Seismological Data Processing in the Japan Meteorological Agency

By

M. ICHIKAWA

Seismological Section, JMA

Until 1960 the seismological data processing in the Seismological Section of the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) has been entirely done manually. The data collected from 110 weather stations of JMA equipped with seismographs amount to several thousands a month, so tremendous labor is required in the arrangement of the data in chronological order of arrival time of a phase, transcription from data sheets to original registers, determination of earthquake epicenters and magnitudes etc.

About 10 years ago JMA adopted the IBM computer system for the weather forecasting, and the seismic data have been processed by

the computer system from 1961. Particularly, the seismic data processing were remarkably improved by use of the big computer having 131 k words installed in 1967.

Recently the program for analysing focal mechanism using P initial motion was written by the author, and earthquakes occurring in and near Japan from 1926 to 1967 have been analysed. The program will be adopted for the routine investigation of focal mechanism of Japanese earthquakes in JMA. The program and results obtained will be published in the Geophysical Magazine of JMA in near future.

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