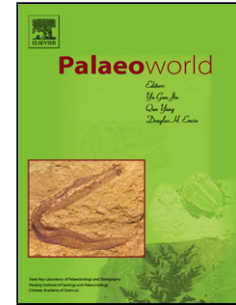


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Palaeobiogeographic distribution patterns and processes of *Neochonetes* and *Fusichonetes* (Brachiopoda) in the late Palaeozoic and earliest Mesozoic

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Abstract

The global palaeobiogeographic distributions of two resembling genera, *Neochonetes* and *Fusichonetes* (Brachiopoda), from the Carboniferous to Griesbachian are analysed. This analysis provides insight into the biotic response of two related genera to changing palaeoclimate, regional tectonics, and environmental crises. *Neochonetes* originated in the equatorial area in the Mississippian, and it mostly retained this position during the peak of the glaciation in the Carboniferous–Permian ice age (namely in the Pennsylvanian). *Neochonetes* then dispersed globally during the Cisuralian when the climate became warmer and the ice sheet started to retreat. In the Guadalupian and Lopingian, following the closure of the Ural seaway at the end of the Cisuralian and the regression at the end-Guadalupian, *Neochonetes* almost disappeared in the western part of Gondwana. Subsequently during the Lopingian the genus retracted to the middle- and low-latitude Palaeo-Tethys and Tethys. In comparison,

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