

Special Issue

Coronavirus Pandemic Shutdown Effects on Urban Air Quality

Message from the Guest Editors

In a world of over 7 billion people, most of them living in urban areas, the unprecedented shutdown of much of social and economic activity to address the COVID-19 pandemic has led to a reduction of pollutant emissions that is similarly unprecedented and rapid. Satellite data on NO₂ columns were circulated quickly, as were photographic documentations of increased visibility conditions due to lower particulate matter concentrations. However, emissions reductions have likely neither been uniform, nor extended to a majority of all air pollutants. Mobile sector emissions of NO_x and other pollutants have been the most commonly reduced, making this a unique experiment of observing the urban atmosphere and its chemistry under conditions not expected for another few decades. The continued operation of satellite instruments, and of surface air quality measurement networks in numerous countries and cities around the world during the pandemic provides a rich data set of the ongoing effects of

this reduction on air quality, and we encourage scientists to analyze these data in detail, and submit their manuscripts for publication in this Special Issue.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (12 November 2021)



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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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