

Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) - The Next Steps (34th Symposium) (IAA.1.1)  
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SETI II - Interdisciplinary Aspects (2.)

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## PAST AND FUTURE OF ASTRONOMY AND SETI CAST IN MATHS

### **Abstract**

Assume that the history of Astronomy and SETI is the leading proof of the evolution of human intelligence on Earth over the last 3000 years. Then, human intelligence has increased a lot, although not at a uniform pace. A mathematical description of how much has human intelligence increased, however, is difficult to achieve. In this paper, we cast a mathematical model the evolution of human intelligence over the last three thousand years that seems to reflect reasonably well both what is known from past and might be extrapolated into the future. Our model is based on two seminal books: 1) "Cosmos" by Carl Sagan (1980), widely known to millions of people all over the western world because of the corresponding TV series, and 2) "Interstellar Migration and the Human Experience" (by Ben Finney and Eric Jones, Editors, University of California Press, 1983). Our model is based on the use of two cubic curves, representing the evolution of Astronomy and of SETI, respectively. We conclude by extrapolating these curves into the future and reach the conclusion that the "Star Trek" age of humankind might possibly begin by the end of this century.