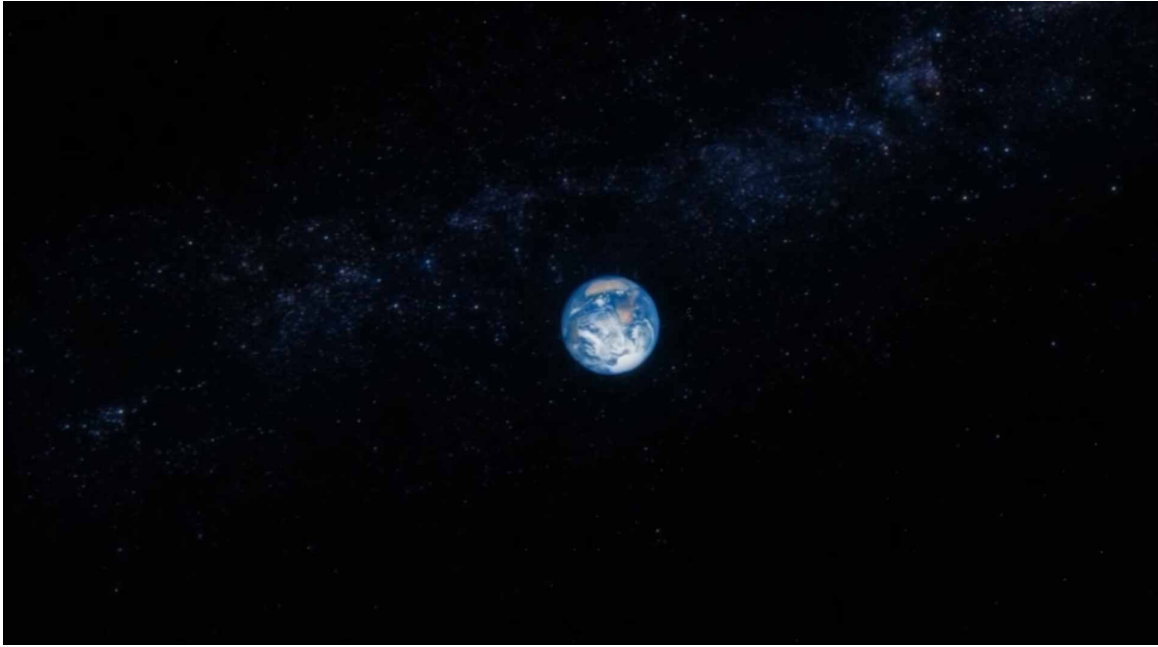


The Pale Blue Dot – Is That All There Is?



This session will start where my Reunion presentation ended – on the pale blue dot we call home, the Earth. The question is, are there other advanced civilizations out there? How many might there be ... or, as improbable as it might seem, are we alone in the universe?

We'll explore several different approaches to the question, including (1) wild guesses; (2) the intuitive answer that many people embrace ("There must be kazillions!"); and (3) a predictive equation developed some years ago by leading astrophysicists and astronomers. (Some arithmetic, but no advanced math – the fascinating part, to me, addresses all the considerations involved in making assumptions about each of the equation's variables.)

We'll end with an intriguing "thought experiment" – no arithmetic! – and some astute advice from another life form. Please join us.

