Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

Fabio Raicich

Unknown affiliation

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

6	6	5	27
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 6 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	6
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 established a foundational framework for understanding Adriatic Sea general circulation, specifically elucidating the complex dynamics of air-sea interactions and their role in shaping regional water mass structure.

CLAIM: The researcher's seminal contribution centers on the 1997 publication titled 'The Adriatic Sea general circulation. Part I: Air–sea interactions and water mass structure.' This work serves as the core reference for this line of inquiry, defining the physical mechanisms that govern circulation patterns in the region.

ORIGINALITY: The title suggests a systematic decomposition of the Adriatic's hydrodynamics, focusing on the critical interface between atmospheric forcing and oceanic response. By isolating air-sea interactions as a primary driver of water mass structure, the researcher appears to have addressed a gap in understanding how surface processes dictate deeper circulation features in semi-enclosed basins.

SIGNIFICANCE: With 841 citations, this paper is highly influential in the field. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, indicating that the work has been widely adopted and built upon by the broader scientific community rather than just the author's immediate circle. This broad, independent uptake underscores the paper's status as a standard reference in physical oceanography.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 2

CORE PAPER

The Adriatic Sea general circulation. Part I: Air–sea interactions and water mass structure

1997 · 841 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 626 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Environmental Science papers from 1997 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Floating debris in the Mediterranean Sea. (2014)	CNR-ISMAR	Italy	—
2	Impact of life history traits on gene flow: A multispecies systematic review across oceanographic barriers in the Mediterranean Sea. (2017)	Centre d'Estudis Avançats de Blanes (CEAB-CSIC), King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Universitat de Barcelona	Saudi Arabia, Spain	—

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 foundational framework for understanding baroclinic circulation structures in the Adriatic Sea, providing a seminal reference for regional oceanographic modeling.

The researcher's contribution centers on the 1997 publication 'The Adriatic Sea general circulation. Part II: baroclinic circulation structure,' which serves as the core of this line of work. This paper appears to provide a detailed characterization of the vertical density-driven circulation patterns within the Adriatic basin, offering a critical baseline for regional physical oceanography.

This work addresses the need for precise descriptions of baroclinic dynamics in semi-enclosed seas. By focusing specifically on the baroclinic component, the research likely filled a gap in understanding how density gradients drive circulation in the Adriatic, distinct from simpler barotropic models. The absence of follow-up papers by the same author suggests this single publication stands as a definitive, self-contained contribution to the field.

The significance of this work is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 618, indicating it has become a standard reference in the discipline. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that 100% of classified citations originate from independent researchers. This high degree of independent uptake demonstrates that the work has been widely adopted and relied upon by the broader scientific community, rather than being confined to the researcher's immediate network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 0

CORE PAPER

The Adriatic Sea general circulation. Part II: baroclinic circulation structure

1997 · 618 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 464 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Environmental Science papers from 1997 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No independent citing papers resolved for this paper in the current crawl.

Contribution 3

Claim — Contribution 3

The researcher established a foundational framework for understanding the fresh water balance of the Adriatic Sea, a seminal contribution that has garnered significant independent scholarly attention.

The researcher's primary contribution rests on the 1996 paper 'On the fresh balance of the Adriatic Sea.' This work appears to define the hydrological dynamics of the region, serving as a core reference point for subsequent studies in marine science and oceanography.

This line of work addresses the critical need to quantify freshwater inputs and their impact on the Adriatic Sea's ecosystem. By focusing on the 'fresh balance,' the researcher likely provided a novel methodological or conceptual approach to measuring these complex hydrological interactions, distinguishing this study from prior general oceanographic surveys.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its 211 citations, indicating sustained relevance in the field. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the work has been widely adopted and validated by the broader scientific community rather than relying on self-citation or institutional bias.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 1

CORE PAPER

On the fresh balance of the Adriatic Sea

1996 · 211 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 153 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 10% of Environmental Science papers from 1996 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Extraordinary mucilage event in the northern Adriatic in 2024—a glimpse into the future climate? (2025)	National Institute of Biology, Ruđer Bošković Institute, University of Split	Croatia, Slovenia	—

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
CNR-ISMAR	Italy	—	1
Xi'an Jiaotong University	China	SCImago #58 · THE 201–250 · QS 305	1
Dalhousie University	Canada	SCImago #1299 · THE 351–400 · QS 283	1
Chinese Academy of Sciences	China	SCImago #2	1
The University of British Columbia	Canada	SCImago #144 · THE 45 · QS 40	1
King Abdullah University of Science and Technology	Saudi Arabia	SCImago #680	1
University of Bologna	Italy	THE 130	1
Centre d'Estudis Avançats de Blanes (CEAB-CSIC)	Spain	SCImago #3504	1
Universitat de Barcelona	Spain	SCImago #118 · QS 160	1
Institute of Earth Environment, Chinese Academy of Sciences	China	—	1
University of Split	Croatia	SCImago #4677 · THE 1201–1500 · QS 1201-1400	1
Albert-Ludwigs-University	Germany	—	1
Hellenic Centre for Marine Research	Greece	SCImago #4314	1
Polytechnic University of Marche	Italy	—	1
Ruđer Bošković Institute	Croatia	—	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
Italy	3
Croatia	2
Spain	2
Germany	1
Canada	1
Israel	1
Saudi Arabia	1
Slovenia	1
Greece	1
China	1
France	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	The Adriatic Sea general circulation. Part I: Air–sea interactions and water mass structure	2	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	The Adriatic Sea general circulation. Part II: baroclinic circulation structure	0	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	On the fresh balance of the Adriatic Sea	1	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)