Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

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Google Scholar profile

Generated 2026-05-21 by CiteMap. This report organises Google Scholar citation data into the structure USCIS adjudicators apply to Prong 2 of Matter of Dhanasar (the petitioner is well positioned to advance the proposed endeavor) — the prong where past citation evidence is most probative. It is a drafting aid for the petitioner's counsel — not legal advice, and not a guarantee of any outcome. All figures must be verified, and citation counts re-snapshotted as of the petition filing date, before use in a filing.

A. Overview & Filtering Statement

10	10	1	130
Citing papers mapped	Citation edges	Home papers mapped	h-index (GS)

Filtering statement — methodology & limits

Citation **independence** is classified per citing paper by comparing the citing paper's authors to this scholar. *Self* citations are those where the scholar is an author of the citing work; *co-author* citations are by the scholar's known collaborators; *same-institution* citations are by authors affiliated with the scholar's institution(s); all remaining classified citations are *independent*. Per AAO practice, only independent citations are treated as probative of influence beyond the scholar's own circle.

Known limitations — counsel must verify. (1) Collaborator identification draws on the co-author list published on the Google Scholar profile; a collaborator not listed there may be missed, so the independent share below should be read as an **upper bound**. (2) Citation counts are a crawl-time snapshot; eligibility is judged as of the petition filing date and post-filing citations carry no weight — re-snapshot before filing. (3) Citations that could not be classified (no author data) are excluded from the percentages and reported separately.

B. Citation Independence

The AAO credits citations only where they show influence **beyond the scholar's own circle**. Self-citations and co-author citations are expressly discounted; the independent share below is the load-bearing figure.

80.0% independent of 10 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	8
Self-citation	0
Co-author	2
Same-institution	0

0 citing papers could not be classified (no author data) and are excluded from the percentages above.

C. Significant Contributions & Their Citation Evidence

Each contribution below is presented as the AAO expects: a specific claim, followed by the **independent** citation evidence for the paper(s) that carry it. Citation counts are stated **per article**, never as a body-of-work total — the AAO holds aggregate totals to be a final-merits signal, not Criterion-5 evidence.

Where the data allows, a paper also shows its **field-normalised** standing — how its citation count ranks against Semantic Scholar papers in the same field and publication year. The comparison field is named explicitly; counsel should confirm it is the appropriate one, as the AAO scrutinises a petitioner's choice of comparison field.

Contribution 1

Claim — Contribution 1

The researcher developed ultra-high-throughput microbial community analysis methods for Illumina HiSeq and MiSeq platforms, establishing a foundational protocol widely adopted by the independent scientific community.

CLAIM: The researcher's primary contribution is the development of ultra-high-throughput microbial community analysis methods tailored for Illumina HiSeq and MiSeq platforms, as detailed in their 2012 paper published in The ISME Journal. This work stands as a seminal core contribution without subsequent follow-up papers by the same author in this specific line of inquiry.

ORIGINALITY: The titles suggest this work addressed the technical challenge of adapting high-throughput sequencing platforms for microbial community analysis. By focusing on specific Illumina platforms, the researcher appears to have provided a standardized or optimized approach that was novel at the time of publication, filling a methodological gap in the field.

SIGNIFICANCE: The core paper has accumulated over 10,000 citations, indicating substantial impact and widespread adoption. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has been extensively utilized and validated by the broader scientific community outside the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 8

CORE PAPER

Ultra-high-throughput microbial community analysis on the Illumina HiSeq and MiSeq platforms

2012 · The ISME Journal · 10,142 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 8,030 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Environmental Science papers from 2012 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	A Communal Catalogue Reveals Earth's Multiscale Microbial Diversity (2017)	Oregon State University, University of California San Diego, University of Colorado Boulder	United States	—
2	DADA2: High-resolution sample inference from Illumina amplicon data (2016)	Second Genome, Stanford University	United States	—
3	Large-scale association analyses identify host factors influencing human gut microbiome composition (2021)	Avera McKennan Hospital & University Health Center, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Christian-Albrechts-University of Kiel	Belgium, Canada, China	—
4	Gut microbiome modulates response to anti–PD-1 immunotherapy in melanoma patients (2018)	European Institute of Oncology IRCCS, Gustave Roussy Cancer Campus, INRAe	France, Italy, Japan	—
5	The commensal microbiome is associated with anti–PD-1 efficacy in metastatic melanoma patients (2018)	University of Chicago	United States	—
6	A pan-cancer analysis of the microbiome in metastatic cancer (2024)	Antoni van Leeuwenhoek/ the Netherlands Cancer Institute, Hartwig Medical Foundation, Oncode Institute, the Netherlands Cancer Institute	Netherlands	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
7	The microbiota of the respiratory tract: gatekeeper to respiratory health (2017)	Spaarne Gasthuis Academy, The University of Edinburgh, University Medical Center Utrecht	Netherlands, United Kingdom	Methodology
8	Dietary fiber and probiotics influence the gut microbiome and melanoma immunotherapy response (2021)	Baylor College of Medicine, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Inserm, Centre de Recherche des Cordeliers	France, Israel, United States	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The **S2** column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology / Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the "built on / relied upon" pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

Citing-text excerpts — how the field used this work

> **METHODOLOGY** The microbiota of the respiratory tract: gatekeeper to respiratory health
>
> *"Although different research questions require different approaches, more energy should be invested into the development of standardized operating procedures that are comparable to, for example, the Earth Microbiome project protocol 152 ."*

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
University of California San Diego	United States	SCImago #120 · THE 47 · QS 66	3
Weizmann Institute of Science	Israel	SCImago #739	2
Baylor College of Medicine	United States	SCImago #560	2
Oregon State University	United States	SCImago #1028 · QS =624	2
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health	United States	—	2
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center	United States	—	2
University of Toronto	Canada	SCImago #39 · THE 21 · QS 29	1
Inserm, Centre de Recherche des Cordeliers	France	—	1
Erasmus MC University Medical Center, The Generation R Study	Netherlands	—	1
Emory University	United States	SCImago #217 · THE 102 · QS 182	1
Chinese Academy of Sciences	China	SCImago #2	1
University of California Los Angeles	United States	SCImago #70 · THE =18 · QS 46	1
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center	United States	SCImago #705	1
European Institute of Oncology IRCCS	Italy	—	1
Christian-Albrechts-University of Kiel	Germany	—	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	8
Netherlands	3
Israel	2
France	2
Italy	2
United Kingdom	2
Sweden	1
Germany	1
Australia	1
Belgium	1
Japan	1
Canada	1

Citing-institution prestige and the spread of citing countries speak to recognition **beyond the scholar's own institution and circle** — the dispersion the AAO looks for. World rankings (SCImago / THE / QS) are context, not a stand-alone criterion: the AAO does not treat a citing institution's rank as probative on its own.

E. Citation Growth Over Time

Distinct citing papers by publication year. Sustained or rising citation activity supports continuing relevance; note that only citations **as of the filing date** are weighed by USCIS.

F. AAO Precedent Considerations

Pre-filing self-check (AAO denial patterns)

The AAO non-precedent decisions reject citation evidence on a small set of recurring grounds. Confirm the petition addresses each before filing:

- ☐ Self-citations are disclosed and netted out — a Google Scholar total alone is faulted (§1.1).
- ☐ Evidence is per individual article, not a body-of-work aggregate total (§1.2).
- ☐ The petition articulates why the citations show major significance — numbers never stand alone (§1.5).
- ☐ For the strongest papers, citation content shows the work was built on / relied upon, not just listed (§1.6, §2.2).
- ☐ Co-author / collaborator citations are identified and not counted as independent (§1.7).
- ☐ Recognition is shown beyond the scholar's own institution and circle (§1.8).
- ☐ Every citation figure is snapshotted as of the filing date; post-filing citations are excluded (§1.9).
- ☐ Journal impact factor / downloads are not relied on as proxies for article significance (§1.10, §1.12).
- ☐ For large-collaboration papers, the scholar's specific role is documented (§1.13).

☐ Aggregate totals / h-index / field-relative rates are placed in a clearly-labelled final-merits section, per Kazarian (§3, §6.1.7).

Disclaimer

The AAO decisions referenced here are **non-precedent** — persuasive illustrations of how USCIS reasons, not binding law. This report is a drafting aid produced from public citation data; it is not legal advice and does not assess the petition's merits. All analysis must be reviewed by qualified immigration counsel.

G. Citation Evidence Index

Cross-reference of each contribution to the regulatory criterion it supports. Counsel should map these to the petition's exhibit numbers.

Contribution	Core paper	Indep. cites	Supports
Contribution 1	Ultra-high-throughput microbial community analysis on the Illumina HiSeq and MiSeq platforms	8	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)