

Does the Mature Creation Concept Explain the Solar System's Creation?

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Abstract

The concept of the 'appearance of age' (or creation with an 'appearance of history') is a viable option for the Creation explanation of origins. This view posits that creation was brought into existence in a fully mature and functionally complete state. The example of Adam and Eve being formed as adult humans and the fruit trees in the Garden of Eden with seed-bearing fruit at their origin illustrates two widely accepted examples of the 'appearance of history,' or God's directly producing a mature creation. This example can be extended to the creation of the solar system and even the entire universe. The major problems with the evolutionary origin of our solar system were also briefly reviewed. It is concluded that 'appearance of age' is a viable explanation for the origin of the solar system and, by extension, of the universe.

Key Words: Appearance of age/history, Big Bang, creation of the moon and the planets, creation of the universe, the Garden of Eden, problems with the Nebular Hypothesis, the solar system

Introduction

One of the most controversial areas of the entire creation worldview is the short time during which the Creation occurred according to Genesis. In fact, the mature-creation view is very logical, supported by the evidence, and accepted by many early Bible scholars (Bradshaw, 1998). The creation of Adam could not have involved large amounts of time. The reason is that he must have been created as a fully functioning human to even be alive with blood traversing in his circulatory

system. Humans become unconscious within only twenty seconds after the heart stops. Without the oxygen and sugars required to function, the brain is unable to deliver the electrical signals required to maintain breathing and organ function. After only three minutes, global cerebral ischemia—the lack of blood flow to the entire brain—causes brain injury that becomes progressively worse after each second.

To separately create a lung, heart, and the other 100 organs required for life is not a viable option. Without

the protection of the body, and the sustenance provided by nutrient and oxygen circulation, these organs would rapidly deteriorate. Consequently, for all these reasons, Adam would have had to be created *ex nihilo* from dust with a fully functioning body and oxygenated blood traversing through his body. Furthermore, Adam and Eve arrived in this world with adult minds pre-wired with human thought processes, language, and a knowledge of the Creator. Their hair length also would have given apparent evidence of previous growth (DeYoung, 2010, p. 57). Likewise, the fruit trees in the garden would display maturity upon their *ex nihilo* creation. As Philo of Alexandria (c. 20 B.C.–A.D. 50) explained:

But in the first creation of the universe....God produced the whole race of trees out of the earth in full perfection, having their fruit not incomplete, but in a state of entire ripeness, to be ready for the immediate and undelayed use and enjoyment of the animals. (Yonge, 1993, p. 7)

If the newly created Adam was examined by a modern doctor, he would conclude that Adam was a very healthy young adult, even though he was actually only a few hours old. Adam thus, from the account in Genesis, had the 'appearance of age.' He was not a baby or child. Conversely, he would not have any of the negative signs of aging, such as the beginnings of plaque in his arteries and veins or normal minor age skin spots. Arterial plaque occurs when cholesterol builds up in the arteries' inner lining with age. Nor would he have the normal cellular deterioration that slowly builds up, usually manifesting itself when we are in our 40s.

Of the numerous Biblical examples of the appearance of age one would have to include the wine Christ created at the Cana wedding which tasted like mature expensive wine when it was only minutes old. John 2:10 says, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now." In other words, after drinking the good wine and expecting cheap wine later in the evening (after guests were properly inebriated), the wine Jesus produced was expensive wine normally served early in the evening. Another example is when Jesus fed 5,000 men besides women and children (Matthew 14:13–21), and later when He fed 4,000 men besides women and children (Matthew 15:32–39), with freshly made food that was only minutes old. The food tasted like it was grown, harvested, or recently acquired,

and prepared as normal for food that would normally require many months for full maturation, yet that which was served was only minutes old.

Appearance of History and the Solar System

The same is true of the solar system. Logically, the planets and our sun-centered system must have been created as a functional unit, operational from the first day of their creation. Like Adam, they would appear to be mature, even though in this case the evolution model would give a date of many millions of years old.

One example is the Earth-Moon system. The moon's critical role is required both for Earth's stability and for life to exist on the Earth's surface. The origin of our moon has dumbfounded evolutionary cosmologists for over a century. One popular proposal was the *Capture Theory*, which postulated that the moon was once a small planet orbiting around the sun in close to the same orbit as the Earth (DeYoung, 2010a, p. 210).

Another theory of its origin is that it originated from some other part of our solar system, or even outside of it. The moon was somehow captured by the Earth's gravitational field and began orbiting the Earth instead of the sun as formerly. However, the rocks that creationist astronaut James Irwin brought back from his trip to the moon created problems for the Capture Theory. Analyzing them forced the conclusion that the moon rock composition was far too much like that of the Earth to have come from some other part of the solar system.

According to the *Giant Impact Theory*, at some point in Earth's very early history, the moon formed as a result of a massive collision between the Earth and a planet about the size of Mars called Theia. The debris from this impact collected in an orbit around

Earth, eventually coalescing to form the moon. This theory would explain why moon rock composition is very similar to the Earth's, but according to the late astronomer Carl Sagan (1980, pp. 90–91), it encounters other problems such as the geophysical impossibility of a collision producing the Earth-Moon system that exists today.

This issue was involved in the Immanuel Velikovsky impact theory controversy. Velikovsky postulated that around the 15th century B.C., the planet Venus was ejected from Jupiter by a large, massive object that passed nearby, or collided with, the Earth (Velikovsky, 1950). The encounter changed Earth's orbit and axis tilt, causing innumerable catastrophes. However, these impact theories were so overwhelmingly rejected by the scientific community that they forced Macmillan to cease publishing the book within two months of its publication (Friedlander, 1995, p. 14). A detailed refutation of impact-theory claims by six leading astronomers and other scientists was published by astrophysicist and science communicator Donald Goldsmith (1977).

One problem with all impact theories is, where did the hypothetical Mars-sized (or some speculate the size was closer to twice the mass of Mars) planet come from that collided with the Earth? The theory assumes that, before the Earth and the moon existed, a proto-Earth and a body called Theia existed. No valid evidence exists for this impact theory except for its being superior to the competing scenarios because it can explain why the moon's rocks are very similar to the Earth's rocks. A few of the other origin-of-the-moon theories include the *Fission Theory* and the *Condensation Theory*, both of which also have major problems. The fission theory explains the moon's lack of a large core and the oxygen-isotope similarity, but calculations indicate that the Earth would

require at least *four times its present angular momentum* for the theory to work. The *Condensation Theory* includes it but does not satisfactorily explain the angular momentum of the Earth-Moon system, nor why the moon has a relatively small iron core compared to the Earth's, comprising an estimated 25% of its radius compared to 50% for the Earth (Whitcomb and DeYoung, 1978; DeYoung, 2010).

Why Giant Impacts Would Destroy the Earth

The Earth's inner core is believed to be a hot, part-liquid, dense ball mostly made of iron, with a radius of about 1,220 kilometers (758 miles). The Earth's inner core temperature is about 5,200° Celsius (9,392° Fahrenheit), close to that of the outer surface layer of the sun, the solar photosphere.

The mantle, the solid bulk of Earth's interior, makes up a whopping 84 percent of Earth's total volume. The mantle rock is made up of mostly olivine/peridotite. It lies between Earth's dense, super-heated core and its thin outer layer. Olivine/peridotite rock has a Mohs hardness of 5.5–6 (at 1g and surface temperature) medium hardness on a 1-to-10 scale. A giant impact would crush the crust, thereby smashing into the brittle mantle, which is about 2,900 kilometers (1,802 miles) thick (Perna et al., 2013). The temperature of the mantle varies from 1,000°C (1,832°F) near its boundary with the crust (the Mohorovičić discontinuity), to 3,700°C (6,692°F) near its other boundary with the outer core (the Gutenberg discontinuity).

Compared to all other moons, our moon is enormous relative to the size of the Earth. Specifically, the moon is about 1/3 of the size of the Earth but its mass is about 1/80th of the Earth's! Nonetheless, crashing into the Earth, or being captured, would require colossal catastrophic events that would

likely damage the Earth beyond repair, destroying it (Perna et al., 2019). Due to the improbability of all of the proposed events for the production of the Earth-Moon system, the question of where the moon came from is a mystery unexplained by naturalism (DeYoung, 2010a). However, given that a supernatural origin is a credible alternative to naturalism, an *ex nihilo* creation explains it.

Movement Required to Produce Stability

Our solar system's planets are all held in their orbit in a smooth-running system by our giant sun's gravity. To produce the required stable solar system that supports life, God would not have created a set of planets without momentum-producing movement. Just as a bike is stable when moving, but will fall over when still, likewise the planets are stable only when moving. This is a requirement both in order for life to exist on our planet, and a requirement for a solar system to exist.

The Earth not only rotates on its axis at 24,898 mph measured at the surface,¹ but it orbits around the sun at an average speed of 67,000 mph, or 18.5 miles a second. The center of mass of the solar system is moving at an average speed of 448,000 mph (720,000 km/h). At this rate it would take about 230 million years to travel all the way around the Milky Way Galaxy where our solar system is located. The Milky Way Galaxy itself is moving at a speed of 25 miles a second. Our galaxy is part of the *Local Group* of galaxies that, as a group, are moving at the astonishing rate of 375 miles a second toward the Virgo Supercluster. The Virgo Super-

cluster is an enormous collection of galaxies some 45 million light-years from Earth.

In short, the entire universe must exist as a functional unit in motion to support life, just as must the human body. Its movement produces the stability that we experience on Earth. And, just as Adam was created with the appearance of age, the same is true of the universe. Evolution would require that it has evolved to its functional maturity, thus, based on uniformitarian thinking, enormous ages for its development would be required, going back to its assumed naturalistic origin.

However, as with the recent creation of Adam, substantial evidence argues that the solar system is also young. New discoveries by the James Webb Space Telescope found a remarkable assemblage of, as of this writing, over 5,000 galaxies that did not appear *relatively young*, as evolutionists had expected, but rather these galaxies looked about as fully formed as the galaxies nearest Earth. This provides evidence that the entire universe was created at about the same time. Among them, one galaxy unveiled an array of extraordinary cosmic phenomena to the extent that scientists are baffled as to how it could possibly exist. At the edge of the universe, cosmologists expect to find young, underdeveloped galaxies because, when viewing a galaxy 100 million light years away, they believe that they are seeing what the galaxy looked like 100 million years ago. The problem is that much of what our telescopes are revealing has proven very difficult for scientists to understand from a naturalistic, deep-time interpretation.

The Origin of the Solar System

The origin of the moon was discussed in some detail because astronomers have been able to study it in great

¹ The circumference of the Earth is around 24,898 miles (40,070 kilometers) and hence, dividing the distance by time, it can be observed that the Earth is spinning at 1,037 mph.

detail, thus having some basis to postulate its origin. As the solar system is now being studied in more detail, we are also learning more about its construction, and thus can postulate its origin. It now appears that the same problems encountered in determining the moon's origin also exist in theorizing planetary origin as well. The most widely accepted model of planetary formation is the *Nebular Hypothesis* proposed by Pierre Simon Marquis de Laplace (1749–1827) in 1796 (Cameron, 1975; Numbers, 1977). This theory postulates that the solar system originated from vast clouds of gas and dust within interstellar space. The material that created the solar system and Earth was once allegedly a slowly rotating cloud, or nebula, of extremely hot gas. The gas cooled and the nebula began to shrink. As the nebula became smaller, it rotated more rapidly, supposedly evolving into an enormously wide flattened disk (Woolfson, 1993).

Thus, the Nebular Hypothesis postulates that about 4.6 billion years ago, the solar system was formed by the gravitational collapse of this giant molecular cloud spanning several light-years across. Evolutionists believe that the sun was also originally a giant cloud of ionized plasma that contracted due to cooling and the pull of gravity. This forced the ionized plasma to rotate faster, conserving angular momentum, just as an ice skater rotates faster when her extended arms are drawn onto her chest closer to her center of gravity and her rotational axis. This faster rotation would conceptually throw off a rim of ionized plasma blobs which, following cooling, could condense into planets. The Nebular Hypothesis postulates that all the planets were likewise formed by this same process.

In summary, the theory states that, through a combination of forces produced by the nebula's rotation, and gravitational force from the mass of the

nebula, the nebula left behind rings of gas as it shrank. These rings condensed into planets and their satellites, while the central part of the nebula formed a sun.

Problems with the Nebular Hypothesis

Although now over 300 years old, the Nebular Hypothesis is still the most widely accepted explanation for our solar system for one reason: *no better naturalistic theory has been proposed*. Nonetheless, the Nebular Hypothesis suffers from many serious problems (Brush, 1990). The main problem with the Nebular Hypothesis is that it assumes the original cloud already existed and was spinning, ignoring the problem of where it came from, and how and why its rotation began.

Furthermore, when calculated on the basis of the known orbital momentum of the planets, the Nebular Hypothesis predicts that the sun must rotate about 50 times more rapidly than it actually does (Simon, 2023). This theory predicted that the sun would be spinning so fast that it would make one rotation every few hours. In fact, it spins only once in approximately every 25 Earth days (Simon and Zwart, 2009, p. L13). The sun is believed to originally have a short period—around a day—and then afterward slowly degraded through natural angular momentum loss. Young sun-like stars display very rapid rotation and evidence supports the conclusion that they are losing angular momentum, thus spinning down. But active, fast-rotating suns are dangerous for life on the planets that surround them. They would have superflares which would destroy life on planets nearby them. Our sun was created mature and stable. Non-mature stars send out plasma flows (winds) that follow along the magnetic field lines, north and south, which torque the star through

magnetic braking, slowing its rotation over time.

One response to this problem is to attribute the slower rotation to magnetic braking that results from the solar wind material following the stiff magnetic field lines that extend well beyond the stellar surface (Alfvén radius <50 radii). This coupling exerts a torque on the surface layers of the sun, thus slowing down its rotation (Meynet et al., 2010). However, in determining the efficacy of the braking model, “Various assumptions are made regarding both the magnitude of the magnetic field and of the efficiency of the angular momentum transport mechanisms in the stellar interior” (Meynet, 2011). The problems of the secular theories of the origin of the solar system are well described by one leading astrophysicist:

A decades-long dispute over how much carbon, nitrogen, and oxygen lie within our closest star has implications for the entire universe. As astronomers gaze into the depths of space, they do so with unease: They don't know precisely what the universe is made of. It's not just the true nature of dark matter that eludes them; so does the essence of the stars that speckle the sky and populate the many galaxies throughout the cosmos. Surprisingly, no one knows the stars' exact chemical composition: how many carbon, nitrogen, and oxygen atoms they have relative to hydrogen, the most common element....Twenty years ago, astronomers expressed confidence in the numbers they had been working with. Now, not so much....Astonishingly, scientists don't know exactly what the sun is made of. As a result, they don't know what the other stars are made of, either. “The sun is a fundamental yardstick....When we determine the abundance of a certain element in a star or a galaxy or a gas cloud

anywhere in the universe, we use the sun as a reference point.” (Croswell, 2020)

Another problem is that the Nebular Hypothesis also predicts that the total gas that formed the solar system was only slightly more massive than the sun itself (Woolfson, 2000). Most of this gas was concentrated in the center which became the sun. The rest of the mass is assumed to have flattened into a proto-planetary disk. Within this swirling debris, rocky particles allegedly began to collide, forming larger and larger masses that soon attracted even more particles due to the force of gravity. These particles then supposedly contracted also due to gravity, creating planetesimals, which collided with one another to become the solid inner planets.

Meanwhile, the ionized plasma froze into giant balls that built the outer gas giants. In all, eight planets, 290 moons, asteroids, and the other celestial bodies in the solar system formed from this gas ball. However, the moon number per planet does not fit the pattern expected from this nebular notion, but rather it seems almost random: 1 moon for Earth, 2 for Mars, 95 for Jupiter, 146 for Saturn, only 30 for Uranus, 16 for Neptune, but 5 for the dwarf planet Pluto; and zero moons for both Mercury and Venus (Rabie, 2024).

Why the rocky planets formed closer to the sun, and the gas giants farther away is explained by another theory which involves the so-called solar wind, which is not a ‘wind’ (a movement of air) but is instead the steady flow of plasma that emanates from a star. When the sun first formed, this ‘wind’ was postulated to be far stronger than it is today—strong enough to blast lighter elements, such as hydrogen and helium, away from the inner orbits. When these expelled elements reached the outer orbits, the solar wind strength dropped off. The

gravity of the outer gas giants quickly drew these elements in, bloating these planets into their current forms once thought to be solid cores of rock and ice covered with gas. The gas giants (Jupiter and Saturn) and icy giants (Uranus and Neptune) are fluid planets with atmospheres primarily made of hydrogen and helium. The part of their atmospheres accessible to remote sensing occupies only a small fraction of their radii, only 0.05% (Sanchez-Lavega, 2019).

This planetary-formation theory presumes that gas giants occur in a solar system’s outer orbits. However, in 1995, astronomers discovered the distant planet 51 Pegasi b, a gas giant like Jupiter that orbited very close to its sun. This anomaly is explained by the belief that such planets form far away from the central star, and then move into a closer orbit. Such orbital migration, powered by a gravitational tug-of-war with other cosmic bodies, would also destroy the smaller, inner planets in its path.

For the gas giants, Jupiter and Saturn, the process is similar, with gravity causing gas and dust to accumulate and form massive planets. Nebular theories involve a process known as ‘gravitational contraction,’ causing parts of the cloud to clump together, which would allow for the sun and planets to form from it. Yet the asteroids between Mars and Jupiter were caused by rings that for some unexplainable reason *failed* to condense.

The problem with the ‘gravitational contraction’ theory is that all known physics indicates that gases tend to *expand* in a vacuum. The particles that form planets and asteroids are largely dust or frozen gases that do clump together and are not gas-like. Gravity is *by far* the weakest of the four fundamental forces, specifically 10^{40} times weaker than the electromagnetic force that holds atoms together (Clegg, 2012). Of note, electromagnetic forces

are weak over great distances while gravitational forces exert significant attraction over great distances, enough to hold the proto-dwarf planet Pluto in orbit. Scottish physicist James Clerk Maxwell demonstrated that even a fluid in space would not condense but rather form a ring, such as those around Saturn, or a belt of planetoids, as in the asteroid belt.

In the Standard Model, only when a gas cloud is massive enough will it collapse, causing the temperature and pressure to rise to the point where nuclear fusion can occur, leading to the formation of a light-producing sun. Actually, no one has observed the complete formation process of a star, although stages of their development have been said to be observed. Furthermore, numerical codes do give strong evidence that star formation occurs. Evolutionists see stars and they also see gas clouds, then assume the former was formed from the latter by natural processes. The process of a cloud’s gravity overcoming its internal pressure and causing a collapse to produce a burning star requires the core to reach a minimum temperature before the atoms inside fuse (Ranzan, 2016). The minimum temperature for hydrogen to fuse into helium is estimated at ten million degrees Kelvin. These facts create even more problems for the Nebular Hypothesis.

Other cosmologists have concluded that this theorized contraction will never happen naturally; normally the outward radiation pressure will always exceed the inward ‘gravitational collapse’ until the star’s size exceeds a certain level, depending on the star’s composition (Stephens, 2009). Evidence exists that compressional forces due to radiation pressure from *surrounding* stars and supernovae can cause coalescence. On the other hand, the formation of new stars requires the prior existence of other stars. For this reason, Population III star formation

of the universe's very first stars is a problem.

In the early 20th century, some scientists rejected the Nebular Hypothesis for the *Planetesimal Hypothesis*, which proposed that planets formed from material drawn out of the sun. This naturalistic proposal has also been proved unsatisfactory (Fairchild, 1904; Moulton, 1928).

Other Problems with the Nebular Hypothesis

This planet-formation hypothesis, widely accepted for about a hundred years, has several other serious flaws. For example, it is now known that not all planets move in the same way as the Nebular Hypothesis predicted. At the time when Laplace proposed the theory, Neptune and the dwarf planet Pluto were unknown. All the planets in the solar system have rotations in the same direction, namely "counter-clockwise" as seen from above (the North Celestial Pole), except Venus and Uranus. Venus and Uranus both spin clockwise or backward, known as retrograde rotation (Sullivan, 2000).

This difference cannot be explained by a hypothesis postulating that all of the planets formed from a gas cloud rotating in one direction. This problem is usually explained by collisions and/or that the planets have flipped due to planetary perturbations. Fortunately, the Earth is gyroscopically stable from the problem of variable inclinations due to its large moon. Its noticeable tilt, probably the result of the Genesis Flood, was ordained for several reasons, including to produce the seasons (Genesis 8:22).

Yet another problem is that differences in the planet-axis tilts do not conform to predictions of the Nebular Hypothesis. Earth's axis is tilted about 23-1/2 degrees, and Uranus' axis is so tilted, 82.23 degrees, that the planet is rotating on its "side." Mercury is tilted

at an angle of 0.03 degrees; Venus, 2.64 degrees; Jupiter, 3.13; Mars, 25.19; Saturn, 26.73; Neptune, 28.32; and Pluto, 57.47 degrees (Hamblin, 1990).

If all planets formed from the same gas cloud, all of them should lie in the plane of their sun's equator. In our solar system, the orbital planes of several planets *are at different angles* to the sun's equatorial plane. Most planets in our solar system are within three degrees of the ecliptic, but Mercury's orbit is inclined to the ecliptic by 7 degrees, and even the dwarf planet Pluto is inclined by over 17 degrees. It is true that the planets as a set are *close* to orbiting in a plane. The problem with Pluto is its dwarf nature and, consequently, its greater likelihood of perturbations.

The naturalistic explanation for all of these differences is that some unknown rogue planet rammed into some of the planets, altering their tilt and rotational direction. However, in spite of decades of searching, no one has been able to find any evidence of these rogue planets, a finding that surely would merit a Nobel Prize. If rogue planets were to collide, then the existing planets' clear evidence of such an impact, such as meteorite perturbations on the rocky planets, would certainly exist.

Studies on the kinetic energy of the sun and the planets have empirically demonstrated that 98% of this energy is involved in the movement of the planets. According to the Nebular Hypothesis, most of the energy should still be in the sun because, as the ball of gas (actually plasma) contracted, the energy of motion would be tied up in the newly formed sun at the center. As the ball spun faster, it would fling rings of matter outward, resulting in some energy leaving the system. These rings would consist of only a small amount of mass compared to the central gas ball. Therefore, given our current understanding, it would likely have removed only comparatively small

amounts of energy from the gas center, not the 98% as measured today.

A major objection to this imaginary scenario is the motivation used to originate the theory. It was not based on science, but rather was designed to support the philosophical worldview called methodological naturalism (Mortenson, 2004). Evidence for this stems from a conversation Laplace had with Napoleon Bonaparte. Napoleon inquired of Laplace after reading his musings, "Where does God fit into your system?" Laplace replied: "Sire, I have no need for that hypothesis" (Tyson, 2005). The Nebular Hypothesis is an attempt to explain the creation of the solar system without a creator. Secular astronomers are today bound by this axiom: there does not exist a Creator God.

Support for the Mature Creation of the Solar System

The idea of the "mature creation" of the solar system has many supporters. Rabbi David Gottlieb wrote that the objective scientific evidence for an old universe is strong, but *wrong*, and that the traditional Jewish calendar is close to correct, being based on the Seder Olam, which is off by at least 164 years (Gottlieb, 2023). Furthermore, John D. Morris, former president of the Institute for Creation Research, wrote in 1990 that the *appearance of age* is what God created that was "functionally complete right from the start—able to fulfill the purpose for which it was created" (Morris, 1990, p. 1).

Old-Earth creationist Vern Poythress writes the idea that God constructed a universe 6,000 years ago which is coherently mature. He also concluded that apparent age was originally built into all parts of nature, including the heavens, the solar system, and even the Earth (Poythress, 2006). Lastly, Don DeYoung effectively re-

futed the four major objections to the mature creation view. He noted that a mature creation does not include such present realities as disease and death that follow from the post-creation Fall (or Curse) as described in Genesis 3. Likewise, the mature creation description does *not* include the idea that fossils were created *ex nihilo* in Earth rocks. Rather, a mature, fully functioning universe, including starlight formed in transit, remains a credible option for the young-Earth creationist worldview (DeYoung, 2010).

Another explanation, in opposition to the mature creation theory proposed here, is the time dilation theory of many creationists with an interest in astronomy, including Drs. Repp, Humphreys, Hartnett, Samec, etc. Time dilation accepts the view that vast galaxies, gas-dust clouds, and other cosmological phenomena are real events rather than adopting the position that the universe only *appears* that it has dynamically changed in the past. These astronomers believe that astronomy is a science that can be studied to determine what has happened in the past following Creation despite the size and masses involved. The ideas of an original, mature creation currently are accepted by creationists but have a limited application in current astronomy.

Conclusion

This brief review of some of the evidence against the leading secular theories postulated to explain the origin of the solar system and universe has documented a few of the fatal problems with these theories. Removing these explanations from the position of viability leads to the conclusion of Genesis 1:1: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the Earth." This includes our solar system and the entire universe. The intricate solar

system dynamics are required to be in place from the start.

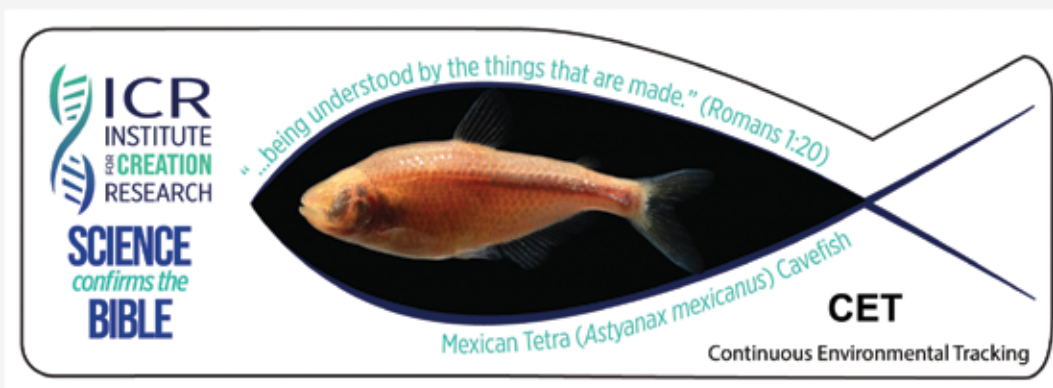
Before this Genesis beginning, creationists teach that neither time, space, matter, nor energy existed. This partly agrees with the secular belief that, before the "Big Bang," neither time, space, matter, nor energy existed (Hawking, 2018). However, instead of God being the Creator, the "Big Bang" idea postulates that time, space, matter, and energy were created from a quantum fluctuation derived from eternal nothing. From this singularity event, Big Bang theory postulates that the entire universe as we know it has filled out and matured by cosmological and biological evolution over billions of years. The mature creation position postulates that time, space, matter, and energy were created *ex nihilo* producing the Day-One Universe, with the solar system being made on Day Four of Creation week.

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