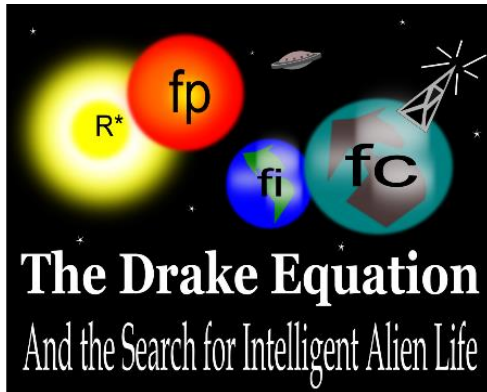


# The Drake Equation: A Documentary



## At Glance

- **When:**  
Date: May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Time: 1600 – 1730 Hrs (EST/EDT)
- **Where:**  
Online via Webex (to be shared only after you have a confirmed registration)
- **Audience: OPEN to ALL\***

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Chapter

Recently, as part of an innovative and fresh approach, i.e., a non-traditional meeting event: we presented video documentaries. This was very warmly received. So, we decided to continue the good work. We proudly present the Documentary: *The Search for Life: The Drake Equation*

**Summary:** A look at the Drake equation, developed by Dr. Frank Drake as a way to think about the number of extraterrestrial civilizations in our galaxy that could exist and communicate with us

The Drake equation is:<sup>[1]</sup>

$$N = R_* \cdot f_p \cdot n_e \cdot f_i \cdot f_c \cdot L$$

where

- $N$  = the number of **civilizations** in the Milky Way galaxy with which communication might be possible (i.e. which are on the current past **light cone**);
- and
- $R_*$  = the average rate of **star formation** in our Galaxy.
- $f_p$  = the fraction of those stars that have **planets**.
- $n_e$  = the average number of planets that can potentially support **life** per star that has planets.
- $f_i$  = the fraction of planets that could support life that actually develop life at some point.
- $f_c$  = the fraction of planets with life that go on to develop **intelligent** life (civilizations).
- $L$  = the length of time for which such civilizations release detectable signals into space.<sup>[6][7]</sup>

**\*Pre-Registration Required!**

<https://events.vtools.ieee.org/m/384610>

