IAA Publication in 2013

Discount Rates in Financial Reporting: A Practical Guide

Andrew H. Dalton 1 April 2014 2014 ICA Conference, Washington, DC





Overview of the Book

- Broadly split into two sections:
 - Methodology
 - Case Studies

Overview of the Book

- Methodology section
 - Selected highlights include:
 - Risk-free rates
 - Decomposition of discount rates
 - Yield curve interpolation and extrapolation
 - Replicating portfolios
 - Credit, liquidity, currency, and sovereign risks
 - Inflation

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Stochastic methods

Overview of the Book

Case Studies

- Thirteen case studies highlight application of techniques:
 - Yield curve interpolation/extrapolation
 - Economic value for unit-linked products
 - Participating assurance and interest sensitive life business
 - General perspectives on replicating portfolios
 - Replicating portfolios from a North American perspective
 - Illiquidity premium determination methods
 - Currency risk
 - · Development of yield curves in markets with no and/or unreliable data
 - Discounting non-life liabilities
 - Eurozone IAS 19 example
 - Discounting employee benefit cash flows
 - Canadian pensions
 - Sovereign Risk

Purpose of the Book

- What the book is...
 - Educational resource for actuaries globally
 - Demonstrates selected practices and techniques used around the world
- And, what is it not...

- Mathematical introduction to interest rate theory
- Authoritative source for global standards, regulations or professional guidance





Insights... risk-free rates

Overview:

- Definition of risk-free: Theory vs. Reality
- Risk-free reference rates
- Closed-form solutions
- Replicating portfolios



Insights... risk-free rates





Insights... risk-free rates

- Risk-free reference rates
 - What are the options?

- Advantages/Disadvantages
- No "one-size-fits-all" approach







- Published internationally by the International Actuarial Association
- Global team involved in development:
 - Contributions from Milliman consultants globally
 - Members of Ad Hoc Project Oversight Group representing:
 - US, Canada, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Germany
 - Funding from global actuarial organizations:
 - Actuaries Institute of Australia
 - Canadian Institute of Actuaries
 - Institute & Faculty of Actuaries UK
 - USA Actuarial Foundation
 - Casualty Actuarial Society
 - Society of Actuaries (US) Financial Reporting Section

Global Impact

- Examples of international exposure:
 - 2013 Life & Annuity Symposium (Toronto, ON)
 - 2014 International Congress of Actuaries (Washington, DC)
 - Slovakia Society of Actuaries (Bratislava, Slovakia/April 2014)
 - European Actuarial Academy (Prague, Czech Republic/April 2014)
 - Presentation to International Insurance Regulators (Basel, Switzerland/ March 2014)

