

JMA Services of Monitoring/Forecast on Earthquake/Tsunami and an Example of the Recent Earthquake

Diasuke Hasebe

Japan Meteorological Agency, Japan

E-mail : d_hasebe@met.kishou.go.jp

Abstract

Located in one of the world's most active seismic zones, Japan frequently experiences earthquakes and tsunamis. Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) operationally monitors seismic activities throughout the country and issues relevant warnings and information to help mitigate the damage caused by disasters related to earthquakes and tsunamis. For the monitoring of earthquakes, JMA operates an earthquake observation network comprised of about 200 seismographs and more than 1000 seismographs operated by the National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention (NIED), universities, and other organization. It also monitors 600 seismic intensity meters together with data from over 3,600 seismic intensity meters run by local governments and the National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention (NIED). Moreover, JMA monitors tsunami with data from about 170 tide stations. When an earthquake occurs, JMA immediately issues an Earthquake Early Warning as well as information on its hypocenter, magnitude and observed seismic intensity. The information is provided to disaster prevention authorities through dedicated lines, and reaches the public through local governments and the media. This information also plays a vital role as a trigger for the initiation of rescue and relief operations in relation to the earthquake. An M6.5 earthquake occurred in Suruga-Bay area will be reviewed as the most recent example.