

What Factors Caused the Spread of COVID-19 among the Provincial Regions in China?

PROGRAMME

16 October 2020, 11:00 AM–12:15 PM (GMT+8)

11:00–11:05 AM

Welcoming Remark

Prof. Fanny M. CHEUNG

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11:05–11:25 AM

Paper Presentation

Prof. Jianfa SHEN

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China has experienced the spatial diffusion of COVID-19 from Wuhan since December 2019. This research examines the relationship between geographical, social, and economic factors and the number of COVID-19 cases in 30 provinces in Mainland China from 26 January to 6 March 2020. Two analyses were conducted. First, it was found that migration inflows from a province to Hubei in the period 2010–2015 is a good indicator of the population outflow from Hubei to other provinces. Such flows are then demonstrated to have the highest correlation coefficient with the number of COVID-19 cases in a given province. Second, big data on population flow, gathered from Baidu Map on 20 January 2020, are also highly correlated with the number of cases, but not as well as the above migration data. The results of this research demonstrate the important role of existing migration networks in the spread of COVID-19, and have important policy implications for any response.

11:25–11:55 AM

Dialogue among
Discussants

Prof. Wei XU

*Professor of Geography,
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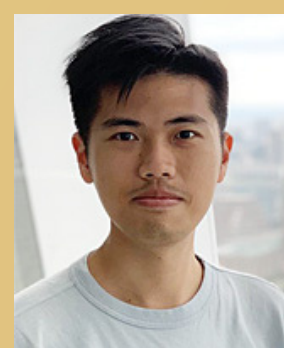
Prof. Jiang XU

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Prof. Calvin CHUNG

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Department of Geography and Resource Management, CUHK*



11:55 AM–12:15 PM

Q&A Session