



## A characterization of the scientific impact of brazilian institutions

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In this paper we studied the research activity of Brazilian Institutions for all sciences and also their performance in the area of physics between 1945 and December 2008. All the data come from the Web of Science database for this period. The analysis of the experimental data shows that, within a nonextensive thermostatistical formalism, the Tsallis  $q$ -exponential distribution  $N(c)$  can constitute a new characterization of the research impact for Brazilian Institutions. The data examined in the present survey can successfully be fitted by applying

a universal curve namely,  $N(c) \propto [1+(q-1)c/T]^{-1/q}$  with  $q \approx 3$  for all the available citations  $c$ ,  $T$  being an “effective temperature”.

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