

**Theorem:** The Laplace( $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$ ) distribution is a special case of the error( $a, b, c$ ) distribution when  $a = 0$ ,  $b = \alpha/2$ , and  $c = 2$ .

**Proof:** Let the random variable  $X$  have the error( $a, b, c$ ) distribution with probability density function

$$f(x) = \frac{\exp\left[-(|x - a|/b)^{2/c}/2\right]}{b(2^{c/2+1})\Gamma(1 + c/2)} \quad -\infty < x < \infty.$$

When  $a = 0$ ,  $b = \alpha/2$ , and  $c = 2$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{\exp\left[-(|x|/(\alpha/2))/2\right]}{(\alpha/2)(2^2)\Gamma(2)} \\ &= \frac{e^{-|x|/\alpha}}{2\alpha} \\ &= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\alpha}e^{x/\alpha} & x < 0 \\ \frac{1}{2\alpha}e^{-x/\alpha} & x > 0, \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

which is the probability density function of the Laplace( $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$ ) distribution, where  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2$ .

**APPL verification:** The APPL statements

```
a := 0;
b := alpha / 2;
c := 2;
X := [[x -> exp(-(abs(x - a) / b) ^ (2 / c) / 2) / (b * (2 ^ (c / 2 + 1)) *
Gamma(1 + c / 2))], [-infinity, infinity], ["Continuous", "PDF"]];
simplify(X[1][1](x));
```

yield the probability density function of a Laplace( $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$ ) random variable

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\alpha}e^{y/\alpha} & y < 0 \\ \frac{1}{2\alpha}e^{-y/\alpha} & y > 0. \end{cases}$$