



# Financial Markets: From Tranquility to Trauma and...Back Again?"

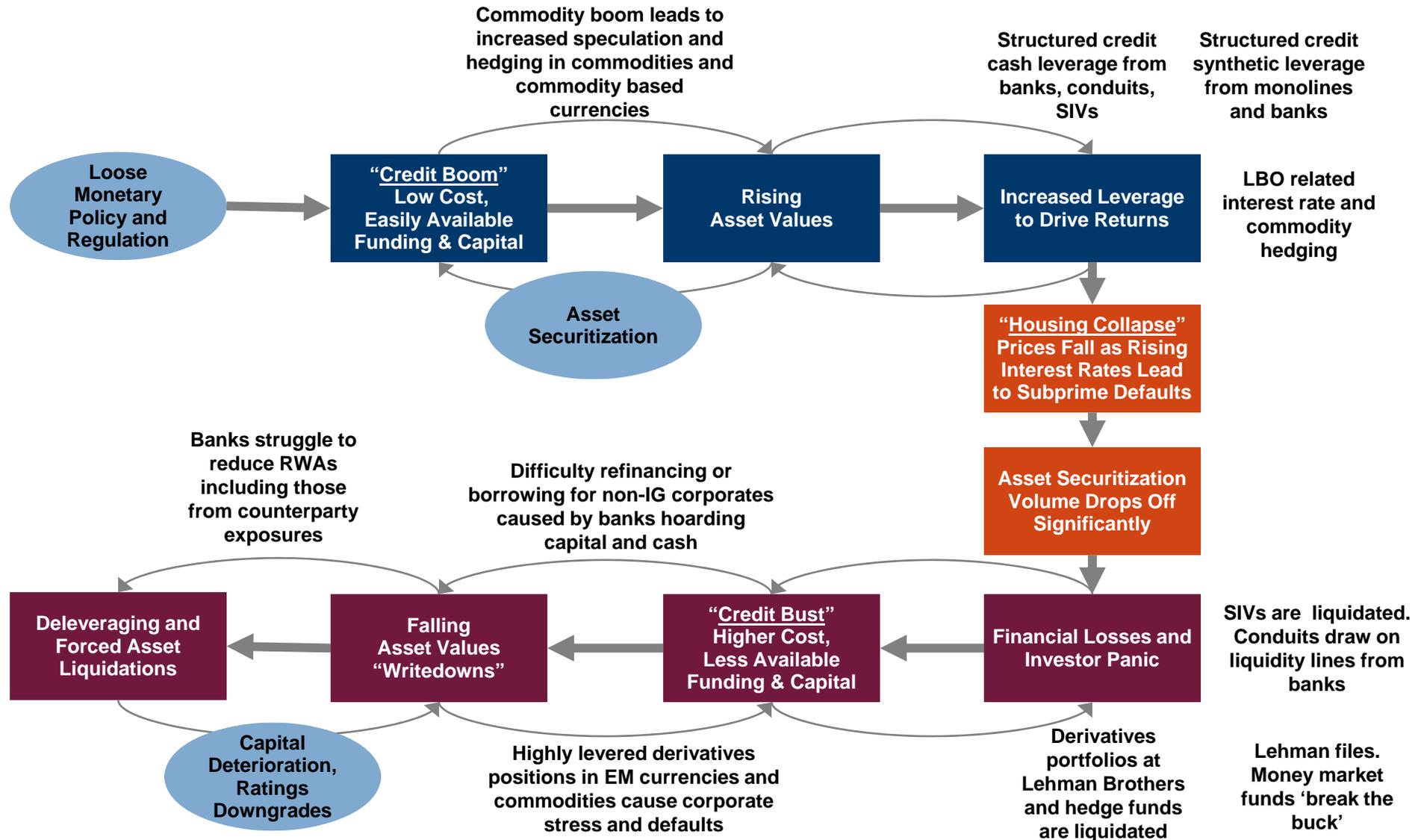
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Derivative Counterparty Risk Management

# Financial cycle of 2003–2009: Derivative problems



# How did:

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**Loose Monetary  
Policy and  
Regulation**

**Inadequate Risk  
Management**

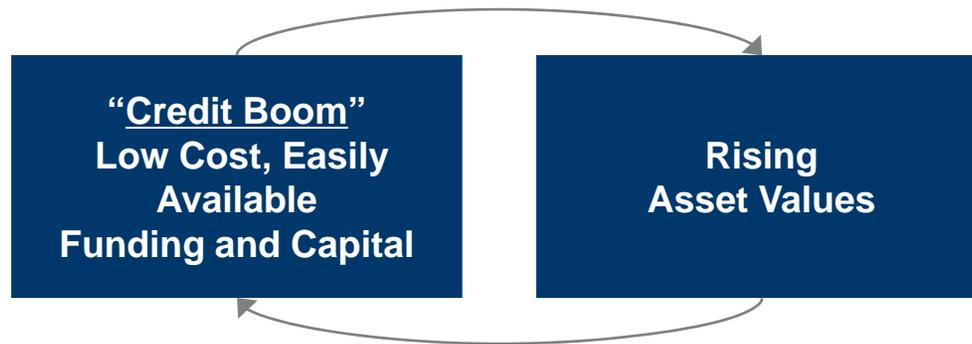
**Asset  
Securitization**

## Lead to:

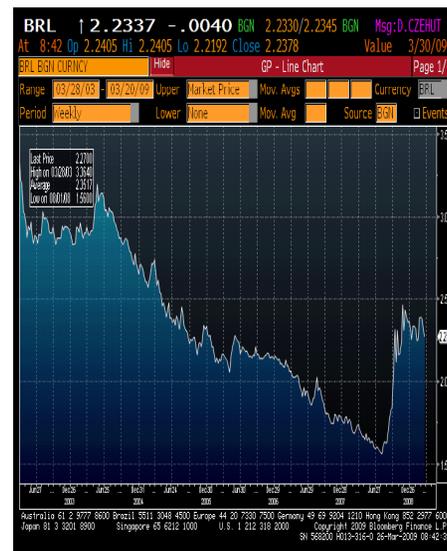
**Deleveraging and Forced  
Asset Liquidations**

- How could banks and investors have lost so much money?
- Why was there so much demand for assets that eventually proved to be of significantly lesser value than their original cost?
- Why did the 'originate to distribute' model fail?
- What role did derivatives and synthetic risk taking play in the debacle?
- How do we prevent these issues from recurring without stifling creativity in finance?

# Commodity boom leads to increased speculation and hedging in commodities and commodity based currencies



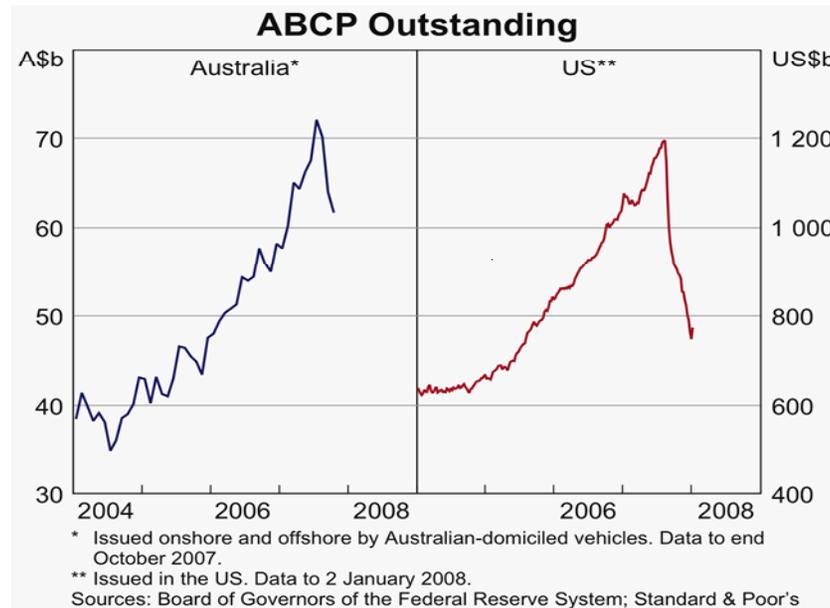
- Selling forward by producers / exporters (E&P companies, miners)
- Buying forward by consumers (airlines, utilities)
- Speculation on continued currency and commodity appreciation (Mexico, Brazil)



Crude Oil and the Brazilian Real – 2003–2009

# Structured credit cash leverage from banks, conduits, SIVs

Increased Leverage to Drive Returns

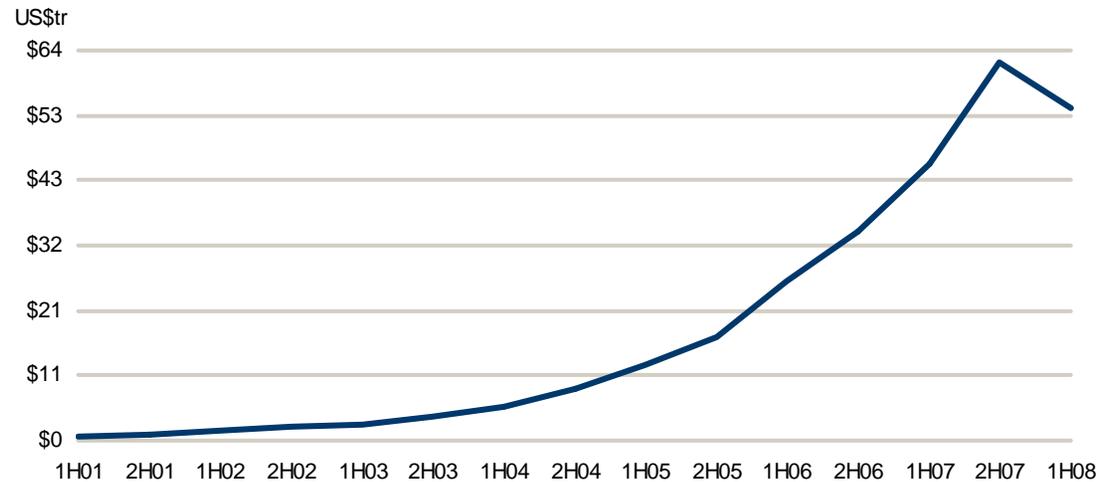


- ABCP conduits and SIVs sold rated (predominantly AAA) securities to banks and money market funds
- Sponsors of the structured credit vehicles included banks, hedge funds and others
- In many cases, liquidity lines were either non-existent or for less than the outstanding securities

# Structured credit synthetic leverage from monolines and banks

Increased Leverage to Drive Returns

Credit Default Swap Notional Outstanding



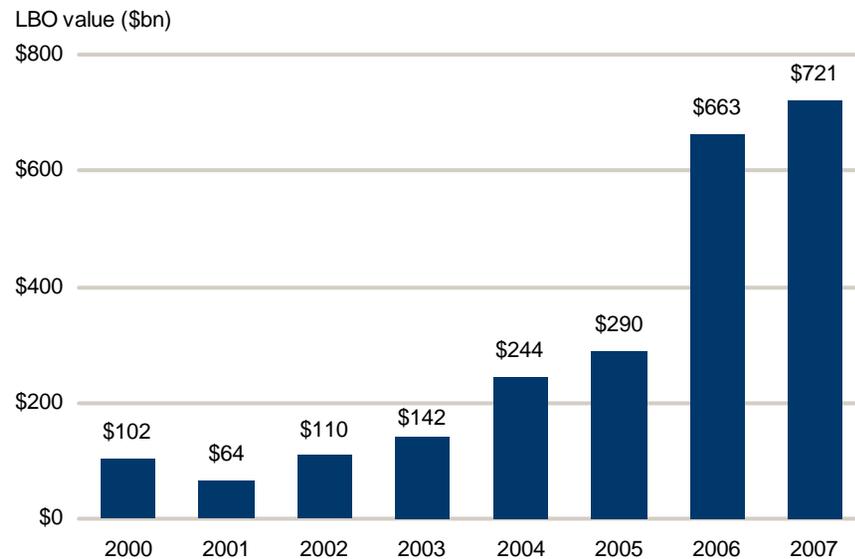
Source: International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc.

- Corporate CDS volume was driven by hedging and by corporate synthetic CDOs
- Monolines and insurance company subsidiaries like AIF-FP wrote protection against the senior tranches of ABS CDOs and CLOs to banks who held the tranches on balance sheet in negative basis trades
- Banks also wrote liquidity facilities on ABCP issued by CDOs
- These devices enabled investors to take risk without funding and with minimal capital
- Hung deal inventory, originator warehouses, negative basis trades, and liquidity facilities have caused a large share of the losses at banks

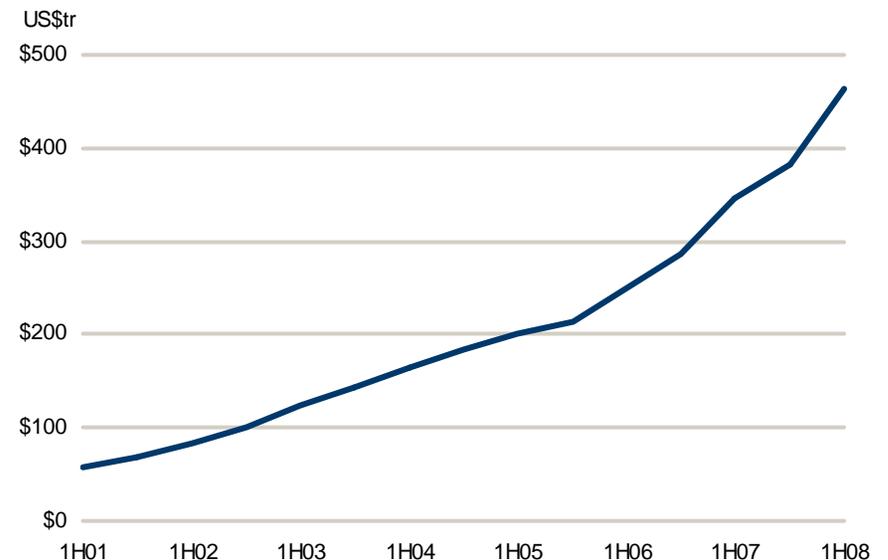
# LBO related interest rate and commodity hedging

## Increased Leverage to Drive Returns

### PE Investment: Deal Value



### Interest Rate and Cross Currency Swap Notional Outstanding



Source: International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc.

# Financial losses and investor panic

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**SIVs are liquidated.  
Conduits draw on  
liquidity lines from banks**

**Lehman files.  
Money market funds  
'break the buck'**

**Derivatives portfolios at  
Lehman Brothers and  
hedge funds are liquidated**

- SIV triggers are hit as prices fall and liquidations amplify losses to asset values
- 365 day (zero capital) liquidity lines are drawn to fund assets with values significantly below par
- Synthetic CDO market collapses following Canadian ABCP debacle (banks had bought senior protection from ABCP conduits levered 10:1)
- Losses on short-term Lehman paper cause distress in money markets; normal funding sources for banks dry up. Unsecured funding markets freeze up
- On the Saturday preceding the Lehman bankruptcy, a meeting at the NY Fed is proposed to sort out Lehman's derivatives positions: the meeting is never held
- Lehman's counterparties are left to cope with massive open positions in repo and derivatives

# One year Fed Funds vs. 3M LIBOR swap 3/31/08–present



# One year Fed Funds vs. 3M LIBOR swap May 2003–present



# One year Fed Funds vs. 3M LIBOR swap May 1997–present



- Just one example of tail risk becoming a realized event

# Difficulty refinancing or borrowing for corporates caused by banks hoarding capital and cash



- Highly levered derivatives positions in EM currencies and commodities cause corporate stress and defaults



- What is this chart?

# Difficulty refinancing or borrowing for corporates caused by banks hoarding capital and cash



- Controladora Comercial Mexicana S.A. de C.V. is a domestic Mexican retailer that engaged in massive and highly levered long forward positions in MXN
- Collateral calls on derivative positions at a number of Latin American corporates have caused bankruptcy filings and defaults

# Root causes

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- Indiscriminate buying driven by loose money and faith in ratings
- Belief by banks that they were distributing risk
  - ▶ ...while actually retaining the tails (negative basis, liquidity lines)
- Model driven products
  - ▶ Gaussian copula 'model' produced convexity numbers that were unrelated to market models and ultimately market reality
- Bad timing
  - ▶ 'Originate to distribute' banks left holding the bag
  - ▶ Over-levered LBOs caught in the downdraft before private equity magic could increase enterprise value and reduce leverage
- Lack of transparency
  - ▶ Derivatives portfolios
  - ▶ Zero capital liquidity lines
  - ▶ Negative basis trades
- Capital requirements
  - ▶ Based on Value at Risk
  - ▶ Based on historical performance
  - ▶ Based on ratings

**There was a fundamental misunderstanding of how quick, how drastic and how correlated market movements could be**

# What is to be done?

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- How to recognize dangerous risk concentrations when they are currently viewed as benign?
- How to regulate model usage when a model is accepted by all market participants?
- How to improve transparency in the derivatives markets?
- How to measure capital against complex portfolios with less than obvious risks?

# Transparency of Derivatives Positions

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- Past lessons from credit derivatives
  - ▶ Standardized maturities
  - ▶ Novation protocol
    - Positions were freely novated without consent of remaining party
  - ▶ Public auction settlements
    - Physical settlement process was opaque and becoming unscalable
    - Auction process has successfully settled multiple large scale credit events including Lehman, Fannie and Freddie
  - ▶ DTCC warehouse
    - All positions stored in a single database
  
  - ▶ But when Lehman defaulted, no unwinding was possible; further developments were needed
- Current initiatives in credit derivatives
  - ▶ Standardized coupons
  - ▶ Hard-wired auctions
  - ▶ Third party clearing

# Transparency of Derivatives Positions

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- Can these innovations be applied to other derivatives markets
  - ▶ How much can the market be standardized?
  - ▶ How much of the flow in the business is dealer-to-dealer and how much faces clients?
  - ▶ How does one party assess the derivatives risk of a potential counterparty in an environment of non-standard trades that are not cleared?
  - ▶ In any event, derivatives dealers need more and better information about their corporate and hedge fund client's concentrations in derivatives.
  - ▶ Initiatives are in place in Brazil and Mexico to enhance access to information for dealers.

# Risk Assessment

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- Capital can't be allocated by assuming the worst always happens
- Capital can't be allocated by assuming the best always happens
- Capital has to be allocated based on the actual risk held by an institution
- How do you incorporate market information to determine the probability distribution between best, worst and what lies in between?
- What role do stress tests have in assessing risk?
- One solution is to assign probabilities to different scenarios based on market information and continuously evaluate a portfolio based on its performance over the range of probabilities.
- Market factors for scenarios: currency values, commodity prices, credit spreads, yields and yield differentials, mortgage rates, delinquencies (C&I, mortgages, credit cards, CMBS), etc.
- Portfolio characteristics have to include measurements of overall risk, single risk concentrations, concentrations in similar risks, liquidity, volatility.
- In many cases, these market factors can be linked to macroeconomic factors.
- Have to consider the computational feasibility, so approximations will have to be made to limit the number of factors.

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