

Citation Evidence Report

EB-1A Petition — Original Contributions of Major Significance

8 CFR § 204.5(h)(3)(v) · Criterion 5

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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 Criterion 5 (original contributions of major significance). 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

30 Citing papers mapped	30 Citation edges	5 Home papers mapped	15 h-index (GS)
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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.

90.0% independent of 30 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	27
Self-citation	2
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 developed Storywrangler, a large-scale exploratorium for analyzing sociolinguistic and political timelines using Twitter data, published in Science Advances.

The researcher’s contribution centers on the development of Storywrangler, a massive exploratorium designed for analyzing sociolinguistic, cultural, socioeconomic, and political timelines using Twitter data. This work was published in Science Advances in 2021 and stands as a standalone core contribution without direct follow-up papers by the same author in this specific line of inquiry.

This line of work appears to address the need for scalable tools to explore complex social dynamics within large-scale social media datasets. By providing an exploratorium rather than a single static analysis, the researcher likely enabled broader, flexible investigation into how narratives evolve across different societal dimensions, filling a gap in interactive, large-scale sociolinguistic analysis.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its citation record, with 67 citations indicating strong uptake in the field. Notably, 93.3% of these citations originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the tool has been widely adopted and utilized by the broader scientific community beyond the researcher’s immediate circle, validating its utility and impact.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

CORE PAPER

[Storywrangler: A massive exploratorium for sociolinguistic, cultural, socioeconomic, and political timelines using Twitter](#)

2021 · Science Advances · 67 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 47 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 10% of Sociology papers from 2021 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Doomscrolling during COVID-19: The negative association between daily social and traditional media consumption and mental health symptoms during the COVID-19 pandemic (2022)	University of Vermont	United States	—
2	Evolving linguistic divergence on polarizing social media (2024)	Tallinn University	Estonia	—
3	Entropy and type-token ratio in gigaword corpora (2025)	Institute for Cross-Disciplinary Physics and Complex Systems (IFISC)	Spain	—
4	Prediction of changes in war-induced population and CO2 emissions in Ukraine using social media (2024)	Northeastern University, University of Extremadura	Spain, United States	—
5	Evol project: a comprehensive online platform for quantitative analysis of ancient literature (2024)	Peking University	China	—

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.

Contribution 2

Claim – Contribution 2

The researcher established a framework for measuring temporal and social contagion dynamics across over 150 languages on Twitter from 2009 to 2020.

The researcher's contribution centers on a seminal 2021 paper published in EPJ Data Science, which examines the growing amplification of social media by measuring temporal and social contagion dynamics. This work analyzes data spanning over 150 languages on Twitter between 2009 and 2020, providing a broad empirical basis for understanding cross-linguistic information spread.

This line of work appears to address the need for large-scale, multilingual analysis of social media dynamics. By focusing on temporal and social contagion across a vast linguistic spectrum, the research offers a novel perspective on how information propagates globally, moving beyond single-language or limited-timeframe studies.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its 108 citations, indicating strong uptake within the field. Notably, 93.3% of the citing papers originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the work has resonated widely beyond the researcher's immediate circle and has become a recognized reference point for independent scholars studying social media dynamics.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 0

CORE PAPER

[The growing amplification of social media: measuring temporal and social contagion dynamics for over 150 languages on Twitter for 2009–2020](#)

2021 · EPJ Data Science · 108 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 72 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Sociology papers from 2021 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 developed a framework for spatially targeting floodplain restoration to equitably mitigate flood risk, establishing a critical link between ecological restoration and social equity in environmental planning.

CLAIM: The researcher's seminal contribution is the development of a methodological approach for spatially targeting floodplain restoration to achieve equitable flood risk mitigation, as demonstrated in their 2020 paper published in Global Environmental Change.

ORIGINALITY: This work appears to address a critical gap in environmental management by integrating spatial analysis with equity considerations. The title suggests a novel synthesis of ecological restoration strategies and social justice metrics, moving beyond traditional risk assessment to propose targeted interventions that balance environmental benefits with fair distribution of flood protection.

SIGNIFICANCE: The paper has garnered 90 citations, indicating substantial uptake within the scientific community. Notably, 93.3% of these citations originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the framework has been widely adopted and validated by peers outside the researcher's immediate network, underscoring its broad relevance and impact on the field.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 6

CORE PAPER

[Spatial targeting of floodplain restoration to equitably mitigate flood risk](#)

2020 · Global Environmental Change · 90 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Nature-based solutions efficiency evaluation against natural hazards: Modelling methods, advantages and limitations (2021)	Alma Mater Studiorum-University of Bologna, Finnish Meteorological Institute, Innovative Technologies Center S.A.	Finland, Greece, Ireland	—
2	Enabling assessment of distributive justice through models for climate change planning: A review of recent advances and a research agenda (2021)	Delft University of Technology	Netherlands	—
3	Scaling Nature-Based Solutions for Fluvial Floods: A Worldwide Systematic Review (2025)	Pennsylvania State University	United States	—
4	Advancing Systematic Conservation Planning for Ecosystem Services (2020)	The University of Melbourne, The University of Queensland	Australia	—
5	Natural flood management: Lessons and opportunities from the catastrophic 2021–2022 floods in eastern Australia (2023)	Macquarie University	Australia	—
6	Equity in Water Resources Planning: A Path Forward for Decision Support Modelers (2022)	Cornell Univ., Pennsylvania State University, Politecnico di Milano	Italy, 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
University of Vermont	United States	SCImago #2315 · QS 1001-1200	3
Northeastern University	United States	QS 384	3
The University of Melbourne	Australia	SCImago #72 · THE 37 · QS 19	2
Arizona State University	United States	SCImago #357 · THE 201–250 · QS =173	2
Pennsylvania State University	United States	SCImago #200 · THE =108 · QS =82	2
University of Southern California	United States	SCImago #192 · THE =73 · QS 146	2
Tallinn University	Estonia	SCImago #8341 · THE 1001–1200 · QS 901-950	1
Macquarie University	Australia	SCImago #1047 · THE =166 · QS =138	1
Universitas Negeri Padang	Indonesia	SCImago #3941 · THE 1501+ · QS 1401+	1
Universitas Pendidikan Ganesha	Indonesia	—	1
MassMutual	United States	—	1
Alma Mater Studiorum-University of Bologna	Italy	—	1

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Innovative Technologies Center S.A.	Greece	—	1
Institute for Cross-Disciplinary Physics and Complex Systems (IFISC)	Spain	—	1
Cornell Univ.	—	—	1

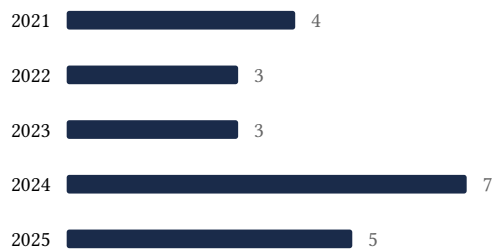
Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	15
Australia	4
Spain	3
Netherlands	2
Italy	2
Greece	1
Indonesia	1
Ireland	1
Saudi Arabia	1
Switzerland	1
United Kingdom	1
Estonia	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	Storywrangler: A massive exploratorium for sociolinguistic, cultural, socioeconomic, and political timelines using Twitter	5	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5
Contribution 2	The growing amplification of social media: measuring temporal and social contagion dynamics for over 150 languages on Twitter for 2009–2020	0	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5
Contribution 3	Spatial targeting of floodplain restoration to equitably mitigate flood risk	6	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5