$N = R^* \times f_p \times n_e \times f_l \times f_i \times f_c \times L$

The Drake equation states that:

where:

N = the number of civilizations in our galaxy with which communication might be possible;

and

 R^* = the average rate of star formation per year 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 the above that actually go on to develop life at some point

 f_i = the fraction of the above that actually go on to develop intelligent life

 f_c = the fraction of civilizations that develop a technology that releases detectable signs of their existence into space

L = the length of time such civilizations release detectable signals into space.

A♦XIOUS PROP

