IV. User Program and Statistics

SPring-8 calls for public use proposals twice a year, in principle. The submitted proposals are reviewed by the SPring-8 Proposal Review Committee (SPring-8 PRC). Since 1997, SPring-8 has accepted a variety of proposals. For the promotion of research on industrial applications at SPring-8, currently, Industrial Application Proposals account for approximately 16%–19% of the total number of proposals conducted at various public beamlines. There will always be companies and research institutes that find it difficult to retain specialized staff and to accommodate the need for quick access to SPring-8. To appropriately respond to such circumstances, the SPring-8 Measurement Service is provided.

In this branch of service, JASRI staff members perform measurements on behalf of users. Users may choose either to come to SPring-8 and be present during the measurements or to simply send their samples to SPring-8. Currently, JASRI has been expanding the purview of the SPring-8 Measurement Service to five measurement methods (XAFS, Powder X-ray Diffraction, HAXPES, GIXD/XRR, and SAXS). In addition, JASRI provides Protein Crystallography Automatic Data Collection at Macromolecular Crystallography beamlines. Therefore, users can choose either to come to SPring-8 and be present during the measurements or to simply send their samples to SPring-8. Since the 2022A period, JASRI has been calling for long-term graduate student proposals. The purpose of the Long-Term Graduate Student Proposals is to contribute to the development of human resources who will support and further develop synchrotron radiation sciences. SPring-8 has been affected by COVID-19 to a small extent in FY2021; as a result, the SPring-8 Measurement Service and the Protein Crystallography Automatic Data Collection have become more widely used. Furthermore, SPring-8 is developing a remote-operation system that allows users to control experimental instruments remotely to promote remote access. The number of experiments conducted at and the number of user visits to the public and contract beamlines are summarized in Fig. 3. Some of the proposals are for proprietary use, for which refereed reports are not required. Figures 4 to 13 show information on user programs.

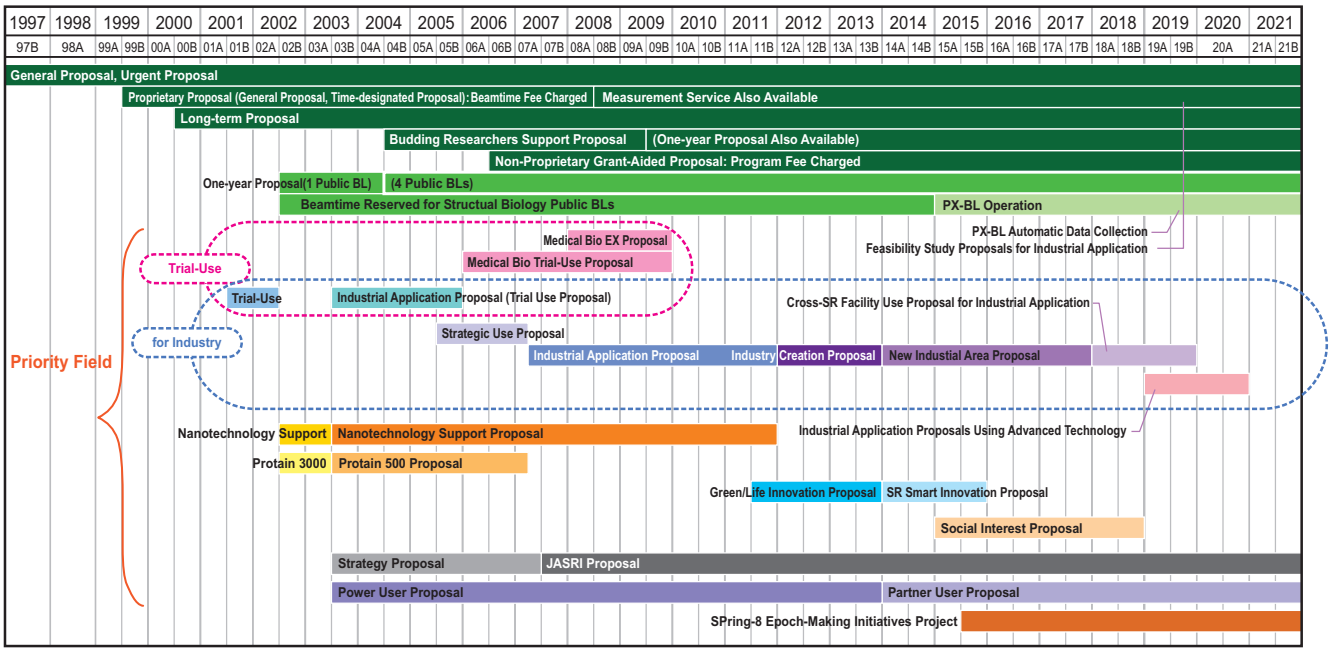

Fig. 3. Categories of proposals for the public beamlines.

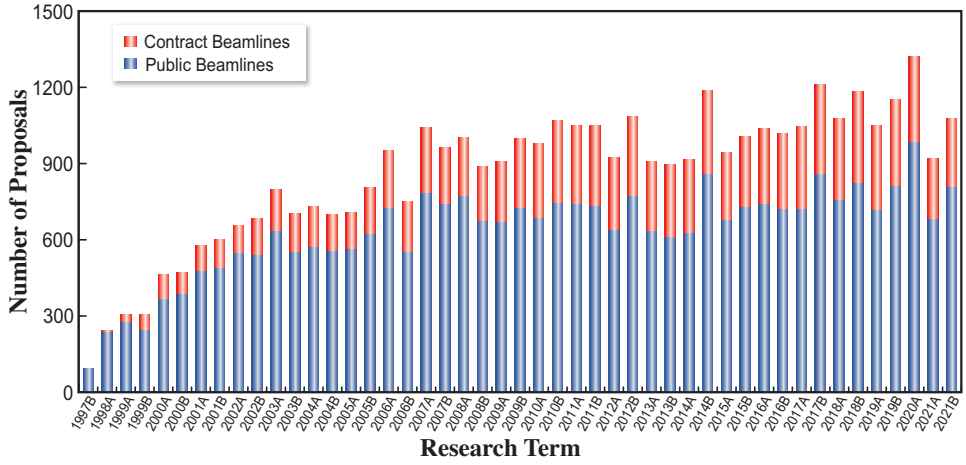

Fig. 4. Numbers of conducted experiments.

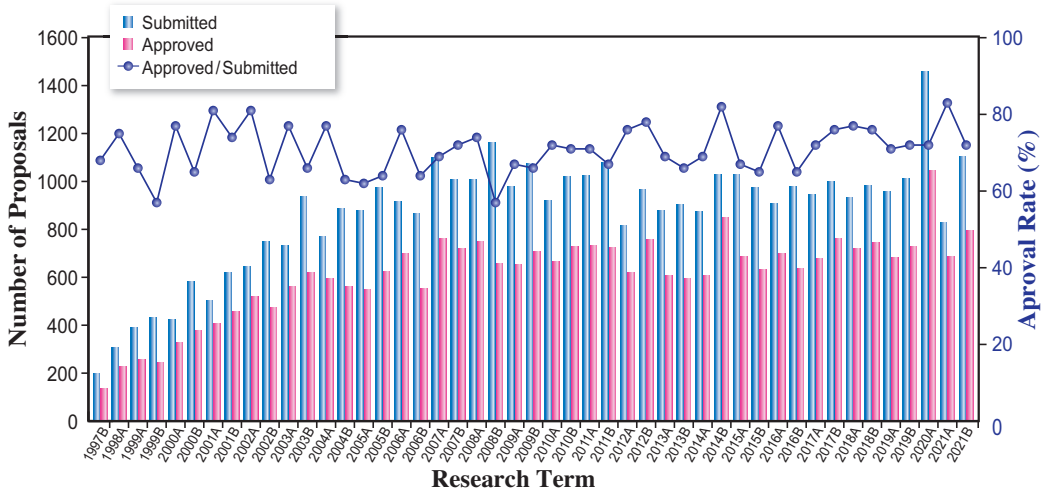

Fig. 5. Numbers of submitted proposals and approved proposals by research term (public beamlines).

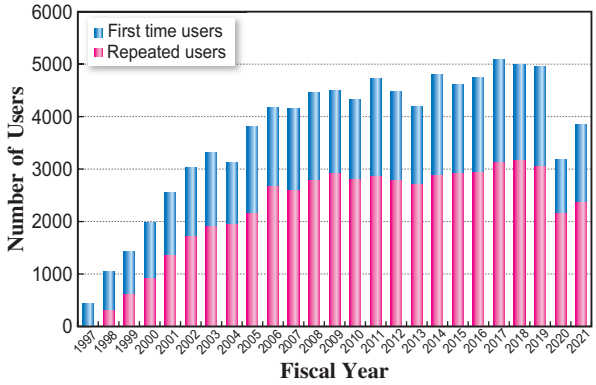

Fig. 6. Numbers of users by fiscal year.

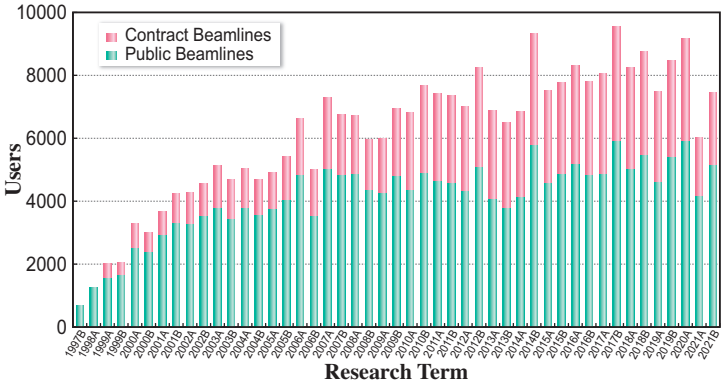

Fig. 7. Numbers of users visits by research term.

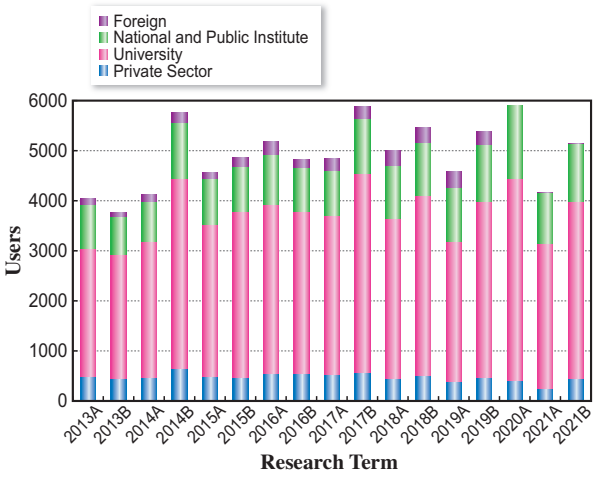

Fig. 8. Numbers of users by affiliation categories (public beamlines).

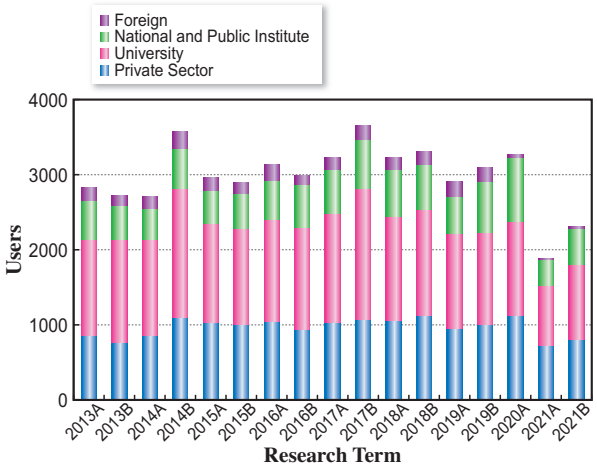

Fig. 9. Numbers of users by affiliation categories (contract beamlines).

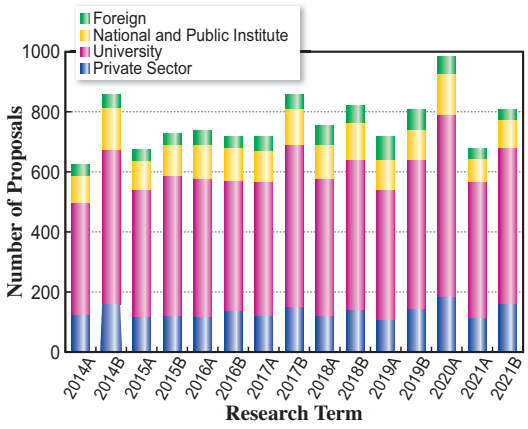

Fig. 10. Numbers of conducted proposals by affiliation (public beamlines).

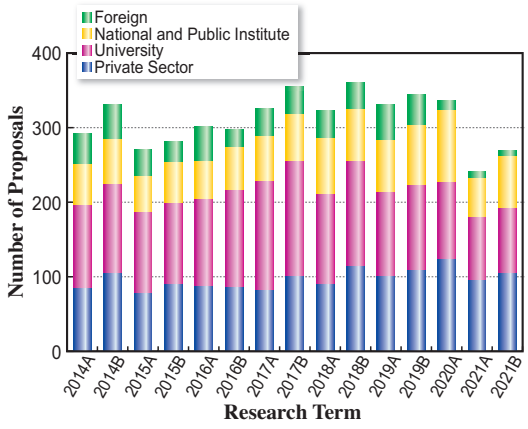

Fig. 11. Numbers of conducted proposals by affiliation categories (contract beamlines).

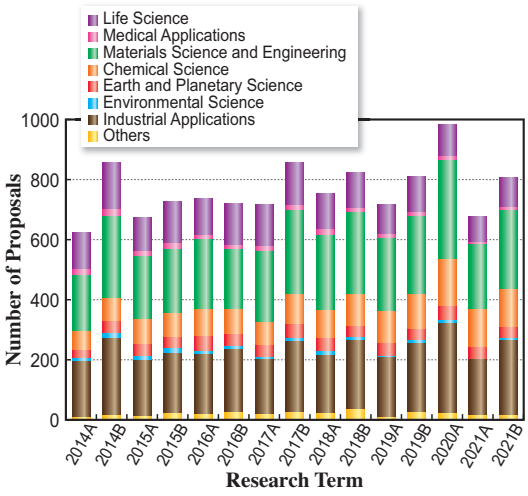

Fig. 12. Numbers of conducted proposals by research area (public beamlines).

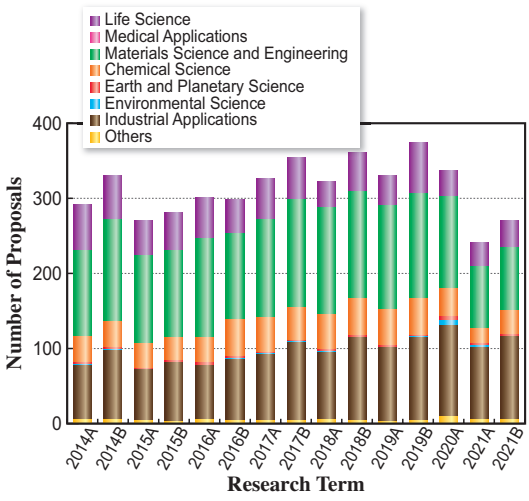

Fig. 13. Numbers of conducted proposals by research area (contract beamlines).