

Citation Evidence Report

EB-1B Petition — Outstanding Professor or Researcher

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

Nathan Eagle

MIT / Harvard / Santa Fe Institute

[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

3 Citing papers mapped	3 Citation edges	1 Home papers mapped	47 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.

100.0% independent of 3 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	3
Self-citation	0
Co-author	0
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 quantitative framework for assessing how human mobility patterns influence malaria transmission dynamics, as demonstrated in a highly cited 2012 Science publication.

CLAIM: The researcher’s primary contribution is the development of a method to quantify the impact of human mobility on malaria, anchored by a seminal 2012 paper published in Science. This work stands as a core reference in the field, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the researcher listed in this specific line of inquiry.

ORIGINALITY: The title suggests the researcher addressed a critical gap by moving beyond qualitative descriptions to provide a measurable assessment of how population movement affects disease spread. By focusing on quantification, this work likely introduced a novel analytical approach to understanding the epidemiological drivers of malaria, distinguishing it from prior studies that may have lacked such precise metrics.

SIGNIFICANCE: The core paper has accumulated 1,258 citations, indicating substantial uptake by the scientific community. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has influenced scholars outside the researcher’s immediate institution and collaboration network, thereby confirming its broad independent impact.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 3

CORE PAPER

[Quantifying the impact of human mobility on malaria](#)

2012 · Science · 1,258 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 959 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	Population flow drives spatio-temporal distribution of COVID-19 in China (2020)	Chinese Academy of Sciences, National University of Defense Technology, Peking University	China, United States	—
2	Social physics (2022)	Hokkaido University, Kanazawa University, RIKEN	Japan	—
3	Large-scale physical activity data reveal worldwide activity inequality (2017)	Stanford Prevention Research Center, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford University	United States	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* — ones that substantively build on the work (S2’s isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Stanford Prevention Research Center, Stanford University School of Medicine	United States	—	1
South China University of Technology	China	SCImago #111 · THE 251–300 · QS 377	1
Chinese Academy of Sciences	China	SCImago #2	1
Hokkaido University	Japan	SCImago #975 · THE 351–400 · QS =170	1
Tokyo Institute of Technology	Japan	QS 85	1
RIKEN	Japan	—	1
Yale University	United States	SCImago #76 · THE 10 · QS 21	1
National University of Defense Technology	China	SCImago #488	1
The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen	China	—	1
Stanford University	United States	SCImago #18 · THE =5 · QS 3	1
Kanazawa University	Japan	SCImago #3061 · THE 1001–1200 · QS 901-950	1
Peking University	China	SCImago #11 · THE 13 · QS 14	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	2
China	1
Japan	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

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	Quantifying the impact of human mobility on malaria	3	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) – Outstanding Researcher