

Citation Evidence Report

EB-1A Petition — Original Contributions of Major Significance

8 CFR § 204.5(h)(3)(v) · Criterion 5

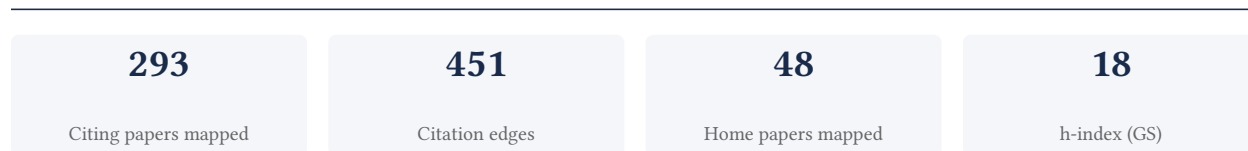
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[Google Scholar profile](#)

Generated 2026-05-21 by CiteMap. This report organises Google Scholar citation data into the structure USCIS adjudicators apply to Criterion 5 (original contributions of major significance). 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.

73.5% independent of 200 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	147
Self-citation	37
Co-author	16
Same-institution	0

93 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 linking KdV hierarchy correlation functions to intersection numbers, a theory subsequently expanded to classical Hurwitz numbers and tau-functions.

The researcher's core contribution rests on the 2016 paper 'Correlation functions of the KdV hierarchy and applications to intersection numbers over M^-g, n ', which appears to bridge integrable systems with algebraic geometry. This work serves as the theoretical anchor for a sustained line of inquiry into the combinatorial and geometric properties of these hierarchies.

Originality in this body of work is suggested by the chronological progression from the core paper to subsequent studies. The 2017 follow-up on 'Classical Hurwitz numbers and related combinatorics' and the 2021 study on 'tau-functions for the KdV hierarchy' indicate a deliberate expansion of the initial framework. These titles suggest the researcher systematically extended the original intersection number applications to broader combinatorial contexts and deeper structural analyses of tau-functions.

The significance of this research line is evidenced by substantial citation activity. The core paper has accumulated 85 citations, while the follow-up works have garnered 58 and 45 citations respectively. Notably, 81.5% of the 200 classified citations originate from independent researchers, indicating that this framework has been widely adopted and utilized by the broader academic community beyond the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 48 · 7 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar

CORE PAPER

[Correlation functions of the KdV hierarchy and applications to intersection numbers over \$M^-g, n\$](#)

2016 · 85 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 78 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Mathematics papers from 2016 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	JT gravity, KdV equations and macroscopic loop operators	Meiji Gakuin University, Shinshu University	Japan	—
2	FZZT branes in JT gravity and topological gravity	Meiji Gakuin University, Shinshu University	Japan	—
3	Cut-and-join description of generalized Brezin-Gross-Witten model	Institute for Basic Science	South Korea	Result
4	Free energy for deformed Jackiw-Teitelboim gravity	Institute for Research in Fundamental Sciences, Sharif University of Technology	Iran	—
5	Topological recursion on the Bessel curve	Monash University, University of Melbourne	Australia	—
6	The shapes of complementary subsurfaces to simple closed hyperbolic multi-geodesics	The University of Chicago, University of Maryland, College Park	United States	—
7	Irreducible metric maps and Weil-Petersson volumes	Radboud University	Netherlands	—
8	Isomonodromic deformations of a rational differential system and reconstruction with the topological recursion: the sl2 case	Aarhus University, Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1	Denmark, France	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
9	Borodin–Okounkov formula, string equation and topological solutions of Drinfeld–Sokolov hierarchies	Sun Yat-sen University, Univ Angers	China, France	—
10	Buryak–Okounkov Formula for the n-Point Function and a New Proof of the Witten Conjecture	Institute for Basic Science, University of Amsterdam, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam University of Amsterdam	Netherlands, South Korea	—
11	Grothendieck's dessins d'enfants in a web of dualities. III	The Ohio State University, Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1	France, United States	—
12	Integrable differential systems of topological type and reconstruction by the topological recursion	Université Paris Saclay	France	Background
13	Recursions and ODEs for the correlators in integrable systems and random matrices	Université Paris Saclay, Université Paris-Saclay	France	Methodology
14	Algebraic approach to the inverse spectral problem for rational matrices	—	—	—
15	On free energy for deformed JT gravity	Institute for Research in Fundamental Sciences, Sharif University of Technology	Iran	Methodology
16	Higher genus meanders and Masur-Veech volumes	Institut Universitaire de France, Sorbonne Université, Steklov Institute of Mathematics	France, Russia	—
17	The Kontsevich matrix integral: convergence to the Painlevé hierarchy and Stokes' phenomenon	Univ Angers	France	—
18	Approximating tau-functions by theta-functions	SISSA	Italy	—

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 is Influential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

Citing-text excerpts — how the field used this work

RESULT Cut-and-join description of generalized Brezin-Gross-Witten model

“It would be interesting to compare our results with the contour integral expressions for the n-point (all-genera) correlation functions obtained in [52] and with the recursion relations for the KdV hierarchy correlation functions from [53].”

METHODOLOGY Recursions and ODEs for the correlators in integrable systems and random matrices

“These correlators were first introduced in the context of random matrix theory [BE09], then used in [BDY16b; BDY16a] for integrable systems, KdV, KP and intersection numbers.”

METHODOLOGY On free energy for deformed JT gravity

“(15) It is now straightforward to perform summations over n and genus g appearing in the equations (3) Note that we have used the fact that $\int M_{g,k+1} \psi^{3g+k-2} = 1 \cdot 24g!$, $k = 0, 1 \dots$ (see for example [23]).”

FOLLOW-UP WORK

[Classical Hurwitz numbers and related combinatorics](#)

2017 · 58 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 52 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Mathematics papers from 2017 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Grothendieck's dessins d'enfants in a web of dualities. III	The Ohio State University, Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1	France, United States	—
2	Universality classes for purification in nonunitary quantum processes	CY Cergy Paris Université, École Normale Supérieure, University of California, Berkeley	France, United States	—
3	Masur–Veech volumes and intersection theory: the principal strata of quadratic differentials	Boston College, CY Cergy Paris Université, Goethe University Frankfurt	France, Germany, United States	Methodology
4	On large genus asymptotics of certain Hurwitz numbers	University of Science and Technology of China	China	—
5	Combinatorics and asymptotic behavior for double Hurwitz numbers	University of Science and Technology of China	China	—
6	Integer moments of complex Wishart matrices and Hurwitz numbers	Università di Bari, University College Dublin, University of Sussex	Ireland, Italy, United Kingdom	Background
7	Upper bound of some character ratios and large genus asymptotic behavior of Hurwitz numbers	University of Science and Technology of China	China	Influential
8	Quenched free energy from spacetime D-branes	Shinshu University	Japan	Methodology
9	The Ising model on cubic maps: arbitrary genus	—	—	—
10	Hurwitz numbers for reflection groups III: Uniform formulae	Brandeis University, George Washington University, Université du Québec à Montréal	Canada, United States	—
11	Geometric and topological recursion and invariants of the moduli space of curves	Institut de Physique Théorique	France	—
12	Simple formulas for constellations and bipartite maps with prescribed degrees	Université Paris Diderot - Paris 7	France	Methodology
13	The structure of Hurwitz numbers with fixed ramification profile and varying genus	Monash University	Australia	Influential
14	Hurwitz numbers for reflection groups I: Generatingfunctionology	George Washington University, University of Massachusetts Amherst	United States	—
15	The uniform asymptotics for real double Hurwitz numbers with triple ramification II: lower bounds and asymptotics	Zhengzhou University	China	Influential
16	The large genus asymptotic expansion of Masur–Veech volumes	Utrecht University	Netherlands	Background
17	Random partitions under the Plancherel–Hurwitz measure, high-genus Hurwitz numbers and maps	École Normale Supérieure de Lyon, Université Paris Cité, Uppsala University	France, Sweden	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
18	Equivalence classes of dessins d'enfants with two vertices	Tohoku University	Japan	—
19	Hypergraph matrix models and generating functions	University of Massachusetts, Amherst	United States	—
20	A note on the Hurwitz problem and cone spherical metrics	Tianjin University, University of Science and Technology of China	China	—
21	Enumeration of multi-rooted plane trees	University of Sherbrooke	Canada	—
22	Quenched free energy from spacetime D-branes	Shinshu University	Japan	Methodology
23	Simple recurrence formulas for bipartite maps with prescribed degrees	Université Paris Cité	France	—
24	Hurwitz numbers and enumerative geometry	University of Augsburg, University of Pennsylvania	Germany, 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).

Citing-text excerpts — how the field used this work

METHODOLOGY Masur–Veech volumes and intersection theory: the principal strata of quadratic differentials

“the generating series of such intersection numbers satisfies the Painlevé equation I, and hence they can be computed efficiently. We refer to [IZ92, Section 6], [Zvo05, Section 4.2], [LMX16, Section 4], [DYZ17], and [YZZ19] for related discussions on this topic. 3.4. Volumes of the principal strata in genus one. In this section we prove Corollary 1.5. By Lemma 3.3 we have $Z_{M1,n} \text{sn}(Q1,n) = (-1)^n Z_{M1,n} \kappa$ ”

METHODOLOGY Quenched free energy from spacetime D-branes

“We note in passing that our Z_g is related to the generating function of the Hodge integrals studied in [29].”

METHODOLOGY Simple formulas for constellations and bipartite maps with prescribed degrees

“Pandharipande conjectured a recurrence formula for those numbers [27], which was proven by Okounkov [25] and later simplified by Dubrovin, Yang and Zagier [15].”

METHODOLOGY Quenched free energy from spacetime D-branes

“We note in passing that our Z_g is related to the generating function of the Hodge integrals studied in [29].”

FOLLOW-UP WORK

On tau-functions for the KdV hierarchy

2021 · 45 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 37 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 10% of Mathematics papers from 2021 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Grothendieck's dessins d'enfants in a web of dualities. III	The Ohio State University, Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1	France, United States	—
2	Tau-functions for the Ablowitz–Ladik hierarchy: the matrix-resolvent method	The Ohio State University, Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1	France, United States	—
3	JT supergravity and Brezin–Gross–Witten tau-function	Meiji Gakuin University, Shinshu University	Japan	Methodology

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
4	Deformations of JT gravity via topological gravity and applications	Johannes Gutenberg-Universität, Universität Bonn, University of Bonn; University of California Santa Barbara	Germany, Germany; USA	—
5	Super quantum Airy structures	Jagiellonian University, University of Alberta, University of Sheffield	Canada, Poland, United Kingdom	Methodology
6	Gauge-gravity duality in low dimensions	Harvard 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).

Citing-text excerpts — how the field used this work

METHODOLOGY JT supergravity and Brezin-Gross-Witten tau-function

"The generating function of $A_{m,n}$ is given by the modified Bessel functions $I_\nu(z), K_\nu(z)$ [39] $\sum_{m,n \geq 0} A_{m,n} z^{-m-1} w^{-n-1} ||| \sim 1$ "

METHODOLOGY Super quantum Airy structures

"Z is now a generating function for intersection numbers on the moduli space of curves involving Norbury's cohomology class [55, 32]."

Contribution 2

Claim — Contribution 2

The researcher established a theoretical framework linking Hodge theory and GUE statistics via the discrete KdV equation, subsequently extending this work to address the Okuyama–Sakai conjecture and partition function mappings.

The researcher's core contribution rests on the 2020 paper 'Hodge–GUE correspondence and the discrete KdV equation,' which appears to bridge distinct areas of mathematical physics and integrable systems. This foundational work suggests a novel structural connection between Hodge theory, Gaussian Unitary Ensemble statistics, and the discrete Korteweg–de Vries equation.

Originality in this line of work is indicated by the progression from this core theoretical link to subsequent applications. The 2023 follow-up papers, 'On a new proof of the Okuyama–Sakai conjecture' and 'Mapping partition functions,' suggest the researcher leveraged the initial framework to provide new proofs for established conjectures and to generalize methods for mapping partition functions, thereby expanding the utility of the original correspondence.

The significance of this research is evidenced by its uptake in the broader academic community. The core paper has accumulated 40 citations, while the follow-up works have garnered 4 and 9 citations respectively. Notably, 81.5% of the 200 classified citations for this scholar originate from independent researchers, indicating that the work has resonated beyond the researcher's immediate institutional or collaborative circle and is being utilized by external scholars in their own investigations.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 6 · 1 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar

CORE PAPER

[Hodge–GUE correspondence and the discrete KdV equation](#)

2020 · 40 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	KP integrability of triple Hodge integrals. I. From Givental group to hierarchy symmetries	Institute for Basic Science	South Korea	Background

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
2	Cubic Hodge integrals and integrable hierarchies of Volterra type	Kindai University	Japan	Methodology
3	Multi-component discrete integrable hierarchy and its Hamiltonian structure: H. Wang et al.	Jimei University, Shandong University of Science and Technology, Shanghai Institute of Technology	China	—
4	Dynamical behavior of the long waves in the nonlinear dispersive media through analytical and numerical investigation	Huaibei Normal University, Jiangsu University, Nanchang Institute of Technology	China, Saudi Arabia	—
5	On discrete surfaces: Enumerative geometry, matrix models and universality classes via topological recursion	The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP)	Italy	—
6	Hurwitz numbers and integrable hierarchy of Volterra type	The Ohio State University, Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1	France, United States	Result

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 Cubic Hodge integrals and integrable hierarchies of Volterra type

“el’s formulation [16] uses q-shift operators rather than shift operators, but this is not an essential difference. It should be stressed that the discrete KdV hierarchy in the sense of Dubrovin et al. [8, 10, 11] is distinct from the lattice KdV hierarchy in the present context. The discrete KdV hierarchy considered therein is an alias of the Volterra hierarchy. Its Lax operator comprises both positive and ne”

RESULT Hurwitz numbers and integrable hierarchy of Volterra type

“ce. We have shown that the continuum version [10, 11] of these integrable hierarchies underlies the single Hurwitz numbers. In this 10 respect, recent work of Dubrovin et al. on cubic Hodge integrals [20, 21] is very interesting. They proved that the Volterra lattice is an integrable structure of cubic Hodge integrals in a special case [20], and conjectured a similar link with variants of the Volterra lat”

FOLLOW-UP WORK

[On a new proof of the Okuyama–Sakai conjecture](#)

2023 · 4 citations (GS)

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

FOLLOW-UP WORK

[Mapping partition functions](#)

2023 · 9 citations (GS)

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

Contribution 3

Claim — Contribution 3

The researcher established a foundational framework linking simple Lie algebras to topological ODEs, subsequently extending this theory to integrable hierarchies and tau-functions.

The researcher's core contribution rests on the 2018 paper 'Simple Lie algebras and topological ODEs,' which appears to bridge algebraic structures with differential equations. This work serves as the theoretical anchor for a sustained line of inquiry into integrable systems.

Originality is suggested by the chronological progression from general topological ODEs to specific integrable hierarchies of KdV type and Gelfand-Dickey systems. The titles indicate a methodological expansion, moving from foundational algebraic links to detailed arithmetic properties and generalized tau-functions, implying a deepening of the initial theoretical framework.

Significance is evidenced by the core paper's 37 citations, with 81.5% originating from independent researchers. This high rate of independent uptake suggests the work has become a recognized reference point in the field, further supported by continued engagement through the researcher's own follow-up publications.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

CORE PAPER

[Simple Lie algebras and topological ODEs](#)

2018 · 37 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 38 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 10% of Mathematics papers from 2018 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Approximating tau-functions by theta-functions	SISSA	Italy	—
2	Loop equations from differential systems on curves	Université Paris Saclay	France	—
3	Loop equations from differential systems	Université Jean Monnet, Université Paris Saclay	France	Methodology
4	Loop equations from differential systems	Université Jean Monnet, Université Paris Saclay	France	Methodology
5	Recursions and ODEs for the correlators in integrable systems	Université de Montréal, Université Paris-Saclay	Canada, France	—

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 Loop equations from differential systems

"in many contexts like *Matrix Models, Conformal Field Theory (CFT)* [8], some *Painlevé equations* [18, 19, 20], or in *Cohomological Field Theories* [3]."

METHODOLOGY Loop equations from differential systems

"in many contexts like *Matrix Models, Conformal Field Theory (CFT)* [8], some *Painlevé equations* [18, 19, 20], or in *Cohomological Field Theories* [3]."

FOLLOW-UP WORK

[Geometry and arithmetic of integrable hierarchies of KdV type. I. Integrality](#)

2023 · 10 citations (GS)

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

FOLLOW-UP WORK

[Gelfand--Dickey hierarchy, generalized BGW tau-function, and -constraints](#)

2021 · 5 citations (GS)

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

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
SISSA	Italy	—	37
Tsinghua University	China	SCImago #8 · THE 12 · QS =17	18
University of Science and Technology of China	China	SCImago #77 · THE 51 · QS =132	15
Peking University	China	SCImago #11 · THE 13 · QS 14	10
Shinshu University	Japan	SCImago #3434 · THE 1201–1500 · QS 1201-1400	8
Meiji Gakuin University	Japan	—	6
Institute for Basic Science	South Korea	SCImago #1451	6
University of Science and Technology Beijing	China	SCImago #485 · QS =480	6
Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1	France	SCImago #921 · QS =587	6
UCLouvain	Belgium	—	5
Université Paris Saclay	France	SCImago #235 · THE =68 · QS =70	5
The Ohio State University	United States	THE =108 · QS 190	5
Institut Universitaire de France	France	SCImago #3367	5
University of Alberta	Canada	SCImago #262 · THE 119 · QS =94	4
Univ Angers	France	—	4

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
China	58
Italy	46
France	38
United States	27
Japan	14
United Kingdom	13
Germany	11
Pakistan	10
Russia	8
South Korea	7
Canada	7
Belgium	5

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	Correlation functions of the KdV hierarchy and applications to intersection numbers over M_n^g	48	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5
Contribution 2	Hodge–GUE correspondence and the discrete KdV equation	6	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5
Contribution 3	Simple Lie algebras and topological ODEs	5	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5