Exercise 20

For the following exercises, determine whether the relation represents y as a function of x.

$$x = y^3$$

Solution

Solve for y by taking the cubed root of both sides.

$$\sqrt[3]{x} = \sqrt[3]{y^3}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{x} = (y^3)^{1/3}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{x} = y^1$$

$$y = \sqrt[3]{x}$$

The relation $x = y^3$ is a function because for every input x, there's exactly one output given by $y = \sqrt[3]{x}$. This is reflected in the graph by the fact that any vertical line passes through the curve exactly once.

