Practice of probabilistic forecasting of aftershock activity

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We have started to issue the information on probabilities of aftershock occurrence in case that the maximum intensity lower 5 or larger is observed. Although we issued such information only once last year for the case of the northern Iwate prefecture earthquake, we calculated parameters necessary for probabilistic forecasting of aftershock activity for other earthquakes as well. In the calculations we found that there are some problems to evaluate the parameters during the short time period just after the occurrence of main shocks. We discuss what a preferable method would be to get the suitable parameters, and talk about some features of aftershock activities lasting for unusually long period.