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

6	6	1	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.

83.3% independent of 6 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	5
Self-citation	0
Co-author	1
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 established a foundational framework linking North Atlantic Oscillation-driven climate variability to marine ecosystem responses, a seminal contribution evidenced by over 600 citations.

The researcher's core contribution centers on the 2003 paper titled 'The response of marine ecosystems to climate variability associated with the North Atlantic Oscillation.' This work appears to define the critical relationship between large-scale atmospheric patterns and biological outcomes in marine environments. As no follow-up papers by the same researcher are listed, this single publication stands as the definitive anchor of this specific research line.

This line of work addresses the complex challenge of quantifying how climatic oscillations impact marine biodiversity and structure. By focusing on the North Atlantic Oscillation, the researcher likely provided a mechanistic or observational baseline that was previously lacking or fragmented. The absence of subsequent papers by the author suggests this contribution was a discrete, high-impact synthesis rather than the start of a long-term iterative series by the same team.

The significance of this work is underscored by its substantial citation count of 616, indicating it has become a standard reference in the field. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers. This high degree of independent uptake demonstrates that the contribution has been widely adopted and validated by the broader scientific community, rather than being driven by self-citation or institutional bias.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

CORE PAPER

The response of marine ecosystems to climate variability associated with the North Atlantic Oscillation

2003 · 616 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Implications of climate change for the fishes of the British Isles (2009)	University College Cork	Ireland	—
2	Ecology under lake ice (2017)	Bowling Green State University, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, University of California, Santa Barbara	Canada, United States	—
3	Synchronous ecological regime shifts in the central Baltic and the North Sea in the late 1980s (2005)	Baltic Sea Research Institute, Danish Institute for Fisheries Research, Latvian Fisheries Research Agency	Denmark, Germany, Latvia	—
4	Climate change and marine plankton (2005)	University of Wales Swansea	United Kingdom	—
5	North Atlantic climate variability: The role of the North Atlantic Oscillation (2009)	National Center for Atmospheric Research	—	Background

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
Institute of Marine Research	Norway	SCImago #2604	1
GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel	Germany	—	1
NSF National Center for Atmospheric Research	United States	SCImago #2400	1
Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory	United States	—	1
University of Wales Swansea	United Kingdom	—	1
University of Saskatchewan	Canada	SCImago #1541 · THE 351–400 · QS 378	1
University of Wisconsin	United States	—	1
Washington State University	United States	THE 401–500 · QS =423	1
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey	United States	SCImago #302	1
University College Cork	Ireland	SCImago #1176 · THE 351–400 · QS 246	1
Bowling Green State University	United States	SCImago #6267	1
National Center for Atmospheric Research	United States	SCImago #2400	1
University of California, Santa Barbara	United States	SCImago #584 · THE 72 · QS 179	1
Baltic Sea Research Institute	Germany	—	1
Danish Institute for Fisheries Research	Denmark	—	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	2
Denmark	1
Germany	1
Ireland	1
Canada	1
Norway	1
United Kingdom	1
Latvia	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	The response of marine ecosystems to climate variability associated with the North Atlantic Oscillation	5	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)