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Fault-zone structure and weakening processes in basin-scale reverse faults: The Moonlight Fault Zone, South Island, New Zealand

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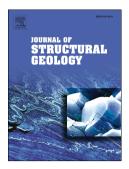
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Fault-zone structure and weakening processes in basin-scale reverse faults: the Moonlight Fault Zone, South Island, New Zealand S. Alder, S.A.F. Smith* & J.M. Scott Department of Geology, University of Otago, PO Box 56, 9054 Dunedin, New Zealand *Corresponding author e-mail: steven.smith@otago.ac.nz Corresponding author telephone: +64 03 479 7515 Corresponding author fax: +64 03 479 7527 Keywords: Basin inversion, reverse fault, fault reactivation, fault-zone structure, fault zone weakening, pseudotachylytes, foliated cataclasite, phyllosilicates, mechanical anisotropy **Highlights:** 1) Rare field opportunity to study basin-scale normal fault zone reactivated in compression 2) Fault-zone structure in basement controlled mainly by host rock lithology and anisotropy 3) Hanging-wall laced by networks of steeply-dipping pseudotachylytes 4) Fault core contains progressively foliated fault rocks rich in chlorite and muscovite 5) Frictionally weak core facilitated steep reverse faulting and acted as hydrological barrier

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