

Yanan Cheng, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA for their project: *Reconstructing Proterozoic Seawater Chemistry from Lithium Isotopes in Marine Carbonates*.

Yanan Cheng is a PhD student in the Department of Earth, Marine, and Environmental Sciences at University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, working with Dr. Xiao-Ming Liu. Her research focuses on lithium isotopes in Proterozoic marine carbonates to reconstruct ancient seawater chemistry, providing critical insights into weathering-carbon cycle feedback and improving the understanding of Earth system evolution in deep time. Since carbonate archives are susceptible to diagenetic overprinting, this project integrates petrographic, mineralogical, and elemental analyses to isolate primary sea-water signals and build robust lithium isotope records across the Proterozoic.



Before joining University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Yanan received her B.S. and M.S. in Physical Geography from Nanjing University, where she developed her interest in isotope geochemistry.

Yanan gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the Howard and Jean Lipman Foundation and the GSA MGPV for supporting her work. This funding will advance her research on lithium isotopes in marine carbonates, offering new insight into the roles of continental weathering and reverse weathering in regulating seawater chemistry and the global Li cycle.