## 3 International Collaboration

The PF has maintained a collaboration program with the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organization (ANSTO) since 1991. They constructed their own station (Australian National Beamline Facility; ANBF) at BL-20B in 1992 to perform X-ray diffraction and absorption experiments. There are about 50 proposals every year for this beamline, under which 120-130 Australian scientists carry out their experiments. Their experience at the PF will prove useful for the operation of the Australian storage ring currently under construction.



A major collaboration program between Japan and China started in 2000 with the support of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS). This program covers not only synchrotron radiation science but also high-energy physics and accelerator technology. Six Chinese Institutes and 10 Japanese organizations including KEK collaborate on many subjects in various ways. KEK and the Institute of High Energy Physics (IHEP) are the "core universities" in Japan and China, respectively. Based on this program, the exchange of scientists and cooperative research are being undertaken with the Beijing Synchrotron Radiation Facility of IHEP, Shanghai Synchrotron Radiation Center (SSRC) and the National Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory (NSRL) at Hefei. In FY2002, nine PF staff visited the Chinese Laboratory, and twelve Chinese researchers (5 from IHEP, 4 from NSRL, 3 from SSRC) stayed for several weeks at the PF.

It should be mentioned that we accept about 20 proposals per year from overseas, making up about 7% of the total number of proposals, as shown in Fig. 5. Most of these proposals are carried out with Japanese collaborators, and are considered as international collaborations. Furthermore, it is noted that there are always a few foreign scientists staying at the PF for 3-12 months with support of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) and the Japan Society for Promotion of Science. Prof. Nikolai Cherepkov (from the State Academy of Aerospace Instrumentation, St. Petersburg, Russia) and Dr. Richard Hall (from University of Paris VI, France) were invited as visiting professors of the MEXT in FY2002. Drs. James Harries and James Sullivan have been supported by the JSPS for their post-doctoral investigations at the PF. It is worthy to mention that





## Figure 5

Regional distribution of the spokesperson of proposals accepted in FY2002. Note that proposals for BL-20B of ANBF are not included.

some of the PF staff members go abroad to carry out collaborative work although they are not well supported officially. These individual activities are also regarded as international collaboration.

The BESSY-I storage ring was donated, under the initiative of UNESCO, to the scientific union of Middle East countries in order to promote scientific activites in this area. It was decided that "Synchrotron-light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle

East" (SESAME) equipped with a renewed storage ring will be constructed in the suburbs of Amman in Jordan. A JSPS Asian Science Seminar was held on Oct. 19-28, 2002 at Al-Balqa' Applied University, in order to give potential users of SESAME an overview of the project and an introduction to synchrotron radiation science at SESAME. This seminar was organized by JSPS, Al-Balqa' Applied University and KEK, and four PF staff members participated and gave talks there.

