

Development of 'Nowcast Earthquake Information' in JMA (2)

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The Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) is a governmental organization responsible for issuing earthquake information and tsunami forecasts in Japan, and has been preparing to issue 'Nowcast Earthquake Information' which includes the estimated arrival times of the strong motion, estimated seismic intensities and a preliminary hypocenter. It is issued to the areas concerned before strong motion arrives at each area from few seconds after the occurrence of an earthquake based on the limited number of data from the source region of the earthquake. This information is expected not only to quicken the issuance of tsunami forecast but to give time to stop plant operation to reduce damage, for example. JMA is developing data processing system in cooperation with Railway Technical Research Institute, and started to issue the information experimentally in 2004.

We introduce the accuracy estimation of the hypocenter determination and the estimated seismic intensities in this system. And we introduce the current status of providing 'Nowcast Earthquake Information' for verifying the validity of the information.