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

16	16	5	36
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.

100.0% independent of 16 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	16
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 developed foundational methodologies for partitioning and combining data in phylogenetic analysis, establishing a widely adopted framework for integrating heterogeneous evolutionary datasets.

CLAIM: The researcher's seminal 1993 paper, 'Partitioning and combining data in phylogenetic analysis,' represents a core contribution to computational biology by addressing the methodological challenges of integrating diverse data types in evolutionary studies. This work stands as a singular, highly influential piece in the researcher's portfolio, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same author expanding directly on this specific title.

ORIGINALITY: The title suggests the work addressed a critical gap in phylogenetic inference: how to effectively separate and then synthesize different partitions of biological data to improve analytical accuracy. By proposing a structured approach to data partitioning and combination, the researcher appears to have introduced a novel conceptual framework that allowed for more robust handling of complex, multi-source evolutionary datasets, moving beyond simpler, unified data treatments.

SIGNIFICANCE: The enduring impact of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 1,148, indicating it has become a standard reference in the field. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the methodology has been widely adopted and validated by the broader scientific community rather than being confined to the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 3

CORE PAPER

Partitioning and combining data in phylogenetic analysis

1993 · 1,148 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 967 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Biology papers from 1993 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Phylogeny Estimation and Hypothesis Testing Using Maximum Likelihood (1997)	Brigham Young University, University of Rochester	United States	—
2	Incorporating Molecular Evolution into Phylogenetic Analysis, and a New Compilation of Conserved Polymerase Chain Reaction Primers for Animal Mitochondrial DNA (2006)	Landcare Research, Simon Fraser University, University of Connecticut	Canada, Italy, New Zealand	Background
3	Assembling the fungal tree of life: progress, classification, and evolution of subcellular traits. (2004)	Duke 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 advanced molecular systematics through a seminal 1996 publication that established a foundational framework, evidenced by substantial independent scholarly uptake.

The researcher's contribution centers on the 1996 paper titled 'Molecular systematics,' which serves as the core of this line of work. This publication appears to have provided a significant theoretical or methodological foundation for the field, standing as a primary reference point without subsequent follow-up papers by the same author in this specific cluster.

This work likely addressed a critical need for systematic approaches within molecular biology at the time. By focusing on 'Molecular systematics,' the researcher appears to have introduced or consolidated concepts that were novel or essential for organizing biological data, filling a gap in how molecular information was structured or interpreted during that period.

The significance of this contribution is underscored by its citation record, with 496 citations indicating broad recognition. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the work has been widely adopted and utilized by the broader scientific community rather than just the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 2

CORE PAPER

Molecular systematics

1996 · 496 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	BMGE (Block Mapping and Gathering with Entropy): a new software for selection of phylogenetic informative regions from multiple sequence alignments. (2010)	Institut Pasteur	France	—
2	Maximum likelihood estimation of a migration matrix and effective population sizes in n subpopulations by using a coalescent approach. (2001)	University of Washington	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 3

Claim — Contribution 3

The researcher advanced the resolution of interordinal relationships among placental mammals through a seminal 1999 publication that established a foundational framework for phylogenetic classification.

CLAIM: The researcher's primary contribution lies in advancing the understanding of interordinal relationships within placental mammals, anchored by the 1999 paper 'Towards resolving the interordinal relationships of placental mammals.' This work serves as the cornerstone of this specific line of inquiry, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the researcher listed in the provided data, indicating the core paper stands alone as the definitive output of this effort.

ORIGINALITY: The title suggests the work addresses a complex taxonomic challenge regarding the evolutionary connections between different mammalian orders. By focusing on 'resolving' these relationships, the research appears to tackle a significant gap in phylogenetic clarity, offering a structured approach to classifying placental mammals that likely synthesized existing data or proposed new methodological insights to clarify long-standing ambiguities in mammalian systematics.

SIGNIFICANCE: The impact of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation record, with 452 citations indicating widespread recognition and utility within the scientific community. Notably, analysis of 16 citing papers reveals that 100% are from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has been adopted and built upon by the broader field rather than just the researcher's immediate circle. This high degree of independent uptake underscores the paper's role as a standard reference or foundational tool for other scientists studying mammalian evolution.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

CORE PAPER

Towards resolving the interordinal relationships of placental mammals

1999 · 452 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 331 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Biology papers from 1999 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	The evolution of dinosaurs. (1999)	University of Chicago	United States	—
2	Resolution of the early placental mammal radiation using Bayesian phylogenetics. (2001)	National Cancer Institute	United States	—
3	The placental mammal ancestor and the post-K-Pg radiation of placentals. (2013)	Stony Brook University	United States	—
4	Placental mammal diversification and the Cretaceous-Tertiary boundary. (2003)	University of California, Riverside	United States	—
5	Resolving conflict in eutherian mammal phylogeny using phylogenomics and the multispecies coalescent model. (2012)	Tsinghua University	China	Methodology

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 Resolving conflict in eutherian mammal phylogeny using phylogenomics and the multispecies coalescent model.

"The phylogeny was estimated using the maximum-pseudolikelihood coalescent method MP-EST with multilocus bootstrapping (8, 40)."

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Pusan National University	South Korea	SCImago #1533 · THE 501–600 · QS =473	1
University of Rochester	United States	SCImago #524 · THE 127 · QS 236	1
University of Washington	United States	SCImago #45 · THE 25 · QS 81	1
University of Reading	United Kingdom	SCImago #1453 · THE 201–250 · QS =194	1
Institut Pasteur	France	—	1
Simon Fraser University	Canada	SCImago #1008 · THE 301–350 · QS =308	1
Chosun University	South Korea	SCImago #3481 · THE 1501+	1
Stony Brook University	United States	SCImago #993 · THE 301–350	1
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Ireland	SCImago #3005 · THE 501–600 · QS 771-780	1

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Dongnam Institute of Radiological and Medical Science (DIRAMS)	South Korea	—	1
Fundación Miguel Lillo, CONICET	Argentina	—	1
Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc	United States	—	1
University of Chicago	United States	SCImago #124 · THE 15 · QS 13	1
Tsinghua University	China	SCImago #8 · THE 12 · QS =17	1
Brigham Young University	United States	SCImago #2113 · QS 1001-1200	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	9
Canada	1
China	1
France	1
Ireland	1
Argentina	1
New Zealand	1
South Korea	1
Sweden	1
United Kingdom	1
Italy	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	Partitioning and combining data in phylogenetic analysis	3	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Molecular systematics	2	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	Towards resolving the interordinal relationships of placental mammals	5	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)