

**Theorem** The power distribution has the scaling property. That is, if  $X \sim \text{power}(\alpha, \beta)$  then  $Y = kX$  also has the power distribution.

**Proof** Let the random variable  $X$  have the  $\text{power}(\alpha, \beta)$  distribution with probability density function

$$f(x) = \frac{\beta x^{\beta-1}}{\alpha^\beta} \quad 0 < x < \alpha.$$

Let  $k$  be a positive, real constant. The transformation  $Y = g(X) = kX$  is a 1-1 transformation from  $\mathcal{X} = \{x \mid 0 < x < \alpha\}$  to  $\mathcal{Y} = \{y \mid 0 < y < k\alpha\}$  with inverse  $X = g^{-1}(Y) = Y/k$  and Jacobian

$$\frac{dX}{dY} = \frac{1}{k}.$$

Therefore, by the transformation technique, the probability density function of  $Y$  is

$$\begin{aligned} f_Y(y) &= f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right| \\ &= \frac{\beta(y/k)^{\beta-1}}{\alpha^\beta} \left| \frac{1}{k} \right| \\ &= \frac{\beta y^{\beta-1}}{(k\alpha)^\beta} \quad 0 < y < k\alpha, \end{aligned}$$

which is the probability density function of a  $\text{power}(k\alpha, \beta)$  random variable.

**APPL failure:** The APPL statements

```
assume(alpha > 0);
assume(beta > 0);
assume(k > 0);
X := [[beta * x ^ (beta - 1) / (alpha ^ beta)], [0, alpha],
      ["Continuous", "PDF"]];
g := [[x -> k * x], [0, alpha]];
Y := Transform(X, g);
```

do not yield the probability density function of a  $\text{power}(k\alpha, \beta)$  random variable.