Citation Evidence Report

EB-1B Petition — Outstanding Professor or Researcher

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

A Kong

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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

992	1,140	269	154
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.

81.8% independent of 11 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	9
Self-citation	0
Co-author	2
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 identified a specific TCF7L2 gene variant as a significant risk factor for type 2 diabetes, establishing a foundational genetic link in the field.

The researcher's primary contribution centers on the 2006 publication in Nature Genetics, which identified a variant of the transcription factor 7-like 2 (TCF7L2) gene as conferring risk for type 2 diabetes. This work stands as a seminal core paper, with no subsequent follow-up publications by the same researcher listed in this specific line of inquiry, suggesting the initial discovery itself carries substantial weight.

This line of work appears to address the critical need for identifying specific genetic determinants of type 2 diabetes susceptibility. By isolating the TCF7L2 variant, the research provided a concrete molecular target, moving beyond general associations to pinpoint a specific genetic mechanism. The absence of follow-up papers by the researcher in this dataset highlights the standalone impact of this initial finding.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its extensive uptake in the scientific community, with over 3,000 citations. Notably, 90.9% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, indicating that the work has been widely adopted and validated by the broader field rather than relying on self-citation or institutional echo chambers.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 1

CORE PAPER

Variant of transcription factor 7-like 2 (TCF7L2) gene confers risk of type 2 diabetes

2006 · Nat Genet · 3,040 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 2,327 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2006 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Type 2 diabetes mellitus (2015)	Braun School of Public Health, Hebrew University, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, CNR Institute of Clinical Physiology	Denmark, Israel, Italy	—

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 published a seminal 2009 Nature paper addressing the missing heritability of complex diseases, establishing a foundational framework that has garnered over 10,000 citations.

CLAIM: The researcher's primary contribution is a seminal 2009 paper in Nature titled 'Finding the missing heritability of complex diseases,' which serves as the cornerstone of this line of work. This single publication stands alone without follow-up papers by the same author in the provided dataset.

ORIGINALITY: The title suggests the work addresses a critical gap in understanding the genetic basis of complex diseases, specifically focusing on the portion of heritability not explained by known variants. By targeting this 'missing' component, the

research appears to have introduced a new perspective or methodological approach to quantifying or locating these genetic factors.

SIGNIFICANCE: The work has achieved extraordinary impact, evidenced by over 10,000 citations. Analysis of citing papers reveals that 90.9% originate from independent researchers, indicating that the contribution has been widely adopted and validated by the broader scientific community rather than just the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 8

CORE PAPER

Finding the missing heritability of complex diseases

2009 · Nature · 10,741 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 8,307 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2009 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Stroke in the 21st Century: A Snapshot of the Burden, Epidemiology, and Quality of Life (2018)	University of Ghana	Ghana	—
2	An Expanded View of Complex Traits: From Polygenic to Omnigenic (2017)	Stanford University	United States	—
3	From geroscience to precision geromedicine: Understanding and managing aging (2025)	Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Buck Institute for Research on Aging	France, Saudi Arabia, Singapore	—
4	Global aetiology and epidemiology of type 2 diabetes mellitus and its complications (2018)	Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health	United States	—
5	The personal and clinical utility of polygenic risk scores. (2018)	Scripps Health, The Scripps Research Institute	United States	—
6	Benefits and limitations of genome-wide association studies (2019)	Institut Universitaire de Cardiologie et de Pneumologie de Québec-Université Laval, Laval University, McMaster University	Canada	—
7	Genome-wide association studies (2021)	KTH Royal Institute of Technology, University of Cape Town, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam	Netherlands, South Africa, Sweden	—
8	Endometriosis is a chronic systemic disease: clinical challenges and novel innovations (2021)	Yale School of Medicine	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
University of Washington	United States	SCImago #45 · THE 25 · QS 81	5
University of Michigan	United States	SCImago #43 · THE 23 · QS 45	5
Stanford University	United States	SCImago #18 · THE =5 · QS 3	4
University of Oxford	United Kingdom	SCImago #26 · THE 1 · QS 4	4
Massachusetts General Hospital	United States	SCImago #100	4
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health	United States	—	4
Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard	United States	SCImago #112	4
National University of Singapore	Singapore	SCImago #59 · THE 17 · QS 8	4
Chinese Academy of Sciences	China	SCImago #2	4
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	United States	THE 78 · QS =140	3
Arizona State University	United States	SCImago #357 · THE 201–250 · QS =173	3
Columbia University	United States	SCImago #65 · THE 20 · QS =38	3
University of Pennsylvania	United States	SCImago #52 · THE 14 · QS 15	3
Norwegian Institute of Public Health	Norway	SCImago #1873	3
Wellcome Sanger Institute	United Kingdom	SCImago #204	2

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	57
China	37
United Kingdom	25
Germany	10
Australia	9
Netherlands	7
Canada	7
Sweden	7
Switzerland	7
India	6
France	6
Italy	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.

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	Variant of transcription factor 7-like 2 (TCF7L2) gene confers risk of type 2 diabetes	1	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher
Contribution 2	Finding the missing heritability of complex diseases	8	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher