

Drake Equation

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Problem.

The Drake equation is named after Dr. Frank Drake. He was the first radio astronomer to look for intelligent life in the universe. He developed this equation to answer the question, "How many potential alien civilizations are there in the universe? ". You are going to write a program to calculate the Drake equation. You will declare and initialize the variables in the formula and display the output. Use the formula in figure 1 for your work. The N is the number of potential alien civilizations.

$$N = R \cdot p \cdot n \cdot f \cdot i \cdot c \cdot L$$

Drake Equation Factor Values		Estimated Values
Rate of star creation	R	7 [†]
Percentage of stars with planets	p	40%
Average number of planets that can potentially support life for each star with planets	n	(no consensus)
Percentage of those that go on to develop life	f	13%
Percentage of those that go on to intelligent develop life	i	(no consensus)
Percentage of those willing and able to communicate	c	(no consensus)
Expected lifetime of civilizations	L	(no consensus)
[†] Estimate of NASA and the European Space Agency		

Figure 1: The Drake equation with commonly accepted values. No consensus means the scientific community has not formulated a value for this parameter. You can use any value you wish for ANY variable. However, if you use the values I used in Figure 3 you should get an answer similar to mine. That would verify your logic is working correctly.

```

calebfowler@ubuntu:~/Desktop$ g++ -std=c++14 -g -Wall drakeA.cpp
calebfowler@ubuntu:~/Desktop$ ./a.out

This program calculates the number of potential civilizations using
the Drake equation.

Results
=====
Estimated number of detectable civilizations in the universe.
1310.4
Double results: 2620.8
Half results: 655.2

Variables
=====
rsc: 7
pSwP: 0.4
aLife: 0.9
life: 0.13
iLife: 0.5
comm: 0.8
civ_life: 10000
calebfowler@ubuntu:~/Desktop$ 

```

Figure 2: Sample program run. This output may not be complete or in conformance with the specifications. However, it is correct given the listed values.

```

int rsc = 7;           // rate of star creation
float pSwP = 0.4;      // percentage of stars with planets
float aLife = .9;      // avg number of planets capable of supporting life per star
float life = .13;      // percent plantes which actually develop life
float iLife = .5;      // percent develop intelligent life
float comm = .8;       // percent willing to communicate
int civ_life = 10000;  // expected civilivation lifetime (years)

```

Figure 3: Sample values for the various variables.

Requirements.

These are the requirements for the assignment. This means they are general and apply to the entire assignment, rather than one specific part. Not every assignment will have a requirements section.

- Come up with your own variable names. Do NOT use the single letter names from the formula - they are poor variable names. You really don't need variable names larger than 15 characters.

- Hard-code the data into the program. You do not need to worry about prompting the client for additional input.
- Correctly compile your program.
- Successfully execute your program and generate correct results.
- Check the plagiarism score to make sure it's low enough (Close to green). If your score is not green, you need to examine to plagiarism report and find out why. Discuss your findings and conclusions in a comment in the Canvas assignment.
- Use white-space and comments to make your code more readable.
- Program activities are split into logical 'chunks' or paragraphs. I'm expecting paragraphs for input, processing (if any), and output operations.

Specifications.

These are the actual requirements the client wants you to implement in your program.

// Specification C1 - Variable Declaration

Create variables to hold your data and calculation. Rename the variables in the formula in Figure 1 to something more understandable. I'm looking for you to use a formula with variables that have values assigned to them.

// Specification C2 - Program Greeting

Create your own program greeting and display it to the console. This should always be the first thing your program displays. You can put anything you want here, but it's common to list the program name, your name and the current date. Use a comment with the words ProgramGreeting (no space) on the line above this code to make it easy to find.

// Specification C3 - Source File Header

Put a header on the very top of your source file. First line program name.cpp, second line your name and this class, third line assignment due date. I'll look for comments like this:

```
// dryRun.cpp 2
// Pat Jones, CISP 413
// 12/34/56
```

It's OK to put this specification comment at line 1 for this assignment. In future assignments this will still be required, but it will no longer appear as a specification.

// Specification C4 - Variable Initialization

Initialize your variables to appropriate values as well as declare them. Assign the integer variable Rate of Star Creation a value of 7. If you declared and initialized in the same step, put the specification comment C1 on the line below the specification comment C2. Specification comments should always have a line to themselves.

// Specification B1 - Calculation

Put this comment above the code which actually performs the calculation. Do not put the calculation in your cout statement(s), have it store the value in etCiv.

// Specification B2 - Drake Equation Heading

Add a heading to your equation's output which looks like this:

```
{ blank line }  
CHANCE OF INTELLIGENT LIFE  
=====
```

```
{ Your output goes here.}
```

Format and display the number of potential alien civilizations to **3** decimal places. Use cout for this. Do not be tempted to use the printf() command (ever) as it is not part of the C++ Standard Library.

// Specification B3 - Double and Half Output and Headings

Display on the console your calculation results doubled and reduced by half. This is called sensitivity analysis. The heading should look something like:

```
{ blank line }  
SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS  
=====
```

```
{ Your output goes here.}
```

// Specification B4 - Constant Variables

Use the proper syntax as well as the const keyword to create appropriate constant variables.

// Specification A - Reflection

Using the following prompts, generate feedback on your assignment using ChatGPT. Often shift-return will generate a blank line without submitting the prompt.

Analyze this student's code in relationship to commonly accepted C++ programming practices and standards. This is an assignment from an Introductory C++ programming course. Indicate if this code is likely to compile or run correctly in addition to your other feedback.

<Copy and Paste your source code here>

Review and reflect on the feedback the system gives you. Write this up in 250 words or more. Include your write up as a block comment at the bottom of your assignment. **Also indicate the number of words in your write up, as well.** You may wish to:

Comment on the overall quality of the assessment. Was it accurate? Did it make sense? Did you find it useful? Does it align with what you coded? You may wish to discuss one or two main themes the AI identified in relationship to your coding.

Memorialize your reaction to the feedback. Do you find it easier to get feedback from a computer or a human? Was there any advice in particular which was helpful to you? Can you think of a better prompt to generate the information you need?

I am NOT interested in the feedback from the generative AI. Do NOT copy and paste that in your program. I am interested in your thoughts about it however. You are free to use multiple prompts as well. I do not use this tool to grade your assignments - it's not accurate enough for my purposes. I will not grade the quality of your content. I want this to be useful to you and not worry about saying something "grade worthy". I suggest this is the last step you perform before you turn in your assignment. You can do it earlier if you wish, but the feedback will not be as useful. You are free to revise your code in light of the feedback you get, but remember, the assignment is what I grade to, not ChatGPT. Make sure you confirm your code runs before you turn it in.