CRUNCH Seminars at Brown, Division of Applied Mathematics

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Historic First: Tracking the Global Pandemic in Real-time

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A local outbreak of "pneumonia of unknown cause" detected in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in late December 2019, has since spread to more than 180 countries, with more than 50 million confirmed cases as of November 9. The situation became more severe in places outside of China, such as the US, India and Brazil. In response to this ongoing public health emergency, we developed an online interactive dashboard on January 22, 2020, hosted by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University (JHU), to visualize and track the reported COVID-19 epidemic. This dashboard was the first out, and it has been the most popular visualization tool for people to track global and local COVID-19 situation. It has been featured in the New York Times, CNN, Washington Post, WSJ, Fox News, and other mainstream media in the US and the world. Members of the public health community around the world are relying on this dashboard for informing, planning, and decision making on public safety.