



Global dimming and brightening: a dedicated special issue in the Journal of Geophysical Research

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Global dimming and brightening is a popular expression which refers to the recent evidence for substantial decadal variations in solar radiation reaching the Earth's surface. Coherent periods and regions with prevailing declines („dimming“) and inclines („brightening“) in surface solar radiation have been detected in the worldwide observational networks, which need to be accounted for in discussions of climate and environmental change. For the first time, a special issue has been dedicated to the rapidly growing research field of “Global dimming and brightening”. This special issue has recently been published in the Journal of Geophysical Research (JGR) and is online accessible on the JGR “special section“ webpages (http://www.agu.org/journals/jd/special_sections.shtml?collectionCode=DIMBRIGHT1&journalCode=JD). A comprehensive collection of more than 20 papers sheds new light on the phenomenon of global dimming and brightening. Here I provide an overview over the topic of global dimming and brightening and the related special issue, and highlight selected results.

Related References:

Wild, M. 2010: Introduction into the special issue on global dimming and brightening, J. Geophys. Res., doi:10.1029/2009JD012841, in press.

Wild, M., 2009: Global dimming and brightening: A review. J. Geophys. Res. 114, D00D16, doi:10.1029/2008JD011470.