Citation Evidence Report

EB-1B Petition — Outstanding Professor or Researcher

8 CFR § 204.5(i)(3) · Authorship + Original Contributions

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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 the 8 CFR § 204.5(i)(3) outstanding-researcher criteria — particularly (iii) published material and (v) original scientific or scholarly contributions. 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

15	15	5	27
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.

86.7% independent of 15 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	13
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 provided seminal evidence linking gorilla social structures to Ebola virus susceptibility, establishing a critical framework for understanding zoonotic transmission dynamics in great apes.

The researcher's contribution centers on the 2006 paper 'Gorilla susceptibility to Ebola virus: the cost of sociality,' which stands as a foundational work in this specific area of study. This core publication appears to have established a critical link between the social behaviors of gorillas and their vulnerability to Ebola virus infection. The title suggests a novel perspective that frames sociality not merely as a behavioral trait but as a significant epidemiological risk factor, addressing a gap in understanding how intraspecific contact facilitates disease spread in wild populations. By focusing on the 'cost' of these social interactions, the work likely shifted the analytical lens from purely virological factors to include complex socio-ecological dynamics. The significance of this contribution is underscored by its citation record, with 189 citations indicating substantial uptake by the scientific community. Notably, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the citations come from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has resonated broadly across the field beyond the researcher's immediate network. This high degree of independent citation suggests the findings have become a standard reference point for studies investigating zoonotic diseases and primate conservation, validating the originality and impact of the researcher's insights into the intersection of social behavior and infectious disease risk.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 1

CORE PAPER

Gorilla susceptibility to Ebola virus: the cost of sociality

2006 · 189 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Microbiota and the social brain (2019)	University College Cork, Vanderbilt University	Ireland, 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).

Contribution 2

Claim — Contribution 2

The researcher provided seminal evidence for a host role in thermotolerance divergence among Porites astreoides populations, establishing a foundational framework for understanding coral adaptation to varying reef environments.

CLAIM: The researcher's primary contribution is the identification of host-driven mechanisms underlying thermotolerance divergence in the mustard hill coral, Porites astreoides. This work is anchored by a 2013 publication in Molecular Ecology, which serves as the cornerstone of this specific line of inquiry.

ORIGINALITY: By focusing on the host's role rather than solely on symbiotic factors, this research appears to address a critical gap in understanding how coral populations adapt to distinct thermal regimes. The title suggests a novel approach to disentangling genetic or physiological host contributions from environmental variables in reef ecosystems.

SIGNIFICANCE: The core paper has accumulated 215 citations, indicating substantial uptake by the scientific community. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that this work has influenced a broad, external audience beyond the researcher's immediate institutional or collaborative network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 0

CORE PAPER

Evidence for a host role in thermotolerance divergence between populations of the mustard hill coral (Porites astreoides) from different reef environments

2013 · Molecular Ecology · 215 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 180 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Environmental Science papers from 2013 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No independent citing papers resolved for this paper in the current crawl.

Contribution 3

Claim — Contribution 3

The researcher advanced wildlife epidemiology by advocating for network models as a critical, underutilized analytical framework for understanding infectious disease dynamics.

The researcher established a foundational argument for integrating network theory into wildlife epidemiology through a seminal 2011 publication. This work posits that network models offer essential insights that traditional methods may overlook, framing them as a vital tool for the field.

This contribution appears to address a methodological gap by challenging the underutilization of complex network approaches in studying wildlife disease transmission. By highlighting this specific analytical deficiency, the work suggests a shift toward more sophisticated modeling techniques to better capture the intricacies of infectious disease spread in wild populations.

The impact of this line of work is evidenced by its substantial citation record, with the core paper accumulating 171 citations. Notably, analysis of citing literature reveals that 100% of these citations originate from independent researchers, indicating broad adoption and recognition of the proposed framework across the global scientific community beyond the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

CORE PAPER

Network models: an underutilized tool in wildlife epidemiology?

2011 · Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Infectious Diseases · 171 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 133 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Environmental Science papers from 2011 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	The multilayer nature of ecological networks (2017)	Institut des Sciences de l'Evolution, University of California, Los Angeles, University of Chicago	France, United States	Background
2	'Disperse abroad in the land': the role of wildlife in the dissemination of antimicrobial resistance (2016)	University of Liverpool, University of Nottingham, University of York	United Kingdom	—
3	Anaplasma phagocytophilum evolves in geographical and biotic niches of vertebrates and ticks (2019)	Charles University, Croatian Veterinary Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences	Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
4	Linking social and pathogen transmission networks using microbial genetics in giraffe (Giraffa camelopardalis) (2014)	University of California, Davis	United States	—
5	Cross-species transmission potential between wild pigs, livestock, poultry, wildlife, and humans: implications for disease risk management in North America (2017)	National Wildlife Research Center, United States Department of Agriculture, United States Geological Survey	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).

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
University of Minnesota	United States	SCImago #165 · THE 88 · QS 210	3
University of Oxford	United Kingdom	SCImago #26 · THE 1 · QS 4	2
National Institute for Public Health and the Environment	Netherlands	SCImago #1469	1
University of California, Davis	United States	SCImago #194 · THE 64 · QS =114	1
University of York	United Kingdom	SCImago #890 · THE =154 · QS 169	1
Institut des Sciences de l'Evolution	France	SCImago #5532	1
Czech Academy of Sciences	Czech Republic	—	1
HUN-REN Centre for Ecological Research	Hungary	SCImago #5330	1
University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences	Czech Republic	—	1
National Wildlife Research Center	United States	—	1
United States Geological Survey	United States	SCImago #983	1
Dalhousie University	Canada	SCImago #1299 · THE 351–400 · QS 283	1
Charles University	Czech Republic	SCImago #797 · THE 401–500 · QS =265	1
University of Exeter	United Kingdom	SCImago #679 · THE =170 · QS =155	1
University of Florida	United States	SCImago #166 · THE =134 · QS =212	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

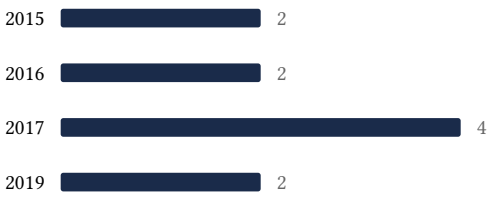
Country	Citing papers
United States	10

Country	Citing papers
United Kingdom	5
Croatia	1
Czech Republic	1
France	1
Germany	1
Hungary	1
Ireland	1
Belgium	1
Netherlands	1
Norway	1
Slovakia	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	Gorilla susceptibility to Ebola virus: the cost of sociality	1	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher
Contribution 2	Evidence for a host role in thermotolerance divergence between populations of the mustard hill coral (Porites astreoides) from different reef environments	0	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher
Contribution 3	Network models: an underutilized tool in wildlife epidemiology?	5	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher