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**From:** theoretical-geography-debates <theoretical-geography-debates@vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 1, 2020 11:00 AM

**To:** register@qug2020.org

**Subject:** COVID-19 by the Numbers, Modes, Big Data, and Reality

**Dear Colleagues**, how are you? We are organizing [online via Skype connection](#) a multidisciplinary scientific debate (colloquium) concerning **COVID-19**, a novel strain of coronavirus.

## Colloquium Title: COVID-19 by the Numbers, Modes, Big Data, and Reality

Let me enumerate below some pertinent boundary issues. More related information is provided on this debate website ([http://www.vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org/index.php?title=COVID-19 by the Numbers, Modes, Big Data, and Reality#Cancellation policy of registration](http://www.vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org/index.php?title=COVID-19%20by%20the%20Numbers,%20Modes,%20Big%20Data,%20and%20Reality#Cancellation%20policy%20of%20registration)).

1. The debate will concern multidisciplinary scientific analysis, descriptions, and outlook on COVID-19,
2. The debate will be conducted via the internet video-voice connection using Skype technology directly from your office,
3. The debate will take place on April 15 through 16, 2020, and we will start at about 5 pm of Central European Time Zone.
4. The participants are welcome from every country, and various related scientific disciplines,
5. Your lecture (presentation) can be supported by PowerPoint slide presentation which will be viewed by the participants,
6. All lectures (presentations) will be recorded and posted (after some technical editorial work) at the colloquium website and YouTube service for free and open access.

At this moment, I kindly ask you to consider your kind participation in this debate (colloquium). We will appreciate your input. Could you please let me know:

1. Will, you be able to join us for this debate?
2. If yes, let me know the (tentative) title of your lecture (presentation),
3. Do not worry about technical issues with your Skype connection. We have done a number of related online debates and in about week time before the debate (April 15 through 16, 2020) we will run a test trail with you to eliminate (virtually nonexistent) issues.
4. The length of your lecture should be about 20-30 minutes,
5. We envision that each lecture will be followed by the debate and question time,

6. For that reason, we kindly ask all participants to forward to the organizer their PowerPoint slides (even if not the final version) to be distributed (at confidentiality request) between the remaining participants,
7. Due to the above process and due to the interdisciplinary character of the debate all participants will have some preliminary insight into the given lecture. If you wish to share your related work (publications) please forward the PDF's and we will redistribute them between the participants and (with your permission) add to the debate website.
8. In order to get insight into the nature of the proposed debate (colloquium) please visit our past online debates concerning physics and geography. ([http://www.vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org/index.php?title=Main\\_Page](http://www.vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org/index.php?title=Main_Page))
9. We have a tentative pledge from CNN, and BBC to use the debate materials (lectures).

I look forward to your kind response. Since we are on the fly, please excuse us for possible (not intended) mishaps.

Kind regards, Dr. Matt Ferensby.

On Behalf of Scientific Committee

**Dr. Matteo (Matt) Ferensby**

Organizer and Moderator

**Symposium Canceled due to COVID-19**

**3.8th Global Symposium Quantification of Urban Growth and Its Patterns**

The University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland, European Union

May 1st through 5th, 2020

[www.qug2020.org](http://www.qug2020.org)

<http://www.vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org/>

Phone Number: +48-609 134 064

Skype: [voip\\_theoretical\\_geography\\_debates.org](https://www.skype.com/join/voip_theoretical_geography_debates.org)

E-mail: [metteo.frrensby@theoretical\\_geography\\_debates.org](mailto:metteo.frrensby@theoretical_geography_debates.org)

Street Delivery Address:

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University of Warsaw

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00-312 Warszawa, Poland, European Union

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On Behalf of Scientific Committee

**Dr. Matteo (Matt) Ferensby**

Organizer and Moderator

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---

**From:** Matt Ferensby <theoretical-geography-debates@vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 8, 2020 10:38 AM  
**To:** Brandenb  
**Subject:** COVID-19 by the Numbers, Modes, Big Data, and Reality

**Circular No 2**  
**COVID-19 by the Numbers, Modes, Big Data, and Reality**

On-line Symposium April 15 through 16, 2020

**Dear Dr. Brandenburg,** how are you? Thank you for your kind interest and support. Although we have rolling registration deadline, could you please confirm your participation as soon as possible. This would enable us for proper organization of on-line symposium concerning COVID-19.

I look forward to your kind response and for presentation of your research of COVID-19.

More information is given in my previous e-mail and on this debate website ([http://www.vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org/index.php?title=COVID-19\\_by\\_the\\_Numbers,\\_Modes,\\_Big\\_Data,\\_and\\_Reality#Cancellation\\_policy\\_of\\_registration](http://www.vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org/index.php?title=COVID-19_by_the_Numbers,_Modes,_Big_Data,_and_Reality#Cancellation_policy_of_registration)).

On Behalf of Scientific Committee

**Dr. Matteo (Matt) Ferensby**

Organizer and Moderator

**~~3.8th Global Symposium Quantification of Urban Growth and Its Patterns~~  
(Symposium canceled due to COVID-19)**

The University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland, European Union, May 1st through 5th, 2020

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**From:** theoretical-geography-debates <theoretical-geography-debates@vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 10, 2020 5:13 PM  
**To:** Axel Brandenburg  
**Subject:** Re: COVID-19 by the Numbers, Modes, Big Data, and Reality

RE: COVID-19

Dear Axel, how are you? Thank you for joining the upcoming debate concerning the COVID-19. We would appreciate your contribution. Please find below all the pertinent information.

1. By the popular demand, we have moved the debate to **Friday, April 17th, 2020**,
2. We will start at about **5 pm, the Central European Time** (please observe that it is summertime),
3. In order to join the debate please log yourself on Skype using the usual procedure,
4. When ready please call us at [vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org](http://vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org)
5. Please have ready your PowerPoint presentation.
6. Please ensure a decent webcam and microphone.
7. Your PowerPoint slides will be viewed by the participants via Skype and by using a screen sharing option on Skype (just click on Skype icon  )
8. Each lecture and discussion will be recorded.
9. All lectures will be edited and cleaned (manually) to ensure the best possible quality of the presentation recording.

10. **Please confirm this e-mail.**

Kind regards, Matt Ferensby.

**PS. Axel, the audience will be fellow researchers working on COVID-19 modeling.**

On Wed, Apr 8, 2020 at 3:28 PM Axel Brandenburg <[brandenb@nordita.org](mailto:brandenb@nordita.org)> wrote:

Dear Matt,

I may indeed be interested in participating and presenting.

Can you tell me more about the audience and the participants?

Cheers, Axel

On Wed, Apr 08, 2020 at 01:38:10AM -0700, Matt Ferensby wrote:

> Circular No 2

>

> COVID-19 by the Numbers, Modes, Big Data, and Reality

>

> On-line Symposium April 15 through 16, 2020

>

> \*Dear Dr. Brandenburg\*, how are you? Thank you for your kind interest and

> support. Although we have rolling registration deadline, could you please

> confirm your participation as soon as possible. This would enable us for

> proper organization of on-line symposium concerning COVID-19.

>

> I look forward to your kind response and for presentation of your research

> of COVID-19.

>

> More information is given in my previous e-mail and on this debate website (

> [http://www.vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org/index.php?title=COVID-19\\_by\\_the\\_Numbers,\\_Modes,\\_Big\\_Data,\\_and\\_Reality#Cancellation\\_policy\\_of\\_registration](http://www.vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org/index.php?title=COVID-19_by_the_Numbers,_Modes,_Big_Data,_and_Reality#Cancellation_policy_of_registration)

> <<https://openacademicpress-dot-yamm-track.appspot.com/Redirect?ukey=1nOgcrbV2zn6eXb8nihBu98bM9B0qfzpzNoyChQdKZOE-0&key=YAMMID-35090072&link=https%3A%2F%2Fopenacademicpress-dot-yamm-track.appspot.com%2FRedirect%3Fukey%3D1RZ92gXDhAwhRIS05lk8311poFkdmUtzJ9z0MAovG6QU-0%26key%3DYAMMID-56726383%26link%3Dhttp%253A%252F%252Fs.bl-1.com%252Fh%252FcPCsS7gw%253Furl%253Dhttp%253A%252F%252Fwww.vvoip-theoretical-geography->

> <https://openacademicpress-dot-yamm-track.appspot.com/Redirect?ukey=1nOgcrbV2zn6eXb8nihBu98bM9B0qfzpzNoyChQdKZOE-0&key=YAMMID-35090072&link=https%3A%2F%2Fopenacademicpress-dot-yamm-track.appspot.com%2FRedirect%3Fukey%3D1RZ92gXDhAwhRIS05lk8311poFkdmUtzJ9z0MAovG6QU-0%26key%3DYAMMID-56726383%26link%3Dhttp%253A%252F%252Fs.bl-1.com%252Fh%252FcPCsS7gw%253Furl%253Dhttp%253A%252F%252Fwww.vvoip-theoretical-geography->

> <https://openacademicpress-dot-yamm-track.appspot.com/Redirect?ukey=1nOgcrbV2zn6eXb8nihBu98bM9B0qfzpzNoyChQdKZOE-0&key=YAMMID-35090072&link=https%3A%2F%2Fopenacademicpress-dot-yamm-track.appspot.com%2FRedirect%3Fukey%3D1RZ92gXDhAwhRIS05lk8311poFkdmUtzJ9z0MAovG6QU-0%26key%3DYAMMID-56726383%26link%3Dhttp%253A%252F%252Fs.bl-1.com%252Fh%252FcPCsS7gw%253Furl%253Dhttp%253A%252F%252Fwww.vvoip-theoretical-geography->

[debates.org%252Findex.php%253Ftitle%253DCOVID-19\\_by\\_the\\_Numbers%252C\\_Modes%252C\\_Big\\_Data%252C\\_and\\_Reality%2523Cancellation\\_policy\\_of\\_registration](https://debates.org/2020/index.php?title=DCOVID-19_by_the_Numbers%2C_Modes%2C_Big_Data%2C_and_Reality%23Cancellation_policy_of_registration)>

> ).

>

> On Behalf of Scientific Committee

>

> \*Dr. Matteo (Matt) Ferensby\*

>

> Organizer and Moderator

>

> \*3.8th Global Symposium Quantification of Urban Growth and Its Patterns\*\*

> (Symposium canceled due to COVID-19)\*

>

> The University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland, European Union, May 1st through

> 5th, 2020

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> 00-312 Warszawa, Poland, European Union

> [image: beacon]

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On Behalf of Scientific Committee

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Organizer and Moderator

**3.8th Global Symposium Quantification of Urban Growth and Its Patterns**

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00-312 Warszawa, Poland, European Union

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**From:** theoretical-geography-debates <theoretical-geography-debates@vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org>

**Sent:** Friday, April 17, 2020 10:06 AM

**To:** Brandenb

**Subject:** COVID-19 by the Numbers, Modes, Big Data, and Reality

**Hello Axel**, how are you? Thank you for joining **COVID-19 by the Numbers, Modes, Big Data, and Reality April 17th, 2020**. We just received a piece of warning information from Skype providers that due to demand in recent times they cannot assure us of the **quality service and the number of simultaneous conference video-calls**. Therefore we have to **limit** the time and the number of **simultaneous** participants.

For that reason, I have taken a decision to split the debate (support my decision, **please**) and to move your lecture and participation to the **second** group of participants. Thus could you please be kind and agree to join the second group of the debate on **April 24th, 2020** (the **next** Friday) at **5 pm** of the Central European Time. I'm sorry for making this request, however, I hope that you will understand and kindly join us the next Friday

I would appreciate your kind participation and your kind **confirmation** of my e-mail. Thank you very much.

All of the remaining points are unchanged.

Have a nice weekend. I look forward to hearing from you and to your lecture the next Friday.

Kind regards, Matt Ferensby.

--

On Behalf of Scientific Committee

**Dr. Matteo (Matt) Ferensby**

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**From:** theoretical-geography-debates <theoretical-geography-debates@vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 22, 2020 3:36 PM

**To:** Axel Brandenburg

**Subject:** Re: COVID-19 by the Numbers, Modes, Big Data, and Reality

Dear Axel, thank you. I will accept your Skype call as soon as possible. We will start at 5 pm (our Central European Time) and I presume will continue until 11 pm or so. Thank you. See you on Friday. Best, Matt.

Since we will publish recorded proceedings (after some manual editorial work) the issue of copyrights, permissions of publication will be addressed later on after the debate.

On Wed, Apr 22, 2020 at 3:07 PM Axel Brandenburg <[brandenb@nordita.org](mailto:brandenb@nordita.org)> wrote:

Hi Matt,

Thanks for letting me know. The title of my talk is:

Piecewise quadratic growth during the 2019 novel coronavirus epidemic

and the abstract is the same as on the recently updated version of paper on:

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2002.03638>

My skype name is:

AxelBrandenburg

I did send you a contact request (chat message), so please try to accept it. Also, can you please tell me more about the timing (anticipated start and end time)?

Cheers, Axel

On Wed, Apr 22, 2020 at 01:12:34PM +0200, theoretical-geography-debates wrote:

> Dear Axel, how are you? I'm sorry that you could not call the last Friday.

> Skype limits. Anyway, let us proceed this \*Friday 24th, 2020\*. Axel, it

> appears that the title of your lecture is missing, and your Skype name.

> Could you please forward both. Thank you. Kind regards, Matt.

>

> On Fri, Apr 17, 2020 at 5:10 PM Axel Brandenburg <[brandenb@nordita.org](mailto:brandenb@nordita.org)>  
> wrote:  
>  
>> trying to listening in, but it says "waiting ... to accept invitation".  
>> Axel  
>>  
>> On Fri, Apr 17, 2020 at 11:02:28AM +0200, Axel Brandenburg wrote:  
>>> OK, I guess there is no choice, so I accept and will be available  
>>> on April 24th. Does this also mean that there is no possibility of  
>>> listening in today?  
>>> Axel  
>>>  
>>> PS: the professional zoom account that we have in Stockholm allows  
>>> us to have up to 500 people connected.  
>>>  
>>> On Fri, Apr 17, 2020 at 10:06:18AM +0200, theoretical-geography-debates  
>> wrote:  
>>>> \*Hello Axel\*, how are you? Thank you for joining COVID-19 by the  
>> Numbers,  
>>>> Modes, Big Data, and Reality April 17th, 2020. We just received a  
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>> request,  
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>>>> All of the remaining points are unchanged.  
>>>> Have a nice weekend. I look forward to hearing from you and to your  
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>>>> Kind regards, Matt Ferensby.  
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>>>> On Behalf of Scientific Committee  
>>>> \*Dr. Matteo (Matt) Ferensby\*  
>>>> Organizer and Moderator  
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> On Behalf of Scientific Committee  
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**From:** theoretical-geography-debates <theoretical-geography-debates@vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org>

**Sent:** Friday, April 24, 2020 11:06 AM

**To:** Brandenb

**Subject:** COVID-19

Hello Alex, here is the **tentative** program (please consult the debate website) for today's session starting at 5 pm. Please call us at about before 5 pm at

[vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org](http://vvoip-theoretical-geography-debates.org)

**COVID-19 by the Numbers, Modes, Big Data, and Reality**  
**April 24th, 2020**

Lecture Number	Lecturer Name	Lecture Title
1	Victoria Lopez	A COVID-19 mathematical model based on Flow Networks and SIR
2	Marco Picariello	Covid-19 in italy: Lombardy vs Veneto containment strategy.
3	Axel Brandenburg	Piecewise quadratic growth during the 2019 novel coronavirus epidemic
4	Alessio Muscillo	Disease spreading in social networks and unintended consequences ...
5	Marco Paggi	Simulation of Covid-19 epidemic evolution: are compartmental models really predictive?
6	Venkatesha Prasad	A simple Stochastic SIR model for COVID-19

7	Ali Nasser	Planning as Inference in Epidemiological Models
8	Sahasranaman	Data and models of COVID-19 in India
9	Jindal	COVID-19 – a realistic model for saturation, growth and decay of the India specific disease
10	Sebastian Gonçalves	Trends and Urban scaling in the COVID-19 pandemic
11	Josimar Saire	Social Sensors to Monitor covid19 South American Countries
12	Ashutosh Simha	A simple Stochastic SIR model for COVID-19
13	Tommaso Alberti	?

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On Behalf of Scientific Committee

**Dr. Matteo (Matt) Ferensby**

Organizer and Moderator

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The University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland, European Union

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