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## COVER

In Ma ZQ and Lu G et al. (doi: 10.26464/epp2022016), the formation conditions of metamorphic core complex (MCC) and their implications for the North China Craton (NCC) destruction are presented. Widespread magmatism, MCCs, and significant lithospheric thinning occurred during the Mesozoic in the NCC. With 2-D finite element thermo-mechanical numerical models, three end-member deformation modes are observed under different Moho temperature and background extensional rates, indicating that the NCC's lithosphere had already been thinned when the MCC was formed in the Mesozoic. See pages 191–203.