

Citation Evidence Report

EB-1B Petition — Outstanding Professor or Researcher

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

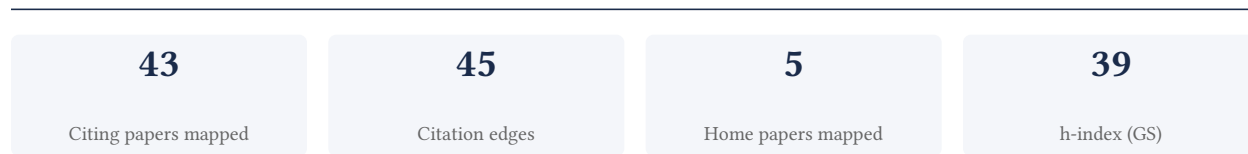
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[Google Scholar profile](#)

Generated 2026-05-21 by CiteMap. This report organises Google Scholar citation data into the structure USCIS adjudicators apply to 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



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.

83.7% independent of 43 classified citing papers

| Citation type | Count |
|------------------|-------|
| Independent | 36 |
| Self-citation | 3 |
| Co-author | 4 |
| 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 the PHENIX AutoBuild wizard and comprehensive Python-based system, establishing a foundational framework for iterative macromolecular structure solution and refinement.

The researcher's core contribution centers on the development of the PHENIX AutoBuild wizard, introduced in a 2008 paper in Acta Crystallographica Section D. This work established a method for iterative model building, structure refinement, and density modification, serving as the foundation for subsequent advancements in the field.

This line of work appears to address the need for automated, comprehensive systems in macromolecular structure determination. The progression from the 2008 AutoBuild wizard to the 2010 description of PHENIX as a comprehensive Python-based system, and further to the 2019 update on recent developments, suggests a sustained effort to integrate and expand these capabilities for X-ray, neutron, and electron data analysis.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by the high citation counts of the core and follow-up papers, which collectively demonstrate widespread adoption. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature indicates that 93.0% of citations originate from independent researchers, underscoring the broad impact and utility of this framework across the global scientific community.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 21

CORE PAPER

[Iterative model building, structure refinement and density modification with the PHENIX AutoBuild wizard](#)

2008 · Acta Crystallographica Section D: Biological Crystallography · 1,787 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 353 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Chemistry papers from 2008 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|--|---|--|----|
| 1 | Large language models generate functional protein sequences across diverse families (2023) | Howard Hughes Medical Institute, University of California, Berkeley, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Salesforce Research | United States | — |
| 2 | ISOLDE: a physically realistic environment for model building into low-resolution electron-density maps (2018) | University of Cambridge | United Kingdom | — |
| 3 | Accurate de novo design of high-affinity protein-binding macrocycles using deep learning (2026) | Heinrich Heine University, Jülich Research Centre, Massachusetts Institute of Technology | Germany, United Kingdom, United States | — |
| 4 | Enhanced rare-earth separation with a metal-sensitive lanmodulin dimer (2023) | Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, The Pennsylvania State University | United States | — |
| 5 | TIR domains produce histidine-ADPR as an immune signal in bacteria (2025) | Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School, Vilnius University | Israel, Lithuania, 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).

FOLLOW-UP WORK

PHENIX: a comprehensive Python-based system for macromolecular structure solution

2010 · 27,067 citations (GS)

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|---|--|--|----|
| 1 | Structural and functional basis of SARS-CoV-2 entry by using human ACE2 (2020) | Anhui University, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Institute of Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences | China | — |
| 2 | Multistate and functional protein design using RoseTTAFold sequence space diffusion (2024) | California Institute of Technology, Georgia Institute of Technology, Heidelberg University | Germany, United States | — |
| 3 | Generalized biomolecular modeling and design with RoseTTAFold All-Atom (2024) | Seoul National University, University of Sheffield, University of Washington | South Korea, United Kingdom, United States | — |
| 4 | Scalable molecular dynamics on CPU and GPU architectures with NAMD (2020) | Arizona State University, Colorado State University, Université de Paris | France, United States | — |
| 5 | Structural basis for the recognition of SARS-CoV-2 by full-length human ACE2 (2020) | Tsinghua University, Westlake Institute for Advanced Study | China | — |
| 6 | SARS-CoV-2 neutralizing antibody structures inform therapeutic strategies (2020) | California Institute of Technology, Institute for Research in Biomedicine, The Rockefeller University | Switzerland, United States | — |
| 7 | Design of protein-binding proteins from the target structure alone (2022) | Stanford University School of Medicine, The Scripps Research Institute, University of Washington | Belgium, United States | — |
| 8 | Nuclear GTPSCS functions as a lactyl-CoA synthetase to promote histone lactylation and gliomagenesis (2025) | Children's Medical Center Research Institute at UT Southwestern, Drexel University College of Medicine, Harvard Medical School | China, Denmark, 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 is Influential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

FOLLOW-UP WORK

[Macromolecular structure determination using X-rays, neutrons and electrons: recent developments in Phenix](#)

2019 · 7,457 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 5,057 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Physics papers from 2019 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|--|--|---------|----|
| 1 | Cross-Linking Mass Spectrometry for Investigating Protein Conformations and Protein-Protein Interactions—A Method for All Seasons (2021) | Biozentrum, Institute of Pharmacy, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg | Germany | — |

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|--|---|----------------------------|-------------|
| 2 | UCSF ChimeraX: Tools for structure building and analysis (2023) | University of California San Francisco | United States | Methodology |
| 3 | Exploring monkeypox virus proteins and rapid detection techniques (2024) | Nazarbayev University | Kazakhstan | — |
| 4 | ACSS2 acts as a lactyl-CoA synthetase and couples KAT2A to function as a lactyltransferase for histone lactylation and tumor immune evasion (2025) | Rice University, The Children's Hospital, School of Medicine, Zhejiang University, National Clinical Research Center for Child Health, The Children's Hospital, Zhejiang University, National Clinical Research Center for Child Health | China, United States | — |
| 5 | BA.2.12.1, BA.4 and BA.5 escape antibodies elicited by Omicron infection (2022) | Beijing Ditan Hospital, Capital Medical University, Institute of Biophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Nankai University | China | — |
| 6 | Machine learning-aided engineering of hydrolases for PET depolymerization (2022) | The University of Texas at Austin | United States | — |
| 7 | One-shot design of functional protein binders with BindCraft (2025) | École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne and Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology | Switzerland, United States | — |
| 8 | Structural basis of receptor recognition by SARS-CoV-2 (2020) | University of Minnesota | 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 UCSF ChimeraX: Tools for structure building and analysis

"Developments such as AlphaFold structure prediction, robust fitting in maps accounting for noise and variable resolution in Phenix, and refinement pipelines built on Rosetta are reducing the researcher time needed to create a model while improving the accuracy."

Contribution 2

Claim — Contribution 2

The researcher elucidated the mechanism of electron transfer via domain movement in cytochrome bc1, a seminal finding published in Nature that established a foundational model for mitochondrial respiration.

The researcher's primary contribution centers on the 1998 Nature paper titled 'Electron transfer by domain movement in cytochrome bc1.' This work appears to have provided a critical mechanistic explanation for how electrons are transferred within this essential enzyme complex, focusing specifically on the role of structural domain movements. As no follow-up papers by the same researcher are listed, this single publication stands as the definitive statement of this specific contribution.

This line of work addresses a fundamental gap in understanding the structural dynamics of cytochrome bc1. By linking electron transfer directly to domain movement, the research suggests a novel perspective on enzyme function that likely challenged or refined existing static models of the respiratory chain. The focus on dynamic structural changes indicates an original approach to explaining biochemical efficiency at the molecular level.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 1,406, indicating it is a highly influential piece of literature in the field. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 93.0% of citations originate from independent researchers, rather than the author’s own group or institution. This high degree of independent uptake demonstrates that the work has been widely adopted and validated by the broader scientific community as a standard reference for understanding cytochrome bc1 function.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 9 · 1 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar

CORE PAPER

[Electron transfer by domain movement in cytochrome bc1](#)

1998 · Nature · 1,406 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 986 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Chemistry papers from 1998 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|---|--|----------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | The strobilurin fungicides (2002) | — | — | — |
| 2 | Understanding coenzyme Q (2024) | McGill University | Canada | — |
| 3 | High-resolution in situ structures of mammalian respiratory supercomplexes (2024) | Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine, Yale University | China, United States | Background |
| 4 | Metalloproteins Containing Cytochrome, Iron–Sulfur, or Copper Redox Centers (2014) | — | — | — |
| 5 | Hypoxia-targeted drug delivery (2019) | Korea University, Shanghai University, The University of Texas at Austin | Canada, China, South Korea | — |
| 6 | Mitochondrial metabolism of reactive oxygen species (2005) | Lomonosov Moscow State University | Russia | — |
| 7 | Membrane Protein Folding and Stability: Physical Principles (1999) | Tulane University Medical Center, University of California at Irvine | United States | — |
| 8 | Architecture of Human Mitochondrial Respiratory Megacomplex I2III2IV2 (2017) | Tsinghua University | China | Influential |
| 9 | The unique role of fluorine in the design of active ingredients for modern crop protection (2004) | Bayer CropScience AG | Germany | — |

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 |
|---|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory | United States | SCImago #530 | 6 |
| University of Washington | United States | SCImago #45 · THE 25 · QS 81 | 6 |
| Tsinghua University | China | SCImago #8 · THE 12 · QS =17 | 4 |
| Shenzhen Third People's Hospital | China | — | 3 |
| The University of Texas at Austin | United States | THE 50 · QS 68 | 3 |
| Harvard Medical School | United States | SCImago #12 | 3 |
| University of Cambridge | United Kingdom | SCImago #63 · THE =3 · QS 6 | 3 |
| National Institutes for Food and Drug Control | China | SCImago #2033 | 2 |
| Institute of Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences | China | SCImago #517 | 2 |
| California Institute of Technology | United States | SCImago #449 · THE 7 · QS 10 | 2 |
| Duke University | United States | SCImago #115 · THE 28 · QS 62 | 2 |
| Cambridge Institute for Medical Research, University of Cambridge | United Kingdom | — | 2 |
| Harvard University | United States | SCImago #4 · THE =5 · QS 5 | 2 |
| Massachusetts Institute of Technology | United States | SCImago #41 · THE 2 · QS 1 | 2 |
| University of Chinese Academy of Sciences | China | SCImago #5 · QS =362 | 2 |

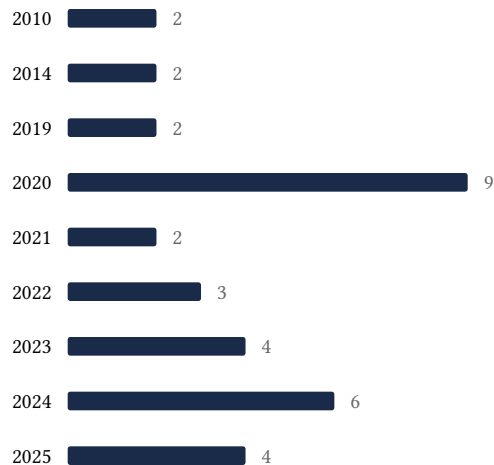
Geographic distribution of citing authors

| Country | Citing papers |
|----------------|---------------|
| United States | 28 |
| China | 11 |
| United Kingdom | 8 |
| Germany | 5 |
| Switzerland | 4 |
| France | 3 |
| Canada | 3 |
| South Korea | 2 |
| Netherlands | 1 |
| Russia | 1 |
| South Africa | 1 |
| Sweden | 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 | Iterative model building, structure refinement and density modification with the PHENIX AutoBuild wizard | 21 | 8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) – Outstanding Researcher |
| Contribution 2 | Electron transfer by domain movement in cytochrome bc1 | 9 | 8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) – Outstanding Researcher |