

# Power Laws and Their Properties

$$y = f(x) = Ax^r \quad \text{Scale} \quad [x \rightarrow \lambda x]$$

$$\therefore [f(x) \rightarrow f(\lambda x) = A(\lambda x)^r = A\lambda^r x^r = y\lambda^r]$$

$\Rightarrow$  y is scaled as  $[y\lambda^r]$  (Scale invariance)

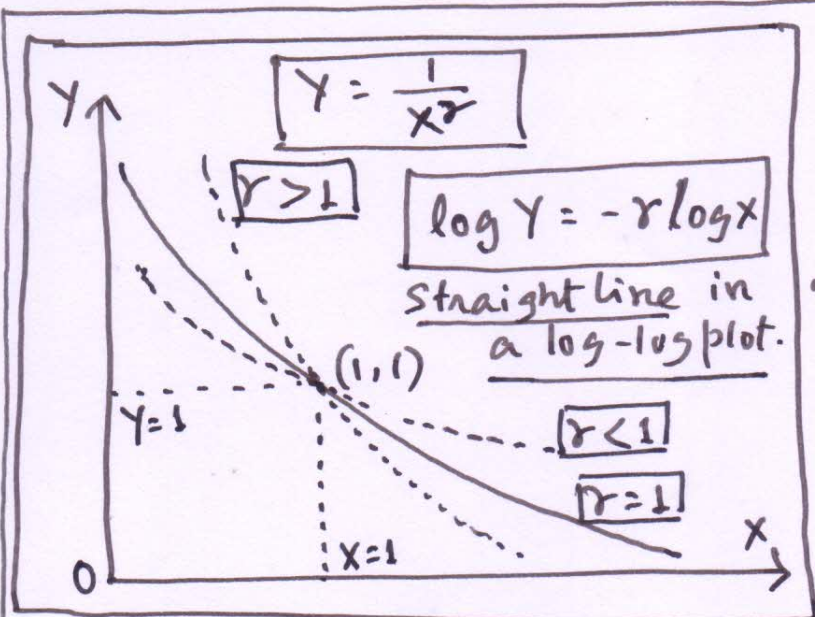
## Inverse Power - Laws

$$y^m x^n = c \quad \Rightarrow \quad [y x^{n/m} = c^{1/m} = a \text{ (say)}]$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \left[ \frac{y}{a} x^{n/m} = 1 \right] \quad \text{Rescale} \quad [Y = y/a], [X = x]$$

and  $[r = n/m], (r > 0).$

$$\Rightarrow \quad [Y X^r = 1] \quad (\text{as in } [P V^r = \text{constant}]).$$



1/ All the curves pass through (1,1).

2/ As  $x \rightarrow \infty$ , the decay is faster for higher values of r.

3/ For finite values of x and y, no curve touches  $[X=0]$  or  $[Y=0]$ .

4/ Any part of a curve is self-similar to any other part — Scale-invariant.