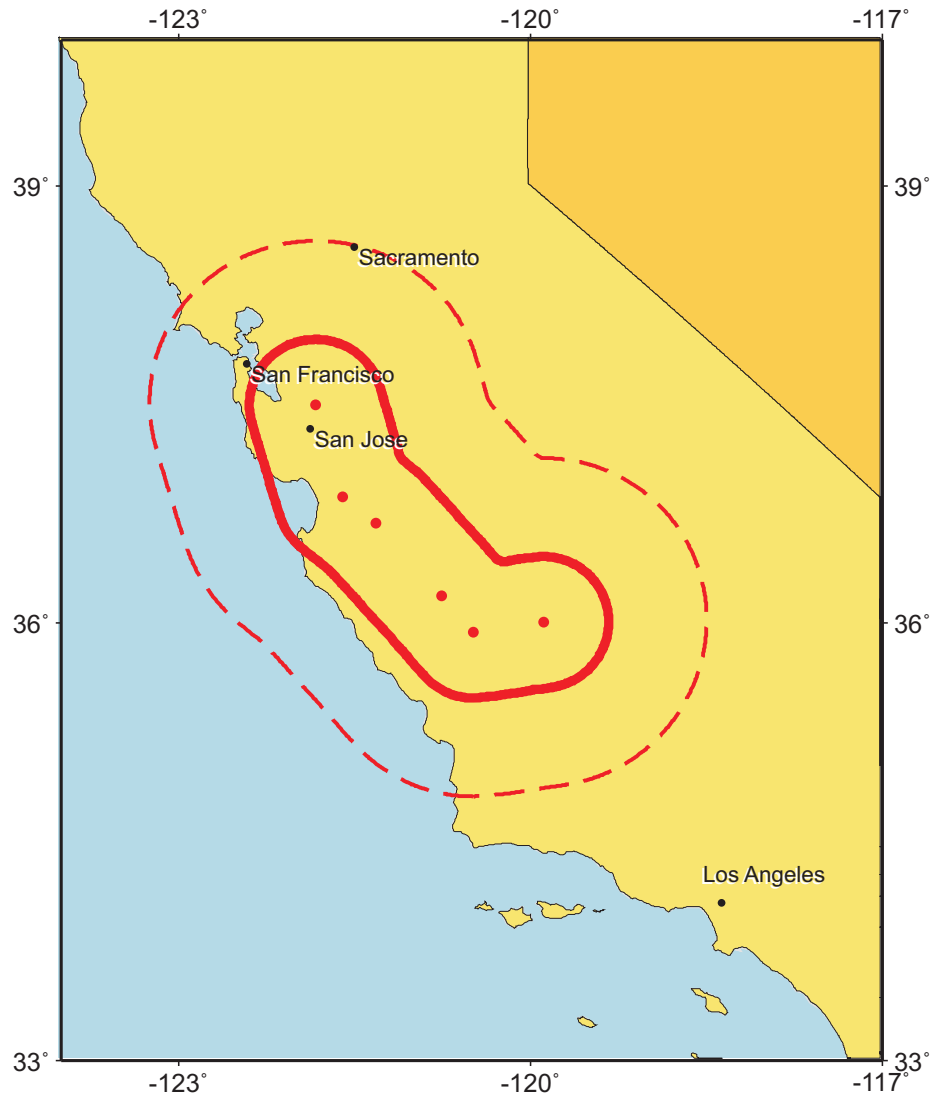


# Experiment in prospective earthquake prediction using Reverse Tracing of Precursors (RTP) Prediction #18, February 22, 2009



Red circles show the earthquakes that formed new precursory chain on January 28, 2009. Area of alarm is shown by red contours: solid line is for test A, dashed line is for test B.

Starting from October 1, 2005 we test in parallel two versions of the prediction algorithm. Test A concerns exactly the same algorithm as before. In test B we made one change: we increased by factor 2.5 the value of the numerical parameter,  $R$ , thus expanding the area of alarm.

An earthquake with magnitude  $M \geq 6.4$  (ANSS) is predicted to occur within the time interval 9 months, from January 29, 2009, to October 29, 2009. Area of alarm is shown in the figure.

Estimated probability that a target earthquake will occur at random in the total time-area of the extended alarm is about 1% in test A and test B. Estimated probability of a false alarm does not exceed 50% in both tests.

**Reminder.** As you know, earthquake predictions should be released to the public or media only by a proper disaster management authority. Otherwise, prediction may trigger profiteering and disruptive anxiety of population. Accordingly, we open an access to our predictions only to professionals who agreed to comply with the above limitation. This restriction is lifted and prediction becomes publicly available when a target earthquake occurs in the area of alarm, or when the alarm expires, independently of was it correct or wrong.