

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

25	25	4	90
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.

64.0% independent of 25 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	16
Self-citation	2
Co-author	7
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 asymptotic and resampling strategies for assessing indirect effects in multiple mediator models, establishing a foundational methodological framework widely adopted in behavioral research.

The researcher’s primary contribution is the development of robust statistical strategies for evaluating indirect effects within complex multiple mediator models. This work is anchored by a seminal 2008 paper published in Behavior Research Methods, which introduced asymptotic and resampling techniques to address these analytical challenges.

This line of work appears to address a critical methodological gap in mediation analysis, specifically the difficulty of accurately assessing indirect effects when multiple mediators are involved. By proposing both asymptotic and resampling approaches, the researcher provided a versatile toolkit that likely improved the reliability and interpretability of causal inference in behavioral sciences, moving beyond simpler single-mediator frameworks.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its extensive uptake in the scientific community, with the core paper accumulating over 43,000 citations. Furthermore, citation analysis reveals that 64% of citing works originate from independent researchers, indicating that this methodological framework has become a standard, widely trusted resource across diverse institutions and research groups rather than a niche or self-referential achievement.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 7

CORE PAPER

[Asymptotic and resampling strategies for assessing and comparing indirect effects in multiple mediator models](#)

2008 · Behavior Research Methods · 43,766 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 31,787 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Psychology papers from 2008 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	CB-SEM vs PLS-SEM methods for research in social sciences and technology forecasting (2021)	Saudi Electronic University, University of Puerto Rico	Saudi Arabia, United States	—
2	How do mindfulness-based cognitive therapy and mindfulness-based stress reduction improve mental health and wellbeing? A systematic review and meta-analysis of meditation studies (2015)	University of Sussex	United Kingdom	Background
3	Sustainability, corporate social responsibility, non-financial reporting and company performance: Relationships and mediating effects in Spanish small and medium sized enterprises (2023)	—	—	—
4	The effects of explainability and causability on perception, trust, and acceptance: Implications for explainable AI (2021)	Zayed University	United Arab Emirates	—
5	Artificial intelligence (AI) competencies for organizational performance: A B2B marketing capabilities perspective (2023)	Luleå University of Technology, University of Vaasa	Finland, Sweden	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
6	Rethinking some of the rethinking of partial least squares (2019)	—	—	—
7	Digital transformation and firm performance in innovative SMEs: The mediating role of business model innovation (2024)	University of Valencia	Spain	—

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 developed computational tools for probing interactions in multiple linear regression, multilevel modeling, and latent curve analysis, significantly advancing statistical methodology in educational and behavioral research.

The researcher's primary contribution lies in the development of computational tools designed to probe interactions within multiple linear regression, multilevel modeling, and latent curve analysis. This work is anchored by a seminal 2006 paper published in the Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics, which stands as the core reference for this methodological advancement.

This line of work appears to address the need for accessible and robust computational methods to analyze complex interaction effects in hierarchical and longitudinal data structures. By focusing on these specific statistical frameworks, the researcher provided a practical solution for researchers dealing with nested data and growth trajectories, filling a gap in the availability of user-friendly analytical tools for these advanced techniques.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by the substantial uptake of the core paper, which has accumulated over 6,500 citations. Furthermore, citation analysis indicates that 64% of citing works originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the tools have been widely adopted across the broader academic community rather than being limited to the researcher's immediate circle. This broad independent usage underscores the utility and impact of the methodology in advancing empirical research in education and behavioral sciences.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 3

CORE PAPER

[Computational Tools for Probing Interactions in Multiple Linear Regression, Multilevel Modeling, and Latent Curve Analysis](#)

2006 · Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics · 6,568 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 5,248 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Computer Science papers from 2006 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Transformational Leadership and Performance Across Criteria and Levels: A Meta-Analytic Review of 25 Years of Research (2011)	University of Iowa	United States	—
2	Machine learning and deep learning in smart manufacturing: The smart grid paradigm (2020)	Information Technologies Institute	Greece	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
3	Dealing with Multicollinearity in Factor Analysis: The Problem, Detections, and Solutions (2023)	University of Western Macedonia	Greece	—

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 is Influential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

Contribution 3

Claim – Contribution 3

The researcher established a foundational framework for addressing moderated mediation hypotheses, providing essential theoretical and methodological prescriptions that have become a standard reference in multivariate behavioral research.

The researcher's primary contribution rests on the seminal 2007 paper 'Addressing Moderated Mediation Hypotheses: Theory, Methods, and Prescriptions,' published in *Multivariate Behavioral Research*. This work stands as a core pillar of the researcher's portfolio, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same author listed in this specific line of inquiry, indicating its self-contained and definitive nature.

This line of work appears to address a critical methodological gap by offering comprehensive theory and practical prescriptions for analyzing moderated mediation. The title suggests the researcher provided a unified approach to a complex statistical challenge, moving beyond fragmented advice to offer a structured framework for researchers dealing with conditional indirect effects.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 13,803, marking it as a highly influential text in the field. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that 64.0% of citations originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has been widely adopted and validated by the broader scientific community beyond the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 2

CORE PAPER

[Addressing Moderated Mediation Hypotheses: Theory, Methods, and Prescriptions](#)

2007 · *Multivariate Behavioral Research* · 13,803 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 10,019 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Psychology papers from 2007 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Research Methods for Business, with eBook Access Code: A Skill Building Approach (2025)	Southern Illinois University at Carbondale	United States	—
2	Board gender diversity and ESG performance: The mediating role of temporal orientation in South Africa context (2024)	Huazhong University of Science and Technology	China	—

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 is Influential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
The Ohio State University	United States	THE =108 · QS 190	5
University of Calgary	Canada	SCImago #399 · THE 200 · QS 211	2
Queensland University of Technology	Australia	SCImago #789 · THE 201–250 · QS 226	1
Zayed University	United Arab Emirates	SCImago #3771 · THE 401–500 · QS =595	1
Boston University	United States	SCImago #272 · THE =76 · QS =88	1
University of Sussex	United Kingdom	SCImago #1505 · THE 201–250 · QS 278	1
Texas Tech University	United States	SCImago #2022 · THE 601–800 · QS 731-740	1
Information Technologies Institute	Greece	—	1
Hazara University	Pakistan	SCImago #5546	1
Luleå University of Technology	Sweden	SCImago #2696	1
University of Valencia	Spain	THE 501–600	1
Saudi Electronic University	Saudi Arabia	SCImago #4960 · THE 1201–1500	1
University of Iowa	United States	SCImago #615 · THE 301–350 · QS =530	1
University of Vaasa	Finland	SCImago #4394 · THE 401–500	1
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale	United States	—	1

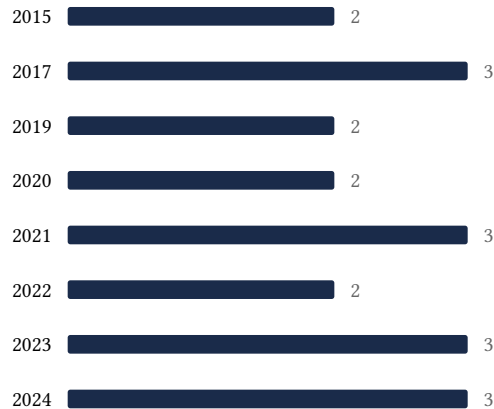
Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	9
Greece	2
Canada	2
Japan	1
Australia	1
Saudi Arabia	1
Spain	1
Sweden	1
United Arab Emirates	1
United Kingdom	1
Pakistan	1
China	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	Asymptotic and resampling strategies for assessing and comparing indirect effects in multiple mediator models	7	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Computational Tools for Probing Interactions in Multiple Linear Regression, Multilevel Modeling, and Latent Curve Analysis	3	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	Addressing Moderated Mediation Hypotheses: Theory, Methods, and Prescriptions	2	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)