



Measuring research strength among research gate users in Tamil Nadu state universities

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Abstract

The present paper tries to understand measuring Research Strength among Research gate Users in Tamil Nadu State Universities. The objectives are; To critically examine research activities of researchers from Tamil Nadu state university, To make a comparative study of the performance of researchers in Tamil Nadu State Universities, and To measure research strength of Tamil Nadu State University among Research gate Users.

Keywords: research gate, measure research strength

Introduction

The main objectives of higher education are teaching, research, and extension activities and higher educational institutions concentrate research and allied works. Research enhances the quality of education and also brings transformation and development. In contemporary era, Research is part of the academic curriculum for all teaching and non teaching staff. At the same time, most academics and researchers expect to share their valuable research work with everyone around the world. A few universities and research institutes open a platform for their employees to share their research work on their own website. But it has not reached global research communities. Even offline journals and online journals do not give good results, which means that a few research communities have been accessing such wonderful opportunities to share their research work to everyone. To overcome these problems, many academicians and researchers have been searching for a good platform to share their research. As a result, many professional social networks have been emerging to support researcher's interest and it can help to promote research ideology and research networks. In this background, researchgate is one among the professional social networks for academicians and researchers to share research papers, articles, discussion as well as find collaborators in and around the state.

Research Gate is the professional network for scientists and researchers to share papers, ask and answer questions, and find collaborators. Over 20 million members from all over the world use it to share, discover, and discuss research. It started when two researchers discovered first-hand that collaborating with a friend or colleague on the other side of the world was no easy task. Founded in 2008 by physicians Dr. Ijad Madisch and Dr. Sören Hofmayer, and computer scientist Horst Fickenscher, Research Gate has more than 20 million members today. ResearchGate website is operated by Research Gate GmbH, Berlin, Germany (www.researchgate.net).

RG Score and Impact Points

Research Gate has its own formula / method for calculating RG-score. The RG score indicates how the work of the researchers is obtained by the colleagues of the researchers. Research gate believes that researchers are the best judges of each other's work and that all a person's research, published or not, deserves credit. With this in mind, research RG Score is calculated based on any contribution researchers share on Research Gate or add to researcher's profile, such as published articles, unpublished research, projects, questions, and answers. Research gates algorithm looks at how researchers peers receive and evaluate these contributions, and who they are. The higher the RG Scores of those who interact with researcher's research, the more researcher score will increase. A low-quality contribution probably won't attract positive feedback and recognition from the community, so it won't contribute to the researcher's score in any significant way. In contrast to more traditional metrics, the RG Score focuses on researchers, an ever-growing community of specialists (www.researchgate.net). The total RG score is calculated based on the RG score of the researchers working in the particular organization. The calculation of the total RG-score (TRGS) can be always be debated, at the same time it may be helped to compare and see the relative position of any institute or University, the total RG-score (all its members) can be taken as a good measure (Rabi Narayan Subudhi :2014) [7]

Objectives of the Study

1. To critically examine research activities of researchers from Tamil Nadu state university.
2. To make a comparative study of the performance of researchers in Tamil Nadu State Universities.
3. To measure research strength of Tamil Nadu State University among Research gate Users.

Methodology

On 29th of June 2021 data were collected from the official website of researchgate. There are 22 state universities in Tamil Nadu, out of 22, data were collected from 20 universities and data were not available in the remaining 2 universities, namely Tamil Nadu National Law University, Tamil Nadu University of Music and Fine Arts. Based on availability of data from the researchgate about universities, the study has undergone. All the state universities are owned and run by the state government which manages education in hundreds of colleges in Tamil Nadu state.

State University in Tamil Nadu: an Overview

All State Universities are established by the law of the State of Tamil Nadu and the University is governed by law, laws, ordinances and regulations. The present study tries to analyze the research strength of state universities in Tamil Nadu. The following universities have undergone in this study; Alagappa University, Anna University, Annamalai University, Bharathidasan University, Bharathiyar University, Madurai Kamaraj University, Manonmaniam Sundharanar University, Mother Teresa Women's University, Periyar University, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R Medical University, Tamil Nadu Fisheries University, Tamil Nadu Open University, Tamil Nadu Physical Education And Sports University, Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University, Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Tamil University, Thiruvalluvar University, and University of Madras. Alagappa University has 4235 publications with a total RG score of 5866.81, and 813 members are using researchgate. Anna University has 18729 publications with a total RG score is 12975.68, and 4867 members are using researchgate. Annamalai University has 11822 publications with a total RG score is 8550.41, and 1641 members are using researchgate. Bharathidasan University has 6825 publications with a total RG score is 6322.89, and 1261 members are using researchgate. Bharathiar University has 8221 publications

with a total RG score is 6322.89, and 1267 members are using researchgate. Madurai Kamaraj University has 6479 publications with a total RG score is 4442.90, and 714 members are using researchgate.

Manonmaniam Sundharanar University has 2537 publications with a total RG score is 2529.95, and 559 members are using researchgate. Mother Teresa Women's University has 374 publications with a total RG score of 433.32, and 89 members are using research gate. Periyar University has 2851 publications with a total RG score is 3395.83, and 627 members are using research gate. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University has 3617 publications with a total RG score of 6418.03, and 1757 members are using research gate. Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University has 163 publications with a total RG score of 49.11, and 12 members are using research gate. Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R Medical University has 395 publications with a total RG score of 1722.62, and 12 members are using research gate. Tamil Nadu Fisheries University has 139 publications with a total RG score of 412.98, and 96 members are using research gate. Tamil Nadu Open University has 611 publications with a total RG score of 26.32, and 10 members are using research gate. Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University has 28 publications with a total RG score of 37.34, and 18 members are using research gate. Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University has 16 publications with a total RG score of 21.15 and 7 members are using research gate. Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University has 1178 publications with a total RG score of 3834.94, and 718 members are using research gate. Tamil University has 325 publications with a total RG score of 112.34, and 23 members are using research gate. Thiruvalluvar University has 729 publications with a total RG score of 1003.68, and 138 members are using research gate. University of Madras has 14462 publications with a total RG score of 7546.03 and 1411 members are using research gate.

Result and Discussion

Table 1: Research Strength of University, Tamil Nadu

Sl. No	Name of the University	Total RG Score	Members	Publications
1	Alagappa University (AKU)	5866.81	813	4235
2	Anna University (AU)	12975.68	4867	18729
3	Annamalai University (AUC)	8550.41	1641	11822
4	Bharathidasan University (BUT)	6383.65	1261	6825
5	Bharathiyar University (BUC)	6322.89	1267	8221
6	Madurai Kamaraj University (MKU)	4442.90	714	6479
7	Manonmaniam Sundharanar University (MSU)	2529.95	559	2537
8	Mother Teresa Women's University (MTWU)	433.32	89	374
9	Periyar University (PU)	3395.83	627	2851
10	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU)	6418.03	1757	3617
11	Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University (TNALU)	49.11	12	163
12	Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R Medical University (TNMMU)	1722.62	645	395
13	Tamil Nadu Fisheries University (TNFU)	412.98	96	139
14	Tamil Nadu Open University (TNOU)	26.32	10	611
15	Tamil Nadu Physical Education And Sports University (TNPESU)	37.34	18	28
16	Tamil Nadu Teachers Educations University (TNTEU)	21.15	7	16
17	Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TNVASU)	3834.94	718	1178
18	Tamil University (TUT)	112.34	23	325
19	Thiruvalluvar University (TUV)	1003.68	138	729
20	University of Madras (UM)	7546.03	1411	14462

Source: Computed from www.researchgate.net, Accessed on 29.06.2021

Table 1 shows the research strength of universities in Tamil Nadu among the researchgate users. Anna university has top publications, total RG score and active users. Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University has low in publications, total RG score and active users.

universities are below 10000 members. The four universities have lowest members namely Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University (7), Tamil Nadu Open University (10), Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University (18), and Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University (12).

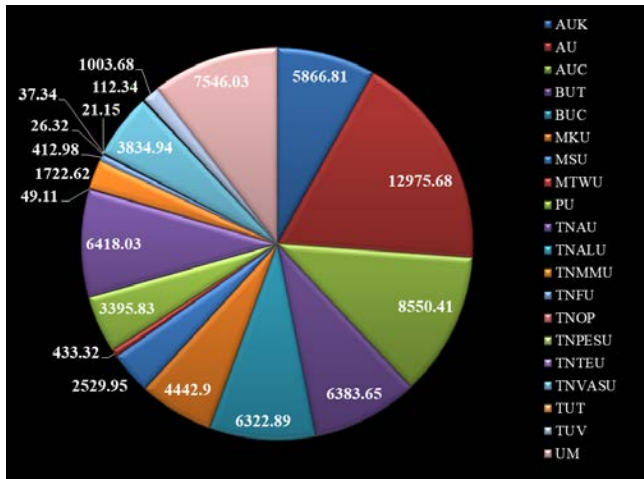


Chart 1: Total RG Score of University

Chart 1 shows the TRGS in Tamil Nadu state universities. The top six universities are Anna University, Annamalai University, University of Madras, Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Bharathidasan University, and Bharathiyar University. These universities have above 6000 TRGS and remaining universities are below 6000 TRGS. The four universities have lowest TRGS namely Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University (21.15), Tamil Nadu Open University (26.32), Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University (37.34), and Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University (49.11). These universities have TRGS below 100. Three universities scored between 100 and 500.

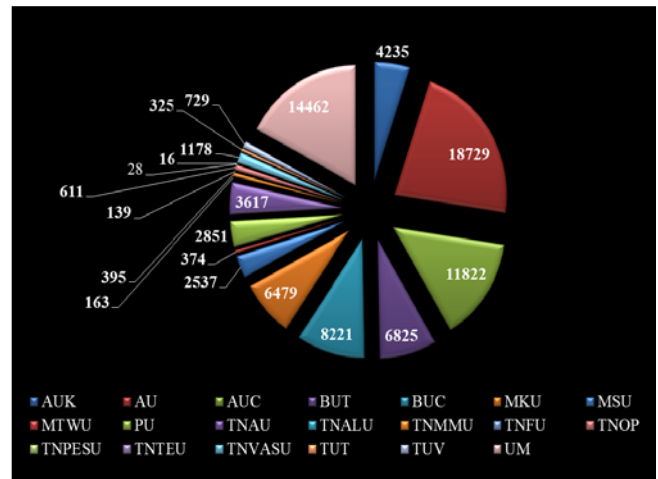


Chart 3: Numbers of Publications

Chart 3 shows the publication details of researchgate users in Tamil Nadu state universities. The top six universities are Anna University, Annamalai University, University of Madras, Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Bharathidasan University, and Bharathiyar University. These universities have above 1000 members using researchgate and remaining universities are below 1000 members. The two universities have lowest publications namely Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University (16), and Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University (28).

The researcher has calculated Average publications of the researchers in each university based on a given formula.

Average Publications of the Researchers = M/P
 Where; M is number of total members are using publication
 P is the number of total publications.

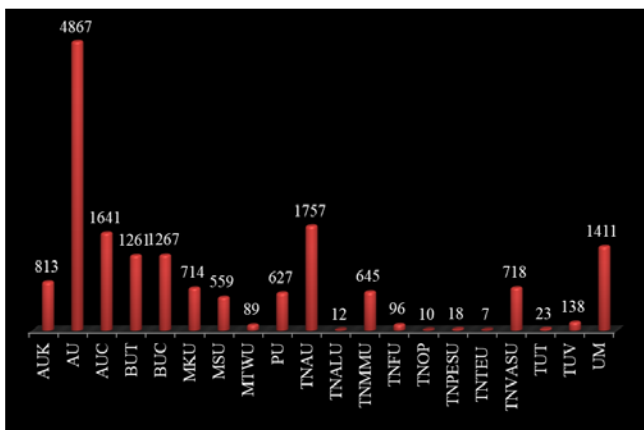


Chart 2: researchgate Users/Members

Chart 2 shows that researchgate users in Tamil Nadu state universities. The top three universities are Anna University, Annamalai University, University of Madras, These universities have above 10000 publications and remaining

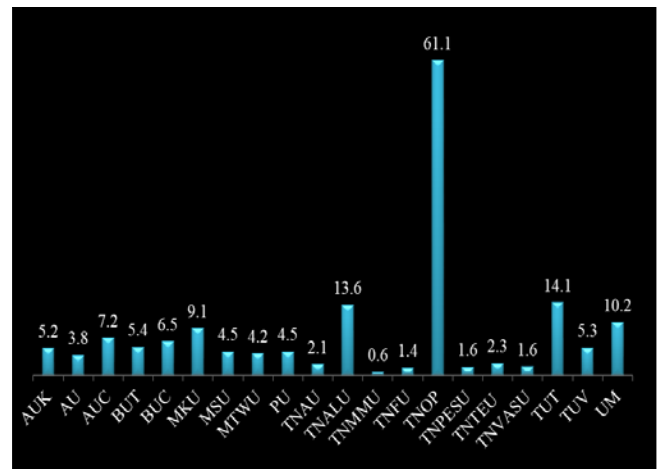


Chart 4: Average Publications of the Researchers

Table 2: University wise details of Average Publications of the Researchers

Sl. No.	Name of the University	Average publications of the researchers
1.	Tamil Nadu Open University (TNOU)	61.1
2.	Tamil University (TUT)	14.1
3.	Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University (TNALU)	13.6
4.	University of Madras (UM)	10.2
5.	Madurai Kamaraj University (MKU)	9.1
6.	Annamalai University (AUC)	7.2
7.	Bharathiyar University (BUC)	6.5
8.	Bharathidasan University (BUT)	5.4
9.	Thiruvalluvar University (TUV)	5.3
10.	Alagappa University (AKU)	5.2
11.	Manonmaniam Sundharanar University (MSU)	4.5
12.	Periyar University (PU)	4.5
13.	Mother Teresa Women's University (MTWU)	4.2
14.	Anna University (AU)	3.8
15.	Tamil Nadu Teachers Educations University (TNTEU)	2.3
16.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU)	2.1
17.	Tamil Nadu Physical Education And Sports University (TNPEU)	1.6
18.	Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TNVASU)	1.6
19.	Tamil Nadu Fisheries University (TNFU)	1.4
20.	Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R Medical University (TNMMU)	0.6

Source: Computed from www.researchgate.net, Accessed on 29.06.2021

Table 2 and Chart 4 illustrate the average publications of the researchers in each university. Tamil Nadu Open University has 61.1 average publications of the researchers which is the highest publications average. Even Anna University has 3.8 average publications of the researcher. Anna University has a higher level of TRGS, members, and publication but their publications average is 3.8 which is secured 14th place among the 20 universities. It means that the number of research work is very low even if they have a high level of publication. Tamil University second tops the list with average publications of researchers, followed by Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University (13.6) and Madurai Kamaraj University (9.1) in Tamil Nadu. Four universities have low average publications with 2 publications.

Conclusion

The study observed from the data, there is vast variation between universities among the researchers. As per my personal view, there are two kinds of issues for professional research platforms; Educational Institutions and providers of professional research platforms. First I need to discuss issues faced by educational institutions towards professional research platforms. Educational and research institutions are not ready to provide a single umbrella research online website. They do not facilitate their employees to promote their research on single platforms. Hence, researchers have been searching for suitable websites for their research activities and as a result, many researchers are maintaining different kinds of research websites to share research work. As we know that most of the researcher are ready to do research work and collaborate with national and international level through online platforms, at the same time a few researcher are not ready to do research work. The education institutions shall identify such researchers and take action against them or provide counselling them to produce research work. There is another

problem faced by researchers which is that most of the education institutions including research centre and institutes are not ready to enhance research work for those who have been selected as temporary employees. Temporary employees do not receive the same benefits as permanent employees. It can be eliminated from the institutions. Temporary staff and researchers change their organizations frequently, and so do their research organizations, which may be the publishing variation among university staff. Finally another issue is that providers of professional research platforms on websites. The website provider like researchgate asks institutional email to create an account which also shows that researcher is not willing to create a researchgate account due to the unavailability of institutional email. It is evidence that State Universities in Tamil Nadu do not concentrate much on research works which need to increase among the researchers. It is the right time to check self appraisal to promote their research activities and those who are not involved in research either temporary or permanent staff, they should be terminated from their post.

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