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## Letter of invitation to ETH Zürich as an academic guest

Dear Mengchun Cao,

I am pleased to invite you, Mengchun Cao, born on 2 March, 1993, to visit my research group at the Institute of Geochemistry and Petrology, Department of Earth Sciences, ETH Zürich. The period for the visit would be October 20, 2023 until December 30, 2023.

As you know, our plan during this visit is to work together measuring Zn isotopes in carbonates from two deep drillcores, covering the Quaternary and Neogene from the South China Sea, to understand to what degree carbonate zinc isotopes are affected by carbonate diagenesis and how we can correct for diagenetic effects. As you also know, we are experts in the analysis of Zn isotopes, have helped to pioneer this system, and have used it to understand the past ocean through the analysis of carbonates. We also see this visit as an opportunity to discuss wider collaborations between the groups working on sedimentary isotope geochemistry at Nanjing and ETH

I am looking forward to the opportunity of working together.

Yours Sincerely

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Derek Vance FRS Professor of Geochemistry