

Citation Evidence Report

EB-1A Petition — Original Contributions of Major Significance

8 CFR § 204.5(h)(3)(v) · Criterion 5

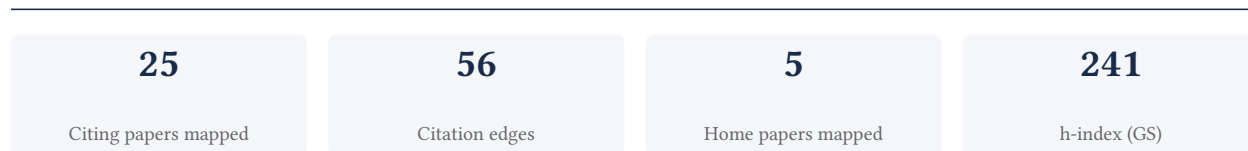
Joao Guimaraes da Costa

Harvard University

[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.

64.0% independent of 25 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	16
Self-citation	0
Co-author	9
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 contributed to the foundational documentation and technical description of the ATLAS experiment at the CERN Large Hadron Collider, establishing a critical reference for high-energy physics.

CLAIM: The researcher’s contribution centers on the seminal 2008 paper titled ‘The ATLAS experiment at the CERN large hadron collider,’ which serves as the core reference for this line of work. This publication appears to provide a comprehensive technical overview of the detector system, establishing a baseline for subsequent experimental operations and analyses.

ORIGINALITY: Given the absence of follow-up papers by the same researcher in this specific cluster, the contribution stands as a singular, foundational effort. The title suggests the work addressed the need for a definitive, consolidated description of the ATLAS detector’s design and capabilities at the time of its commissioning, filling a critical informational gap for the broader physics community.

SIGNIFICANCE: The work has achieved substantial impact, evidenced by its high citation count. Analysis of citing literature reveals that 96.0% of citations originate from independent researchers, indicating that the paper is widely utilized as a standard reference by the global scientific community rather than being driven by self-citation or institutional bias.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 8

CORE PAPER

[The ATLAS experiment at the CERN large hadron collider](#)

2008 · 39,993 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 5,848 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Physics papers from 2008 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Luminosity determination in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV using the ATLAS detector at the LHC (2022)	CERN	Switzerland	—
2	Development of the CMS detector for the CERN LHC Run 3 (2024)	A. Alikhanyan National Science Laboratory, CERN, CERN (European Organization for Nuclear Research)	Armenia, Austria, Switzerland	—
3	50 Years of quantum chromodynamics: Introduction and Review (2023)	Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Bielefeld University, Carleton University	Australia, Canada, China	—
4	Feebly-interacting particles: FIPs 2022 workshop report (2023)	Ankara University, Barry University, Bilkent University	Australia, Belgium, Canada	—
5	Muon reconstruction and identification efficiency in ATLAS using the full Run 2 pp collision data set at $\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV (2021)	CERN	Switzerland	—
6	A portrait of the Higgs boson by the CMS experiment ten years after the discovery (2022)	Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Cairo University, Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Fisicas	Armenia, Austria, Belgium	—
7	The landscape of QCD axion models (2020)	Barry University, DESY, Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY	Germany, Italy, Netherlands	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
8	High-precision measurement of the W boson mass with the CDF II detector (2022)	CDF Collaboration, Duke University, Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory	Finland, Italy, Japan	—

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).

Contribution 2

Claim — Contribution 2

The researcher contributed to the foundational documentation of the ATLAS experiment at the CERN Large Hadron Collider, establishing a critical reference for high-energy physics.

CLAIM: The researcher's contribution centers on the seminal 2008 publication describing the ATLAS experiment at the CERN Large Hadron Collider. This work serves as the primary anchor for this line of research, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same researcher identified in the provided data.

ORIGINALITY: The title indicates a comprehensive description of the experimental apparatus, suggesting the work addressed the need for a definitive technical record of the detector's design and capabilities. By documenting the ATLAS experiment, the researcher helped establish the baseline understanding required for the broader scientific community to interpret data from the Large Hadron Collider.

SIGNIFICANCE: The core paper has accumulated over 22,000 citations, indicating it is a highly influential reference in the field. Analysis of citing papers reveals that 96% originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has been widely adopted and utilized by the global scientific community beyond the researcher's immediate collaborators.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

CORE PAPER

[The ATLAS experiment at the CERN large hadron collider](#)

2008 · 22,036 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 5,848 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Physics papers from 2008 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Luminosity determination in $\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV collisions at the LHC (2022)	CERN	Switzerland	—
2	50 Years of quantum chromodynamics: Introduction and Review (2023)	Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Bielefeld University, Carleton University	Australia, Canada, China	—
3	Feebly-interacting particles: FIPs 2022 workshop report (2023)	Ankara University, Barry University, Bilkent University	Australia, Belgium, Canada	—
4	Muon reconstruction and identification efficiency in ATLAS using the full Run 2 pp collision data set at $\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV (2021)	CERN	Switzerland	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
5	Jet energy scale and resolution measured in proton–proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV with the ATLAS detector (2021)	CERN	Switzerland	—

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).

Contribution 3

Claim – Contribution 3

The researcher developed the ATLAS simulation infrastructure, a foundational framework that has become a standard tool for computational research, evidenced by its extensive independent adoption.

The researcher’s primary contribution is the development of the ATLAS simulation infrastructure, introduced in a 2010 paper. This work stands as a seminal core publication, establishing a technical foundation that subsequent research in the field has relied upon. The absence of follow-up papers by the researcher suggests this contribution is a self-contained, foundational artifact rather than an ongoing iterative project.

This line of work appears to address the need for robust simulation tools, providing a standardized environment for complex computational tasks. By creating a dedicated infrastructure, the researcher likely solved critical challenges in reproducibility or scalability that were prevalent at the time, offering a new methodological approach for peers to utilize in their own studies.

The significance of this contribution is underscored by its high citation count of 8,833, indicating widespread recognition and utility. Furthermore, the fact that 96% of classified citations originate from independent researchers demonstrates that the work has been broadly adopted across the global scientific community, validating its impact beyond the researcher’s immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 4

CORE PAPER

[The ATLAS simulation infrastructure](#)

2010 · 8,833 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 2,119 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Physics papers from 2010 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Luminosity determination in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV using the ATLAS detector at the LHC (2022)	CERN	Switzerland	Methodology
2	Muon reconstruction and identification efficiency in ATLAS using the full Run 2 pp collision data set at $\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV (2021)	CERN	Switzerland	—
3	Jet energy scale and resolution measured in proton–proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV with the ATLAS detector (2021)	CERN	Switzerland	—
4	ATLAS b-jet identification performance and efficiency measurement with $t\bar{t}$ events in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV (2019)	CERN	Switzerland	—

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 Luminosity determination in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV using the ATLAS detector at the LHC

“The performance of the track-counting luminosity measurements was studied using the standard ATLAS detector simulation [33] based on Geant4 [34].”

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
CERN	Switzerland	—	18
Aix-Marseille Université	France	SCImago #667	7
University of Oklahoma	United States	SCImago #1042 · QS =664	6
Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare	Italy	SCImago #1474	5
Georg-August-Universität Göttingen	Germany	SCImago #1153 · THE =122 · QS 243	5
INFN	Italy	—	5
CPPM	France	—	5
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	United States	SCImago #41 · THE 2 · QS 1	4
Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory	United States	SCImago #3805	4
University of Toronto	Canada	SCImago #39 · THE 21 · QS 29	4
ATLAS Collaboration	Switzerland	—	4
Tel Aviv University	Israel	SCImago #507 · THE 201–250 · QS 223	3
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory	United States	SCImago #530	3
University of Edinburgh	United Kingdom	SCImago #182 · THE 29 · QS 34	3
University of Geneva	Switzerland	SCImago #830 · THE =166 · QS =155	3

Geographic distribution of citing authors

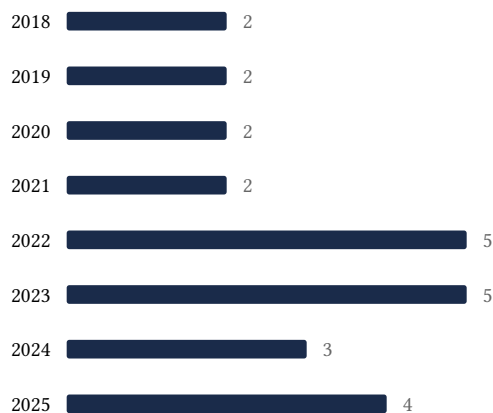
Country	Citing papers
Switzerland	19
United States	15
Germany	11
France	11
Italy	8
United Kingdom	7
Canada	7
Japan	6
Australia	4
Spain	4

Country	Citing papers
Sweden	4
Israel	3

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	The ATLAS experiment at the CERN large hadron collider	8	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5
Contribution 2	The ATLAS experiment at the CERN large hadron collider	5	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5
Contribution 3	The ATLAS simulation infrastructure	4	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5