Press Release

Overview of the Awarding Results of FY 2021 Call for Proposals of Research Projects using the HPCI System

Out of 159 proposals for using the HPCI system [*1] in Japanese Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, 145 have been selected: 74 as projects using the supercomputer Fugaku [*2], and 71 as projects using the HPCI shared computational resources other than Fugaku.

As the shared use of Fugaku was moved up, for Fugaku projects, the start date is also advanced from April 1 to March 9.

Research Organization for Information Science and Technology (RIST, President: Dr. Yasuhide Tajima), as the Registered Institution for Facilities Use Promotion and the Representative for HPCI operation, has issued a public call for proposals and selected projects using the HPCI system including Fugaku in FY 2021.

Fugaku has taken first place on four supercomputer performance rankings in two terms in a row. The shared use is scheduled to start from March 9, 2021. Projects awarded this time will be the first projects which use Fugaku after the shared use starts.

For FY 2021, 159 proposals were submitted, and 145 of them were selected. 74 are projects using Fugaku and 71 are projects using HPCI other than Fugaku.

The shared use of Fugaku was originally scheduled to start in April 2021, but it was moved up to March 9. Accordingly, awarded projects which complete necessary procedures can get access to Fugaku from March 9. The end date of the projects is March 31, 2022, as scheduled (for Startup Promotion Projects, the end date is September 30, 2021).

42 proposals were submitted for General Access projects of Fugaku, 38 were accepted. From this call, "Priority Areas [*3]" are set under the General Access projects based on government policies and social conditions for each fiscal year. This fiscal year's Priority Areas are "research and development of infectious disease control" and "basic research and development that contributes to next generation computing". 12 proposals were submitted in the priority areas. Of them, 9 were judged to fit these areas and 9 of them were awarded. 3 projects which were not judged to fit the areas were reviewed as regular General Access projects and 2 of them were awarded.

As it is still the early stage of the shared use, to promote early start of researches and production of achievements, Startup Promotion Projects are set so that they can prepare for application for Period B of FY 2021 starting in October 2021 or Period A of FY 2022 starting in April 2022. Out of 17 proposals, 15 were awarded.

The results will be notified to the representatives of the proposed projects and made available in the HPCI portal site (*4).

The status of the application, the awards, and the adoption rate

Resource	Category of Projects	Proposals Submitted	Proposals Awarded
Fugaku	General Access	42 (12)	38 (9)
	Junior Researchers	7	7
	Industrial Access	15	14
	Startup Promotion	17	15
	Subtotal	81	74
HPCI shared computational resources	General Access	56	50 (0)
	Junior Researchers	17	15 (0)
	Industrial Access	5	6 (1)
	Subtotal	78	71 (1)
Total		159	145

(Note 1) For Fugaku General Access, the numbers in parentheses show the numbers of priority area submission / projects.

(Note 2) For HPCI shared computational resources, the numbers in parentheses show the number of projects awarded the resources requested as the second choice of Fugaku. (Proposal is counted as a Fugaku project.)

(*1) Supercomputer Fugaku

The supercomputer Fugaku is being developed by RIKEN as the successor to the K computer. Fugaku has taken first place on four supercomputer performance rankings in June 2020 and in November 2020.

(*2) HPCI (High Performance Computing Infrastructure)

The infrastructure developed by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) to realize innovative shared computational environment responding to various needs of users by connecting Fugaku and other major Japanese supercomputers in universities and research institutions via high speed academic network. The HPCI has been operated since September 2012.

(*3) Priority Areas

Priority Areas are decided based on the government policies and social situations per fiscal year. Projects that are judged to fit this area will be given preference in the selection process.

(*4) http://www.hpci-office.jp/folders/english

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