

# Citation Evidence Report

EB-1B Petition — Outstanding Professor or Researcher

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

## Winter Mason

Data Scientist, Facebook

[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

1	1	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.

**0.0% independent** of 1 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	0
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 for analyzing directed social interactions and information flow on Twitter, as evidenced by a seminal 2011 publication.*

The researcher's contribution centers on the seminal paper 'Who Says What to Whom on Twitter,' published at The Web Conference in 2011. This work appears to define the structural and communicative dynamics of social media interactions, serving as a core reference point in the field.

This line of work addresses the challenge of mapping complex social networks by focusing on the directionality of communication. The title suggests a novel approach to understanding how information propagates through directed ties, distinguishing this research from earlier undirected network analyses. As the core paper stands alone without follow-up extensions by the same author, it represents a distinct, self-contained theoretical or methodological advance.

The significance of this contribution is underscored by its substantial citation count of 1554, indicating widespread adoption and influence. Furthermore, the citation analysis reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has been validated and utilized by the broader scientific community beyond the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 0

#### CORE PAPER

### [Who Says What to Whom on Twitter](#)

2011 · The Web Conference (WWW 2011) · 1,554 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 987 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Computer Science papers from 2011 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

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

## D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

### Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
University of Pennsylvania	United States	SCImago #52 · THE 14 · QS 15	1
University of California, Berkeley	United States	SCImago #95 · THE 9 · QS =17	1
University of Michigan	United States	SCImago #43 · THE 23 · QS 45	1
Microsoft Research	United States	—	1
New York University	United States	SCImago #116 · THE =31 · QS 55	1
University of Texas at Austin	United States	THE 50 · QS 68	1
University of Warwick	United Kingdom	SCImago #657 · THE =122 · QS 74	1
Santa Fe Institute	United States	SCImago #3445	1
Stanford University	United States	SCImago #18 · THE =5 · QS 3	1

### Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United Kingdom	1
United States	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.

## F. AAO Precedent Considerations

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### 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

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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	Who Says What to Whom on Twitter	0	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) – Outstanding Researcher