

Citation Evidence Report

EB-1A Petition — Original Contributions of Major Significance

8 CFR § 204.5(h)(3)(v) · Criterion 5

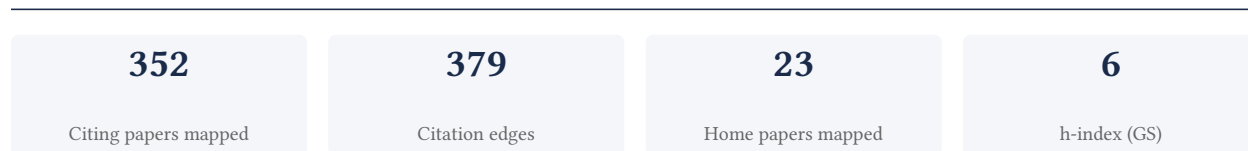
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[Google Scholar profile](#)

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.

93.3% independent of 300 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	280
Self-citation	6
Co-author	14
Same-institution	0

37 citing papers could not be classified (no author data) and are excluded from the percentages above.

C. Significant Contributions

No contribution lines were auto-detected. For an early-career scholar, build the petition around expert letters and documented real-world impact rather than citation volume.

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Colby College	United States	SCImago #7884	12
Indiana University	United States	THE =198	10
Boston College	United States	SCImago #3099 · THE 251–300 · QS =526	7
Northern Illinois University	United States	SCImago #4601 · THE 801–1000	4
University of South Africa	South Africa	SCImago #2768 · THE 1201–1500 · QS 901-950	4
Indiana University Bloomington	United States	SCImago #798 · QS =306	4
Purdue University	United States	SCImago #255 · QS =88	4
University of Exeter	United Kingdom	SCImago #679 · THE =170 · QS =155	4
Utah State University	United States	SCImago #2176 · QS 1001-1200	4
Islamic Azad University, Tehran	Iran	—	3
Wayne State University	United States	SCImago #1290 · THE 501–600 · QS 781-790	3
Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Hong Kong	SCImago #256 · THE 80 · QS 54	3
The Education University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong	THE =195 · QS =530	3
Yogyakarta State University	Indonesia	—	3
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	China	SCImago #163 · THE =41 · QS =32	3

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
Indonesia	53
United States	46
China	45
Malaysia	15
Turkey	14
United Kingdom	13
Iran	10
Australia	10
Saudi Arabia	10
Hong Kong	8
India	8
South Korea	8

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.