



CATASTROPHISM RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

— AN INDEPENDENT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION —

The Association

PUBLIC INTRODUCTION · FOUNDING PRE-SALE OPENS JULY 30, 2026



Issued July 2026 · Published at catastrophism.org · Correspondence: members@catastrophism.org

Purpose: a public statement of what the Association is, what it exists to do, and how it works, issued with the opening of the founding pre-sale on July 30, 2026.

I. What the Association is

Catastrophism is the recognition that Earth's history is shaped by sudden, large-magnitude state transitions as a complementary effect alongside traditional uniformitarianism. The framework studies the mechanisms behind those transitions: solar-terrestrial coupling and the propagation of space-weather state into Earth-system dynamics; exothermic core-mantle decoupling and the Dzhanibekov-type rotational instabilities that follow; geomagnetic excursion dynamics; the paleomagnetic and paleoclimatic record of past catastrophic events; and the contemporary observational signals that connect them.

For decades, this discipline has been carried by independent researchers operating outside the mainstream institutional system. What has been missing is institutional form: a shared methodological standard, peer review under those standards, a community of paying supporters who fund and develop the work directly, and the convening function this community has long needed.

The Catastrophism Research Association exists to provide that form. Original quantitative and theoretical research from the founding contributors, published under documented methodological doctrine. A live institutional archive open to members. Direct interaction between researchers and the community sustaining the work. Grants for independent researchers. In time, open submissions for work meeting the Association's standards, and convenings that bring the field together.

The catastrophism framework is accumulating empirical support faster than the institutional system is adapting to it. The cost of being wrong about the dynamics studied here is asymmetric. The Association exists to do this work properly while there is time to do it properly: under public methodological standards, with falsification criteria, with named contributors and transparent governance, and funded



by the people who care about the answers.

2. The research program

- **Solar-terrestrial coupling.** Disconnection events, geomagnetic response to solar activity, and the mechanisms by which space-weather state propagates into Earth-system dynamics.
- **Core-mantle dynamics and polar motion.** Quantitative time-series analysis of Earth orientation parameters, length-of-day variation, and the geophysical signals of core-mantle coupling state.
- **Rotational instability and core-mantle decoupling.** Mechanisms of catastrophic planetary state transition, spanning thermal decoupling at the core-mantle boundary and the rotational instabilities of spinning bodies.
- **Paleomagnetic and historical evidence.** The geomagnetic excursion record, paleoclimatic transitions, and the deep-time evidence base for catastrophic Earth-system transitions.
- **Rapid climate transitions.** Threshold dynamics, regime changes, and the mechanisms behind punctuated rather than purely gradual climate behavior.
- **Methodological doctrine.** Structured analytic standards adopted by the Association: epistemic labeling, falsification criteria, and the discipline of publishing findings that contradict prior work.

3. How the work is held to account

The Association's standing rests on a single claim: that its research can be checked. Its governing documents are published openly on the methodology page of catastrophism.org: the Methodology Standards (CRA-STD-METH-1.1), the Operating Procedures SOP-1 through SOP-6 (CRA-SOP-1.6-1.1), and the Contributor Field Guide (CRA-FG-1.0).

- **Every claim is labeled.** Established Finding, Working Hypothesis, or Open Question. Readers know exactly what kind of claim they are being asked to evaluate, and unknowns are named rather than suppressed.
- **Every hypothesis carries falsification conditions.** Observable outcomes which, if they occurred, would require revision or withdrawal, published with the hypothesis itself. Outcomes are published whether or not they favor prior work.
- **Every source carries a grade.** A four-tier source discipline, from primary instrumental data to uncorroborated material, with the evidentiary bar scaling to the weight of the claim.
- **Every model earns its standing.** Model outputs enter Association work only through published model cards and a maturity ladder from conceptual to live-scored; predictive claims may rest only on the published, cumulative record of registered forward claims.
- **Figures carry measured data only.** Schematics are labeled as such, sources appear on the figure itself, and captions pose the open question rather than asserting its answer.

4. The evidence base

Catastrophism is a multi-disciplinary science, evaluated against measured records maintained by independent observational programs:

Discipline	What is measured	Source programs
Geodesy and Earth orientation	Polar motion and length-of-day variation, measured continuously since 1846	IERS · Earth Orientation Centre
Geomagnetic observation	Field strength, declination, and secular variation	INTERMAGNET · IGRF
Paleomagnetism and archaeomagnetism	Dipole moment reconstructions and excursion chronologies	GEOMAGIA50 · CALS10k
Glaciology and ice cores	Layer-counted chronologies of abrupt transitions	Greenland and Antarctic core programs
Sedimentology and stratigraphy	The bedded record of high-energy events	Marine and lacustrine core archives
Heliophysics	Solar activity and the solar wind	Satellite and ground observation
Radiocarbon and cosmogenic isotopes	Production spikes recording extreme solar particle events	IntCal · dendrochronology networks
Rotational dynamics	Free and forced wobble and the stability of spin states	Theoretical and numerical analysis

The Association's data repository holds this record in working form: fourteen cleaned, documented, checksummed datasets across Earth orientation, the geomagnetic field, and angular momentum, 147,664 records in all, each with the preparation script that reproduces it from its named institutional source. The catalog is open to read at catastrophism.org; downloads are a member facility.

5. Membership

Membership is an explicit alternative to the closed-access model of mainstream science and the entertainment model of independent media. Members receive the monthly research letter, early access to all Association publications, the cleaned datasets and the analysis behind published figures, the member archive, and direct interaction with the researchers through office hours and the member community. The Association is funded by membership and disclosed giving; it accepts no advertising.

Tier	Price	Terms	Opens
Founding Charter	\$750 one time	Lifetime access, capped at 50 members, acknowledgment on every Association paper in year one, lifetime grandfathering	Pre-sale, July 30, 2026
Founding Member	\$300 per year	Capped at 100 members, founding rate locked through year five, acknowledgment on the first Association paper	Pre-sale, July 30, 2026
Standard	\$35 per month or \$350 per year	Full member access	Public launch, September 22, 2026
Organization	\$2,500 per year	Up to 10 named seats, quarterly briefing, sponsored research priority	Public launch, September 22, 2026

6. The founding pre-sale

150 founding seats exist: 50 Founding Charters and 100 Founding Members. Once filled, no additional founding seats will ever be created. Reservations are honored in the order received, and founding purchases carry a 14-day full-refund window, honored without condition.

Date	Event
July 30 to 31, 2026	Founding pre-sale opens at catastrophism.org
September 8, 2026	Founding members enter the member portal
September 22, 2026	Public launch; Standard and Organization membership open

7. Governance

The Association is operated by Catastrophism Research Association LLC, a Wyoming limited liability company led by its founding contributors, with a Managing Partner responsible for operations. Founding contributors are named publicly at catastrophism.org, and the roster grows only as agreements are signed. Editorial decisions, methodological standards, and material policies are documented and accessible to members. A 501(c)(3) foundation arm is in formation to carry the research grant program and tax-deductible giving once IRS determination is received. In the years ahead the Association's functions extend, on a published schedule, to open submissions reviewed under its standards, research grants for independent researchers, convenings, and sponsored research conducted under the Association's standards rather than the sponsor's.



Published by the Catastrophism Research Association · Founded MMXXVI · Wyoming, United States · catastrophism.org