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"There are a number of reasons for the recent anomalous behaviour of A spreads starting with the credibility of the ratings themselves."

Could Dr. Booth please explain in more detail how the credibility of the ratings themselves impacted the recent behaviour of A rated Canadian utility spreads?

A. Dr. Booth suggested this as a possible reason given the anomalous behavior of "A" bond yields and the obvious mistakes made by the rating agencies (particularly S&P). Disentangling these effects is beyond the scope of Dr. Booth's testimony.