

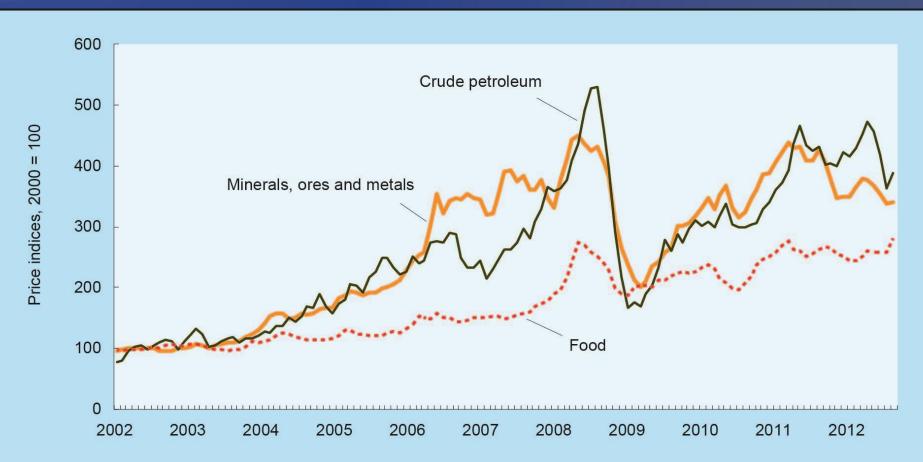
## The impact of financialization on commodity prices

## Professor Dr. Heiner Flassbeck

Director, Division on Globalization and Development Strategies,
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD),
Geneva

## Commodity prices have recovered amidst high volatility and a global slowdown

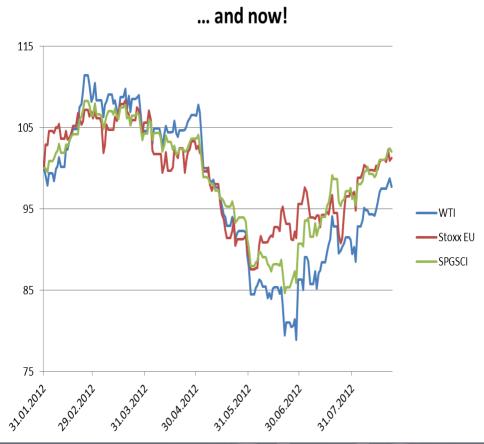
Commodity prices, selected categories, January 2002 – July 2012 (Index numbers, 2000 = 100)





## By comparing the evolution of stocks and commodity prices, the financialization of commodity markets reveals a dramatic change

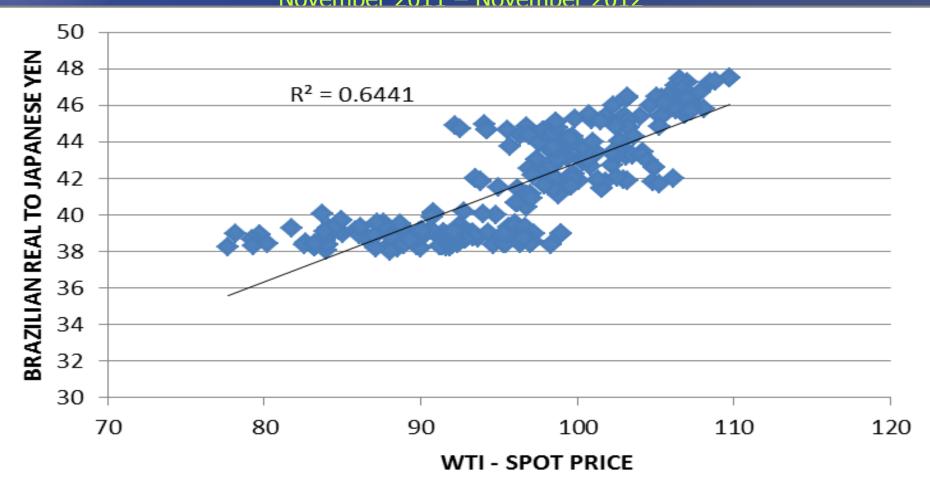






## Daily movements in oil prices and Brazilian Real/Japanese Yen exchange rate are highly correlated

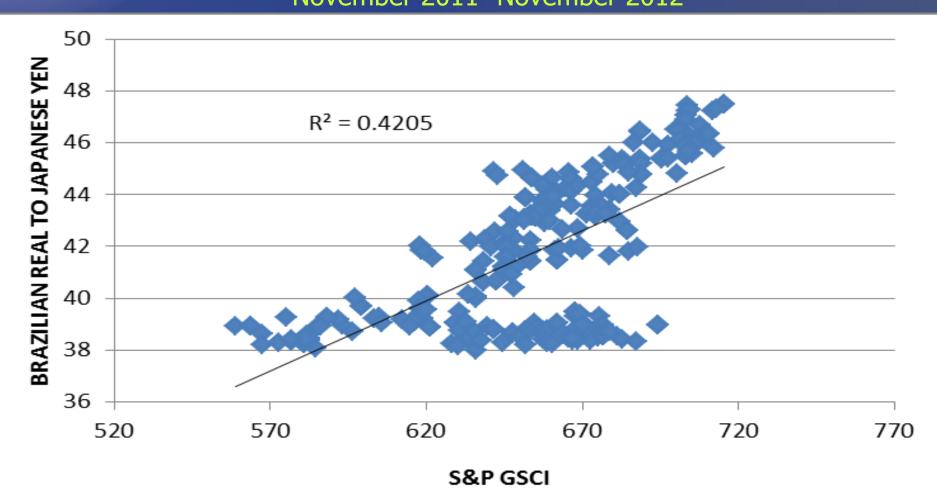
November 2011 - November 2012





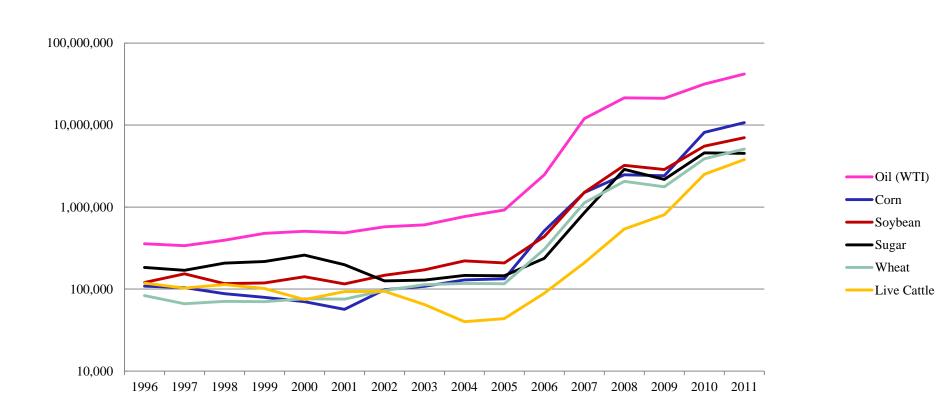
## Daily movements in S&P GSCI and Brazilian Real/Japanese Yen exchange rate show only one major deviation

November 2011- November 2012



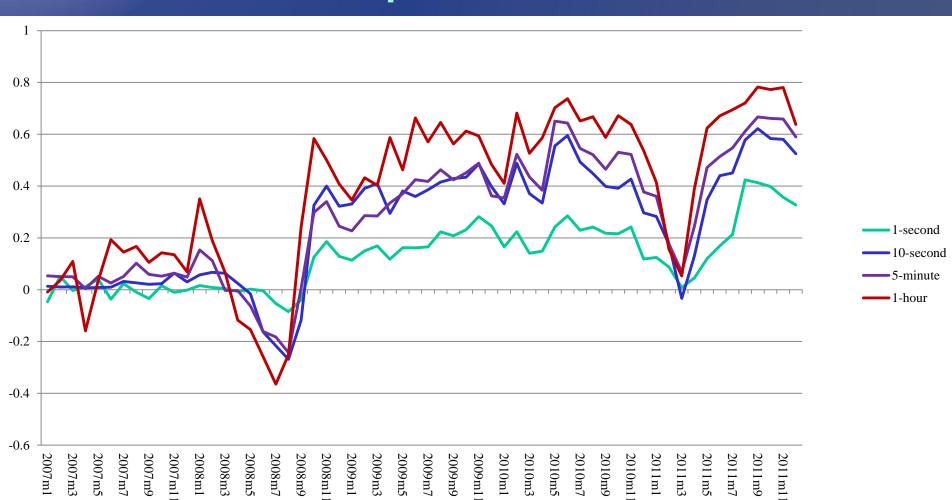
# The number of annual trades by commodity has increased in tandem with increased correlation among markets

1996 -2011

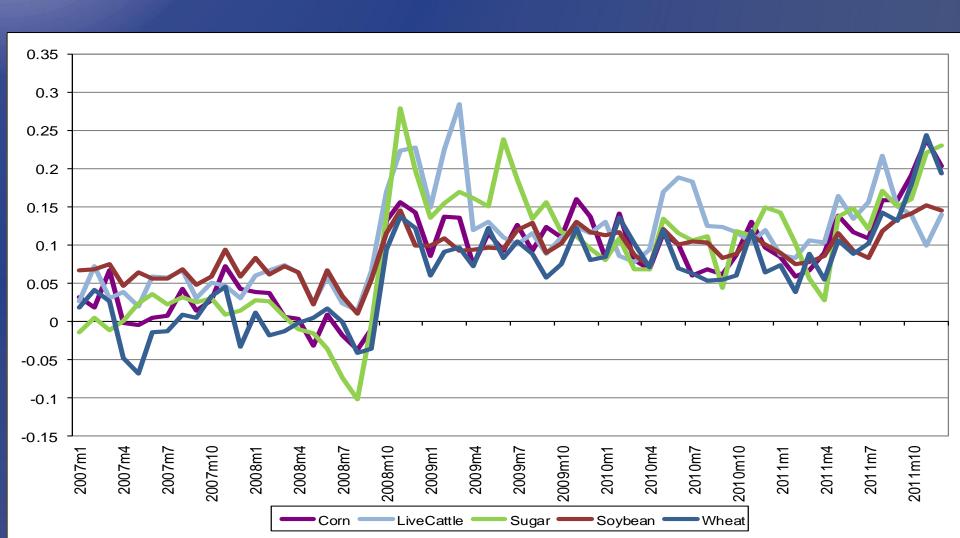


**Note:** The y-axis is a logarithmic scale of base 10.

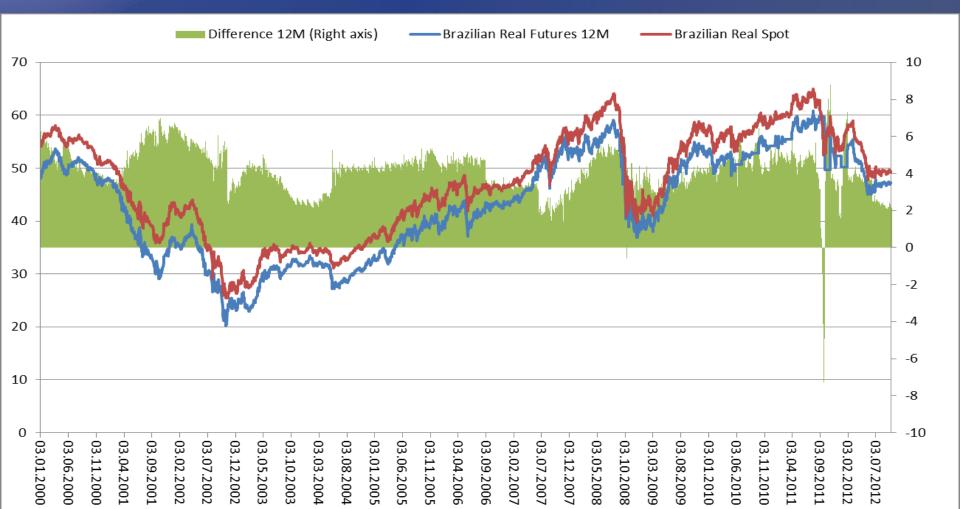
Monthly median of short-term rolling correlations bewteen the returns on the WTI and the S&P 500 Futures, by frequency shows higher correlation despite one deviation



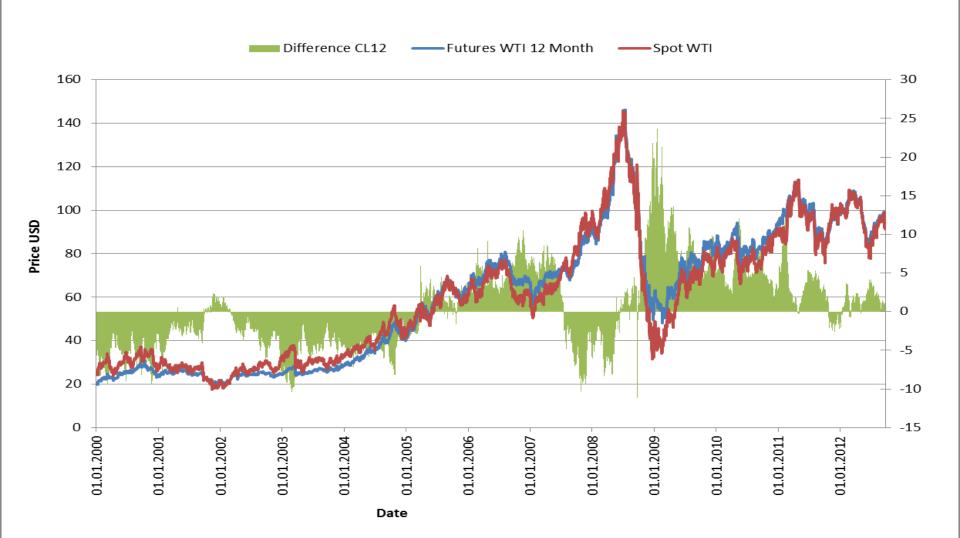
## Other agricultural products show the same break as oil in HFT



# Daily movements of the Brazilian Real spot and 12 month future prices: no future in the futures and no price discovery

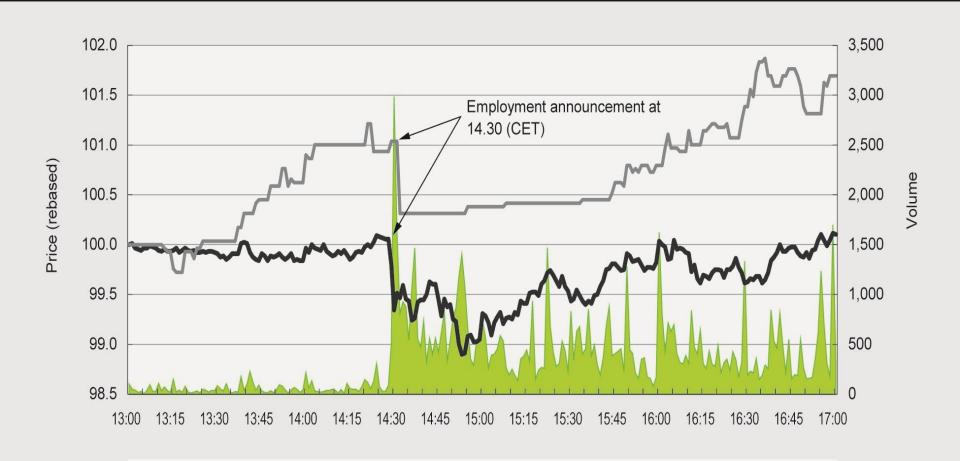


## Daily movements in the WTI spot and 12 month future prices: the future is more uncertain than ever before



WTI volume (right scale)

Information generation and use is inefficient in financial markets: Herding and price distortion but no additional liquidity from financial markets



Cocoa futures price (left scale)