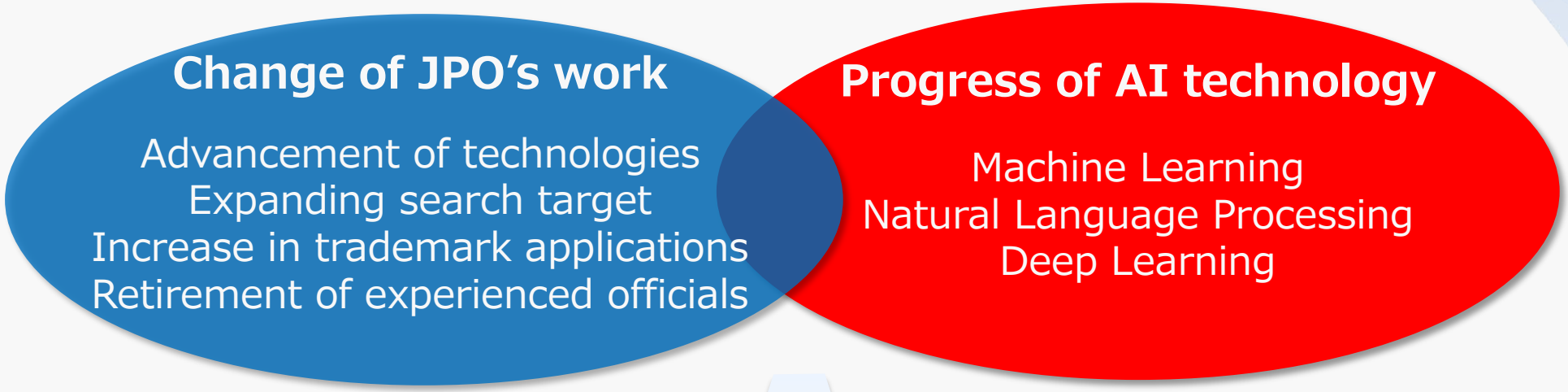
Utilization of AI in JPO

February 2021

Japan Patent Office

Purpose for making use of AI technology



Making use of AI technology

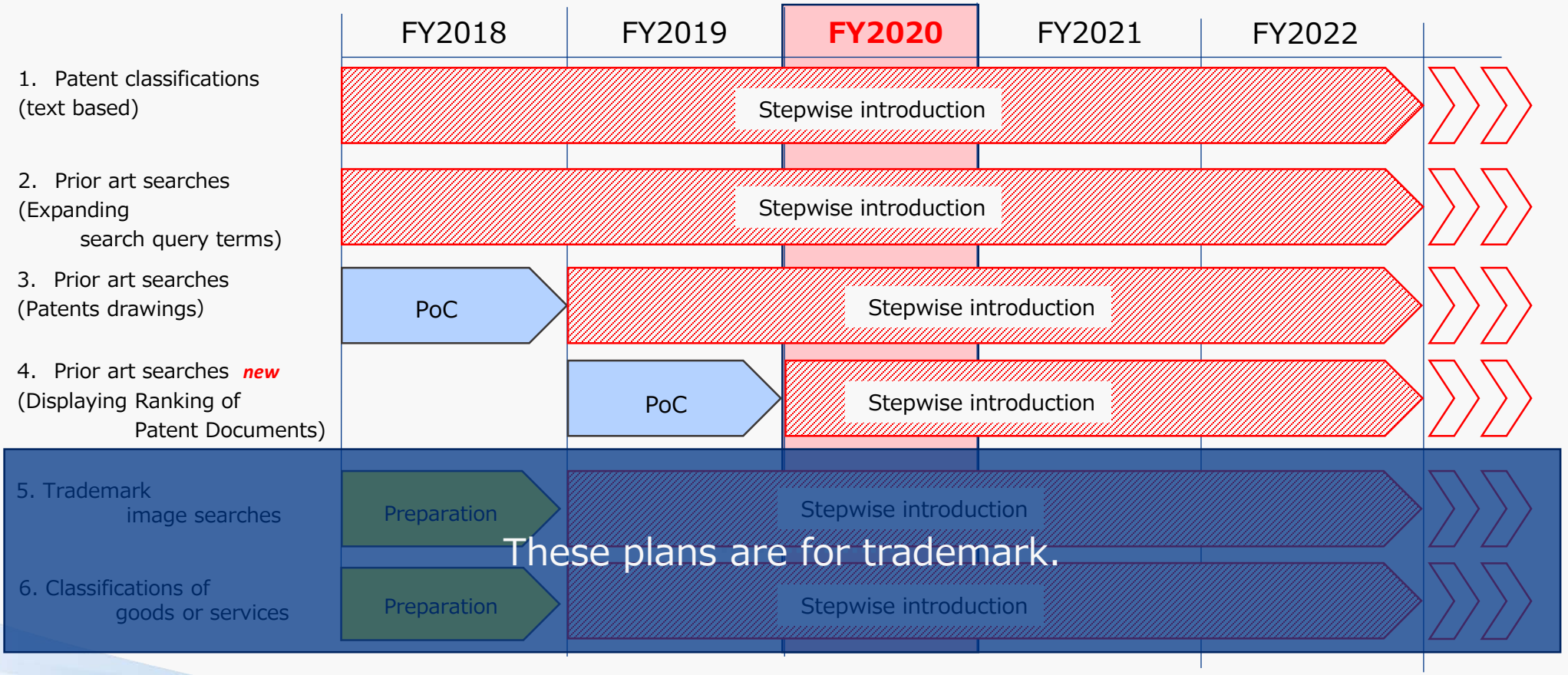
Goal!

Sophisticated and **efficient** operations

➡ Improve user services

Action plan

- JPO has made activities for making use of AI technology based on **Action plan** since FY2017.
- Action plan was revised in FY2020 based on the result of activities in FY2019.



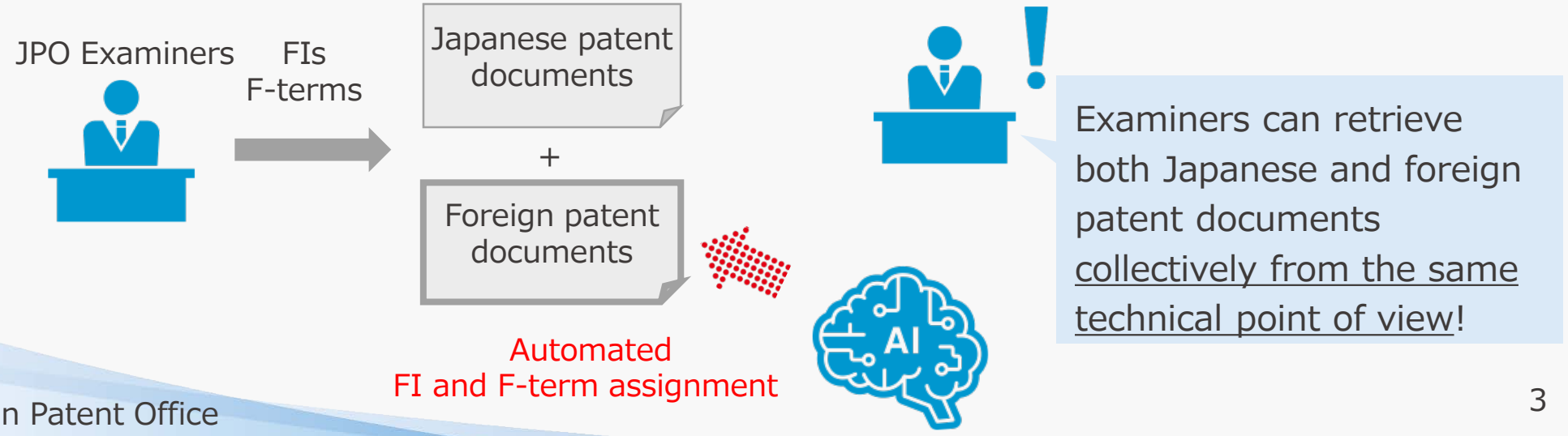
(*) The above actions are based on rough estimates and progress may vary depending on the development of demonstrations, advancement of the relevant technologies and other circumstances.

Patent classifications

Main Points

Issue: JPO examiners couldn't use FIs and F-terms (JPO-specific search indexes) to retrieve foreign patent documents though they are useful to retrieve relevant documents to Japanese applications.

Solution: Assigning FIs and F-terms to foreign patent documents automatically, JPO examiners can conduct collective search on Japanese and foreign documents with the indexes.

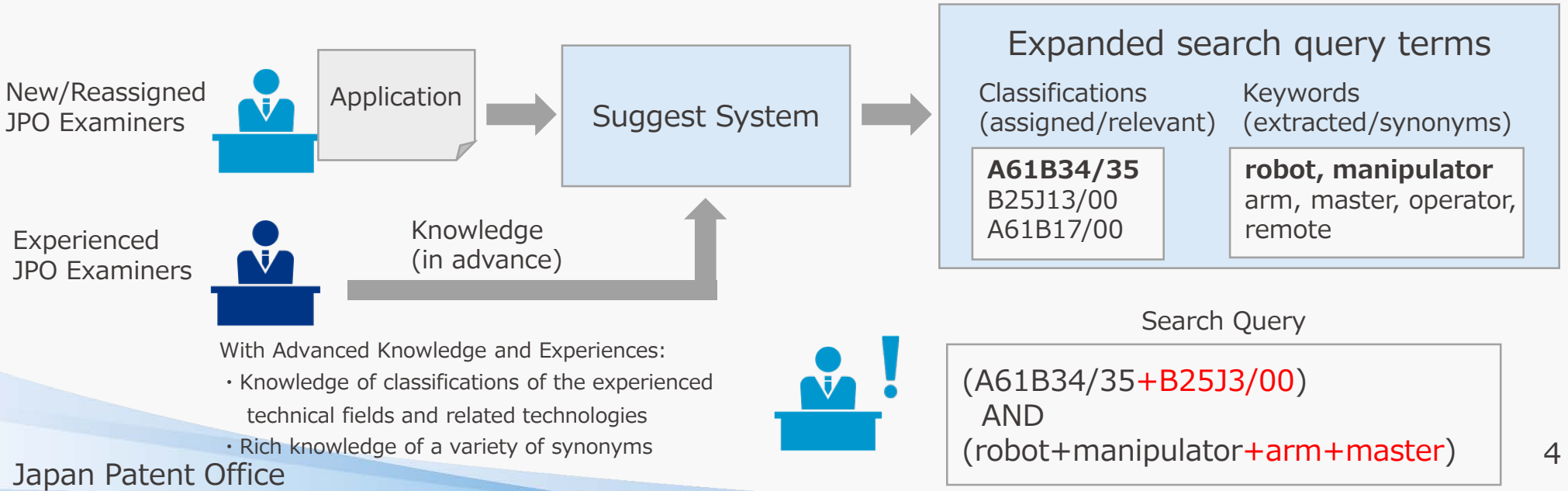


Expanding search query terms

Main Points

Issue: It's difficult for new/reassigned examiners to select effective search query terms.

Solution: Possible classifications, keywords and synonyms based on the accumulated knowledge and experiences of experienced examiners help new/reassigned examiners a lot.

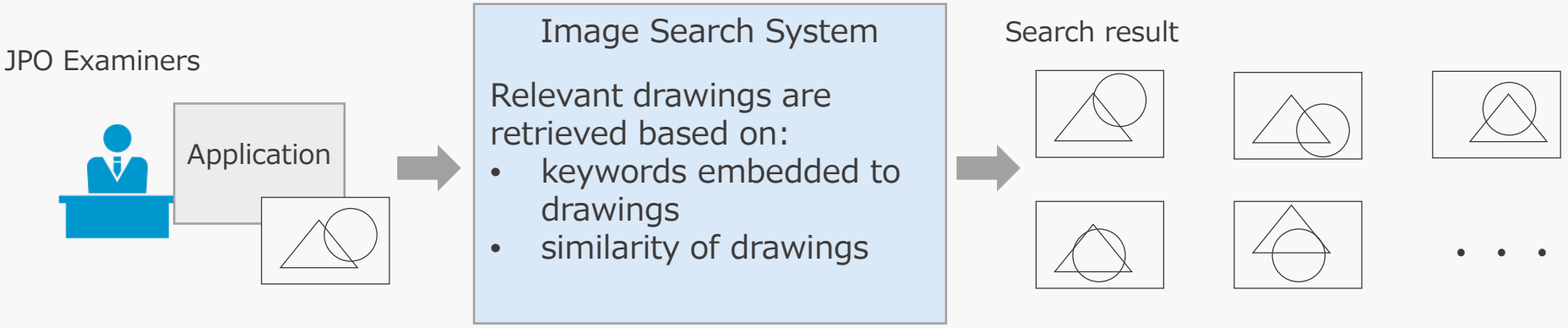


Patent Image Searches

Main Points

Issue: Sometimes drawings contain very important information especially regarding shapes or structures of things. But text search queries are not so effective to retrieve such useful drawings.

Solution: The information originated from drawings of the application is thought to be useful to obtain relevant drawings.

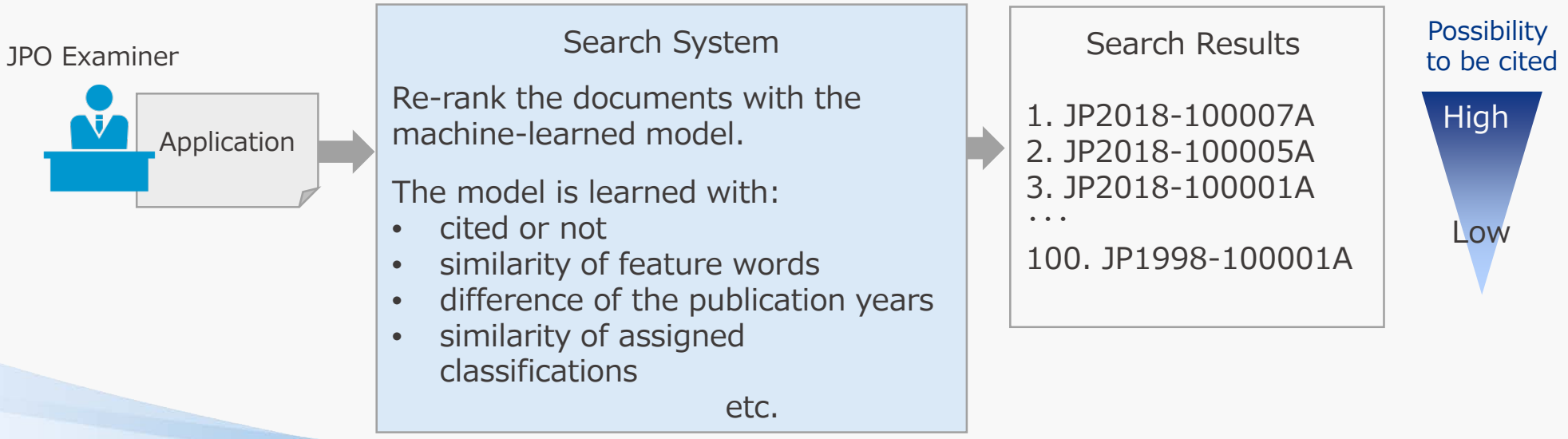


Displaying Ranking of Patent Documents

Main Points

Issue: Examiners had to read hundreds of documents to retrieve a relevant document.

Solution: Examiners can read the most important document first if the candidate documents are ordered by the possibility to be cited.



Thank you!