



Universality of Precursors Predicting Largest Earthquake in Advance

A. B. Shapoval (1,2) and M. G. Shnirman (1,3)

(1) International Institute of Earthquake Prediction Theory, (2) Finance Academy under the Government of the Russian Federation, (3) Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris

The paper [V. I. Keilis-Borok, and V. G. Kossobokov, *Phys. Earth Planet. Inter.*, **61**, 73 (1990)] introduces its prediction algorithm forecasting the largest earthquakes in advance with a certain efficiency. The earthquake's precursors estimate the seismic activity increasing (in space and time) before the largest earthquakes. We adopt these precursors for the prediction of the big events in the simple modification of Bak et al's sand-pile developed in [P. Bak and C. Tang, *J. Geophysical Res.*, **94**, 15635 (1989)] as the earthquake model. We determine that the big events are predictable and the efficiency of the algorithm goes up as the size of the target events increases. These results support the hypothesis concerning the universality of the used precursors [V. I. Keilis-Borok, *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA*, **93**, 3748 (1996)].