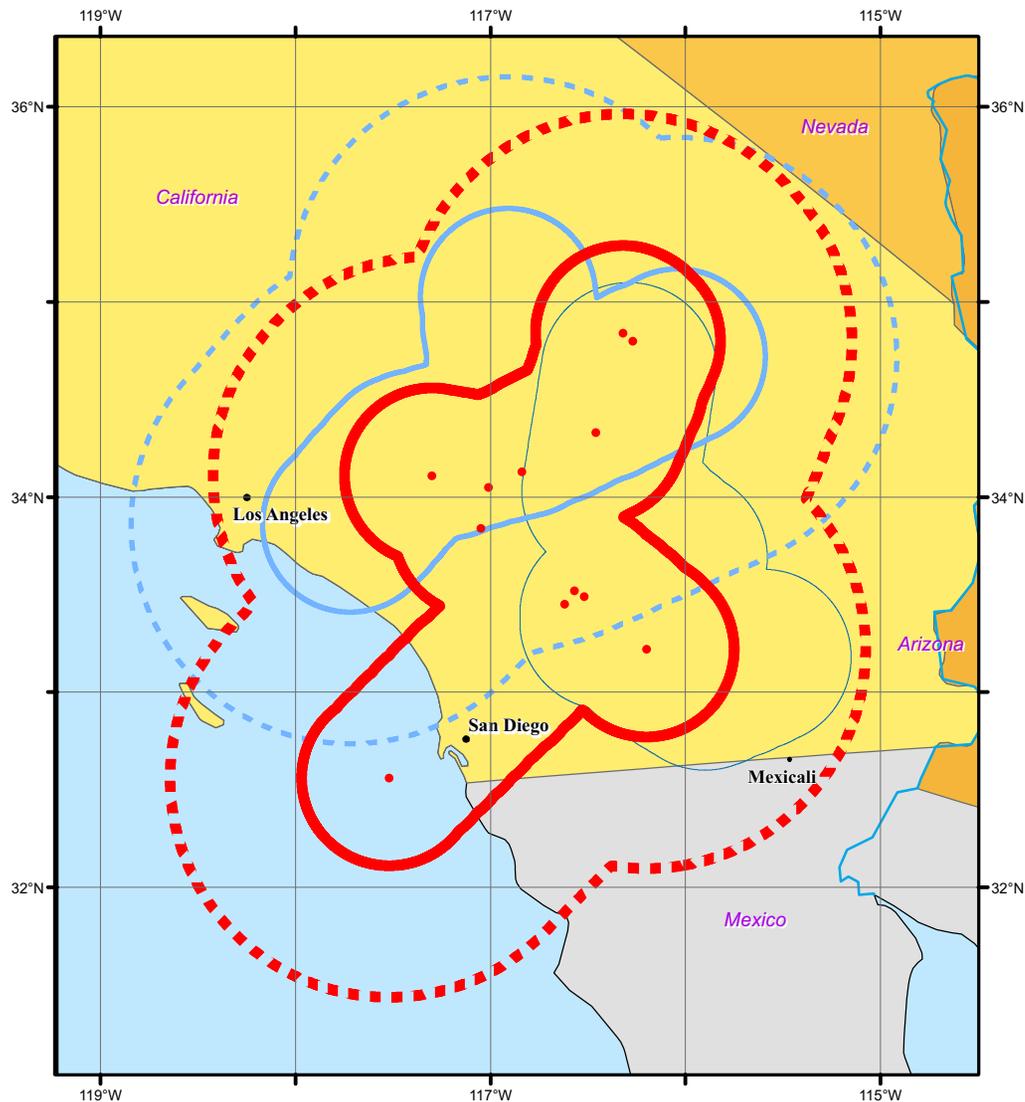


Experiment in prospective earthquake prediction using Reverse Tracing of Precursors (RTP) Prediction #6a, October 5, 2005



Red circles show the earthquakes that formed new precursory chain on June 16, 2005. Area of alarm is shown by red contours: solid line is for test A, dashed line is for test B. This alarm extends previously issued prediction #6. Similar notations in blue correspond to that prediction; test B was done in retrospect. Dark blue contour shows the area of the prediction #3 (false alarm).

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 $M_{\text{ANSS}} \geq 6.4$ is predicted to occur within the time interval 9 months, from June 17, 2005, to March 17, 2006, Universal Time. Area of alarm is shown in the figure. This alarm extends the Prediction #6, previously issued on November 16, 2004.

Estimated probability that a target earthquake will occur at random in the total time-area of the extended alarm is less than 14% in test A and less than 18% in 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.