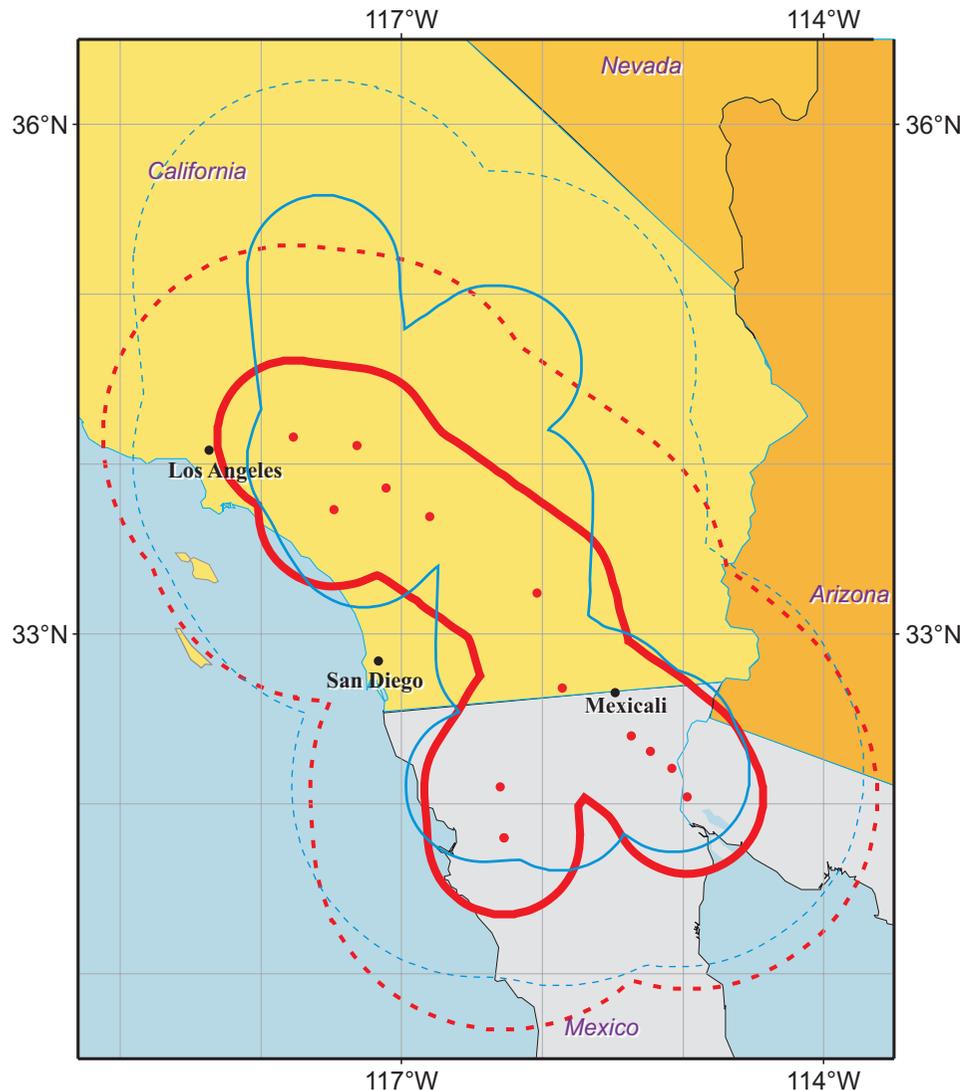


Experiment in prospective earthquake prediction using Reverse Tracing of Precursors (RTP) Prediction #6d, December 24, 2006



Red circles show the earthquakes that formed new precursory chains on August 2, 2006. Area of alarm is shown by red contours: solid line is for test A, dashed line is for test B. This alarm prolongs in a smaller area previously issued prediction #6c (its area is outlined by blue lines: solid line test A, dashed line 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 $M_{ANSS} \geq 6.4$ is predicted to occur within the time interval from December 25, 2006, to May 2, 2007. Area of alarm is shown in the figure. This alarm prolongs in a smaller area Prediction #6c, previously issued on March 17, 2006.

Estimated probability of a false alarm does not exceed 50% in both tests.

This alarm and four previous ones (## 6, 6a, 6b, and 6c in the website) continue each other in time and cover overlapping areas. Estimated probability that at least one target earthquake will occur by chance within the union of these alarms is less than 23% in the test A and less than 32% in the test B.

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.