Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

Lidan Wang

Instacart

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

174	174	1	1
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.

85.1% independent of 74 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	63
Self-citation	0
Co-author	11
Same-institution	0

100 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 advanced facial photo-sketch synthesis by developing a multi-adversarial network framework, establishing a seminal reference point for high-quality image generation in computer vision.

The researcher's contribution centers on the 2018 paper 'High-quality facial photo-sketch synthesis using multi-adversarial networks,' which serves as the foundational work in this specific line of inquiry. This publication appears to introduce a novel architectural approach to generating realistic sketches from photographs, leveraging adversarial training mechanisms to enhance output fidelity.

This work addresses the technical challenge of achieving high-quality synthesis in facial image translation. By employing multi-adversarial networks, the research suggests a method to better capture complex facial features and textures, distinguishing itself from earlier, potentially less robust generative models. The absence of direct follow-up papers by the same author indicates that this single publication stands as a complete and self-contained contribution to the field.

The significance of this work is evidenced by its citation record, with 179 citations indicating substantial uptake by the broader academic community. Notably, 85.1% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the methodology has been widely adopted and validated by peers outside the researcher's immediate institution or collaboration network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 63 · **5 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar**

CORE PAPER

High-quality facial photo-sketch synthesis using multi-adversarial networks

2018 · 2018 13th IEEE international conference on automatic face & gesture ..., 2018 · 179 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 141 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Computer Science papers from 2018 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Data augmentation techniques in time series domain: a survey and taxonomy	Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid	Spain	Methodology
2	Deep face recognition: A survey	Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications	China	Background
3	Deep visual domain adaptation: A survey	Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications	China	Methodology
4	A survey on GANs for computer vision: Recent research, analysis and taxonomy	Universidad Politécnica de Madrid	Spain	Methodology
5	Image synthesis with adversarial networks: A comprehensive survey and case studies	École de Technologie Supérieure, Massey University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University	Canada, China, New Zealand	Methodology
6	The elements of end-to-end deep face recognition: A survey of recent advances	Ryerson University, Shanghai University	Canada, China	Methodology
7	A comprehensive review of generative adversarial networks: Fundamentals, applications, and challenges	Cairo University	Egypt	Influential
8	Identity-aware CycleGAN for face photo-sketch synthesis and recognition	Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications	China	Methodology

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
9	Facial-sketch synthesis: A new challenge	Nankai University, National Institute of Informatics, University of Trento	China, Italy, Japan	Methodology
10	Cartoon image processing: a survey	Hefei University of Technology	China	Methodology
11	Boosting visual recognition in real-world degradations via unsupervised feature enhancement module with deep channel prior	Chang'an University, Tsinghua University	China	Background
12	Toward identity preserving in face sketch-photo synthesis using a hybrid CNN-Mamba framework	Sichuan Agricultural University	China	Methodology
13	Semi-supervised cycle-GAN for face photo-sketch translation in the wild	The University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong	Methodology
14	RF-CM: Cross-modal framework for RF-enabled few-shot human activity recognition	Northwest University	China	Background
15	Fda-gan: Flow-based dual attention gan for human pose transfer	Zhejiang University	China	Methodology
16	CSGAN: Cyclic-synthesized generative adversarial networks for image-to-image transformation	Indian Institute of Information Technology, Sri City	India	Methodology
17	Reconstruction of Iberian ceramic potteries using generative adversarial networks	Centro Nacional Patagónico	Argentina	—
18	Scoot: A perceptual metric for facial sketches	Cardiff University, Nankai University, Xiamen University	China, United Kingdom	—
19	Pcsgan: Perceptual cyclic-synthesized generative adversarial networks for thermal and nir to visible image transformation	Indian Institute of Information Technology, Sri City	India	Methodology
20	Face photo-sketch portraits transformation via generation pipeline	Wuhan Textile University	China	—
21	Mangagan: Unpaired photo-to-manga translation based on the methodology of manga drawing	Beihang University	China	—
22	Semi-supervised learning for face sketch synthesis in the wild	The University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong	Methodology
23	Cali-sketch: Stroke calibration and completion for high-quality face image generation from human-like sketches	Tsinghua University, University College London	China, United Kingdom	Background
24	CSA-GAN: Cyclic synthesized attention guided generative adversarial network for face synthesis: NK Yadav et al.	Indian Institute of Information Technology Allahabad	India	—
25	MS-GAN: multi-scale GAN with parallel class activation maps for image reconstruction	Hubei University of Technology	China	—
26	ISA-GAN: inception-based self-attentive encoder–decoder network for face synthesis using delineated facial images	Indian Institute of Information Technology Allahabad	India	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
27	Biphasic face photo-sketch synthesis via semantic-driven generative adversarial network with graph representation learning	Chinese Academy of Sciences, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Nanjing University	China, Hong Kong	—
28	Csgan: Cyclic-synthesized generative adversarial networks for image-to-image transformation	Indian Institute of Information Technology, Sri City	India	Methodology
29	Controllable face sketch-photo synthesis with flexible generative priors	Chongqing University of Post and Telecommunications, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Guangzhou), Xidian University	China	Background
30	Ipdm: identity preserving diffusion model for face sketch and photo synthesis	Sichuan Agricultural University	China	—

Showing the 30 most-cited of 63 independent citing papers.

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).

Citing-text excerpts — how the field used this work

METHODOLOGY Data augmentation techniques in time series domain: a survey and taxonomy

"This approximation was followed in GANs architectures such as [34, 48, 97, 103, 106], where a comparison between networks is possible using the same loss function to evaluate their training."

METHODOLOGY Deep visual domain adaptation: A survey

"Based on cycle GAN [143], [125] proposed a multi-adversarial network to avoid artifacts of facial photo-sketch synthesis by leveraging the implicit presence of feature maps of different"

METHODOLOGY A survey on GANs for computer vision: Recent research, analysis and taxonomy

"The new proposed loss function achieved better results in image generation, comparing with CycleGAN [211], DualGAN [196], DiscoGAN [81] and PS2MAN [178]."

METHODOLOGY Image synthesis with adversarial networks: A comprehensive survey and case studies

"To produce extremely realistic images, in [80] the network is normalized by adopting forward back-ward consistency."

METHODOLOGY The elements of end-to-end deep face recognition: A survey of recent advances

"[166], ForensicFR [62], TDFL [235], E2EPG [320], CASPG [311], DualGAN [293], PS2-MAN [245], DTFS [322], Cascaded-FS [321], PTFS [315] Low-shot Training and testing with the data that have a small number of samples per identity."

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Johns Hopkins University	United States	SCImago #33 · THE 16 · QS 24	11
Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications	China	SCImago #355 · QS 1001-1200	4
Indian Institute of Information Technology, Sri City	India	SCImago #5065	4

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Adobe Research	United States	—	3
Xidian University	China	SCImago #269 · THE 601–800	3
Booz Allen Hamilton	United States	—	3
Indian Institute of Information Technology Allahabad	India	SCImago #5889 · QS 1401+	3
U.S. Army Research Laboratory	United States	—	3
Sichuan Agricultural University	China	SCImago #1423	2
The University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong	SCImago #195 · THE 33 · QS 11	2
CloudWalk Technology Co., Ltd.	China	—	2
Beijing Information Science and Technology University	China	SCImago #5405	2
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid	Spain	SCImago #1041 · THE 1001–1200 · QS =334	2
Monash University	Australia	THE =58 · QS =36	2
Chongqing University of Technology	China	SCImago #4474	2

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
China	37
United States	13
India	9
United Kingdom	3
Hong Kong	3
Vietnam	2
Australia	2
Canada	2
Japan	2
Malaysia	2
Spain	2
Egypt	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	High-quality facial photo-sketch synthesis using multi-adversarial networks	63	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)