

Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

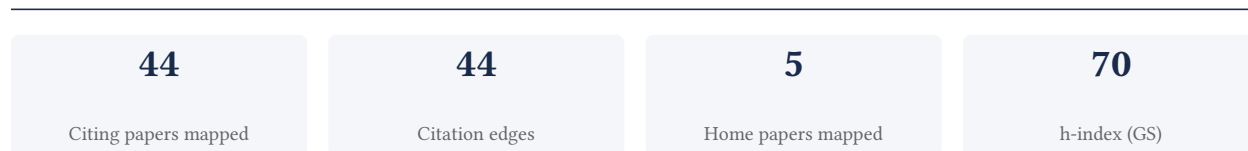
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[Google Scholar profile](#)

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



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.

84.1% independent of 44 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	37
Self-citation	0
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 established the Selection, Optimization, and Compensation framework as a foundational model for understanding strategies of life management and successful aging.

The researcher’s seminal 1998 publication in *Psychology and Aging* introduced the Selection, Optimization, and Compensation (SOC) model, proposing it as a strategic framework for life management correlated with subjective indicators of successful aging. This work stands as a core theoretical contribution without direct follow-up papers by the same author in this specific dataset.

This line of work appears to address the need for a structured theoretical lens to explain how individuals manage resources and adapt to age-related changes. By framing aging through the mechanisms of selection, optimization, and compensation, the researcher offered a novel perspective on adaptive processes that distinguishes this approach from prior descriptive models of aging.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 1,314, indicating widespread adoption within the field. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that 93.2% of citations originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the SOC model has been broadly integrated into the work of scholars outside the researcher’s immediate circle, confirming its independent impact and utility.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 7

CORE PAPER

[Selection, optimization, and compensation as strategies of life management: correlations with subjective indicators of successful aging](#)

1998 · *Psychology and Aging* · 1,314 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 726 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of *Psychology* papers from 1998 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Predicting psychological and subjective well-being from personality: A meta-analysis. (2020)	Deakin University, University of La Laguna, University of Melbourne	Australia, Spain	—
2	Internet gaming disorder in children and adolescents: a systematic review (2018)	Medical University of Vienna, Saarland University Hospital	Austria, Germany	—
3	Is happiness U-shaped everywhere? Age and subjective well-being in 145 countries (2020)	Dartmouth College	United States	—
4	Loneliness during the COVID-19 pandemic (2021)	—	—	—
5	Influences on Loneliness in Older Adults: A Meta-Analysis (2001)	—	—	—
6	Understanding and Addressing Older Adults' Loneliness: The Social Relationship Expectations Framework (2022)	Duke University, King's College London, The University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong, United Kingdom, United States	—
7	When Is Proactivity Wise? A Review of Factors That Influence the Individual Outcomes of Proactive Behavior (2019)	Curtin University, RMIT University, University of Western Australia	Australia	—

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 validated self-report framework for measuring selection, optimization, and compensation strategies in life management, providing a foundational tool for personality and social psychology.

CLAIM: The researcher’s primary contribution is the development and validation of a self-report measure for life-management strategies based on the selection, optimization, and compensation model, as detailed in their 2002 paper in the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology.

ORIGINALITY: This work appears to address the need for empirical tools to assess how individuals manage resources and adapt to constraints. By focusing on construct validity and self-report measurement, the researcher provided a concrete methodological advance that allowed for the systematic study of these adaptive processes.

SIGNIFICANCE: The core paper has accumulated 1,393 citations, indicating substantial uptake within the field. Notably, 93.2% of classified citations originate from independent researchers, suggesting that this framework has become a widely adopted standard for studying life-management strategies across diverse academic contexts.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 7

CORE PAPER

[Life-management strategies of selection, optimization and compensation: Measurement by self-report and construct validity](#)

2002 · Journal of Personality and Social Psychology · 1,393 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 815 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Psychology papers from 2002 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Self-Efficacy (2025)	George Mason University	United States	—
2	Searching for the Structure of Coping: A Review and Critique of Category Systems for Classifying Ways of Coping (2003)	Portland State University, University of Rochester	United States	—
3	Work-Life Balance: an Integrative Review (2017)	Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, Yonsei University	South Korea	—
4	Personality Traits (2003)	University of Cincinnati, University of Edinburgh	United Kingdom, United States	—
5	Tenacious goal pursuit and flexible goal adjustment: explication and age-related analysis of assimilative and accommodative strategies of coping (1990)	Universität Trier	Federal Republic of Germany	—
6	Beyond Pleasure and Pain: How Motivation Works (2012)	Columbia University	United States	—
7	Resilience: A conceptual bridge between coping and development (2009)	University of Hildesheim, University of the Bundeswehr Munich	Germany	—

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 is Influential 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 3

Claim – Contribution 3

The researcher established a foundational framework for understanding age-related compensatory mechanisms during concurrent cognitive and motor tasks, as evidenced by a seminal, highly cited publication.

The researcher's contribution centers on the seminal 2001 paper 'Walking while memorizing: Age-related differences in compensatory behavior,' published in Psychological Science. This work appears to define a critical intersection between motor control and cognitive aging, establishing a baseline for how older adults adapt to dual-task demands. The titles suggest a focus on the behavioral strategies employed to maintain performance when cognitive resources are taxed by physical activity.

This line of work addresses the gap in understanding how aging affects the integration of memory and locomotion. By isolating compensatory behaviors, the researcher provided a novel lens for examining age-related decline not merely as a deficit, but as an adaptive process. The absence of follow-up papers by the same author indicates that this single publication serves as a standalone, definitive contribution to the field rather than part of a prolonged series.

The significance of this contribution is underscored by its substantial citation count of 697, indicating widespread recognition and utility within the scientific community. Furthermore, the high degree of citation independence, with 93.2% of citing papers originating from independent researchers, demonstrates that the work has transcended the researcher's immediate network. This broad adoption suggests the findings have become a standard reference point for independent scholars investigating cognitive-motor interactions in aging populations.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 6

CORE PAPER

[Walking while memorizing: Age-related differences in compensatory behavior](#)

2001 · Psychological Science · 697 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 489 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Psychology papers from 2001 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	The role of executive function and attention in gait (2008)	Tel-Aviv Sourasky Medical Center	Israel	—
2	Give Your Ideas Some Legs: The Positive Effect of Walking on Creative Thinking (2014)	Stanford University	United States	—
3	Applied Attention Theory, Second Edition (2023)	Arizona State University, Colorado State University, Oregon State University	United States	—
4	Shifting the focus from quantitative to qualitative exercise characteristics in exercise and cognition research (2012)	University of Rome "Foro Italico"	Italy	—
5	Aging and dual-task performance: a meta-analysis. (2003)	Syracuse University	United States	—
6	Statistics for the Behavioral and Social Sciences (2002)	Stony Brook University	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
Max Planck Institute for Human Development	Germany	SCImago #2574	4
University of Georgia	United States	SCImago #597 · THE 351–400 · QS 525	2
University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong	SCImago #195 · THE 33 · QS 11	2
Utrecht University	Netherlands	SCImago #162 · QS =103	2
University of Michigan	United States	SCImago #43 · THE 23 · QS 45	2
Tufts University	United States	SCImago #974 · THE 189 · QS =334	2
University of La Laguna	Spain	THE 1001–1200	1
University of the Bundeswehr Munich	Germany	SCImago #4828	1
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University	United States	SCImago #534 · THE 251–300 · QS =358	1
Dartmouth College	United States	SCImago #1144 · THE 180 · QS =247	1
Yonsei University	South Korea	SCImago #238 · THE 86 · QS 50	1
University of Pennsylvania	United States	SCImago #52 · THE 14 · QS 15	1
RMIT University	Australia	THE 251–300 · QS 125	1
Deakin University	Australia	SCImago #607 · THE 201–250 · QS =207	1
Universität Trier	Federal Republic of Germany	SCImago #6795	1

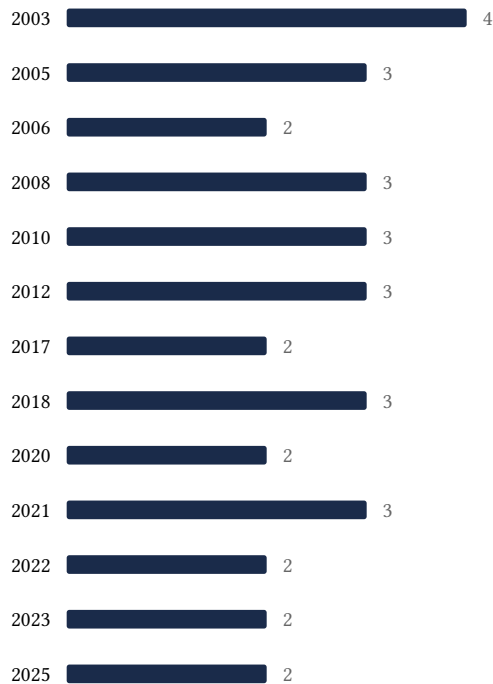
Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	23
Germany	4
Netherlands	4
Hong Kong	3
United Kingdom	3
Australia	2
Canada	2
Spain	2
Iceland	1
Ireland	1
Israel	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	Selection, optimization, and compensation as strategies of life management: correlations with subjective indicators of successful aging	7	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Life-management strategies of selection, optimization and compensation: Measurement by self-report and construct validity	7	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	Walking while memorizing: Age-related differences in compensatory behavior	6	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)