



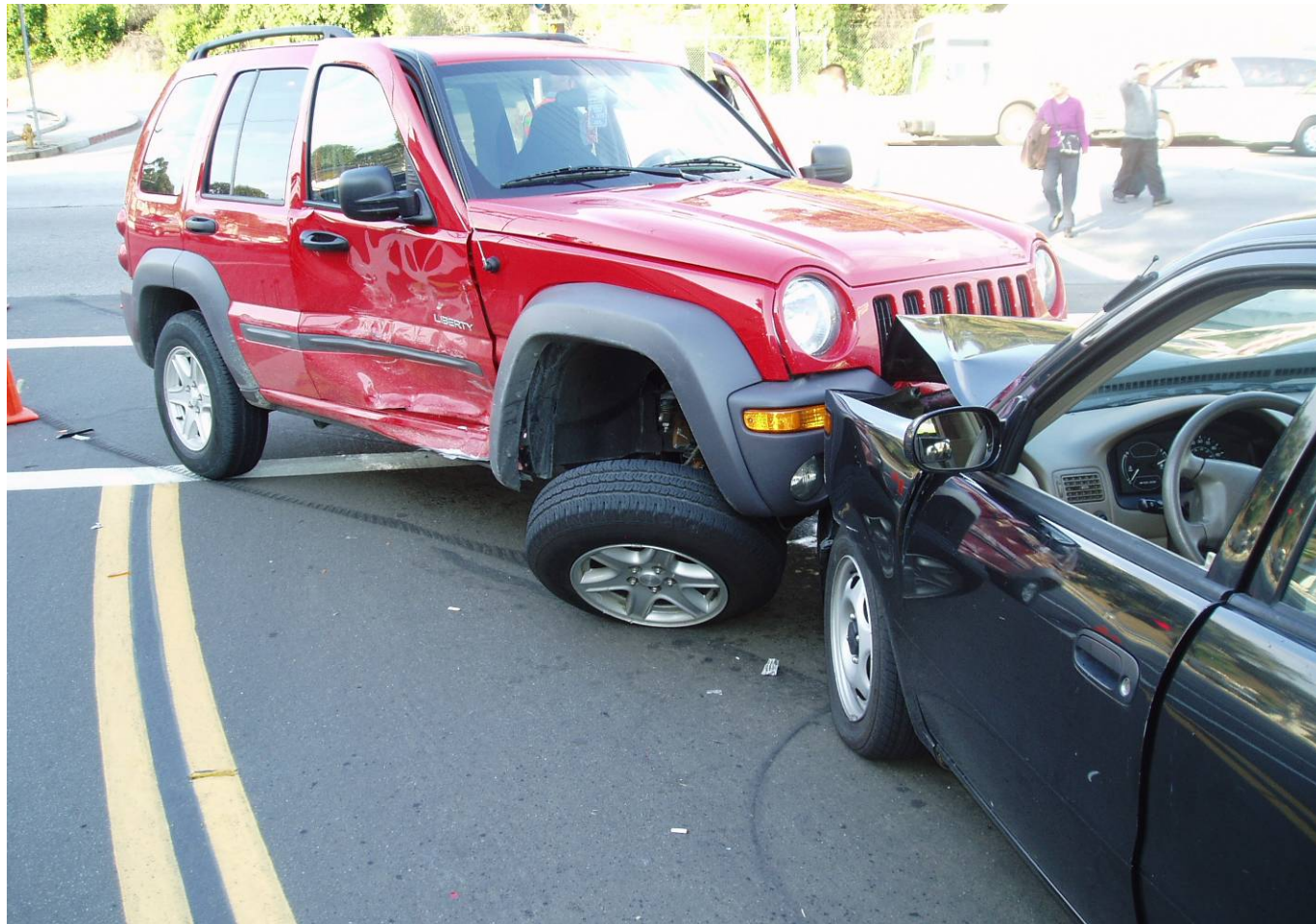
# Hedging, pricing & fundamental analysis

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4 December 2012, Hong Kong

# Course Content

- Introduction to hedging – why do companies hedge?
- Case study 1: a metal producer hedge with futures
- Case study 2: a car manufacturer hedge with LMEswaps
- Case study 3: a drinks company hedge with futures
- Case study 4: a zinc smelter hedge with options
- Fundamental analysis of metal prices – what drives prices and why is the price important?
- Emerging economies

# What is risk?



# What is risk?

RISK = (PROBABILITY OF AN EVENT OCCURRING) X  
(IMPACT OF EVENT OCCURRING)

# Risk management

**Risks:** Identify, assess, prioritise

**Apply resources to:**

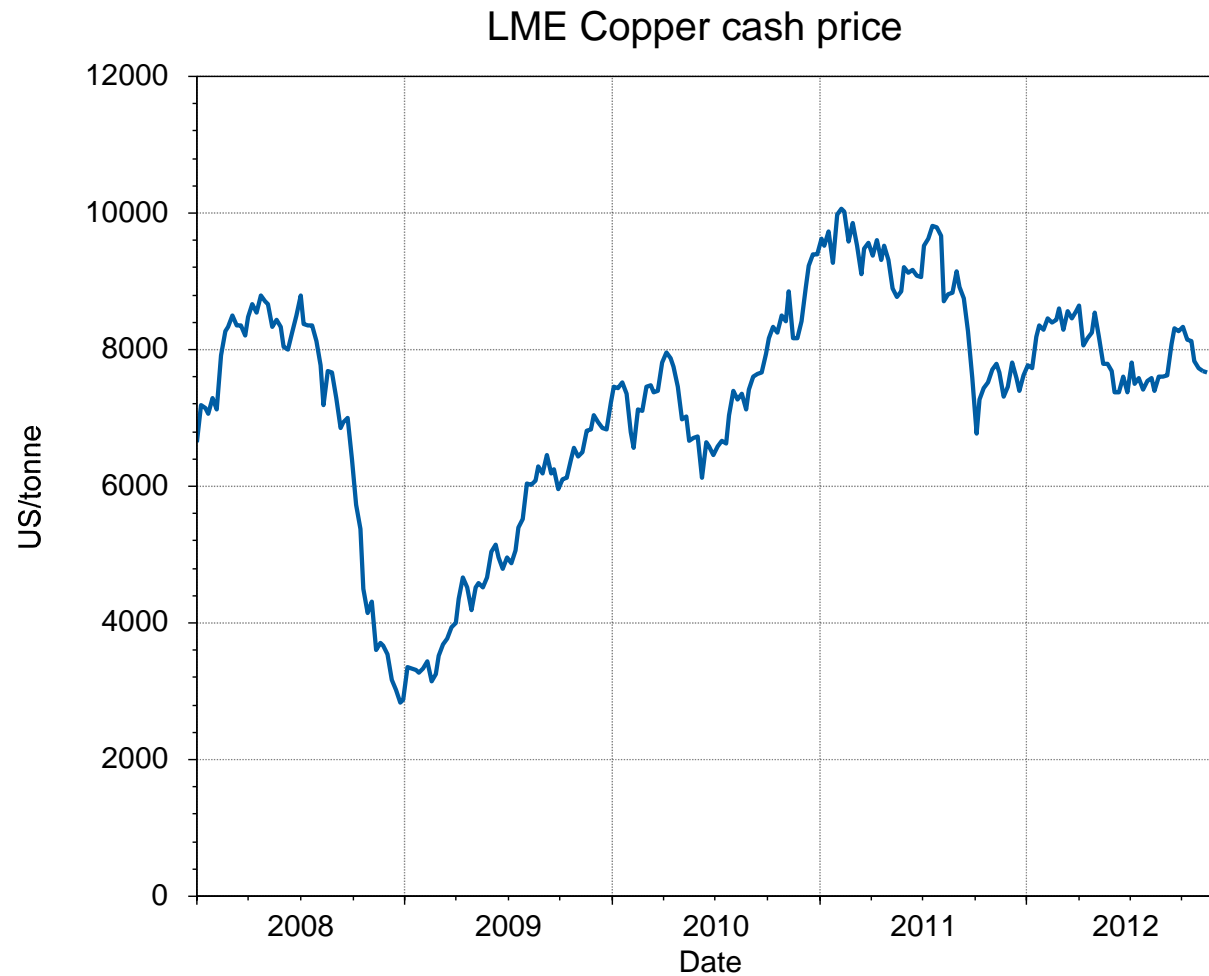


**Minimise, monitor, control  
events that may impact:**

- **Price**
- **Maximise opportunities**

# When did you price your LME Copper?

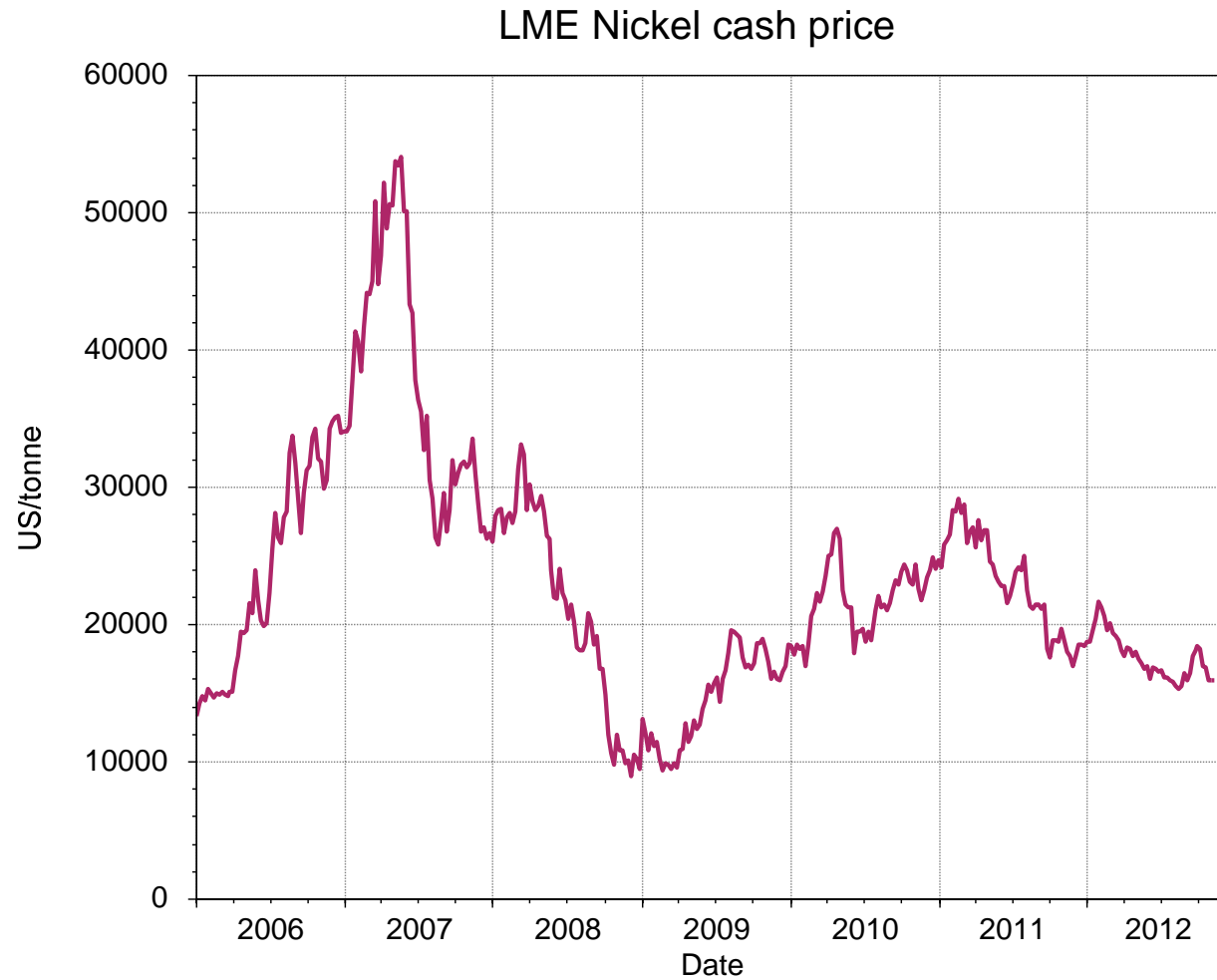
LME Copper cash sellers price January 2008– July 2012



Source: Thomson Reuters Datastream

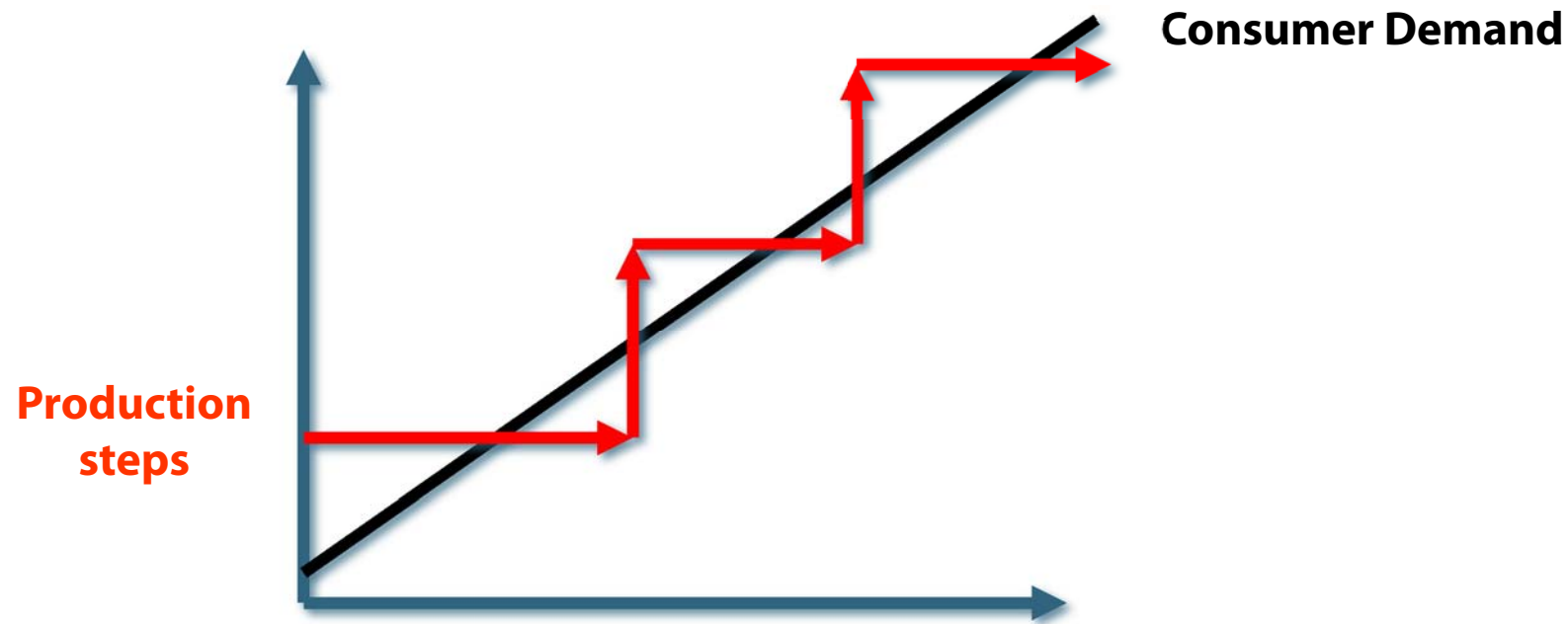
# When did you price your LME Nickel?

LME Nickel cash sellers price January 2006 – July 2012



Source: Thomson Reuters Datastream

# Origins of commodity price volatility



Volatility is inherent in commodity markets.

Stems from lack of responsiveness of both demand and supply in short term



# Volatility is inherent in commodity markets

## **Inflexibility of supply:**

- Economies of scale
- High fixed costs
- Development lead times

## **Inflexibility of demand:**

- Lack of substitutes
- Sensitive to business cycle

Large price swings needed to force capacity offline during a surplus, and bring it back online during a shortage

# What is hedging?

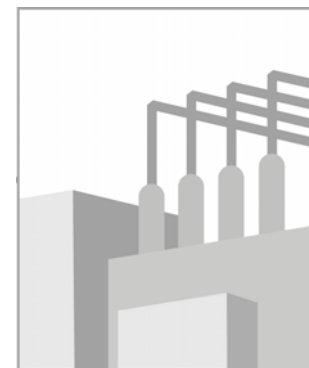
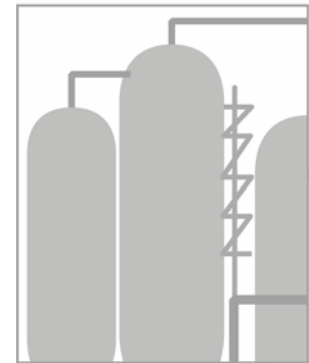
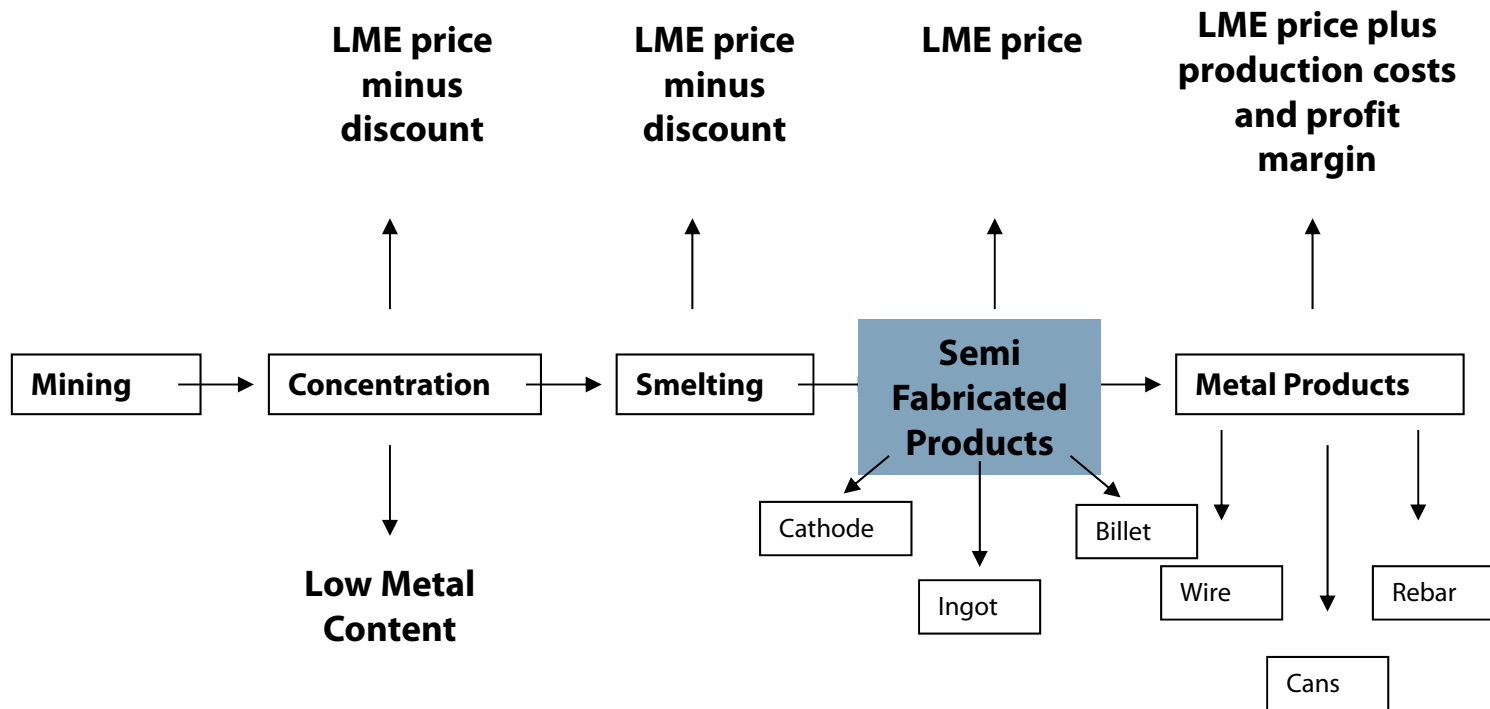
## Hedging

Establishing a position in a commodity futures market (LME) which is equal and opposite to a risk on a physical market.

- Protects against adverse price movements
- Locks in an agreed profit margin
- Protects inventory value

# The metals value chain

## How to use an LME price



# Exercise – you tell me!

## Producer

Long



Buy

Short



Sell

## Consumer

Long



Buy

Short



Sell

# Hedger vs speculator

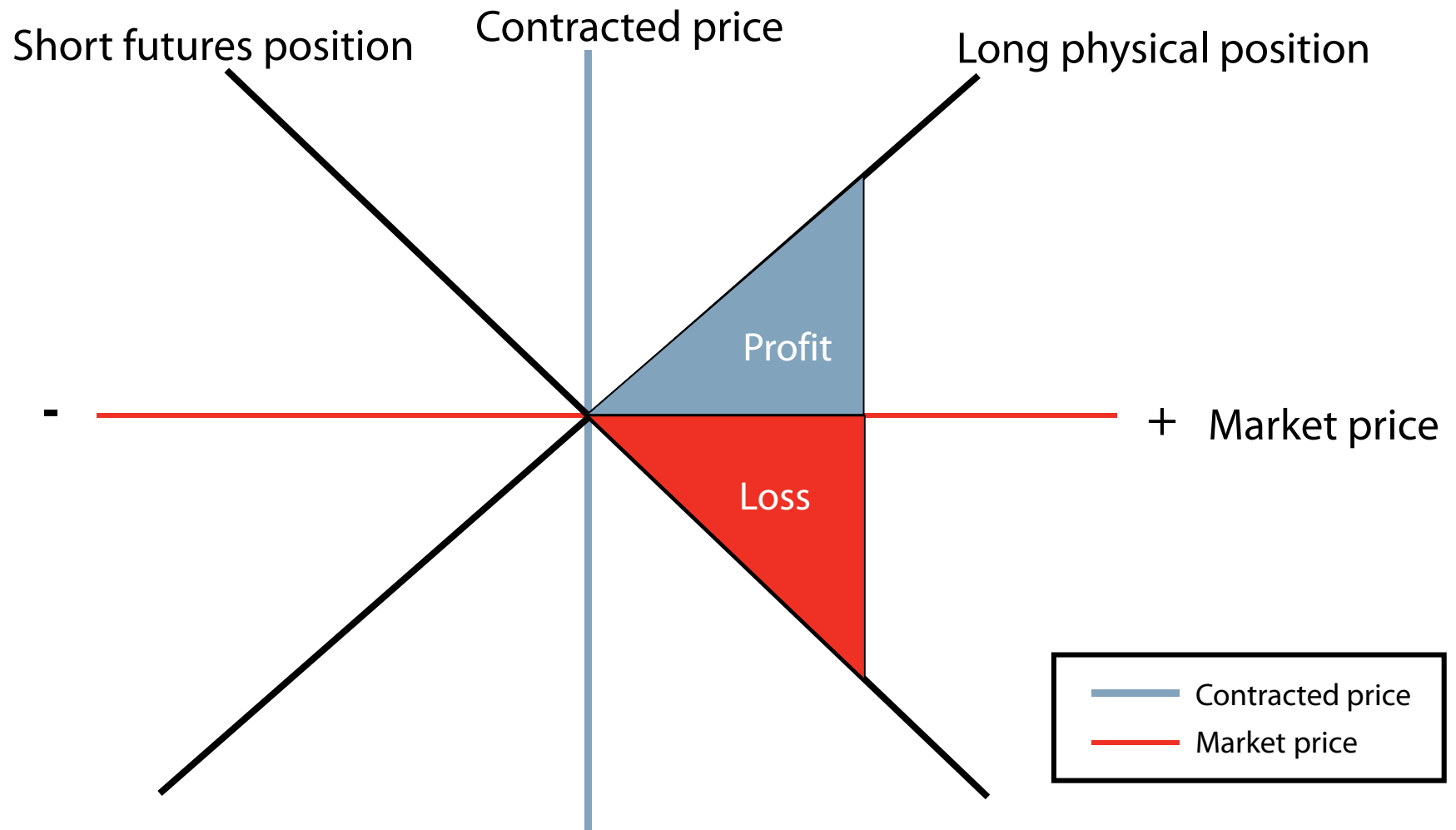
- A **hedger** starts **with** a price exposure, buys or sells futures contracts, and therefore offsets the price exposure.
- A **speculator** starts **without** price exposure, buys or sells futures contracts, and takes on price exposure

# Short hedge

# Short hedge

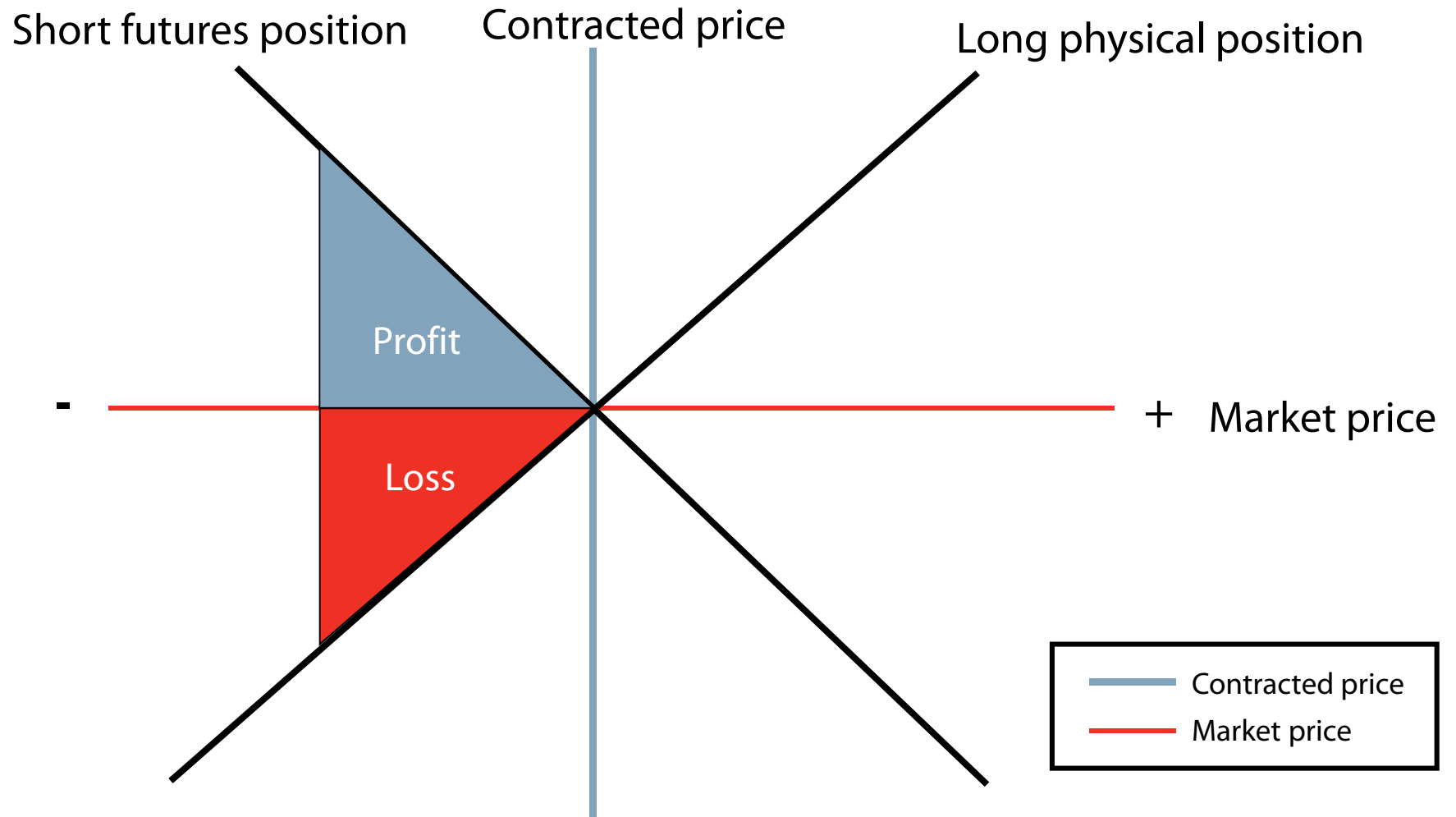
- Used to protect inventory value or sale at an unknown price
- A decline in prices generates profits in the futures market, which are offset by depreciation in the value of the physical inventory
- The opposite happens when prices rise

# Short hedge – rising price





# Short hedge – falling price



# Strategic short hedge

# Case study 1: a nickel producer

# Strategic short hedge example

- **Strategic hedge** taking advantage of favourable prices
- Producers can sell forward production and lock in known price when prices are historically high e.g. nickel 2007
- Consumers can lock in raw material costs when prices are historically low e.g. copper early 2009

# Strategic short hedge example

ABC nickel producer Ltd

LME Nickel



# Strategic short hedge example

ABC nickel producer Ltd

**It is 7<sup>th</sup> May 2007 and the producer receives a purchase order for metal to be delivered in fifteen months**

<b>Quantity</b>	600 tonnes
<b>Delivery date</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2008
<b>Sales pricing basis</b>	Unknown LME settlement price (day of delivery)
<b>Current (known) 7<sup>th</sup> August price</b>	\$42,100– 42,150 per tonne
<b>ABC's risk?</b>	Aims and Action?

# Strategic short hedge example

**LME**

**Physical**

**7<sup>th</sup> May 2007**

Sell 100 lots LME Nickel futures prompt  
7<sup>th</sup> Aug 2008 @ \$42,100mt

**Produce metal = long physical**

Sell 600mt Ni @ Unknown Sett priced  
basis and delivery in 15 months (7<sup>th</sup> Aug  
2008)

# Price fix hedge example

ABC nickel producer Ltd

**5<sup>th</sup> August 2008 – Scenario 1 (falling market price)**

LME settlement price                      \$18,730 per tonne



# Price fix hedge example

## LME

### 7<sup>th</sup> May 2007

Sell 100 lots LME Nickel futures prompt  
7<sup>th</sup> Aug 2008 @ \$42,100mt

### 5<sup>th</sup> Aug 2008

Buy back 100 lots Close 2<sup>nd</sup> Ring Cash LME  
Nickel @ \$18,730mt

### 7<sup>th</sup> Aug 2008

LME contracts settle  
Realized LME profit = **\$23,370mt**

## Physical

### Produce Metal = Long Physical

### 7<sup>th</sup> Aug 2008

Sell 600mt Nickel to converter @  
\$18,730mt  
Total revenue from sale =  
 $\$18,730 + \$23,370 =$  **\$42,100mt**

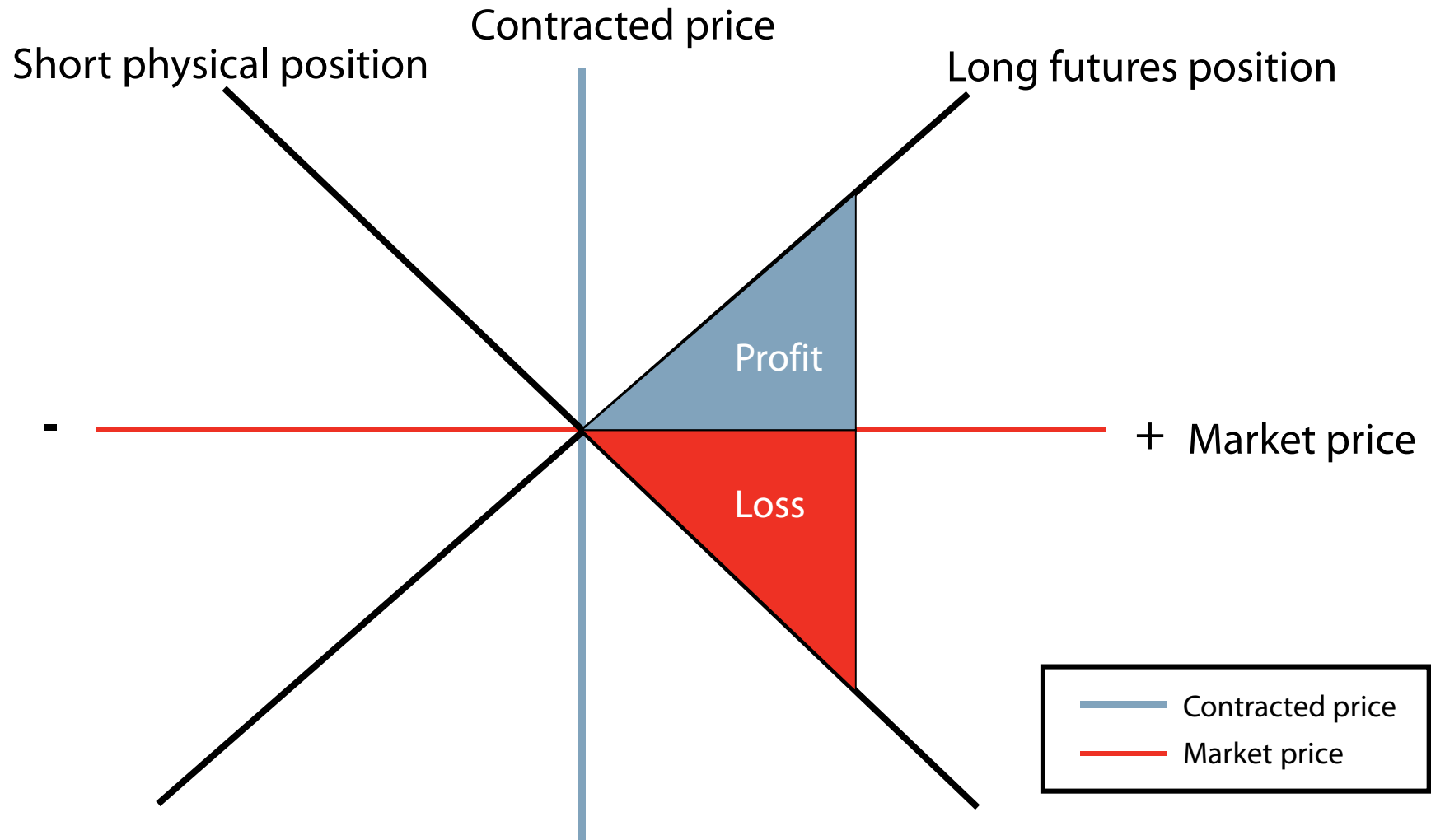
# Long hedge

# Long hedge

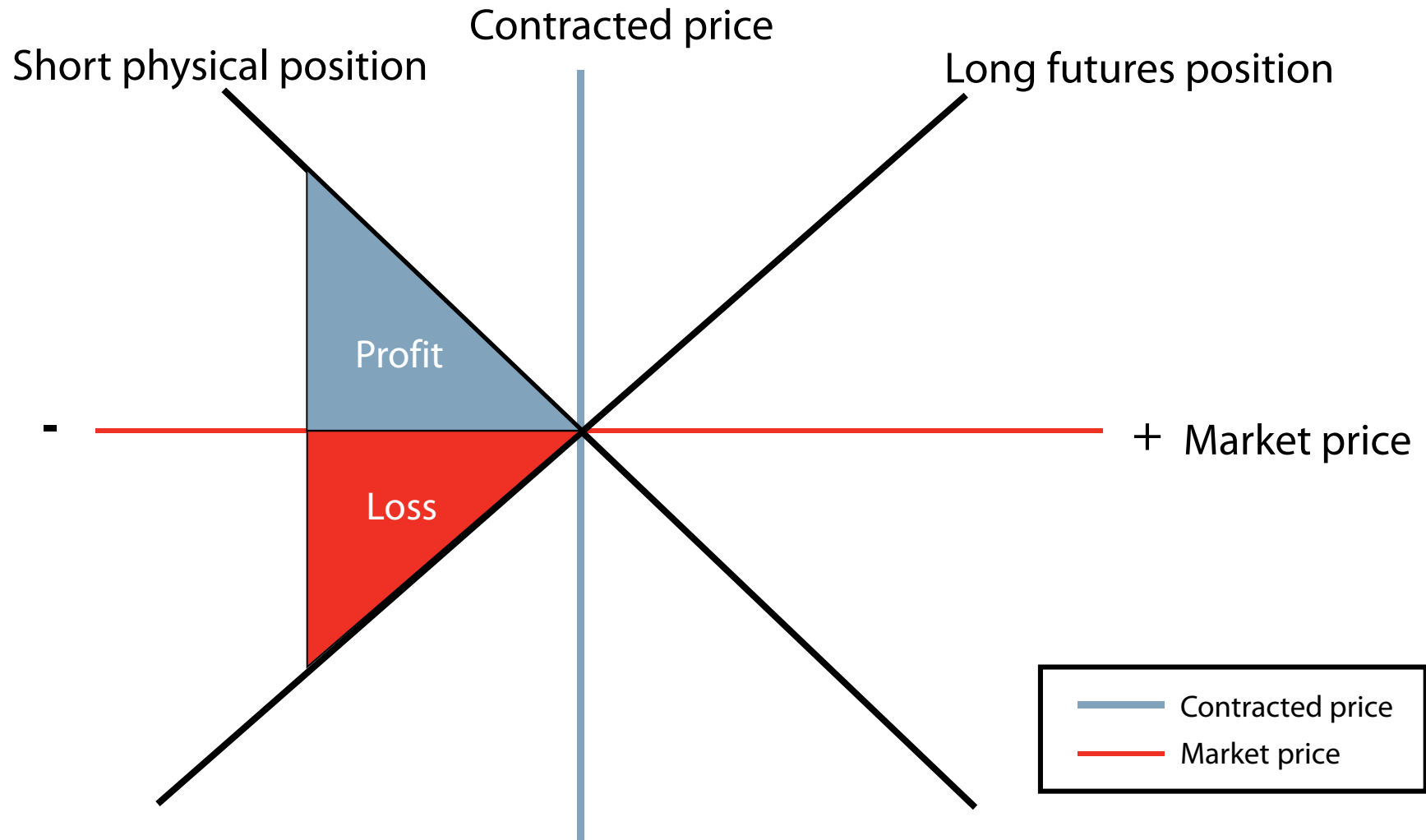
**Purchase of futures contracts by a firm worried about rising prices**

- Used to protect against price increases in the future
- Offers the chance to lock in profits (if income from operations can be maintained)

# Long hedge – rising price



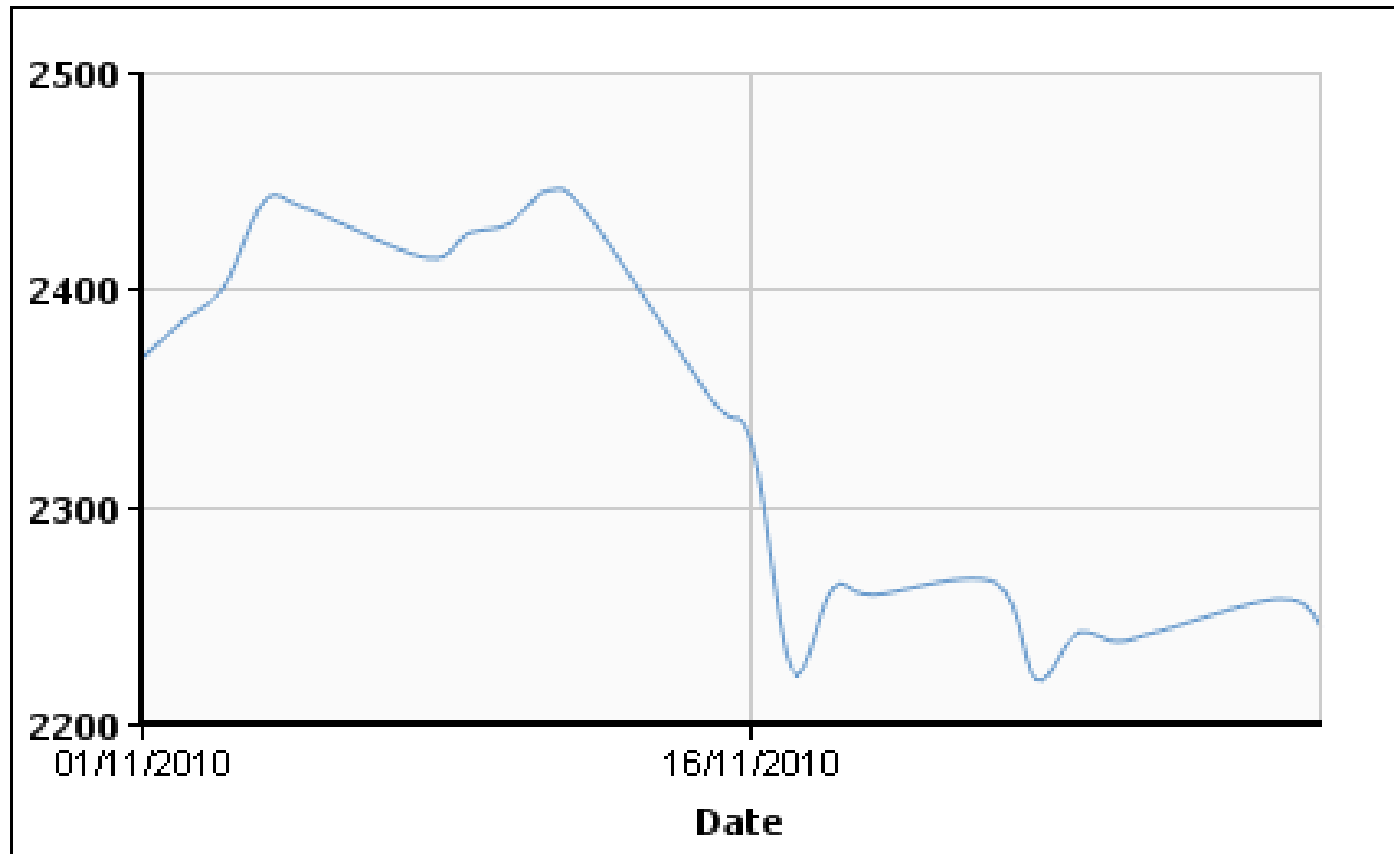
# Long hedge - falling price



# Hedging with LMEswaps

# Average Pricing

LME Aluminium settlement price Nov 2010



November  
average  
\$2333.07

# Hedging with LMEswaps

## Typical pricing formula:

**M-1** (pricing month before month of shipment)

**M** (pricing month of shipment)

**M+1** (pricing month after month of shipment)



# LMEswaps

- Financially settled two-part futures contract
- Buy/sell fixed price for floating price

# LMEswaps

- Buyer of LMEswap fixes the purchase price and closes this purchase at the MASP. Cash difference is paid the second business day of the next month
- Seller fixes the sale price and closes this sale at the MASP. Cash difference is paid the second business day of the next month

# Case study 2: a car manufacturer hedge with LMEswaps

# Average price hedging

## Scenario – BAT automobile company

### November

An automobile manufacturer has published the sales price for a car. It has not been able to negotiate a fixed price for that period for the monthly purchases of aluminium alloy parts for that car; the contract will be priced on the unknown January MASP (monthly average settlement price).

BAT's budget is based on the *current* market price of LME Aluminium Alloy and it needs to ensure that the volatile price of raw material does not impact on its profit and loss for the period.

### What action does the company have to take?

<b>Quantity</b>	300 tonnes of LME Aluminium Alloy (AA)
<b>Period</b>	January
<b>Current Jan price</b>	\$2010 per tonne

# Hedge using LMEswaps

- Aluminium alloy (AA) LMEswap quote for January is \$2000 - \$2010 per tonne
- BAT agrees to buy at the fixed price of \$2010 per tonne and settle this financially at the Monthly Average Settlement Price (MASP) on the last business day of January
- If the price settles higher than \$2010, BAT receives the difference. If the price settles lower than \$2010 BAT pays the difference.

# Car manufacturer

BAT automobile co.

## LME

## Physical

### Nov

Buy 10 lots January AA LMEswap @  
\$2010mt

### 31 Jan

Settlement for difference between fixed  
price \$2010mt and floating MASP  
\$2100mt

### 2 Feb

Receive cash settlement **\$90mt**

### 31 Jan

Buy 250mt March AA requirement basis  
\$2100mt

Total purchase price =  
 $\$2100 - \$90 =$  **\$2,010mt**



# Case study 3: a drinks company hedge with futures

# Case study 3: a drinks company

## February

- It is February. A consumer of aluminium cans has agreed to buy material with an aluminium coil content of 250mt basis LME settlement price for 18 November.  
The consumer wishes to eliminate risk from any movement in price.  
The current 18 Nov forward price is:

<b>Current LME prices</b>	LME Aluminium
18 November Buyer	2215
18 November Seller	2225

**If the price of the cans rises, they cannot pass any increase on.**



# Drinks company

Answer

**LME**

**Physical**

**Feb**

Buy 10 lots (250 tonnes) Al 18 Nov @  
\$2225mt

# Drinks company

Answer


## 16 November LME settlement price

	<b>Aluminium</b>
<b>November Buyer</b>	<b>3,300</b>
<b>November Seller</b>	<b>3,310</b>

# Drinks company

Answer

LME		Physical	
<b>Feb</b>			
Buy 10 lots (250 tonnes) Al 18 Nov @			
	\$2,225mt		
<b>16 Nov</b>		<b>16 Nov</b>	
Sell 10 lots Al Cash at	\$3,310mt	Buy 250mt material basis LME Al	
		Settlement price of	\$3,310mt
Nominal LME profit =	<b>\$1,085mt</b>	Total buy price =	
		\$3,310- \$1,085 =	<b>\$2,225mt</b>



# Drinks company

Answer


## 16 November LME settlement price

	<b>Aluminium</b>
<b>November Buyer</b>	<b>1,300</b>
<b>November Seller</b>	<b>1,310</b>

# Drinks company

Answer

LME		Physical	
<b>Feb</b>			
Buy 10 lots (250 tonnes) Al 18 Nov @	\$2,225mt		
<b>16 Nov</b>		<b>16 Nov</b>	
Sell 10 lots Al Cash at	\$1,310mt	Buy 250mt material basis LME Al	
		Settlement price of	\$1,310mt
Nominal LME loss =	<b>\$915mt</b>	Total buy price =	
		\$1,310 + \$915 =	<b>\$2,225mt</b>



# Case study 4: a zinc smelter hedge with options

# Case study 4: a smelter hedge using options

## December 2012

- The forward price for zinc is \$1800 for 2013. A zinc smelter has agreed to sell zinc at the unknown LME price for 2013
- Prices are low but the smelter does not want to risk selling at an even lower price
- Buying a put is one solution

<b>Current 2013 put prices</b>	LME Zinc
Strike 1800	120
Strike 1750	95

# Selling an option

Another major reason for selling options, is to reduce the cost of buying other options, assuming that this option purchase is the primary hedge objective

The MinMax

Maybe suitable for both hedge buyers and sellers



# The MinMax strategy (risk reversal, collar, fence)

## **The consumer MinMax**

### **Buys calls and sells puts**

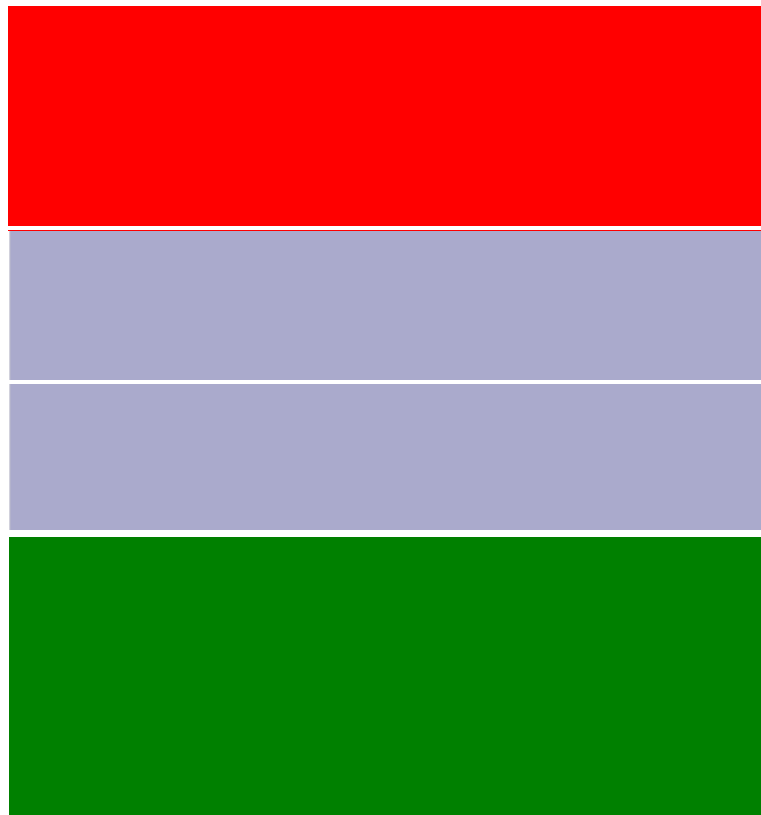
Setting a maximum price that can be paid but limiting any downside participation

## **The producer MinMax**

### **Buys puts and sells calls**

Setting a minimum hedge sale price but limiting any upside price participation

# Producer MinMax



The MAX. Producer sells **out-of-the-money** call at \$1900

They will sell at market within this band

The MIN. Producer buys **out-of-the-money** puts at \$1700

# MinMax

## Variations and variables

Zero-cost is the norm but not essential

Ratio does not have to be 1 : 1

Return for zinc smelter is no lower than \$1700 and no higher than \$1900

# Fundamental analysis of the industrial metals

# Introduction

## Define a metal

- How are they made?
- Where are they from?
- Where are they used?
- Why is the price important?



# Metals reserve map

Canada exports large quantities of materials to US both ores and semi-finished.

- Fe
- Cu
- Ni
- Al
- Zn
- Sn
- Pb

A key trading route is Russia – EU allowing Europe to easily consume Russian metals

Zambian copper ore shipped to China and refined metal to Europe.

Australia exports ores to China for further processing

Chile exports copper ores/metal to China

# PEST analysis

## PEST - Political, Economic, Social & Technological factors of the macro-environment.

<b>POLITICAL ANALYSIS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Trade restrictions and tariffs (arbitrage).</li><li>• Political stability (Middle East, Nigeria)</li><li>• Anti-trust laws</li><li>• Environmental regulations</li><li>• Employment laws (cheap labour)</li><li>• Tax policy</li></ul>	<b>ECONOMIC ANALYSIS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Economic growth rate</li><li>• Exchange rates, Inflation rate, Interest rates etc</li><li>• Business cycle stage (prosperity, recession, recovery)</li><li>• Labour costs</li><li>• Government intervention in the free market</li></ul>
<b>SOCIAL ANALYSIS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demographics</li><li>• Population growth rate</li><li>• Class structure</li><li>• Education</li><li>• Emphasis on environment, safety &amp; health.</li></ul>	<b>TECHNOLOGICAL ANALYSIS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Research &amp; Development Activity</li><li>• Rate of technological change</li><li>• Impact of technology on products</li><li>• Impact on cost structure</li><li>• Impact on value chain structure</li></ul>

# Aluminium industry overview

- Export restrictions and tariffs
- Resources/ technology

Bauxite/ alumina  
Freight of raw materials  
Electricity

- Refinery expensive to start and run
- Distribution of producers
- **energy intensive**

Refined Aluminium  
(ingots)

Aluminium products  
Eg. Sheet, cable, foil

Economic growth (GDP)  
Industrial production (IP)

- Key driver for consumption growth

Transport  
Construction  
Packaging

- Environmental regulation/ emissions
- Substitutes e.g. plastics in transport/ packaging and copper cables



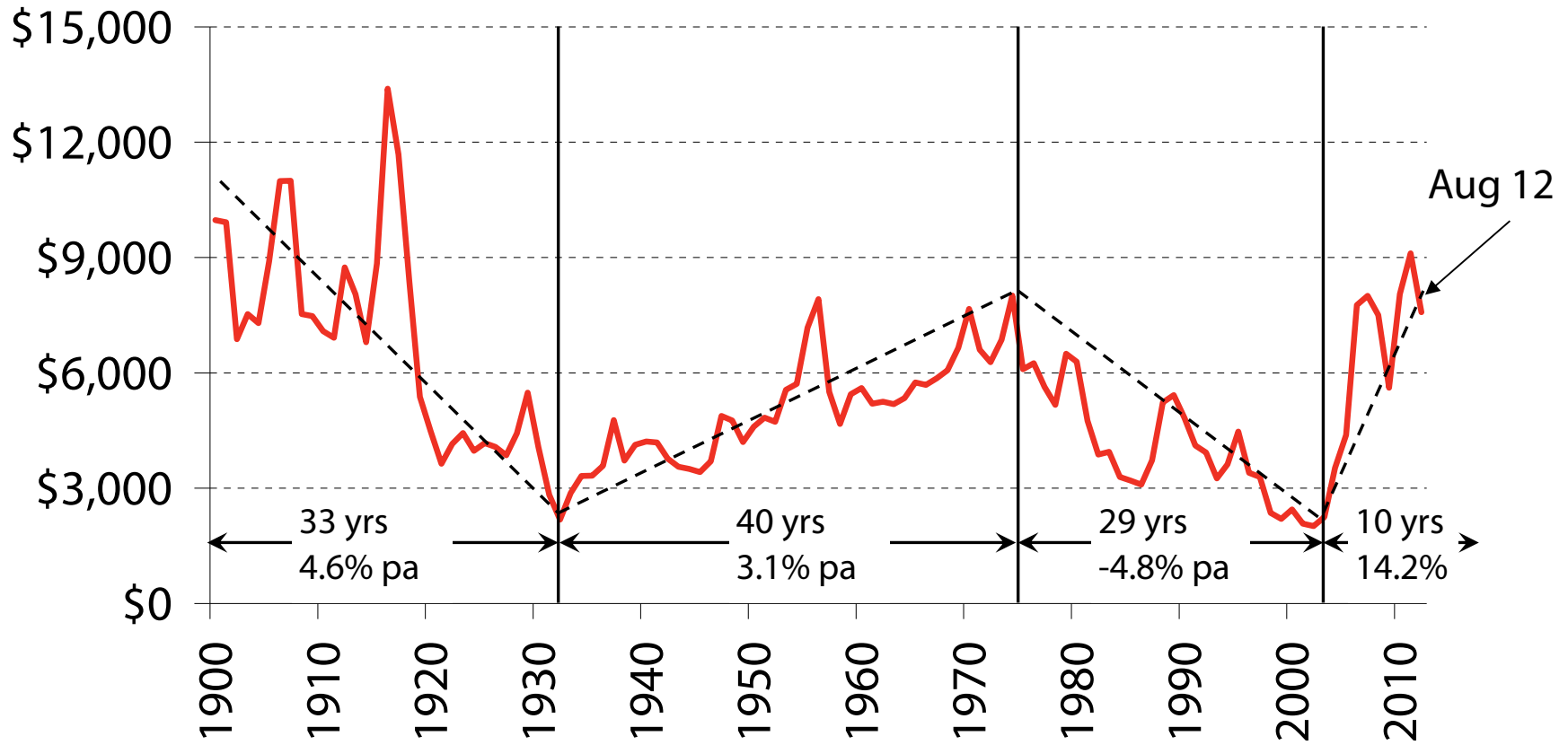
# Collating raw data

## Key Economic Data

- GDP/IP including sector IPs (construction, engineering, auto, transport)
- Government & private sector spending e.g. fixed asset investment
- Purchasing Managers Index (PMI)
- Unemployment & household disposable incomes
- Inflation rates, interest rates and exchange rates
- Other e.g. money supply, fiscal policy, economic stimulus packages

# Historical copper prices trend

Real Copper price (2012 USD)



USGS, LME



# Demand Forecasting

# Market modelling - forecasting

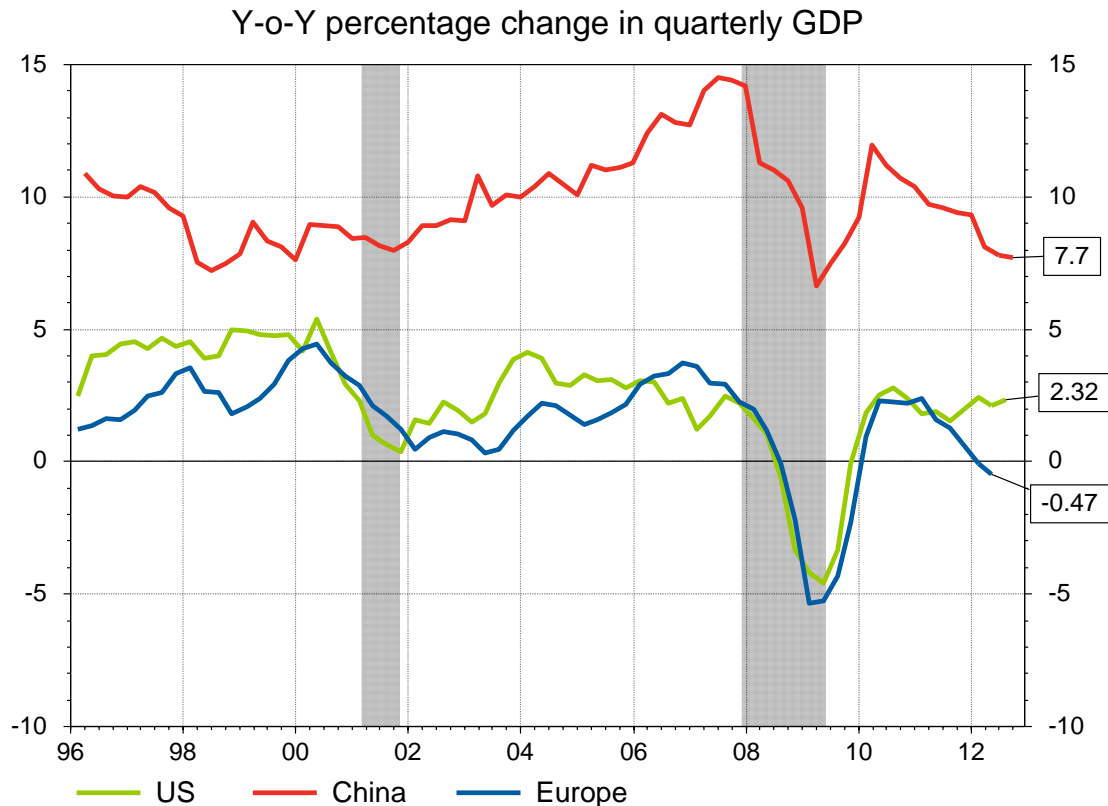
- Econometrics and quantitative techniques such as correlations and regressions
- Analyst's gut instinct & knowledge of industry trends through experience and new information assimilated may lead to different forecasts
- Analyst will also consider current market forces at play in Porter's Analysis and/or relevant 'PEST' issues.
- A forecast is not a mere prediction!

# Top down approach - macroeconomics

- **Effect of IP/GDP growth on demand**
- **Consumption by end use sector**
  - Vehicle production
  - Housing
- **Effect of inventory changes**

# US, Europe and China GDP

2012 forecasts: China 8.1% growth, US 2.1% growth, EU 0.5% decline



Source: Thomson Reuters Datastream

Q2 2012

Chinese GDP growth slowing

US growth stable

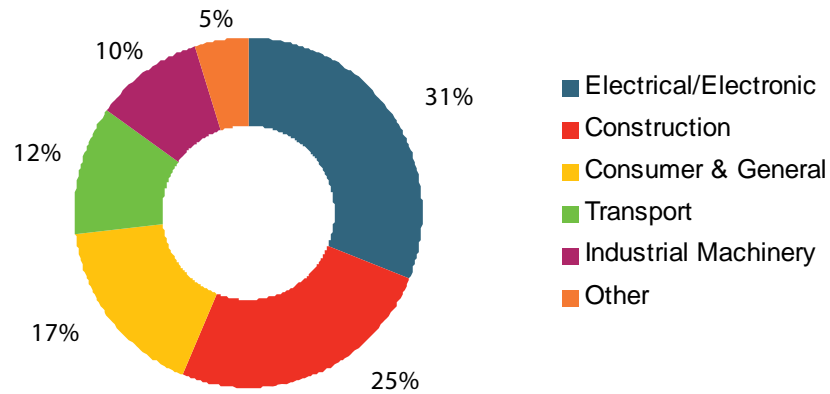
EU heading for recession?

Source: National Sources, The Economist

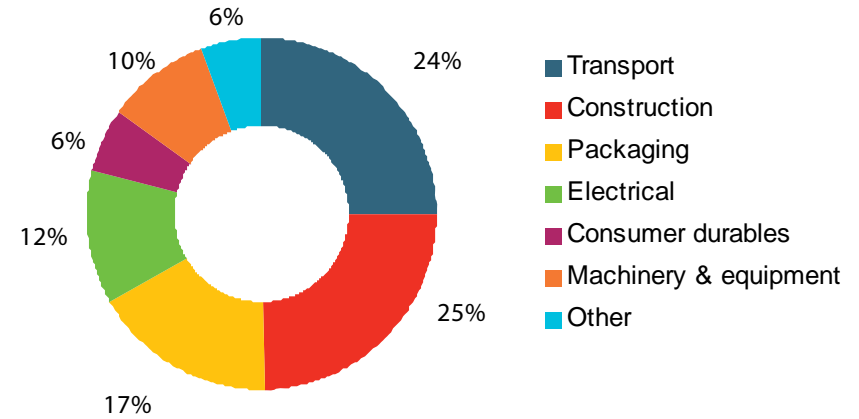


# Metals end-use consumption by sector

## Copper

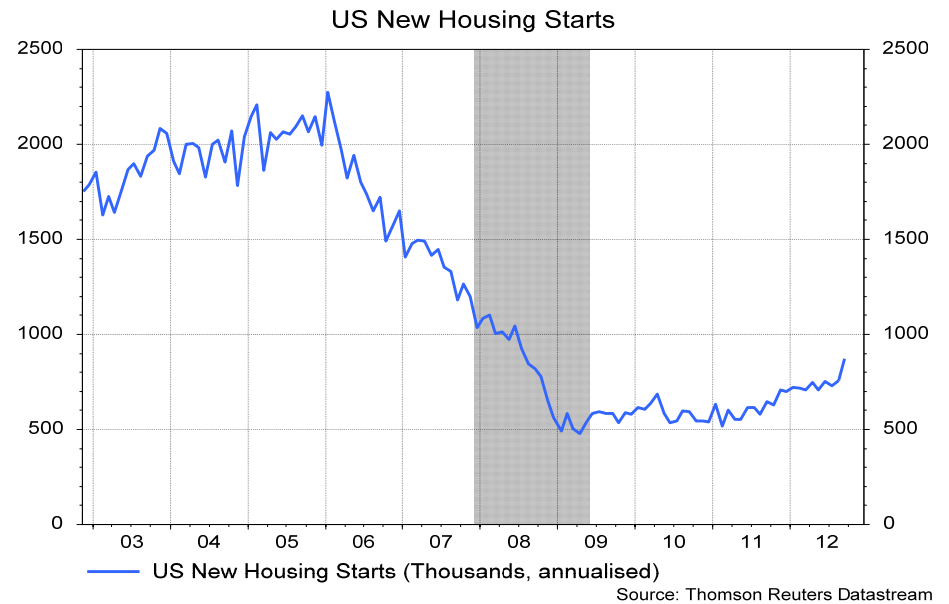
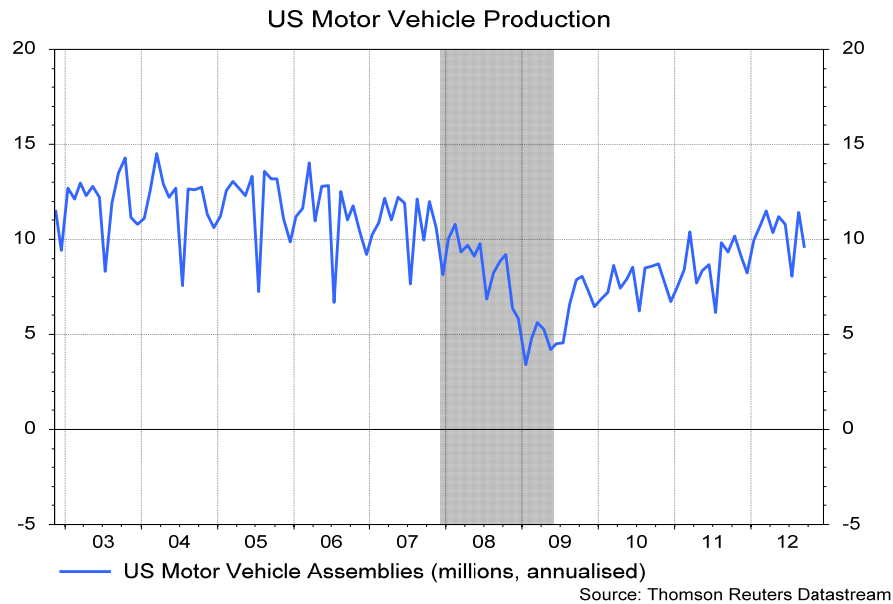


## Aluminium



Source: CRU

# US auto production & construction



## US recessions highlighted in grey

- Vehicle production decreased approximately 50% through 2008, but has seen improvement in recent months
- US Housing starts have stabilised through 2009.

Source: Federal Reserve



# Demand forecasting – bottom up approach

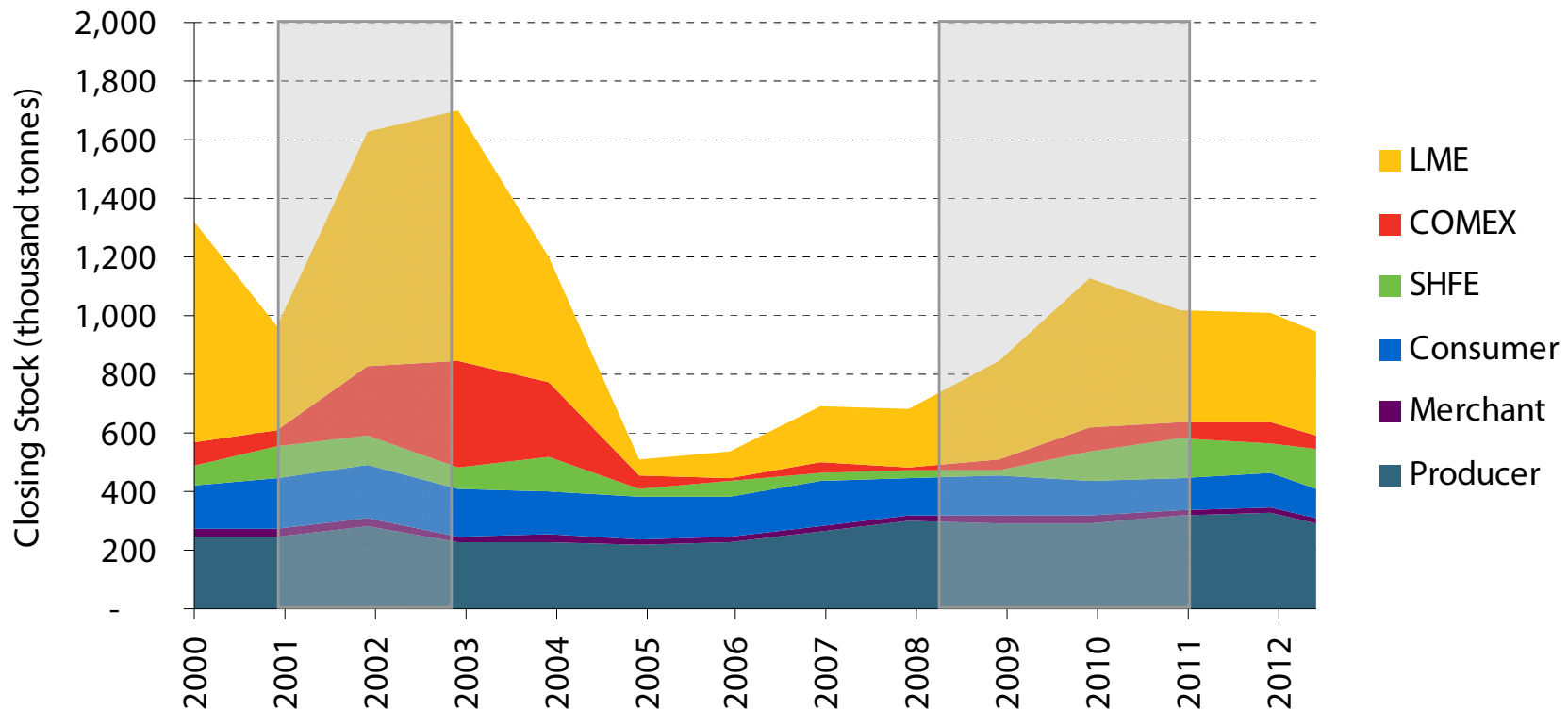
- Production data for the end-uses of the product will be summed up to find the total demand for the product.
- **Example 1:** Demand for semi-finished product  
= Production of finished products/ Product yield
- **Example 2:** Steel plate demand from shipbuilding  
= Number of ships X Steel plate used per ship

# Interpretation of stocks data

# Examples: interpretation of stocks data

- LME stocks + LME cancelled stocks
- Other exchanges' stocks e.g. Shanghai, Comex
- Producer, country, commercial stocks
- Unreported stocks

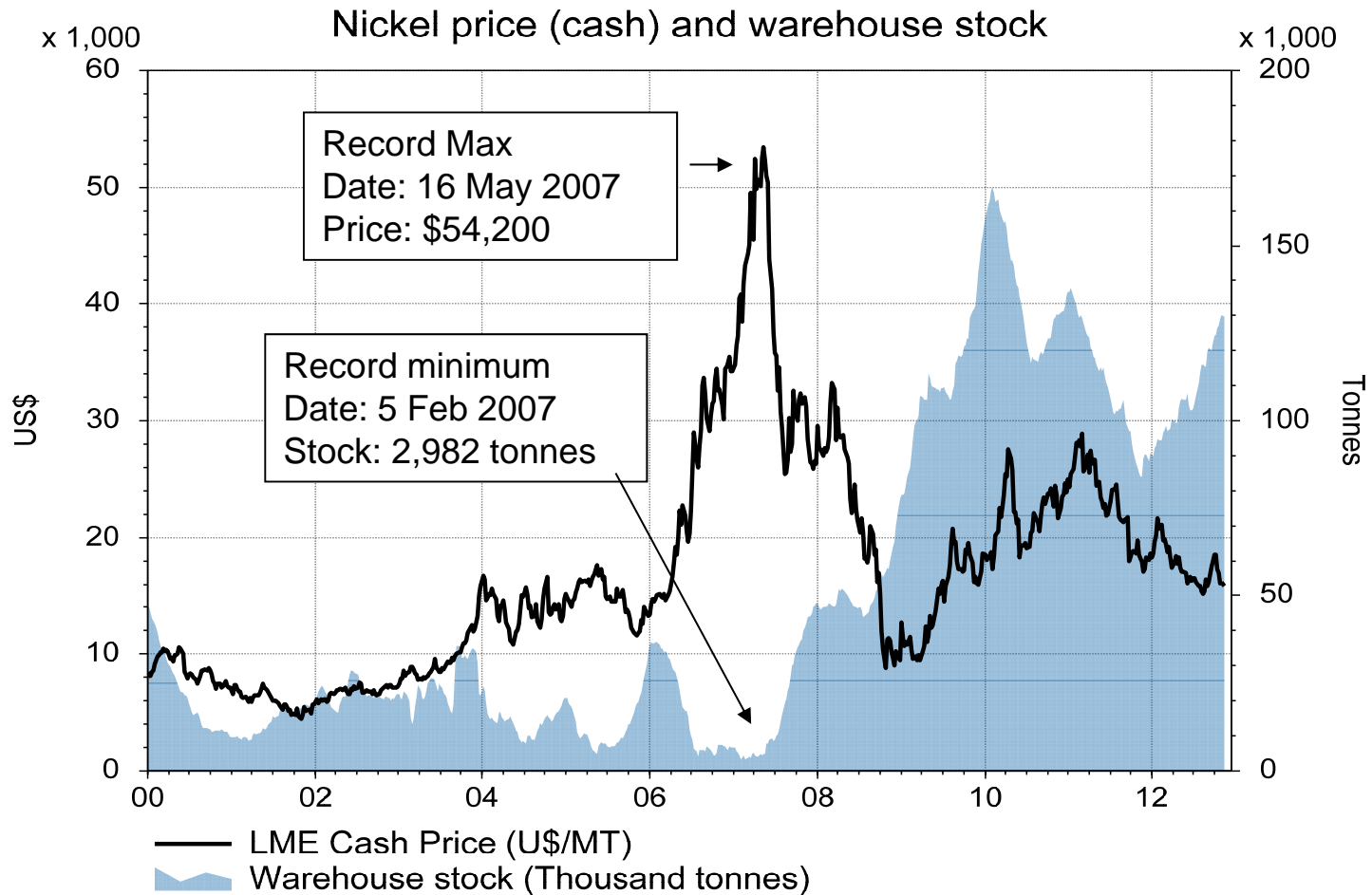
# Metal copper stocks



- Recession band highlighted in grey (US recessions, NBER).
- Demand in recession decreases hence stocks increase.

**Source: WBMS**

# Nickel stocks and price trend



Source: Thomson Reuters Datastream

Source: LME

# Other prices drivers

- Freight
- Regulation
- Stimulus packages

# Production forecasting

# Market modelling – production forecasting

- Following factors must be considered:
  - New capacity
  - Unplanned stoppages e.g. strikes, breakdowns, raw material shortages, disasters, wars etc
  - Supply cutbacks as a result of lacklustre demand
  - The cost curve i.e. is the cost of production below the sale price?
  - Any capacity closures
- Production forecasts will also be influenced by the implied net trade balance i.e. whether the analyst thinks the country will be a net importer or net exporter.



# Forecasting prices

# Market modelling – forecasting prices

- **So what determines the price?**
- **Simply put, it's the ability of the market to satisfy demand:**
  - If demand rises faster than production, prices are likely to increase.
  - If production rises faster than demand prices are likely to fall.
  - When both demand and production are falling, the one that is falling faster is likely to determine the direction of the prices.
- **When forecasting prices analysts will follow the changes in supply/demand while considering the cost curve.**
- **Seasonal patterns are also factored into the forecasts.**

# Emerging economies

# Emerging economies

## Overview

- What is an emerging economy / BRICS countries?
- BRICS background
- How can GDP data give us an insight into the past, present and future of developing economies?
- Consumerism and infrastructure
- Case study: Aluminium

# Emerging economies



Source: Black Coffee Project

## BRIC

**Brazil**

**Russia**

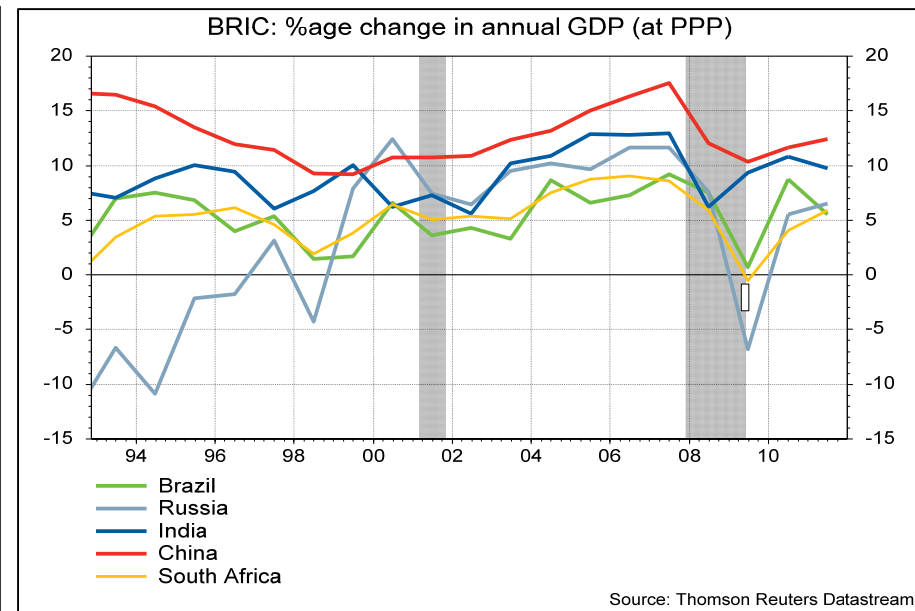
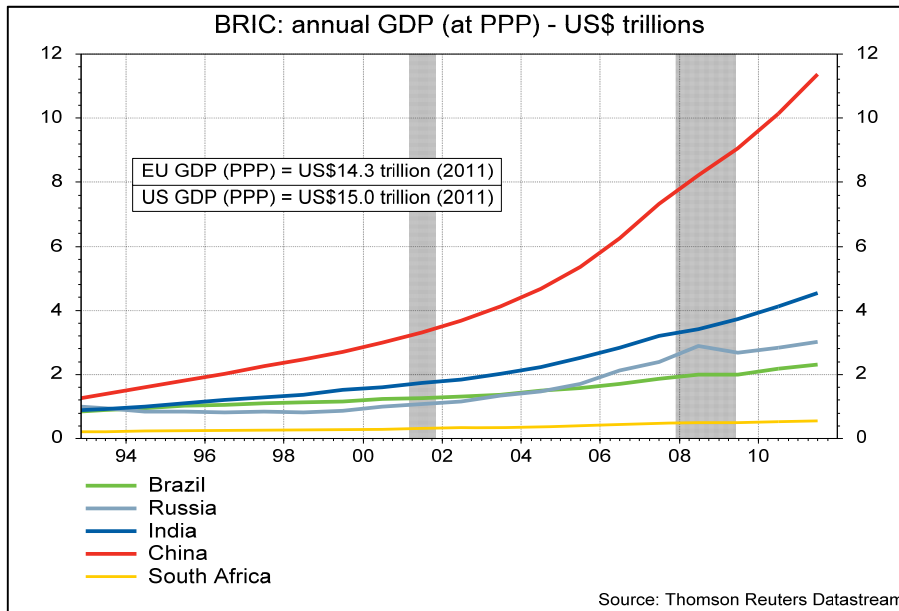
**India**

**China**

+ **South Africa** = **BRICS**

- developing countries
  - large populations/ land mass
  - key consumers/ producers
  - drivers of commodity prices
- **BRICS countries are KEY consumers and/or producers of industrial metals**

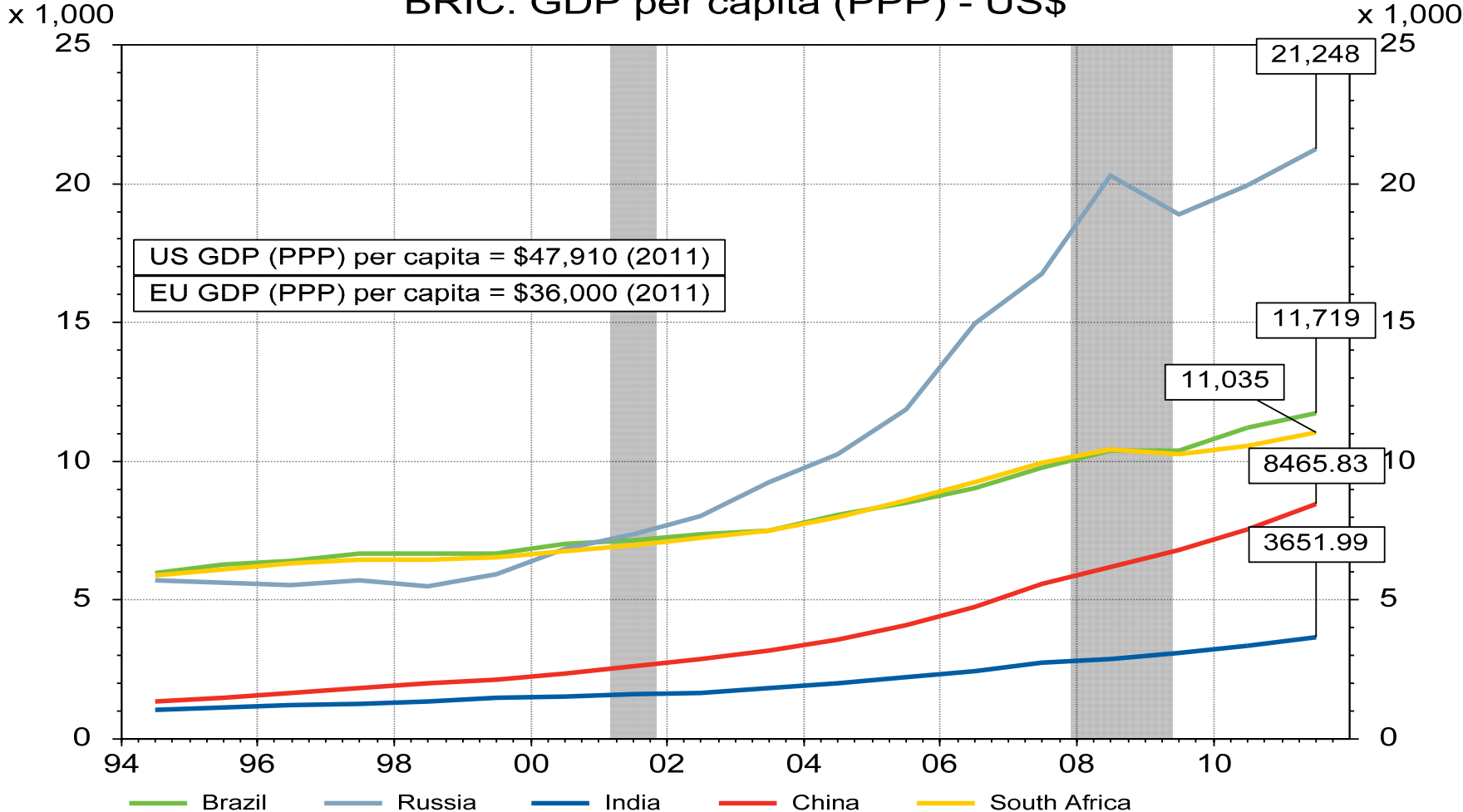
# BRICS GDP



- China has the second largest GDP (PPP) after the US; since 2002 increase in GDP has been between 10% and 17.4% y-o-y

# BRICS GDP

BRIC: GDP per capita (PPP) - US\$



US GDP (PPP) per capita = \$47,910 (2011)  
 EU GDP (PPP) per capita = \$36,000 (2011)

Source: Thomson Reuters Datastream

# BRICS GDP – slowing growth in China

- Quarterly change in Chinese GDP



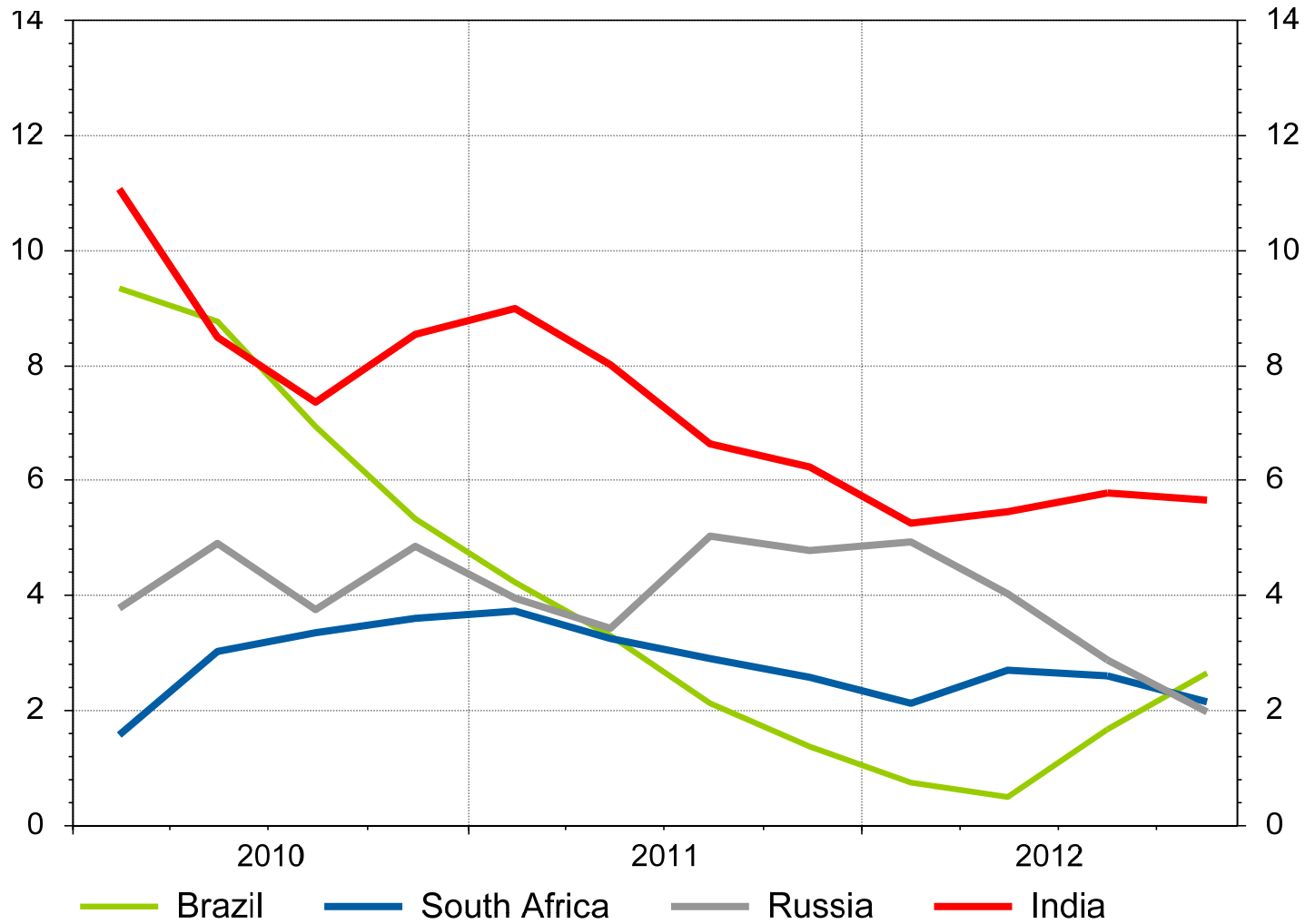
**Q2 2012  
= 7.6%**

Source: Thomson Reuters Datastream



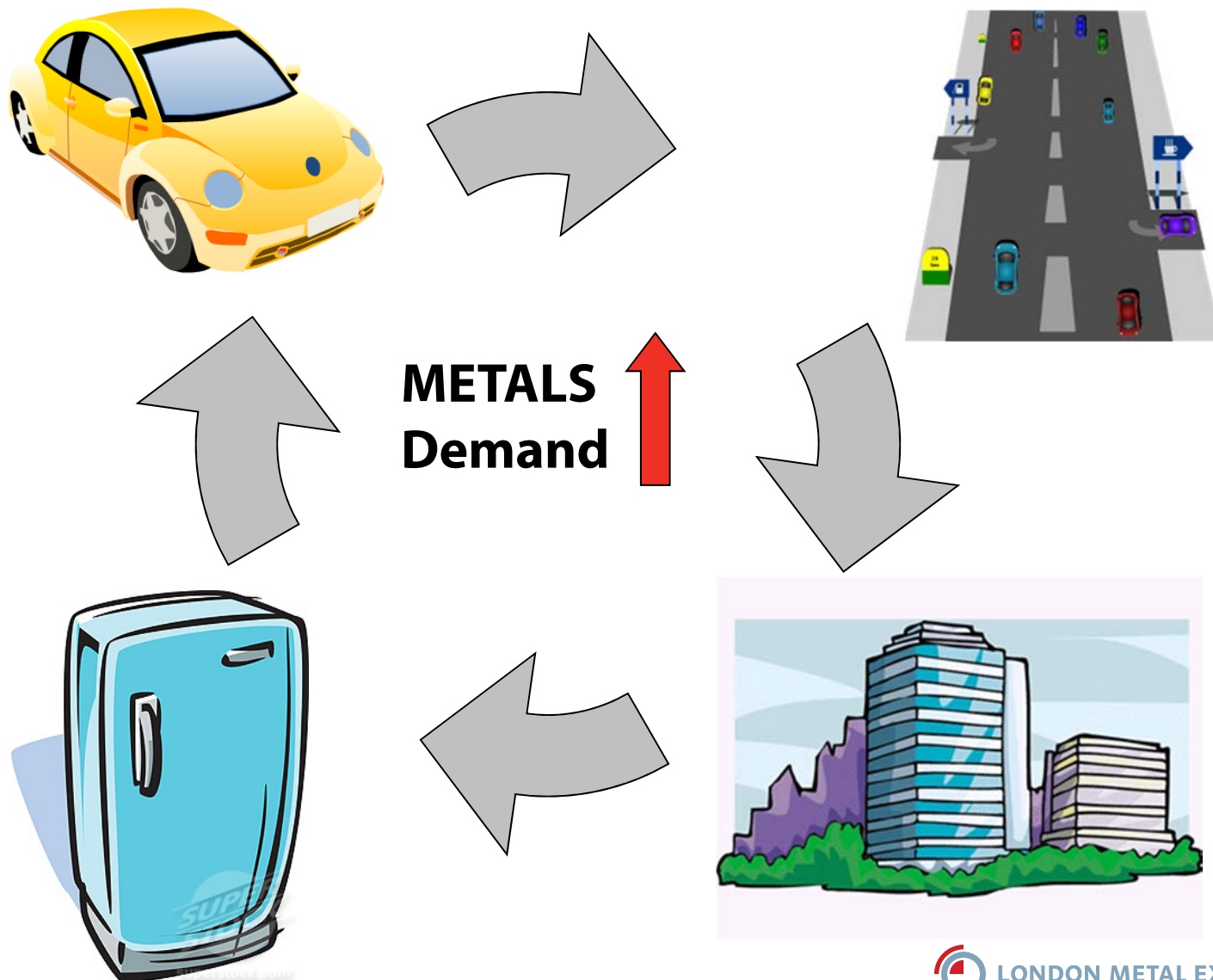
# BRICS GDP –Slowing growth overall

- Quarterly change in GDP



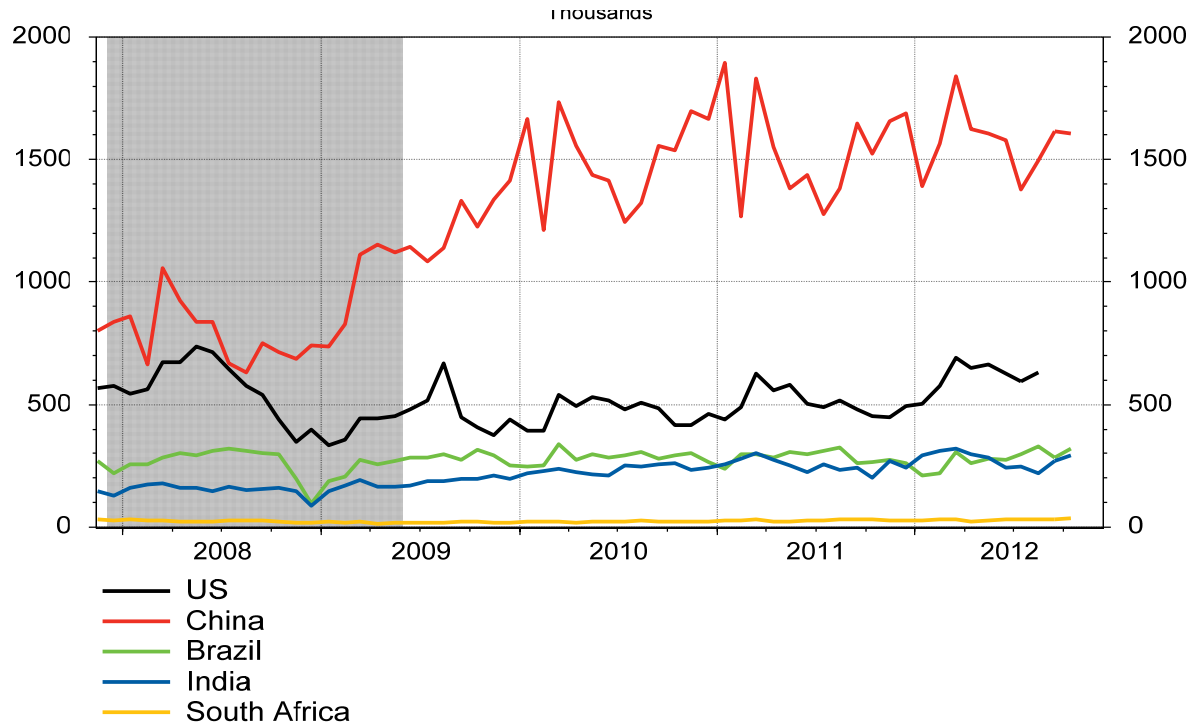
Source: Thomson Reuters Datastream

# Consumerism & infrastructure



# Consumerism & infrastructure

## Chinese car sales



Source: Thomson Reuters Datastream

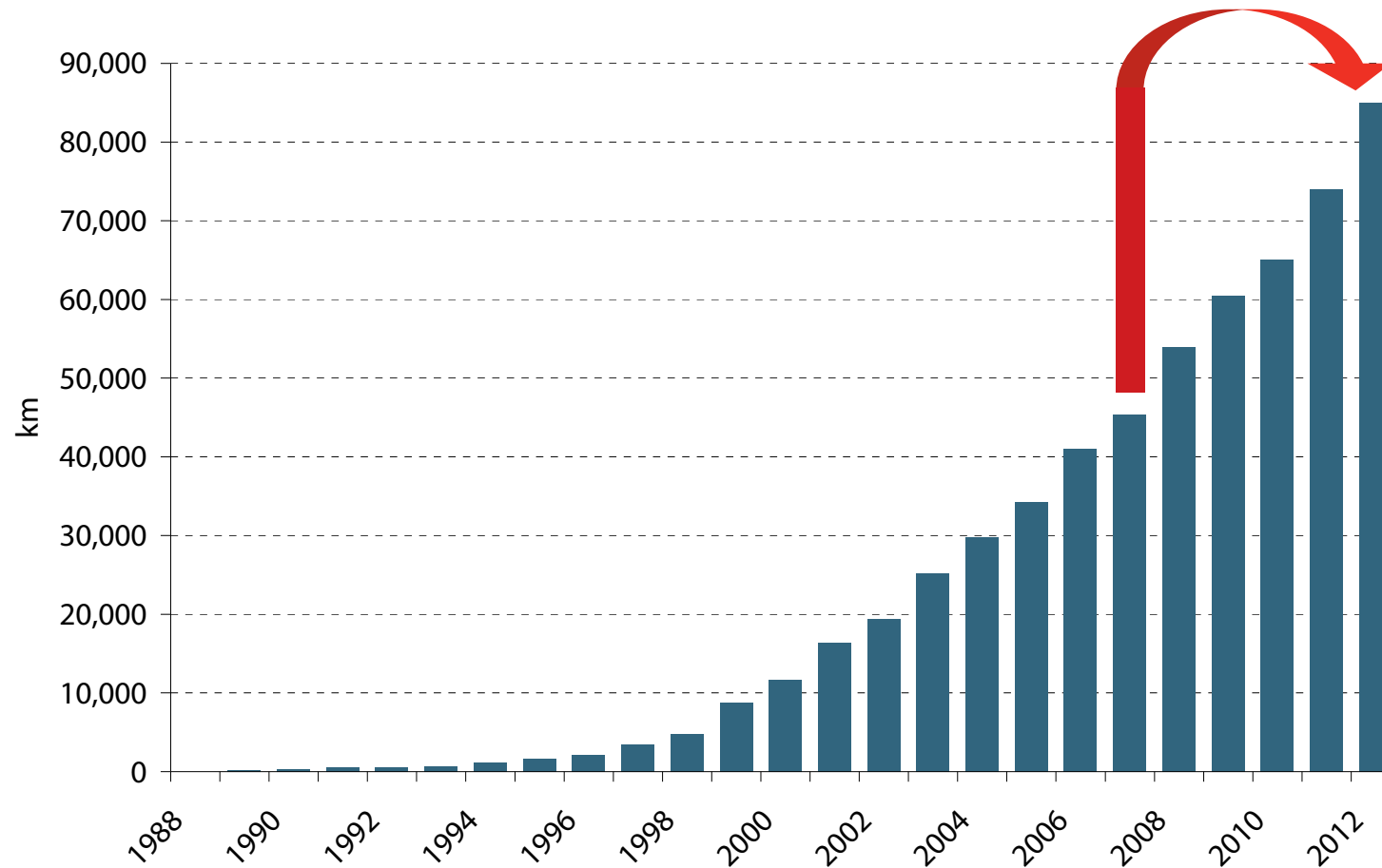


Chinese  
lead  
demand  
nearly  
double  
since 2007

- Don't forget the e-bikes! - estimates of 120 million in 2010, with 40 million annual production

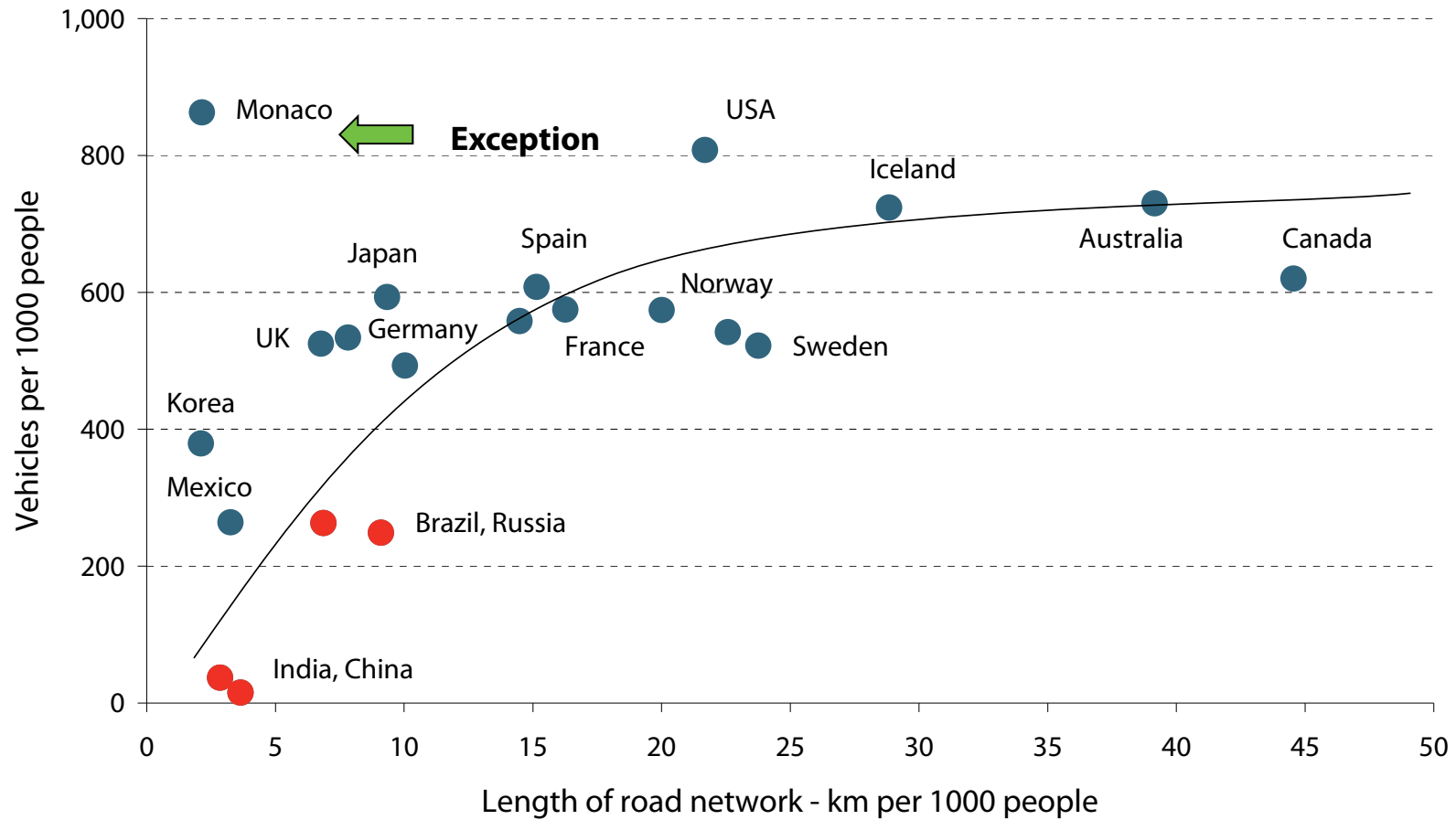
# Consumerism & infrastructure

- Chinese high-ways doubled in length in 5 years



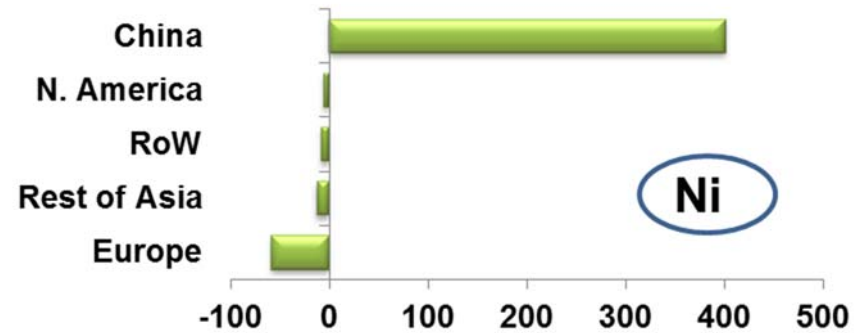
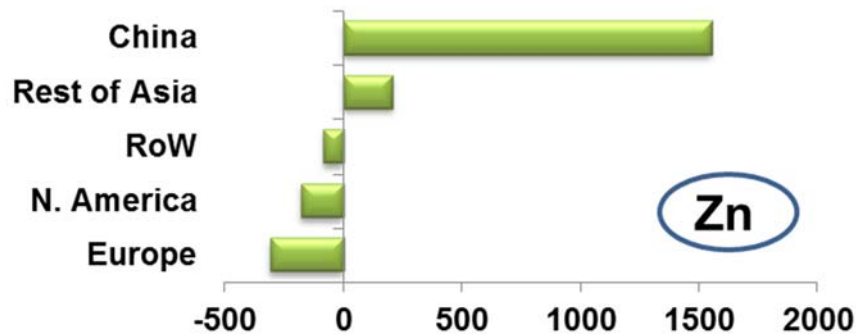
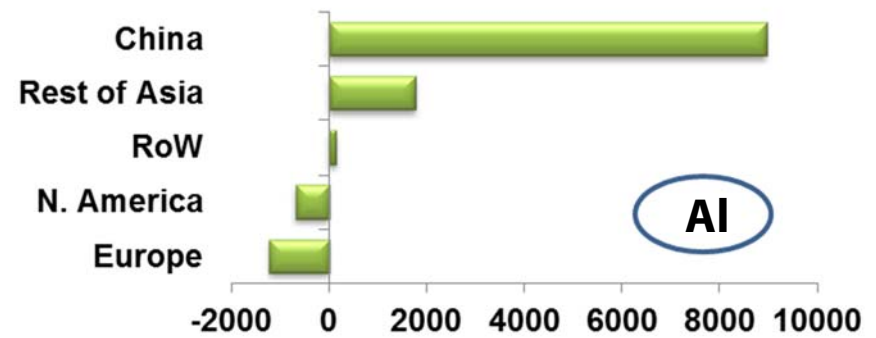
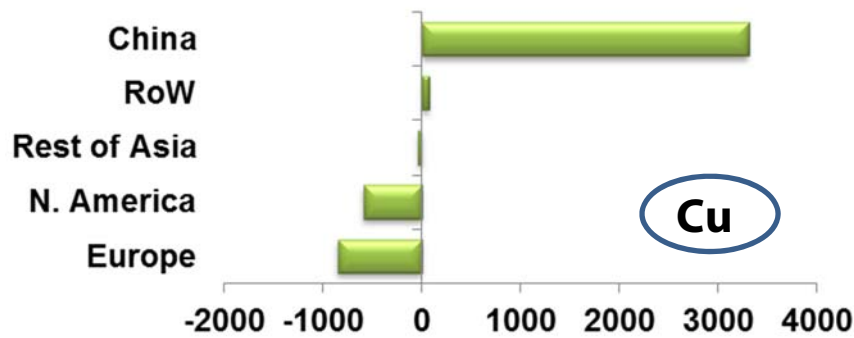
# Consumerism & infrastructure

- China and the BRICS can still expand



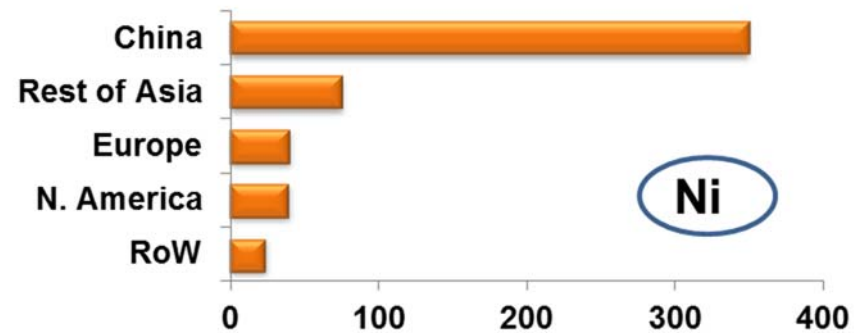
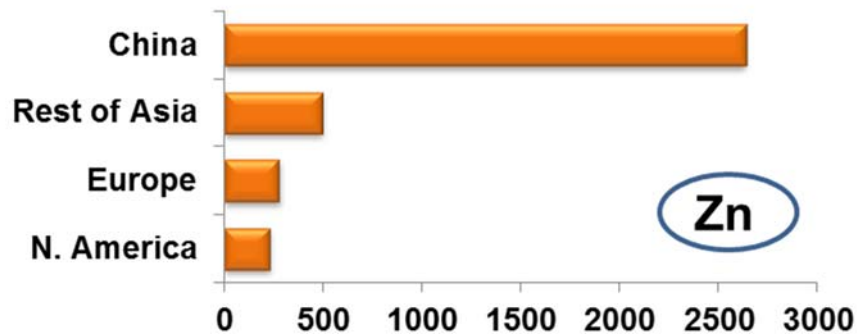
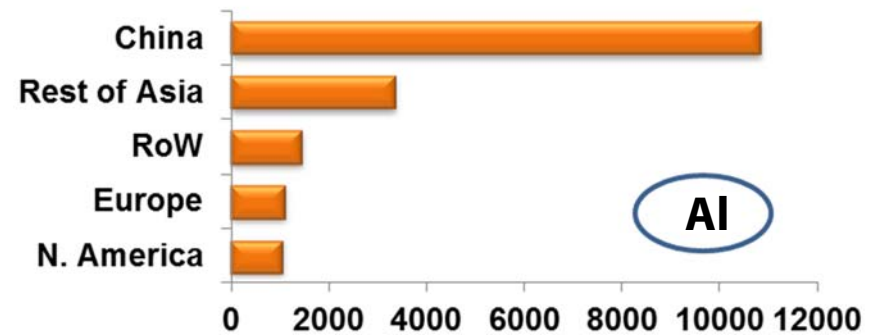
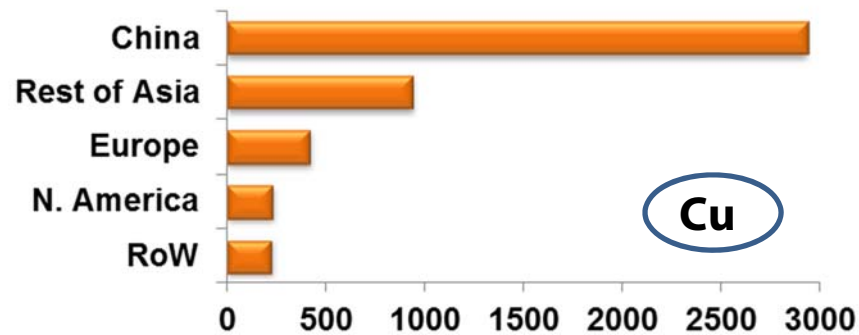
# China completely dominates consumption...

**Regional refined metals consumption growth, 2007-12 '000 tonnes Source CRU**



# ...and is expected to continue to do so

**Regional refined metals consumption growth, 2012-17 '000 tonnes Source: CRU**



# Case study: China and aluminium



# Bauxite to aluminium

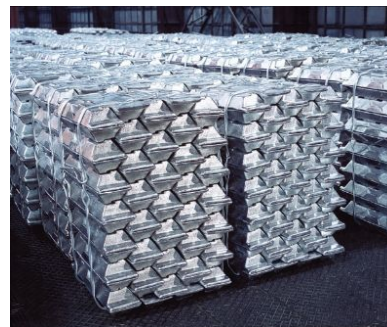
Bauxite  
Ore



Alumina



Aluminium chassis



Aluminium ingot

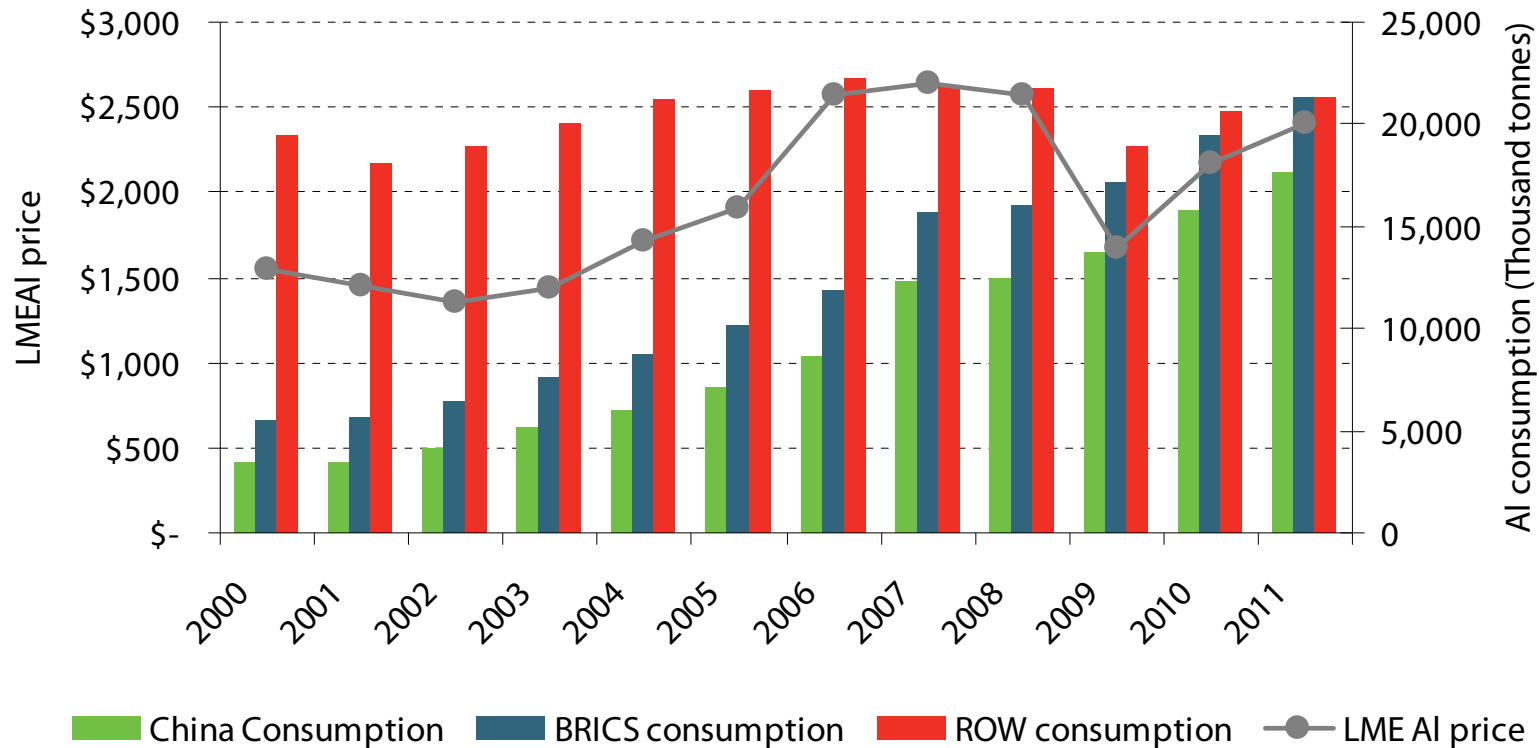


RUSAL aluminium smelter

# Aluminium Consumption

-In 2011 BRICS consumptions = ROW consumption

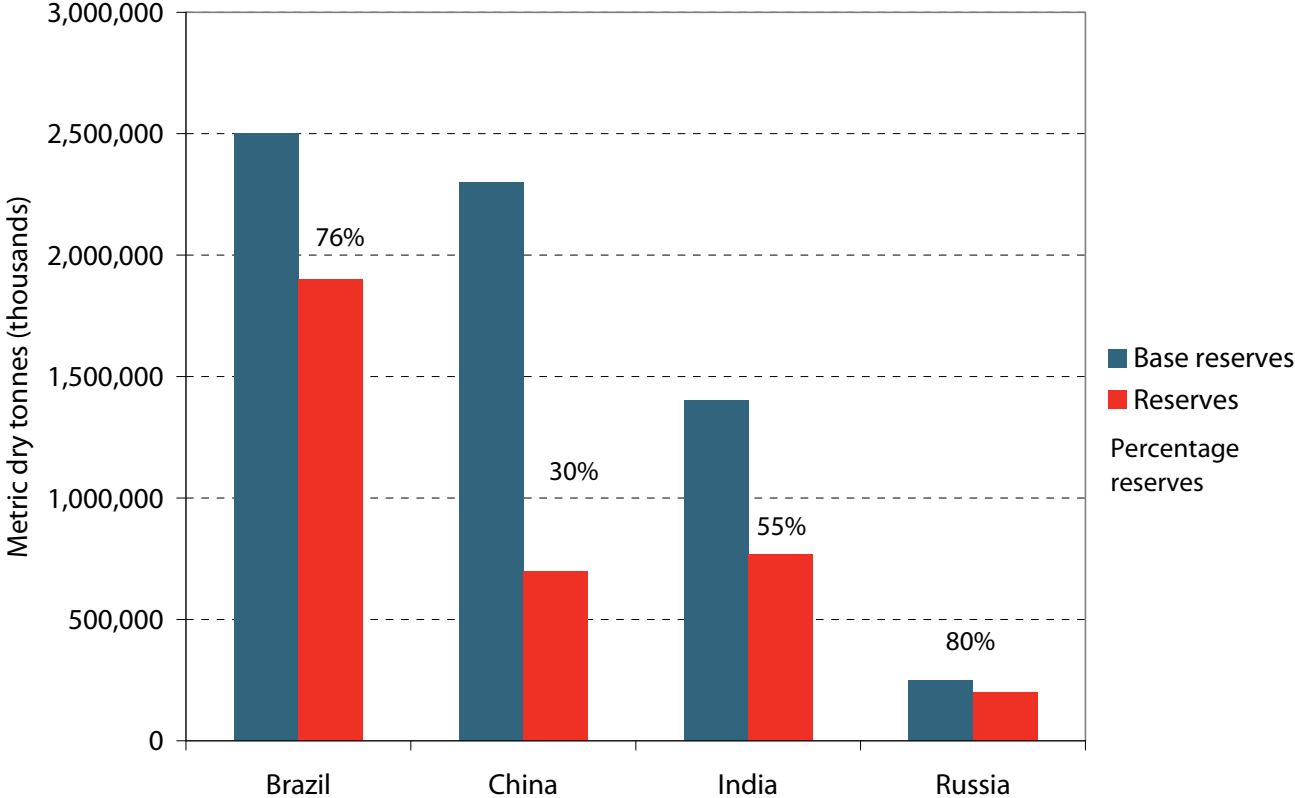
-Chinese consumption = 14% in 2000  
41% in 2011



\*WBMS

# Bauxite reserves

Bauxite base reserves vs reserves (2009)



Source: USGS



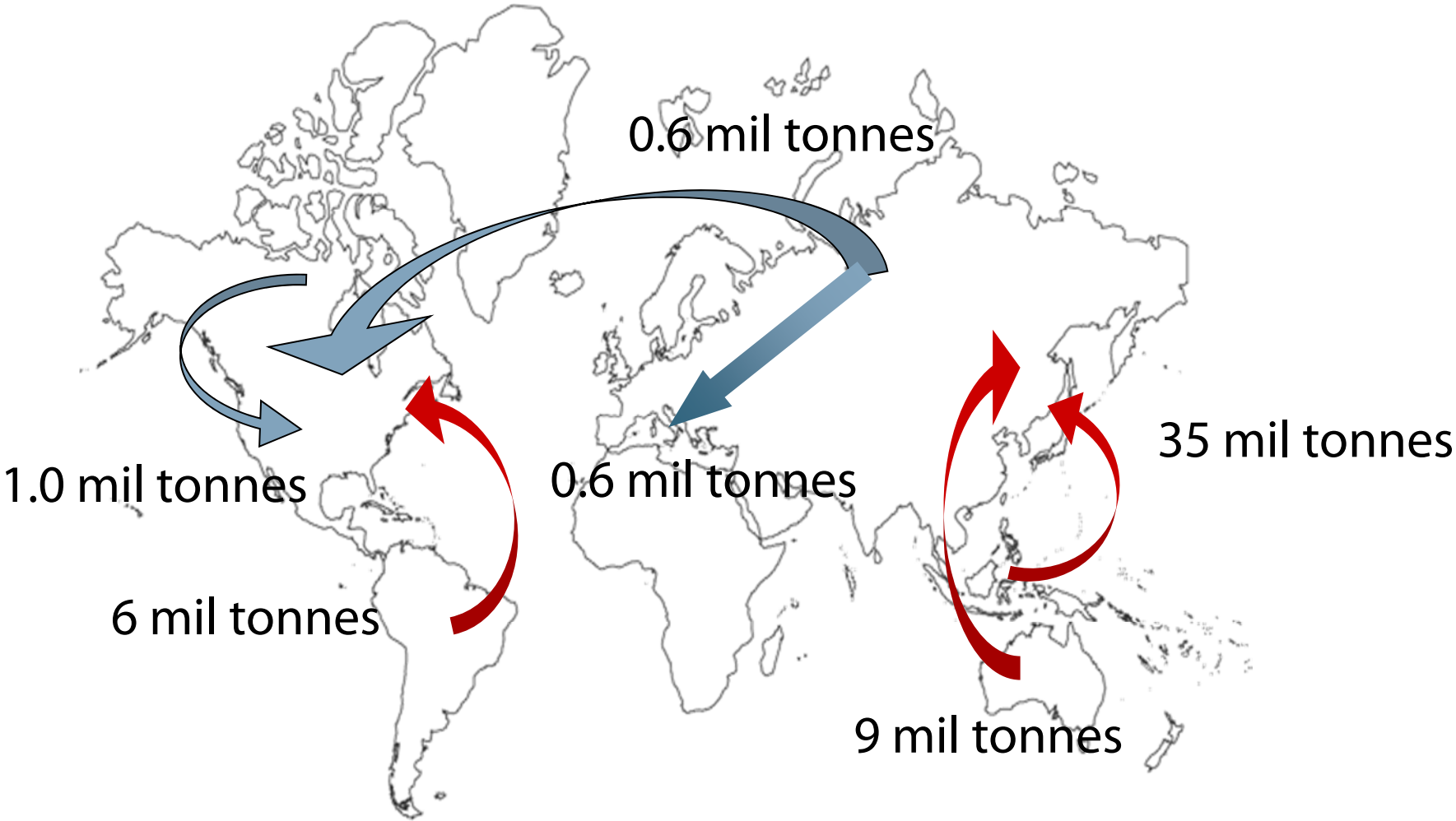
# BRICS: trade



Bauxite

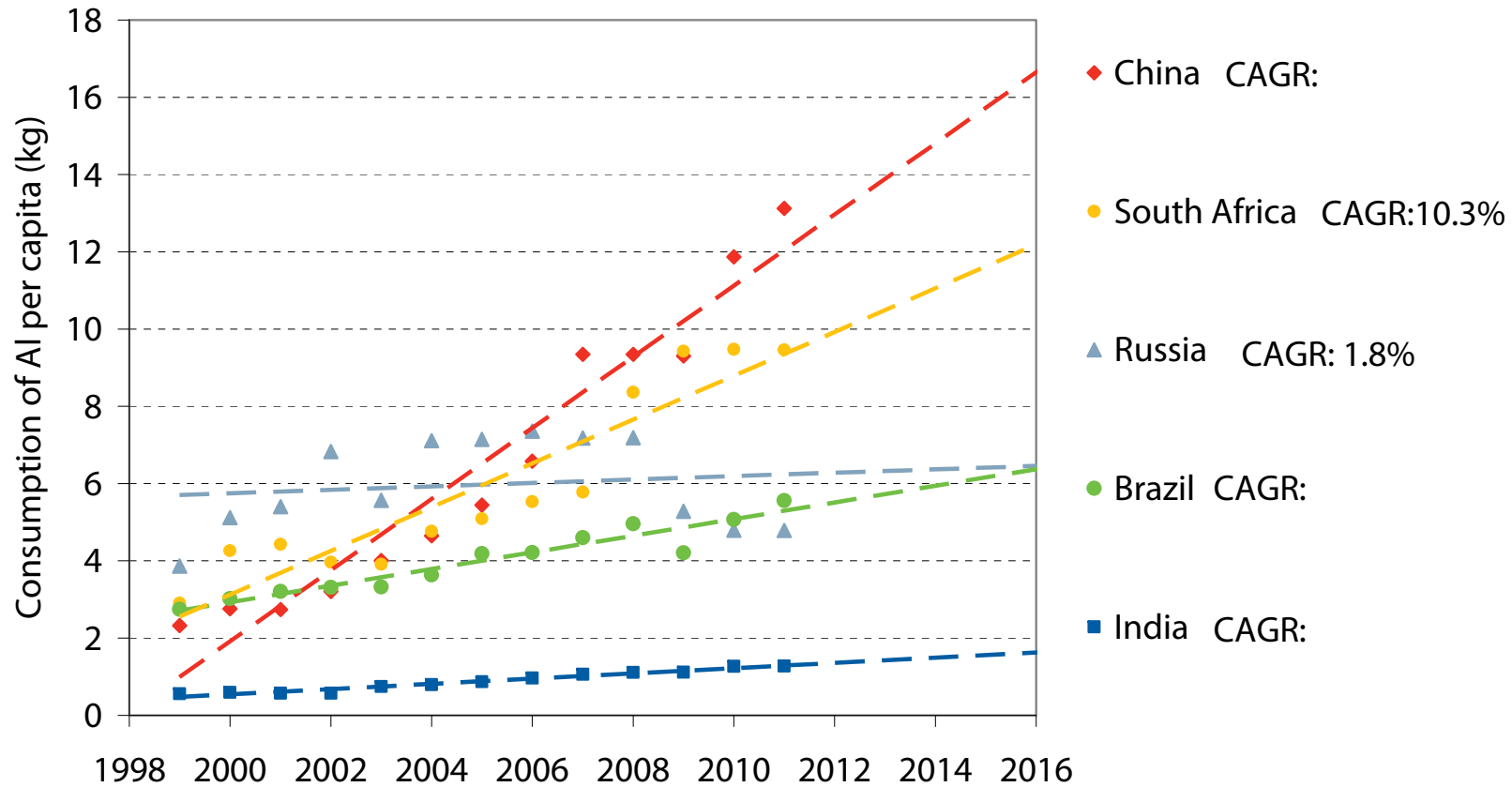


Aluminium

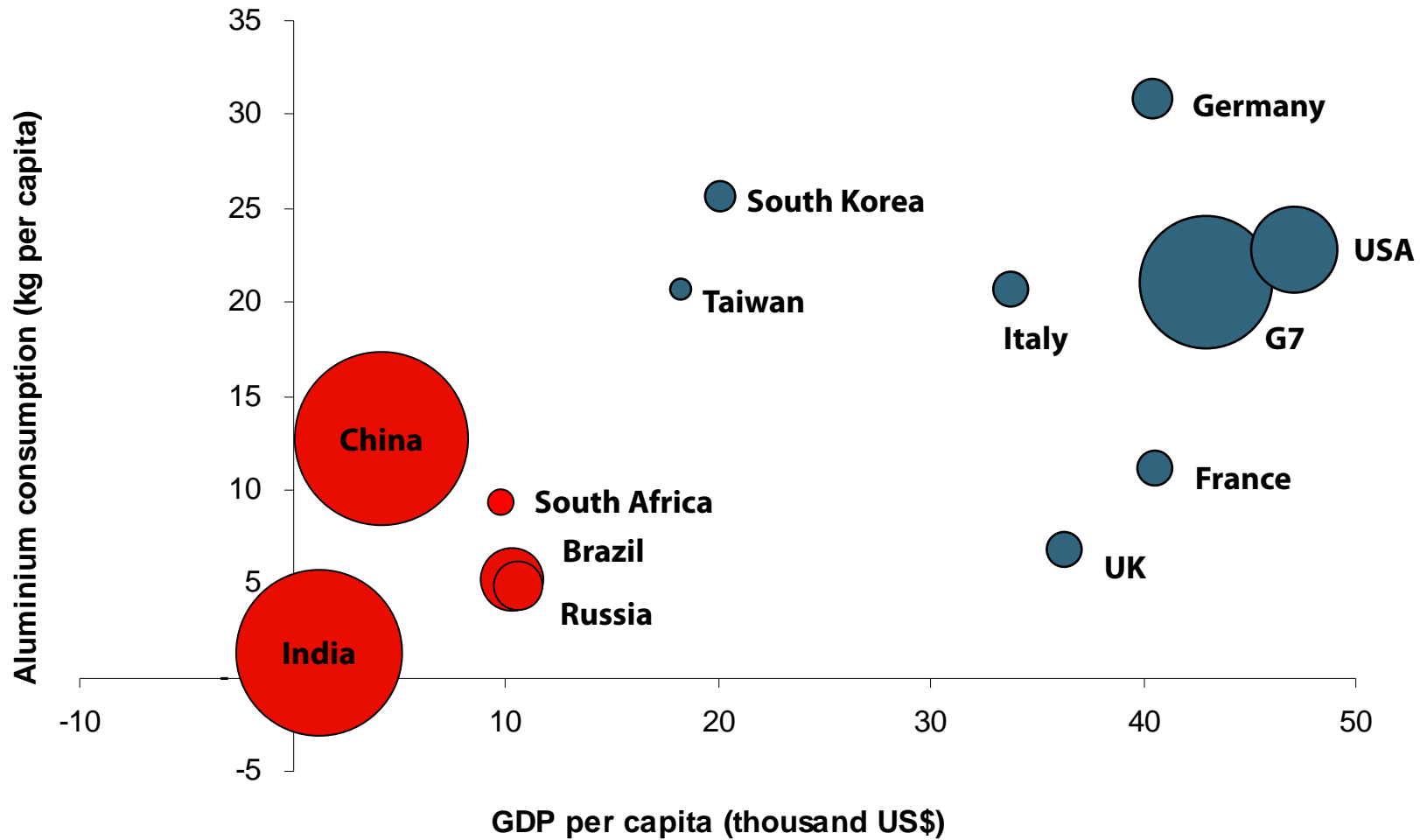


# BRICS aluminium consumption: THE FUTURE

2011 = 20.8 mil tonnes; 2016e = 26.9 mil tonnes  
Next 5 years an extra **6 mil tonnes** of metal required



# Where next.....



# Conclusions

- BRICS countries have all shown unprecedented increases in GDP over the last 10 yrs
- Demand for industrial metals due to growth in middle classes and large-scale construction and consumerism - but with room to grow.
- How much can we rely on China and the emerging economies? Is china slowing? Can it secure its raw materials and energy?
- What other factors should be considered and why? Eg. inflation, currencies, rising food prices....

# Disclaimer

The information contained within this presentation is for illustrative and educational purposes only and should not be relied upon in making any investment decision. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the information is up-to-date and correct, the LME cannot guarantee that it is completely accurate and free from human error.