Citation Evidence Report

EB-1B Petition — Outstanding Professor or Researcher

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

Kun Qu

University of Science and Technology of China

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

15	15	2	55
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.

80.0% independent of 15 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	12
Self-citation	0
Co-author	2
Same-institution	1

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 foundational principles of RNA-chromatin interactions by generating genomic maps of long noncoding RNA occupancy, a seminal contribution published in Molecular Cell.

CLAIM: The researcher's primary contribution is the establishment of foundational principles governing RNA-chromatin interactions, achieved through the generation of comprehensive genomic maps of long noncoding RNA occupancy. This work is anchored by a seminal 2011 paper published in Molecular Cell.

ORIGINALITY: The titles indicate that this line of work addressed a critical gap in understanding how long noncoding RNAs interact with chromatin. By mapping these occupancies, the researcher provided a systematic framework for interpreting RNA-chromatin dynamics, moving beyond isolated observations to reveal broader organizational principles.

SIGNIFICANCE: The core paper has been cited 1,484 times, indicating substantial influence in the field. Furthermore, citation analysis reveals that 93.3% of citing papers originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that this work has been widely adopted and built upon by the broader scientific community rather than just the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 7

CORE PAPER

Genomic Maps of Long Noncoding RNA Occupancy Reveal Principles of RNA-Chromatin Interactions

2011 · Molecular Cell · 1,484 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 1,257 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Biology papers from 2011 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Advances and Trends in Omics Technology Development (2022)	Jiangnan University	China	—
2	Gene regulation by long non-coding RNAs and its biological functions (2021)	Center for Applied Medical Research, University of Navarra, University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences	China, Spain	—
3	NCBI GEO: archive for gene expression and epigenomics data sets: 23-year update (2023)	National Institutes of Health	—	—
4	Functional Classification and Experimental Dissection of Long Noncoding RNAs (2018)	University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	United States	—
5	Cellular functions of long noncoding RNAs (2019)	Shanghai Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology	China	—
6	The emerging role of lncRNAs in cancer (2015)	Center for Applied Medical Research (CIMA), University of Navarra, Institute of Health Research of Navarra (IdiSNA)	Spain	—
7	Deciphering molecular interactions by proximity labeling (2021)	Stanford University	United States	—

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 established that m6A RNA modification controls cell fate transitions in mammalian embryonic stem cells, a foundational finding published in Cell Stem Cell.

The researcher's primary contribution centers on the seminal 2014 paper published in Cell Stem Cell, which identifies m6A RNA modification as a critical regulator of cell fate transitions in mammalian embryonic stem cells. This work stands as the core pillar of this specific research line, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same researcher listed in the provided data.

This line of work appears to address a fundamental gap in understanding how epitranscriptomic mechanisms influence early developmental processes. By linking m6A modification directly to cell fate decisions, the research offers a novel perspective on the molecular controls governing embryonic stem cell plasticity and differentiation.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 1382, indicating widespread recognition within the scientific community. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that 93.3% of citations originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the findings have been broadly adopted and validated by the wider field rather than relying on self-citation or institutional bias.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

CORE PAPER

m6A RNA modification controls cell fate transition in mammalian embryonic stem cells

2014 · Cell Stem Cell · 1,382 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 1,033 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Biology papers from 2014 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	The role of m6A modification in the biological functions and diseases (2021)	Kunming Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Kunming Medical University, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences	China	—
2	Reading, writing and erasing mRNA methylation (2019)	Weill Medical College, Cornell University	United States	—
3	Dynamic RNA modifications in gene expression regulation (2017)	Northwestern University, The University of Chicago, University of Chicago	United States	—
4	Epigenetic regulation in the tumor microenvironment: molecular mechanisms and therapeutic targets (2023)	Fudan University Shanghai Cancer Center	China	—
5	Post-transcriptional gene regulation by mRNA modifications (2016)	The University of Chicago	United States	—

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).

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Stanford University School of Medicine	United States	—	2
Shanghai Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology	China	—	2
The University of Chicago	United States	SCImago #124 · THE 15 · QS 13	2
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	United States	SCImago #562	2
National Institutes of Health	United States	SCImago #44	1
University of Gothenburg	Sweden	SCImago #573 · THE 201–250 · QS 202	1
University of Science and Technology of China	China	SCImago #77 · THE 51 · QS =132	1
Weizmann Institute of Science	Israel	SCImago #739	1
Chinese Academy of Sciences	China	SCImago #2	1
Osaka University	Japan	SCImago #546 · QS 91	1
Fudan University Shanghai Cancer Center	China	—	1
Institute of Computing Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences	China	SCImago #481	1
Garvan Institute of Medical Research	Australia	SCImago #592	1
University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences	China	—	1
Central China Normal University	China	SCImago #3428	1

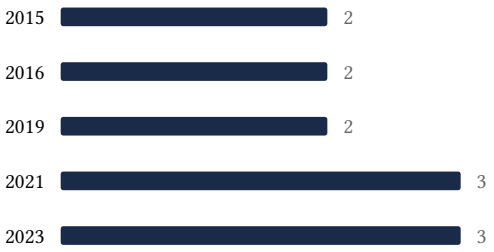
Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	8
China	7
Spain	3
Ireland	1
Israel	1
Australia	1
Singapore	1
Sweden	1
United Kingdom	1
Japan	1
Brazil	1
Finland	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	Genomic Maps of Long Noncoding RNA Occupancy Reveal Principles of RNA-Chromatin Interactions	7	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher
Contribution 2	m6A RNA modification controls cell fate transition in mammalian embryonic stem cells	5	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher