following form:

$$\hat{\theta}_t^{rob} = \hat{\theta}_{t-1}^{rob} + \frac{\hat{P}_{t-1}^{rob} \hat{\psi}_t^{rob} \left[ (\hat{y}_t^{rob})^2 - (\hat{\varphi}_t^{rob})^\top \hat{\theta}_{t-1}^{rob} \right]}{\lambda_t \left[ (\hat{\varphi}_t^{rob})^\top \hat{\theta}_{t-1}^{rob} \right]^2 + (\hat{\psi}_t^{rob})^\top \hat{P}_{t-1}^{rob} \hat{\psi}_t^{rob}}, \quad (9a)$$

$$\hat{P}_t^{rob} = \frac{1}{\lambda_t} \left\{ \hat{P}_{t-1}^{rob} - \frac{\hat{P}_{t-1}^{rob} \hat{\psi}_t^{rob} (\hat{\psi}_t^{rob})^\top \hat{P}_{t-1}^{rob}}{\lambda_t \left[ (\hat{\varphi}_t^{rob})^\top \hat{\theta}_{t-1}^{rob} \right]^2 + (\hat{\psi}_t^{rob})^\top \hat{P}_{t-1}^{rob} \hat{\psi}_t^{rob}} \right\}, \quad (9b)$$

$$\hat{\varphi}_{t+1}^{rob} = \left( 1, (\hat{y}_t^{rob})^2, \dots, (\hat{y}_{t+1-p}^{rob})^2, (\hat{\varphi}_t^{rob})^\top \hat{\theta}_t^{rob}, \dots, (\hat{\varphi}_{t+1-q}^{rob})^\top \hat{\theta}_{t+1-q}^{rob} \right)^\top, \quad (9c)$$

$$\hat{\psi}_{t+1}^{rob} = \hat{\varphi}_{t+1}^{rob} + \sum_{j=1}^q \hat{\beta}_{j,t}^{rob} \hat{\psi}_{t+1-j}^{rob}, \quad (9d)$$

$$\lambda_t = \tilde{\lambda} \cdot \lambda_{t-1} + (1 - \tilde{\lambda}), \quad \lambda_0, \tilde{\lambda} \in (0, 1), \quad t \in \mathbb{N}, \quad (9e)$$

where the recursive estimates are collected in  $\hat{\theta}_t^{rob}$  (the  $\{\lambda_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{N}}$  is the same as in (6e)). To complete (9), one defines the outlier-corrected series  $\{\hat{y}_t^{rob}\}$  as follows:

$$(\hat{y}_t^{rob})^2 = \begin{cases} (\hat{\varphi}_t^{rob})^\top \hat{\theta}_{t-1}^{rob} \\ + \text{sign} \left( y_t^2 - (\hat{\varphi}_t^{rob})^\top \hat{\theta}_{t-1}^{rob} \right) (u_{1-\alpha/2})^2 \sqrt{[(\hat{\varphi}_t^{rob})^\top \hat{\theta}_{t-1}^{rob}]^2 + (\hat{\psi}_t^{rob})^\top \hat{P}_{t-1}^{rob} \hat{\psi}_t^{rob} / \lambda_t} \\ \text{for } |y_t^2 - (\hat{\varphi}_t^{rob})^\top \hat{\theta}_{t-1}^{rob}| > (u_{1-\alpha/2})^2 \sqrt{[(\hat{\varphi}_t^{rob})^\top \hat{\theta}_{t-1}^{rob}]^2 + (\hat{\psi}_t^{rob})^\top \hat{P}_{t-1}^{rob} \hat{\psi}_t^{rob} / \lambda_t}, \\ y_t^2 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (9f)$$

Note that  $\hat{y}_t^{rob} = \text{sign}(y_t) \sqrt{(\hat{y}_t^{rob})^2}$  and that  $u_{1-\alpha/2}$  denotes the corresponding quantile of the standard normal distribution, where one usually puts  $\alpha = 0.05$ . The initialization settings and projection rule (7) remain similar as in the previous section. The algorithm is based on the robustified version of Kalman filter derived in [13] (see Appendix) which is applied to the GARCH models written in the form (5). The assumption of normality can be replaced by other distributions.

Parallely one can construct the robust recursive prediction of volatility, e.g. the one-step ahead prediction has the form (compare with (4)):

$$(\hat{\sigma}_{t+1|t}^{rob})^2 = \hat{\omega}_t^{rob} + \sum_{i=1}^p \hat{\alpha}_{it}^{rob} (\hat{y}_{t+1-i}^{rob})^2 + \sum_{j=1}^q \hat{\beta}_{jt}^{rob} (\hat{\sigma}_{t+1-j}^{rob})^2. \quad (10)$$

A theoretical analysis of the introduced algorithm can follow the general schemes considered by [42]; it is rather technical and uses instruments known mainly in the ordinary differential equation theory. Under the corresponding (mostly technical) general assumptions, it can be shown that the estimated parameters converge to their true counterparts. Additionally, they are asymptotically normally distributed (consult [42]).

#### 4. SIMULATIONS

The suggested procedure (9) has been studied by means of simulations  $\{y_t^*\}$  using seven simulation scenarios described in Table 4:

$$y_t^* = y_t + \delta_t, \quad t = 1, \dots, T, \quad T = 20000, \quad (11a)$$

$$y_t = \sigma_t \varepsilon_t, \quad \sigma_t^2 = 0.0001 + 0.05y_{t-1}^2 + 0.94\sigma_{t-1}^2, \quad \varepsilon_t \sim i.i.d. \quad N(0, 1), \quad (11b)$$

where the term  $\delta_t$  represents the additive outlier. According to Table 4, this simulation study covers various ways of contamination of the generic processes in the first scenario (Model 0) without outliers (e.g., the  $t$ -distribution with the degree of freedom one denoted as  $t(1)$  represents the contamination by outliers with heavy tails). For each scenarios one has simulated 1000 realizations of length 20000 and applied the robust recursive estimation procedure (9) with the same initialization settings and projection rule (7) (in particular,  $\alpha = 0.05$ ,  $\tilde{\delta}_1 = \tilde{\delta}_2 = 10^{-9}$ , and  $\tilde{\Delta}_1 = 10^2$ ). The simulation results for innovative outliers (IO) are not presented in this paper.

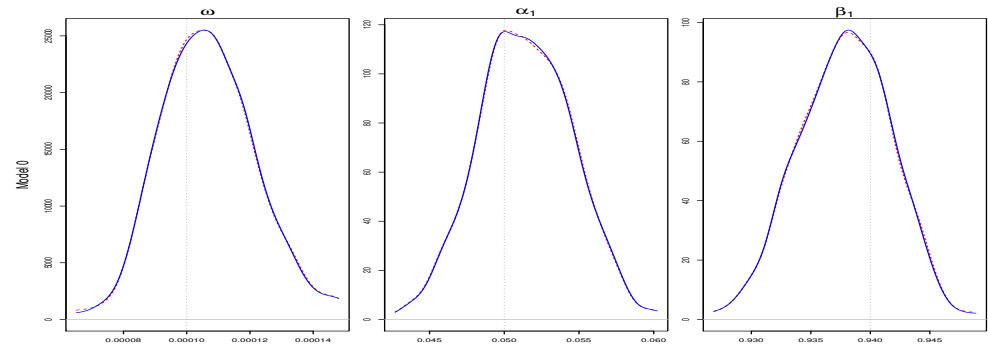
Figures 1–7 present the corresponding probability densities of estimated parameters  $\omega = 0.0001$ ,  $\alpha_1 = 0.05$ ,  $\beta_1 = 0.94$  in time  $t = 20000$  calculated over 1000 realizations (see also the median absolute deviations MAD in Table 2). Moreover, Figure 8 shows the time records of medians of estimated parameters  $\omega$ ,  $\alpha_1$ ,  $\beta_1$  in Model 1 (i.e., the single additive outlier of size 10 in time  $t = 10000$ ) before and after the robustification. Figure 9 presents the corresponding boxplots in times  $t = 5000$ , 10000, 20000 for this model.

Similar results have been obtained for other configurations of true parameters (the presented case corresponds to the extreme situation close to the border of model stability). In general, the simulations show that the robustification improves the behaviour of suggested recursive procedure in a substantial way.

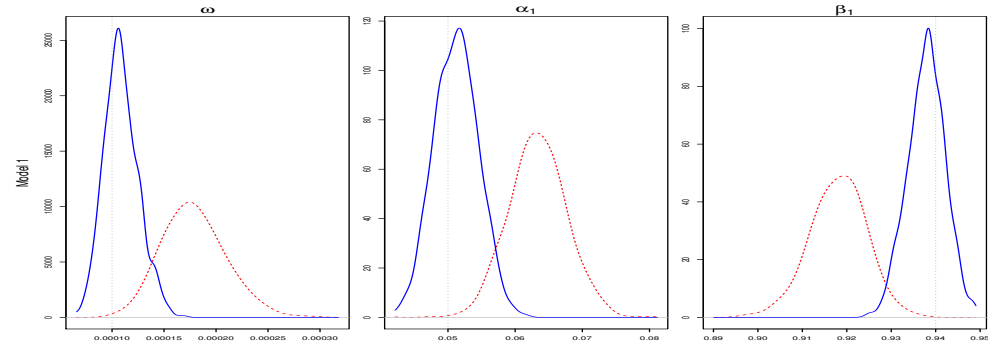
<b>Model 0</b>	$\delta_t = 0$ for all $t$
<b>Model 1</b>	$\delta_t = 10 \times I_t, I_t = \begin{cases} 1, & t = 10000 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
<b>Model 2</b>	$\delta_t = 10 \times I_t, I_t \sim i.i.d. \quad Alt\left(\frac{1}{20000}\right)$ for all $t$
<b>Model 3</b>	$\delta_t = 10 \times I_t, I_t \sim i.i.d. \quad Alt\left(\frac{4}{20000}\right)$ for all $t$
<b>Model 4</b>	$\delta_t = s_t \times I_t, I_t \sim i.i.d. \quad Alt\left(\frac{4}{20000}\right), s_t \sim i.i.d. \quad t(1)$ for all $t$
<b>Model 5</b>	$\delta_t = s_t \times I_t, I_t \sim i.i.d. \quad Alt\left(\frac{20}{20000}\right), s_t \sim i.i.d. \quad t(1)$ for all $t$
<b>Model 6</b>	$\delta_t = s_t \times I_t, I_t \sim i.i.d. \quad Alt\left(\frac{200}{20000}\right), s_t \sim i.i.d. \quad t(1)$ for all $t$

**Tab. 1.** Various simulation scenarios for additive outliers in (11)

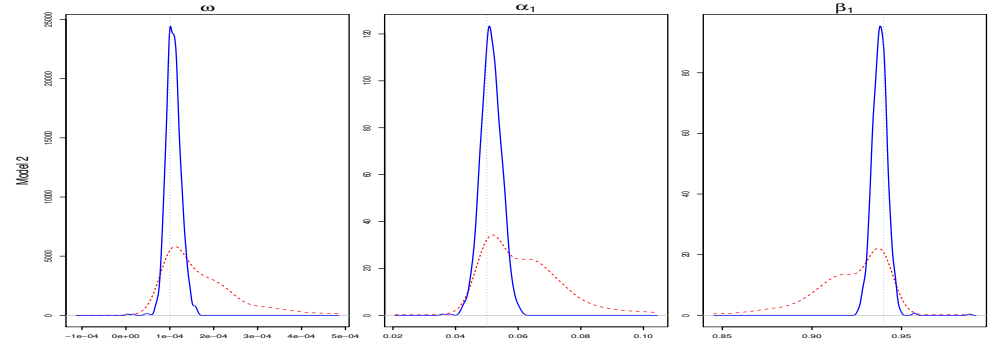
[Alt ~ the alternative distribution,  $t(1)$  ~ the Student  $t_1$ -distribution].



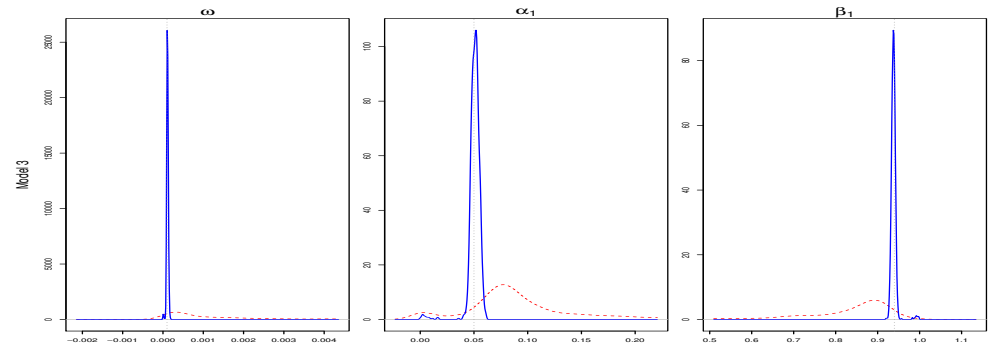
**Fig. 1.** Probability densities of estimated parameters: **Model 0**  
[non-robustified estimates  $\sim$  dashed lines, robustified estimates  $\sim$  solid lines].



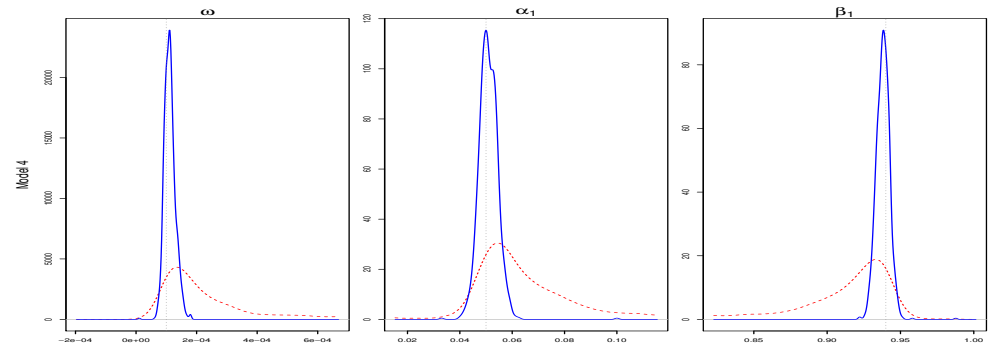
**Fig. 2.** Probability densities of estimated parameters: **Model 1**  
[non-robustified estimates  $\sim$  dashed lines, robustified estimates  $\sim$  solid lines].



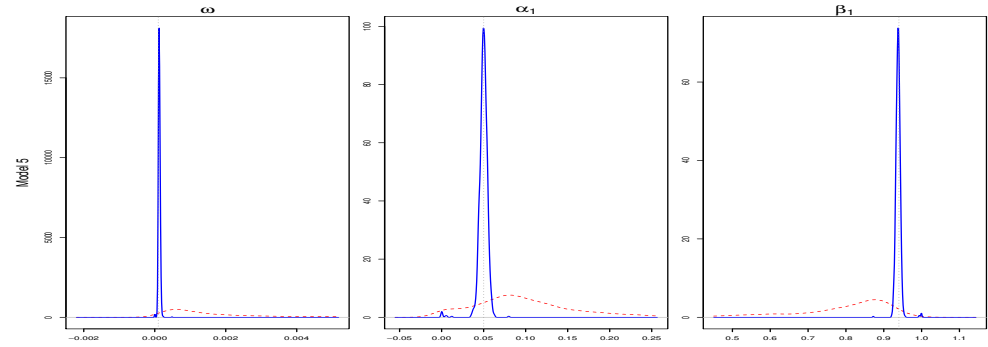
**Fig. 3.** Probability densities of estimated parameters: **Model 2**  
[non-robustified estimates  $\sim$  dashed lines, robustified estimates  $\sim$  solid lines].



**Fig. 4.** Probability densities of estimated parameters: **Model 3**  
[non-robustified estimates  $\sim$  dashed lines, robustified estimates  $\sim$  solid lines].

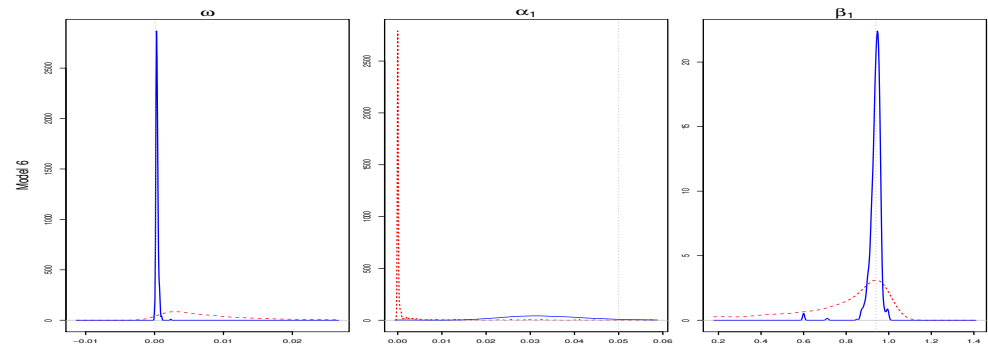


**Fig. 5.** Probability densities of estimated parameters: **Model 4**  
[non-robustified estimates  $\sim$  dashed lines, robustified estimates  $\sim$  solid lines].

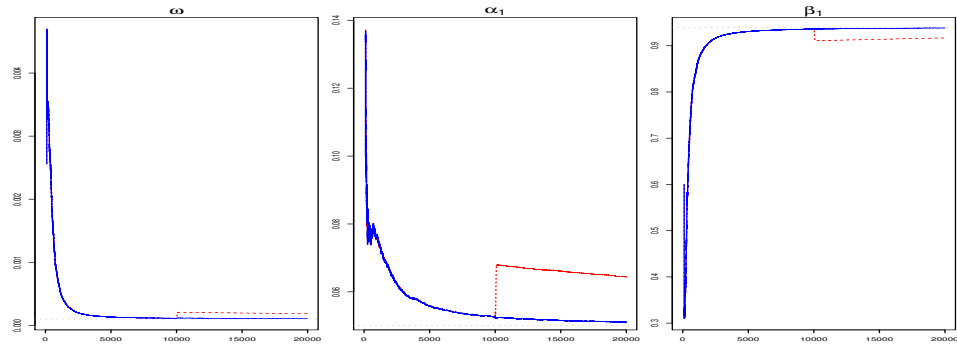


**Fig. 6.** Probability densities of estimated parameters: **Model 5**  
[non-robustified estimates  $\sim$  dashed lines, robustified estimates  $\sim$  solid lines].





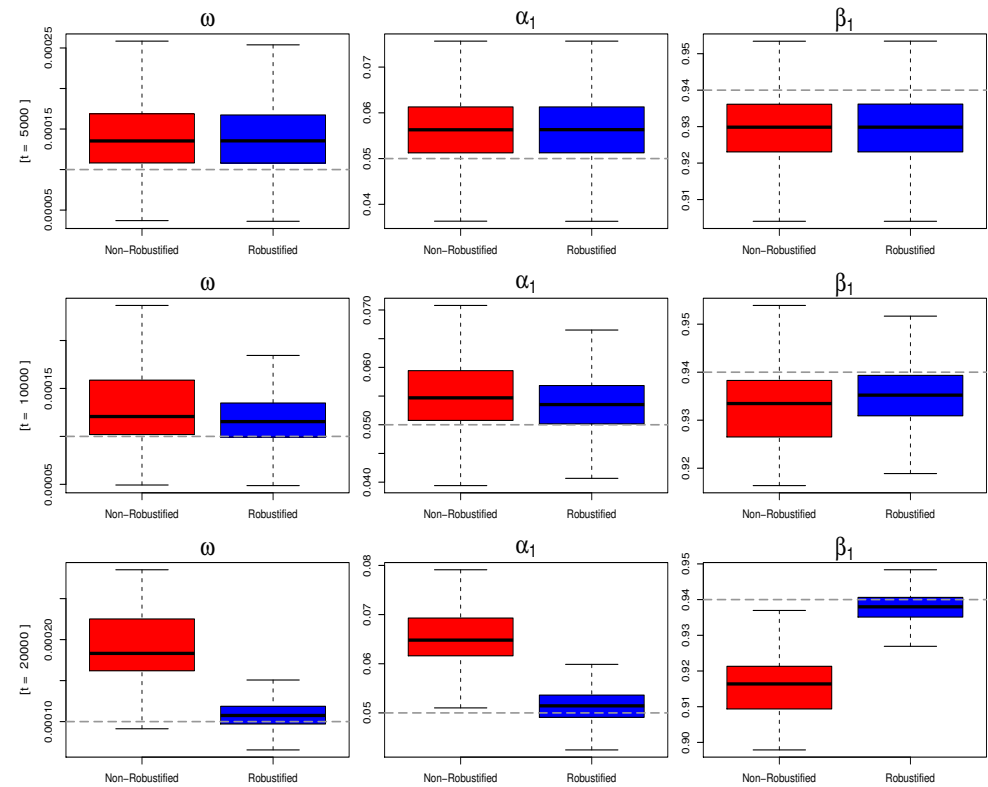
**Fig. 7.** Probability densities of estimated parameters: **Model 6**  
[non-robustified estimates ~ dashed lines, robustified estimates ~ solid lines].



**Fig. 8.** Time records of medians of estimated parameters: **Model 1**  
[non-robustified estimates ~ dashed lines, robustified estimates ~ solid lines].

<b>Model 0</b>	$\hat{\omega}_t$	$\hat{\omega}_t^{rob}$	$\hat{\alpha}_{1t}$	$\hat{\alpha}_{1t}^{rob}$	$\hat{\beta}_{1t}$	$\hat{\beta}_{1t}^{rob}$
5,000	0.00003	0.00004	0.00635	0.00636	0.00940	0.00939
10,000	0.00002	0.00002	0.00343	0.00341	0.00473	0.00480
20,000	0.00001	0.00001	0.00240	0.00238	0.00292	0.00292
<b>Model 1</b>	$\hat{\omega}_t$	$\hat{\omega}_t^{rob}$	$\hat{\alpha}_{1t}$	$\hat{\alpha}_{1t}^{rob}$	$\hat{\beta}_{1t}$	$\hat{\beta}_{1t}^{rob}$
5,000	0.00004	0.00004	0.00681	0.00673	0.01032	0.01022
10,000	0.00002	0.00002	0.00499	0.00397	0.00654	0.00497
20,000	0.00008	0.00001	0.01435	0.00227	0.02334	0.00298
<b>Model 2</b>	$\hat{\omega}_t$	$\hat{\omega}_t^{rob}$	$\hat{\alpha}_{1t}$	$\hat{\alpha}_{1t}^{rob}$	$\hat{\beta}_{1t}$	$\hat{\beta}_{1t}^{rob}$
5,000	0.00005	0.00004	0.00885	0.00688	0.01281	0.00989
10,000	0.00003	0.00002	0.00732	0.00371	0.00989	0.00478
20,000	0.00007	0.00001	0.01267	0.00229	0.01972	0.00303
<b>Model 3</b>	$\hat{\omega}_t$	$\hat{\omega}_t^{rob}$	$\hat{\alpha}_{1t}$	$\hat{\alpha}_{1t}^{rob}$	$\hat{\beta}_{1t}$	$\hat{\beta}_{1t}^{rob}$
5,000	0.00022	0.00004	0.02682	0.00694	0.05244	0.01073
10,000	0.00027	0.00002	0.03274	0.00363	0.06364	0.00527
20,000	0.00065	0.00001	0.04147	0.00235	0.08291	0.00321
<b>Model 4</b>	$\hat{\omega}_t$	$\hat{\omega}_t^{rob}$	$\hat{\alpha}_{1t}$	$\hat{\alpha}_{1t}^{rob}$	$\hat{\beta}_{1t}$	$\hat{\beta}_{1t}^{rob}$
5,000	0.00007	0.00004	0.01030	0.00703	0.01660	0.01101
10,000	0.00006	0.00002	0.00948	0.00370	0.01441	0.00523
20,000	0.00009	0.00001	0.01221	0.00242	0.02092	0.00318
<b>Model 5</b>	$\hat{\omega}_t$	$\hat{\omega}_t^{rob}$	$\hat{\alpha}_{1t}$	$\hat{\alpha}_{1t}^{rob}$	$\hat{\beta}_{1t}$	$\hat{\beta}_{1t}^{rob}$
5,000	0.00058	0.00007	0.03504	0.00765	0.09018	0.01327
10,000	0.00077	0.00004	0.04377	0.00413	0.09973	0.00619
20,000	0.00098	0.00003	0.04786	0.00280	0.10609	0.00378
<b>Model 6</b>	$\hat{\omega}_t$	$\hat{\omega}_t^{rob}$	$\hat{\alpha}_{1t}$	$\hat{\alpha}_{1t}^{rob}$	$\hat{\beta}_{1t}$	$\hat{\beta}_{1t}^{rob}$
5,000	0.00630	0.00050	0.05000	0.01550	0.25070	0.04070
10,000	0.00660	0.00040	0.05000	0.01440	0.17110	0.02000
20,000	0.00630	0.00020	0.05000	0.01710	0.08070	0.01230

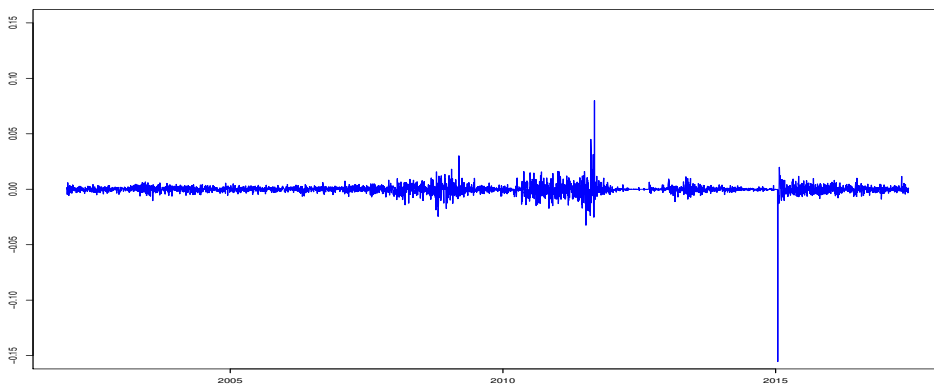
**Tab. 2.** Median absolute deviations MAD of estimated parameters  
[calculated in times  $t = 5000, 10000, 20000$  over 1000 realizations].



**Fig. 9.** Boxplots of estimated parameters in **Model 1** in times  $t = 5000, 10000, 20000$  before and after robustification.

## 5. REAL DATA APPLICATIONS

Figure 10 plots the log returns of the daily currency rate CHF/EUR for the period January 2000 - May 2017 which shows an apparent burst of volatility in January 2015 (the initial segment of the data is not displayed due to initialization of the recursive algorithm: the recursive estimates generally tend to be volatile here).<sup>1</sup> It has a clear explanation, i.e. the end of currency regulation of CHF by the Swiss National Bank since 2015: "*CHF was pegged to the Euro for around two years, with the minimum rate (or the floor) at 1.2. As of today, this link has been removed (consequence of recent appreciation of USD against EUR and of CHF weakening against USD).*"<sup>2</sup>

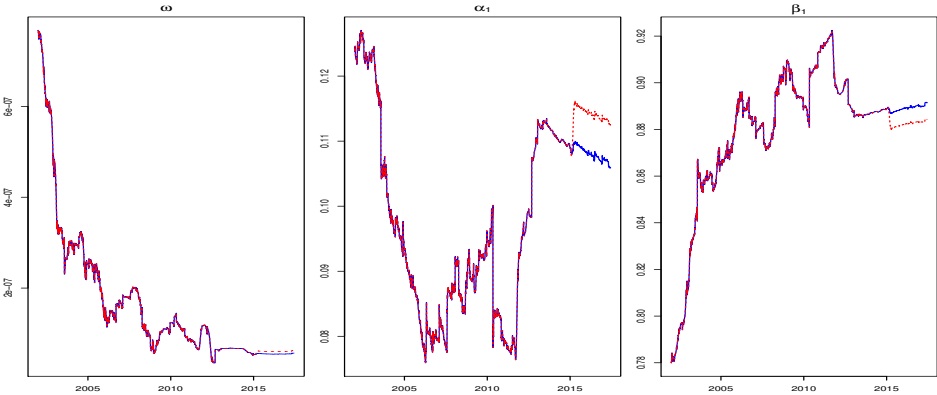


**Fig. 10.** Log returns of daily currency rate CHF/EUR for the period January 2002 – May 2017.

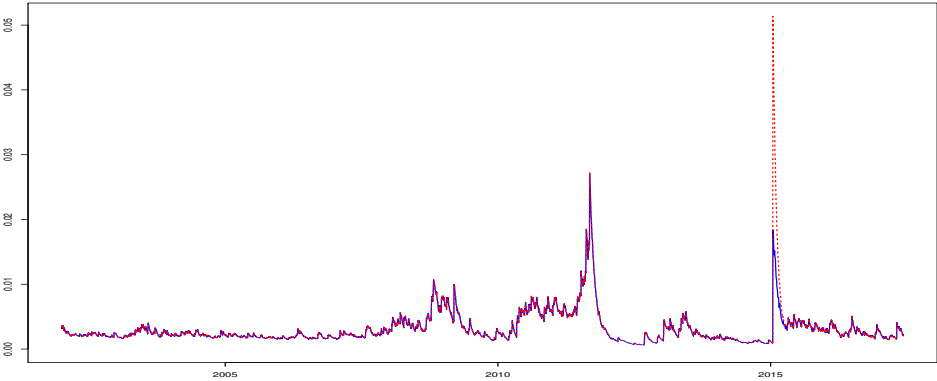
It was natural to apply the algorithm (9) to handle this time series. This estimation scheme has indeed identified the value of January 2015 as an outlier and corrected it in a proper way. Figure 11 with the recursively estimated parameters of the GARCH(1,1) model displays that one should not ignore the presence of outlier; otherwise there occurs a jump in the estimated parameters. Moreover, another legitimate reason for the application of the algorithm (9) is that it enables the adaptation in the case of parameter changes. Similarly, the one-day-ahead predictions of volatility (see (4) and (10)) would be out of reality without the robustification (see Figure 12). The estimation algorithm (9) has been applied to forty currency rates \*/EUR (daily log returns) and in some of them the declared robustification has been activated (see Table 3). The results for these daily log returns are not reported here since the figures are just of the type presented herein.

<sup>1</sup>[https://www.ecb.europa.eu/stats/policy\\_and\\_exchange\\_rates/euro\\_reference\\_exchange\\_rates/html/index.en.html](https://www.ecb.europa.eu/stats/policy_and_exchange_rates/euro_reference_exchange_rates/html/index.en.html), last accessed 9<sup>th</sup> June 2017

<sup>2</sup><https://www.currencyfair.com/blog/what-happened-to-the-swiss-franc-chf-today/>, last accessed 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017



**Fig. 11.** Time records of estimated parameters for daily log returns of the currency rate CHF/EUR [non-robustified estimates ~ dashed lines, robustified estimates ~ solid lines].



**Fig. 12.** One-day-ahead predictions of volatility for daily log returns of the currency rate CHF/EUR [non-robustified estimates ~ dashed line, robustified estimates ~ solid line].

Currency	Months of identified outliers
<i>USD</i>	1999-07-26
<i>HUF</i>	2003-01-17
<i>ROL</i>	2000-01-04
<i>RON</i>	2006-05-15
<i>CHF</i>	2015-01-15
<i>ISK</i>	2008-11-06
<i>TRL</i>	2001-02-22
<i>TRY</i>	2006-05-12
<i>CAD</i>	2000-01-04
<i>CNY</i>	2006-01-23
<i>MYR</i>	2006-04-18
<i>MYR</i>	2008-03-17
<i>MYR</i>	2008-03-20
<i>NZD</i>	1999-08-25

**Tab. 3.** Times of activation of robustification in the algorithm (9) [for some daily currency rates \*/EUR].

## 6. CONCLUSION

The robust recursive algorithm for the estimation parameters and the corresponding volatility prediction of the GARCH model suggested in this paper seems to be effective for financial data, especially for contaminated log returns in the risk control and regulation when the prediction of volatility is the main concern. The one-stage recursive estimation procedure introduced for the GARCH process in [32] is robustified in such a way that it can distinguish and correct outlaid bursts of volatility. The simulations and real data examples also demonstrate that the suggested procedure enables corresponding adaptations in the case parameter changes.

## APPENDIX

The robustified recursive algorithm for estimation of GARCH model (refer to (9)) is based on the robustified version of Kalman filter derived in [13] with the aim to robustify the classical exponential smoothing in time series analysis:

Let us consider the dynamic linear model (DLM) in the form:

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \mathbf{x}_t, \quad (\text{A1a})$$

$$y_t = \mathbf{h}_t^\top \mathbf{x}_t + \nu_t, \quad \nu_t \sim i.i.d. \text{ N}(0, w_t^2), \quad (\text{A1b})$$

where  $\mathbf{x}_t$  is the state vector in the signal equation (A1a) and  $\mathbf{h}_t$  is the vector of coefficients

in the observation equation (A1b). Then the classical Kalman filter recursion is:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_t = \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{t-1} + \frac{\mathbf{P}_{t-1}\mathbf{h}_t}{\mathbf{h}_t^\top \mathbf{P}_{t-1} \mathbf{h}_t + w_t^2} \left( y_t - \mathbf{h}_t^\top \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{t-1} \right), \quad (\text{A2a})$$

$$\mathbf{P}_t = \mathbf{P}_{t-1} - \frac{\mathbf{P}_{t-1}\mathbf{h}_t\mathbf{h}_t^\top \mathbf{P}_{t-1}}{\mathbf{h}_t^\top \mathbf{P}_{t-1} \mathbf{h}_t + w_t^2}, \quad (\text{A2b})$$

which can be rewritten by means of the filter gain  $\mathbf{k}_t$  as

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_t = \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{t-1} + \mathbf{k}_t \left( y_t - \mathbf{h}_t^\top \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{t-1} \right), \quad (\text{A3a})$$

$$\mathbf{P}_t = \mathbf{P}_{t-1} - \mathbf{k}_t \mathbf{h}_t^\top \mathbf{P}_{t-1}, \quad (\text{A3b})$$

$$\mathbf{k}_t = \frac{\mathbf{P}_{t-1}\mathbf{h}_t}{\mathbf{h}_t^\top \mathbf{P}_{t-1} \mathbf{h}_t + w_t^2}. \quad (\text{A3c})$$

The robust version according to [13] replaces (A3a) by

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_t^{rob} = \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{t-1}^{rob} + \mathbf{k}_t \Psi(e_t), \quad (\text{A4})$$

i. e. the prediction error

$$e_t = y_t - \hat{y}_{t+1|t} = y_t - \mathbf{h}_t^\top \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{t-1} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{h}_t^\top \mathbf{P}_{t-1} \mathbf{h}_t + w_t^2) \quad (\text{A5})$$

is trimmed by means of the robustifying function  $\Psi(\cdot)$  defined as

$$\Psi(e_t) = \begin{cases} \text{sign}(e_t) u_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{\mathbf{h}_t^\top \mathbf{P}_{t-1} \mathbf{h}_t + w_t^2} & \text{for } |e_t| > u_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{\mathbf{h}_t^\top \mathbf{P}_{t-1} \mathbf{h}_t + w_t^2}, \\ e_t & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (\text{A6})$$

For instance, if applying this scheme to the classical model AR(1) then the strong consistency of the recursive formulas for the robust estimation of the autoregressive parameter can be shown (see [14]).

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