

Special Issue

Aerosols in China

Message from the Guest Editor

Aerosols in the atmosphere have adverse effects on human health, degrade air quality, reduce visibility, and influence the climate and ecosystem. However, the scientific understanding of these impacts remains somewhat limited, due to the highly complex and dynamic nature of aerosols and the convoluted influences of emission sources, atmospheric processes, and meteorological conditions. In recent years, governments in various countries have implemented a range of policies to mitigate air pollution. As a result, both the mass concentrations and chemical compositions of aerosols have dramatically altered, e.g., nitrate aerosols instead of sulfate have become the major cause of haze pollution in China, while primary emissions such as resident wood burning and forest wildfires deteriorate the air quality in the US. Thus, obtaining both long-term continuous measurements of aerosol compositions with sub-hourly time resolutions and three-dimensional observations with second or minute time resolutions is essential to understanding the temporal variations in and spatial distributions of aerosol characteristics, as well as the sources and evolution processes that propel these variations.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (28 February 2024)



Atmosphere

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CiteScore 4.9



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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Continued developments in instrumentation and modeling have driven atmospheric science to become increasingly more complex with a deeper understanding of concepts, mechanisms, and interactions. This is the field that innovation built and it has led to a better appreciation for the complexity with atmosphere. Human life is intertwined in this complexity as we strive to better understand our atmosphere. Climate change is constantly stretching the limits of our thinking and forcing new ideas and concepts to be played out. Welcome to the Anthropocene!

Editor-in-Chief

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