## fn conservative\_discrete\_laplacian\_tail\_to\_alpha

## Michael Shoemate

October 3, 2025

This proof resides in "contrib" because it has not completed the vetting process.

Proof for conservative\_discrete\_laplacian\_tail\_to\_alpha.

**Definition 0.1.** Define  $Y \sim \mathcal{L}_{\mathbb{Z}}(0, s)$ , a random variable following the discrete laplace distribution:

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{Z} \qquad \Pr[X = x] = \frac{e^{1/s} - 1}{e^{1/s} + 1} e^{-|x|/s}$$
 (1)

**Theorem 0.2.** Assume  $X \sim \mathcal{L}_{\mathbb{Z}}(0, s)$ , and t > 0.

$$\alpha = P[X > t] = \frac{e^{-t/s}}{e^{-1/s} + 1} \tag{2}$$

Proof.

$$\begin{split} &\alpha = P[X > t] \\ &= \sum_{x=t+1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{1/s} - 1}{e^{1/s} + 1} e^{-|x|/s} \\ &= \frac{e^{1/s} - 1}{e^{1/s} + 1} \sum_{x=t+1}^{\infty} e^{-x/s} & \text{since } t > 0 \\ &= \frac{e^{1/s} - 1}{e^{1/s} + 1} \frac{e^{(1 - (t+1))/s}}{e^{1/s} - 1} & \text{since } \sum_{x=t}^{\infty} p^x = \frac{p^t}{1 - p} & \text{if } |p| < 1, \text{ let } p = e^{1/s} \\ &= \frac{e^{-t/s}}{e^{1/s} + 1} \end{split}$$