



Crustal structure of the SW Moroccan margin from wide-angle and reflection seismic data (the Dakhla experiment).

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Simultaneous deep penetration multi-channel reflection seismic (MCS) and wide-angle seismic (OBS) data collected during the 2002 Dakhla project (off South Morocco) shed new insight on the tectonic and sedimentary history of the Dakhla margin, offshore Northwest Africa. Due to the asymmetry of its conjugated margin, and thinning predominantly developed along the American side, the Dakhla margin presents significant particularities compared to its adjacent margin segments. Indeed, the Precambrian cratonic zone of Reguibat, situated between two Late Paleozoic Hercynian orogenic segments, seems to be unaffected by break-up processes. The lower crust

of this particular domain has behaved differently from all neighboring domains. This observation points to the importance of the tectonic inheritance in the structural development of passive continental margins.