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North American Actuarial Journal >

Volume 18, 2014 - Issue 1: Longevity Risk and Capital Markets

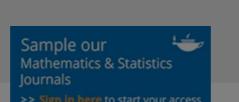
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Feature Articles

Downside Risk Management of a Defined **Benefit Plan Considering Longevity Basis** Risk

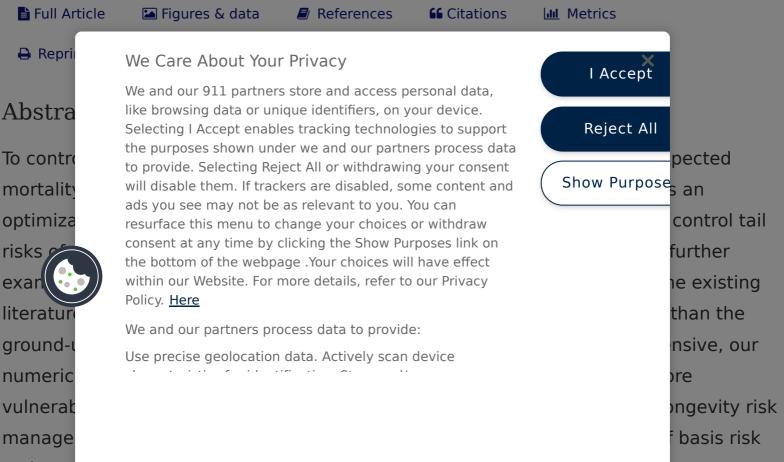
Yijia Lin, Ken Seng Tan, Ruilin Tian & Jifeng Yu Pages 68-86 | Published online: 14 Feb 2014

66 Cite this article https://doi.org/10.1080/10920277.2013.852064



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Notes

Normal contribution or service cost, C, is the cost of additional benefits earned by employees for their service each year, which depends on salary levels, employee turnover and mortality. However, the ultimate cost is usually uncertain. To measure this cost, in practice, pension firms often first estimate their future pension obligations using actuarial assumptions and then attribute these obligations to service years to derive an annual service cost (Competition Commission <u>2007</u>). In our example, we calculate future pension obligations based on the retirement benefit B and then determine the optimal annual normal contribution C with our proposed model.

Available at <u>http://www.mortality.org</u> or <u>http://www.humanmortality.de</u> (data downloaded on November 22, 2011).

Withdrawals from DB pension plans are often not permitted, or if permitted are subject to excise taxes. As a robustness check, we resolve our optimization problems with and without hedging at a higher withdrawal penalty factor of $\psi_2=0.5$ that equals the prevailing excise tax rate in the United States. Overall, the results confirm the findings based on the withdrawal penalty factor of $\psi_2=0.2$ shown in this article. To conserve

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