

Assignment2Report

February 6, 2019

1 CS301 - Assignment 2

1.0.1 Lists vs Dictionaries in Python

By Joshua Swick, Evan Minor, and David Vandiver

Assignment Prompt Experimentally determine the running time of list and dictionary operations in Python. Write a report explaining what you found, and draw whatever conclusions you can about how lists and dictionaries might be structured in order to give this behavior. You will probably find it useful to write a function that produces a .csv file of data about the behavior of a given function and then to use Excel to plot the data and find a curve that fits it.

We compared this by measuring the runtime of functions doing similar operations on lists and dictionary data structures of increasing size. The functions are listed below and their runtimes graphed accordingly.

1.1 Prepare Data (see ./Assignment2.py)

```
In [1]: from Assignment2 import *
        number_of_elements = 100000
        main()
```

```
In [2]: import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
        import pandas as pd
```

```
In [20]: !ls ./csvs/ ## Raw csv files
```

appendFoo_dict.csv	getFirstElement_list.csv
appendFoo_list.csv	getLastElement_dict.csv
concatenateFooToEachElement_dict.csv	getLastElement_list.csv
concatenateFooToEachElement_list.csv	lengthOf_dict.csv
countNumOfElements_dict.csv	lengthOf_list.csv
countNumOfElements_list.csv	sort_dict.csv
getFirstElement_dict.csv	sort_list.csv

1.2 Compare Data

1.2.1 Append element to data structure

Dictionary

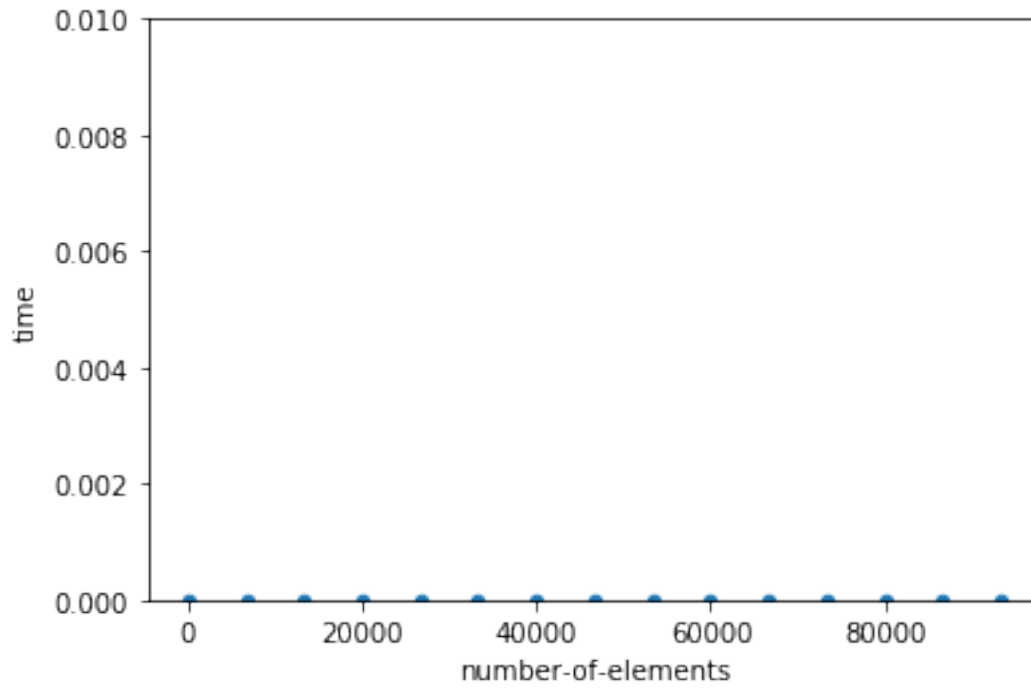
```
In [6]: file = "csvs/appendFoo_dict.csv"
        names = ['number-of-elements', 'time']
        dataset1 = pd.read_csv(file, names=names)
```

```
In [7]: print(dataset1)
```

	number-of-elements	time
0	2	0.000004
1	6668	0.000005
2	13334	0.000004
3	20000	0.000002
4	26666	0.000010
5	33332	0.000004
6	39998	0.000005
7	46664	0.000003
8	53330	0.000005
9	59996	0.000005
10	66662	0.000004
11	73328	0.000003
12	79994	0.000006
13	86660	0.000003
14	93326	0.000008

```
In [17]: ax1 = dataset1.plot(kind='scatter', x='number-of-elements', y='time')
        ax1.set_ylim(0, .01)
```

```
Out[17]: (0, 0.01)
```

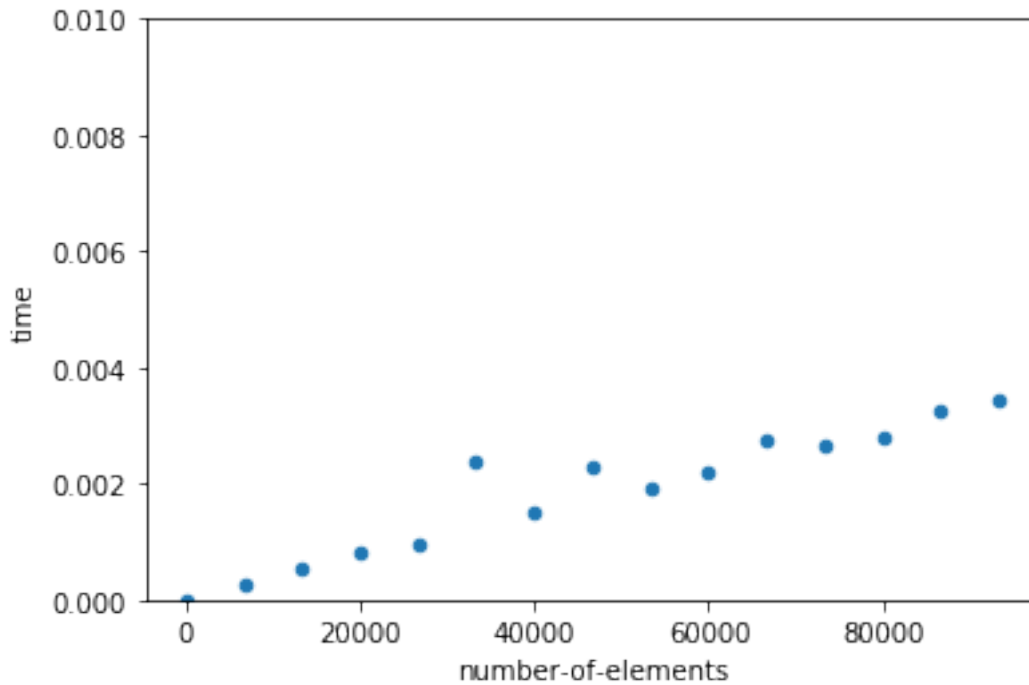


List

```
In [ ]: file = "csvs/appendFoo_list.csv"
        names = ['number-of-elements', 'time']
        dataset2 = pd.read_csv(file, names=names)

In [21]: ax2 = dataset2.plot(kind='scatter', x='number-of-elements', y='time')
        ax2.set_ylim(0, .01)

Out[21]: (0, 0.01)
```



Explanation As of Python 3.7 dictionaries are ordered by insertion. The equivalent of appending to list would be to insert the element by key value pair as usual. This is a constant function. Python must check each element in the list to find the end as the operation is linear.

1.2.2 Concatenate 'foo' to Each Element in the Data Structure

Dictionary

```
In [23]: file = "csvs/concatenateFooToEachElement_dict.csv"
         dataset3 = pd.read_csv(file,names=names)
         print(dataset3)
```

	number-of-elements	time
0	1	0.000007
1	6667	0.001608
2	13333	0.001697
3	19999	0.004292
4	26665	0.007481
5	33331	0.004578
6	39997	0.005165
7	46663	0.006000
8	53329	0.006974
9	59995	0.007886
10	66661	0.010344
11	73327	0.009301

```

12          79993  0.009957
13          86659  0.012107
14          93325  0.011796

```

```

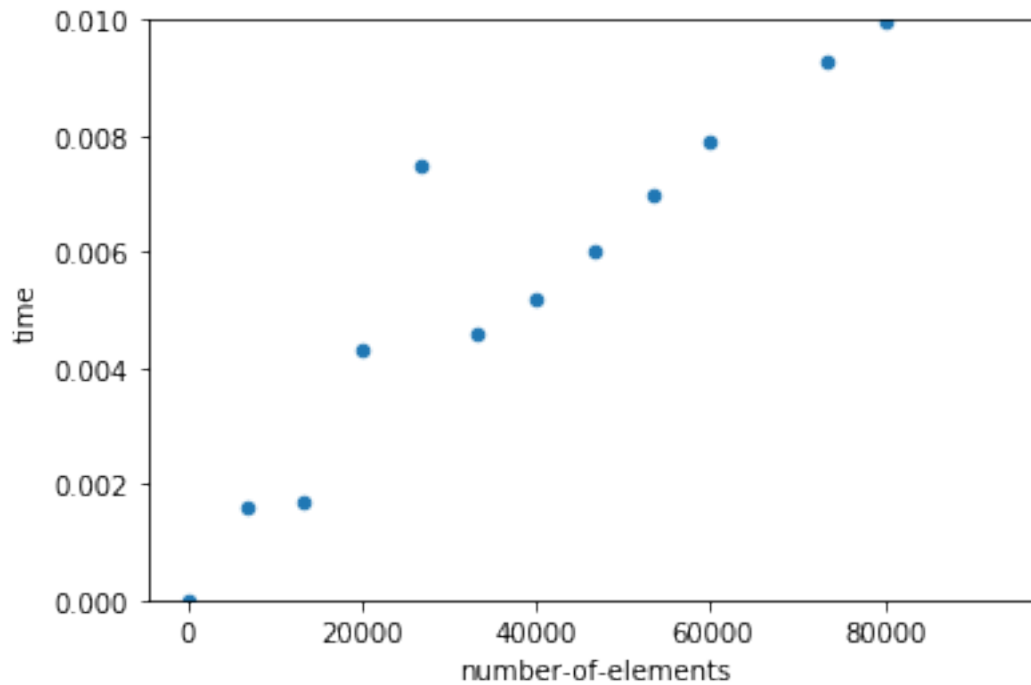
In [24]: ax3 = dataset3.plot(kind='scatter',x='number-of-elements',y='time')
         ax3.set_ylim(0,.01)

```

```

Out[24]: (0, 0.01)

```



List

```

In [26]: file = "csvs/concatenateFooToEachElement_list.csv"
         dataset4 = pd.read_csv(file,names=names)
         print(dataset4)

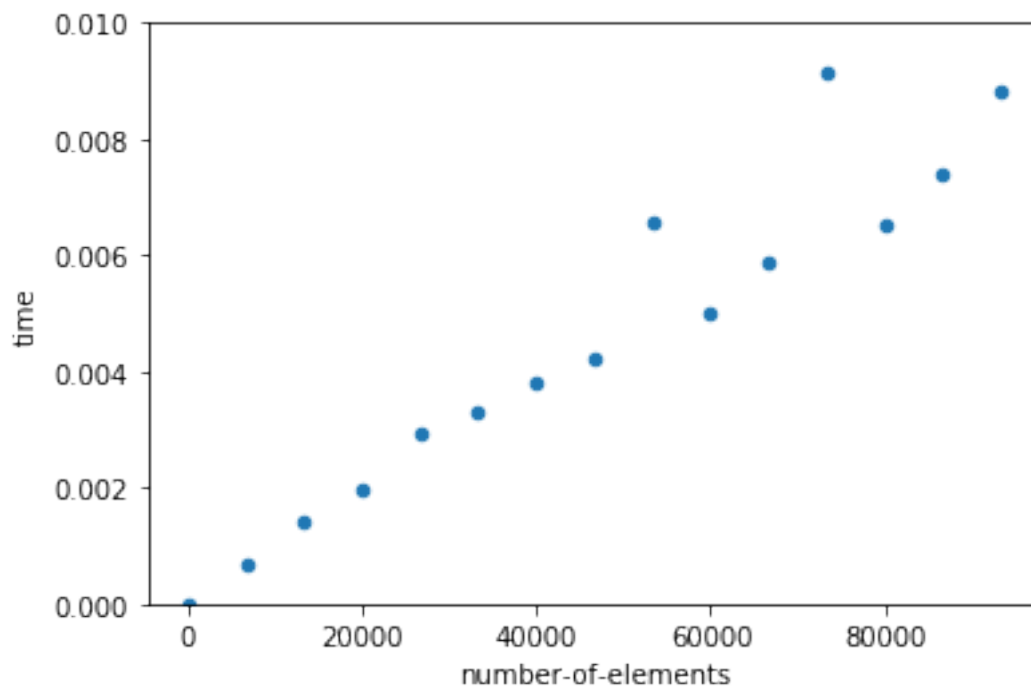
```

	number-of-elements	time
0	2	0.000005
1	6668	0.000675
2	13334	0.001436
3	20000	0.001974
4	26666	0.002938
5	33332	0.003309
6	39998	0.003818
7	46664	0.004208

8	53330	0.006549
9	59996	0.005000
10	66662	0.005872
11	73328	0.009136
12	79994	0.006535
13	86660	0.007375
14	93326	0.008838

```
In [27]: ax4 = dataset4.plot(kind='scatter',x='number-of-elements',y='time')
         ax4.set_ylim(0,.01)
```

```
Out[27]: (0, 0.01)
```



Explanation Python must iterate through each element in the data structure which is a linear operation.

1.2.3 Count the Number of Elements in the Data Structure

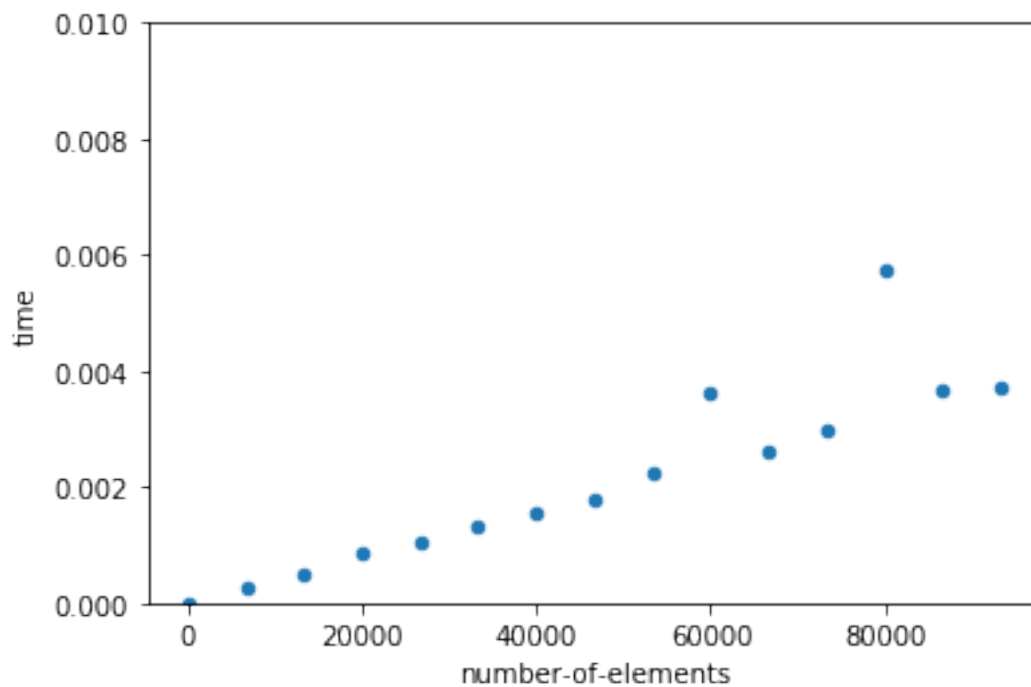
Dictionary

```
In [28]: file = "csvs/countNumOfElements_dict.csv"
         dataset5 = pd.read_csv(file,names=names)
         print(dataset5)
```

	number-of-elements	time
0	1	0.000009
1	6667	0.000258
2	13333	0.000508
3	19999	0.000863
4	26665	0.001042
5	33331	0.001315
6	39997	0.001568
7	46663	0.001803
8	53329	0.002257
9	59995	0.003628
10	66661	0.002611
11	73327	0.002971
12	79993	0.005750
13	86659	0.003660
14	93325	0.003728

```
In [29]: ax5 = dataset5.plot(kind='scatter',x='number-of-elements',y='time')
         ax5.set_ylim(0,.01)
```

```
Out[29]: (0, 0.01)
```



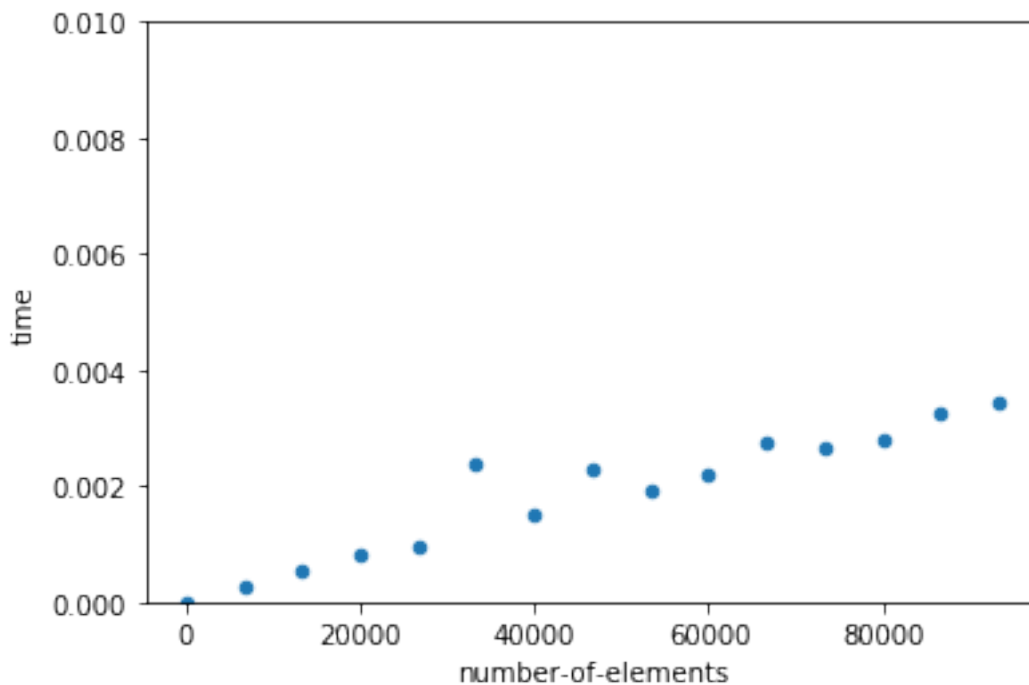
List

```
In [30]: file = "csvs/countNumOfElements_list.csv"
        dataset6 = pd.read_csv(file,names=names)
        print(dataset6)
```

	number-of-elements	time
0	2	0.000002
1	6668	0.000266
2	13334	0.000545
3	20000	0.000815
4	26666	0.000960
5	33332	0.002403
6	39998	0.001511
7	46664	0.002301
8	53330	0.001911
9	59996	0.002205
10	66662	0.002745
11	73328	0.002674
12	79994	0.002807
13	86660	0.003237
14	93326	0.003460

```
In [31]: ax6 = dataset6.plot(kind='scatter',x='number-of-elements',y='time')
        ax6.set_ylim(0,.01)
```

Out[31]: (0, 0.01)



Explanation Python must iterate through each element in the data structure while counting, which is a linear process.

1.2.4 Get the First Element in the Data Structure

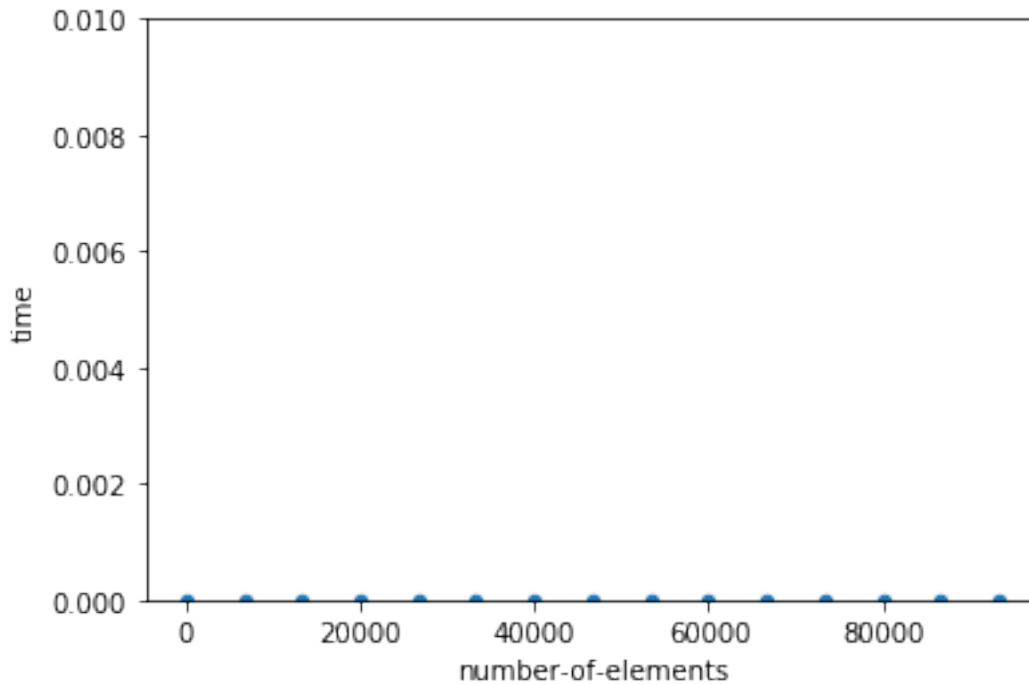
Dictionary

```
In [32]: file = "csvs/getFirstElement_dict.csv"
        dataset7 = pd.read_csv(file,names=names)
        print(dataset7)
```

	number-of-elements	time
0	1	0.000002
1	6667	0.000003
2	13333	0.000003
3	19999	0.000001
4	26665	0.000003
5	33331	0.000002
6	39997	0.000003
7	46663	0.000002
8	53329	0.000005
9	59995	0.000004
10	66661	0.000003
11	73327	0.000002
12	79993	0.000002
13	86659	0.000004
14	93325	0.000003

```
In [33]: ax7 = dataset7.plot(kind='scatter',x='number-of-elements',y='time')
        ax7.set_ylim(0,.01)
```

```
Out[33]: (0, 0.01)
```



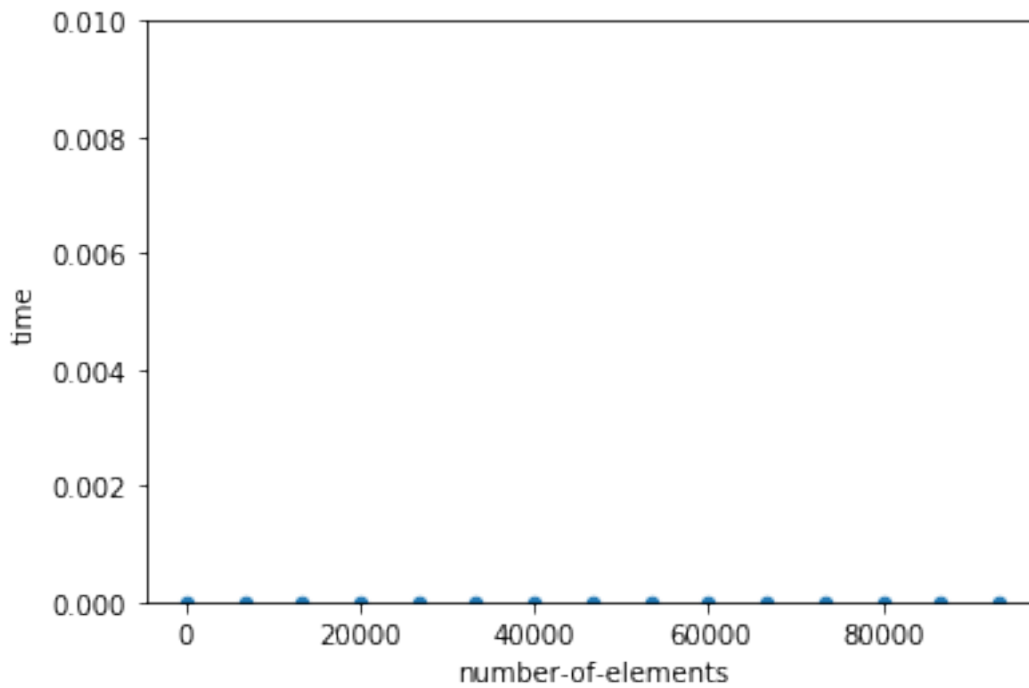
List

```
In [34]: file = "csvs/getFirstElement_list.csv"
dataset8 = pd.read_csv(file,names=names)
print(dataset8)
```

	number-of-elements	time
0	2	0.000002
1	6668	0.000001
2	13334	0.000001
3	20000	0.000002
4	26666	0.000002
5	33332	0.000001
6	39998	0.000002
7	46664	0.000002
8	53330	0.000002
9	59996	0.000005
10	66662	0.000002
11	73328	0.000002
12	79994	0.000002
13	86660	0.000002
14	93326	0.000003

```
In [35]: ax8 = dataset8.plot(kind='scatter',x='number-of-elements',y='time')
ax8.set_ylim(0,.01)
```

Out [35]: (0, 0.01)



Explanation The first element of a data structure is always in the same index, hence a constant operation.

1.2.5 Get the Last Element of the Data Structure

Dictionary

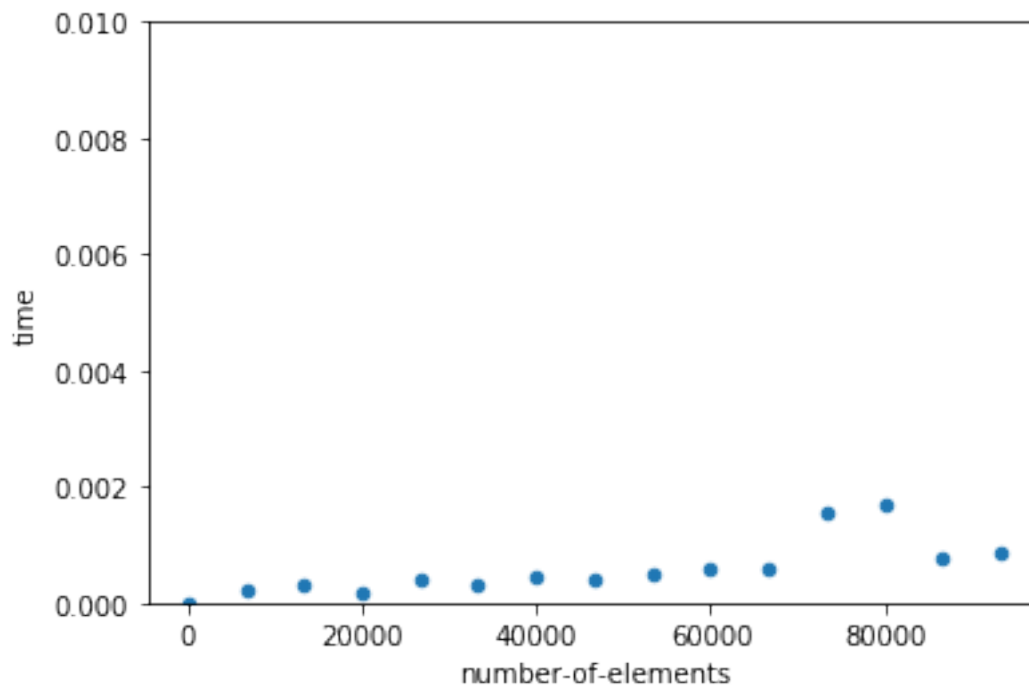
```
In [37]: file = "csvs/getLastElement_dict.csv"
         dataset9 = pd.read_csv(file,names=names)
         print(dataset9)
```

	number-of-elements	time
0	1	0.000011
1	6667	0.000214
2	13333	0.000294
3	19999	0.000165
4	26665	0.000387
5	33331	0.000310
6	39997	0.000462
7	46663	0.000419
8	53329	0.000481
9	59995	0.000587
10	66661	0.000592

11	73327	0.001571
12	79993	0.001695
13	86659	0.000772
14	93325	0.000878

```
In [39]: ax9 = dataset9.plot(kind='scatter',x='number-of-elements',y='time')
ax9.set_ylim(0,.01)
```

```
Out [39]: (0, 0.01)
```



List

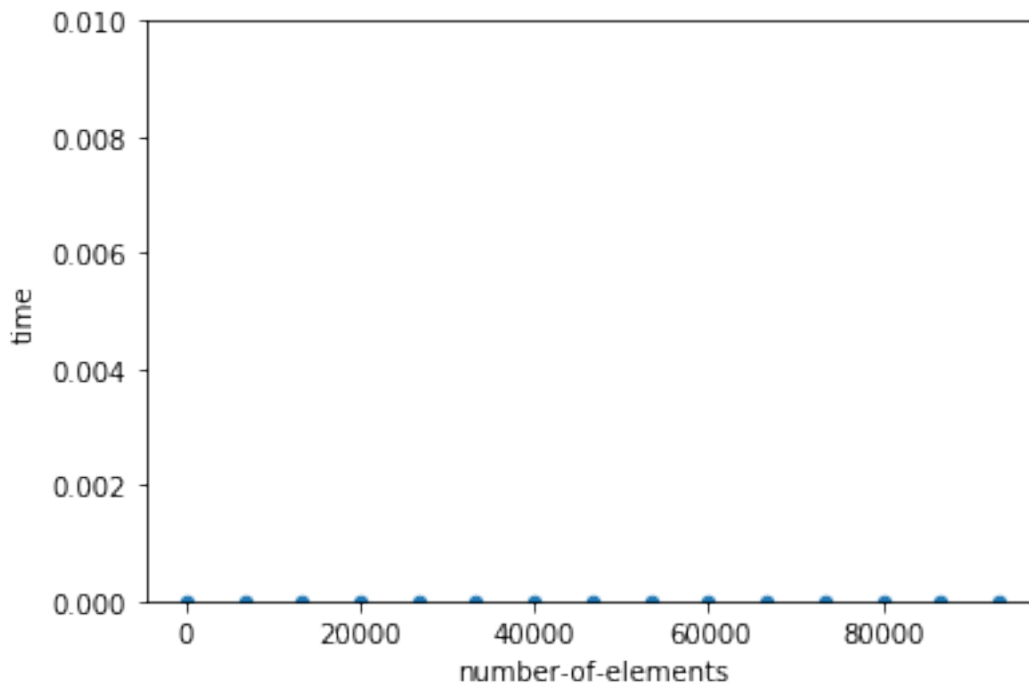
```
In [38]: file = "csvs/getLastElement_list.csv"
dataset10 = pd.read_csv(file,names=names)
print(dataset10)
```

	number-of-elements	time
0	2	1.668930e-06
1	6668	1.192093e-06
2	13334	1.668930e-06
3	20000	2.384186e-06
4	26666	9.536743e-07
5	33332	1.907349e-06
6	39998	1.668930e-06

7	46664	1.907349e-06
8	53330	1.668930e-06
9	59996	2.622604e-06
10	66662	2.145767e-06
11	73328	5.245209e-06
12	79994	1.430511e-06
13	86660	2.145767e-06
14	93326	2.384186e-06

```
In [40]: ax10 = dataset10.plot(kind='scatter',x='number-of-elements',y='time')
         ax10.set_ylim(0,.01)
```

```
Out[40]: (0, 0.01)
```



Explanation List looks constant, dictionary is linear?

1.2.6 Get the Length of the Data Structure

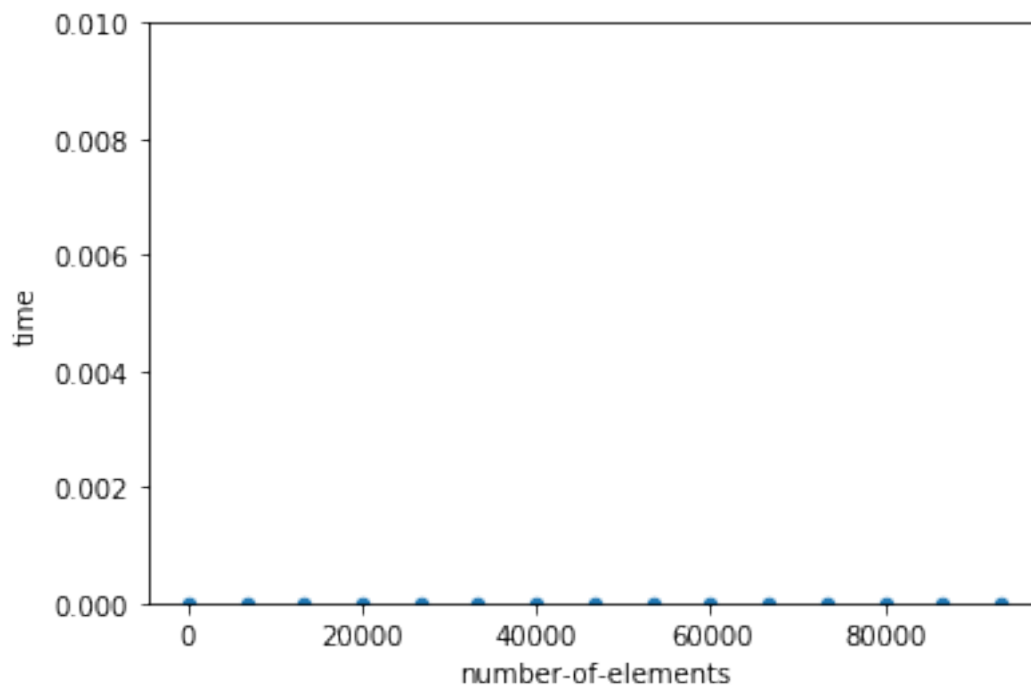
Dictionary

```
In [41]: file = "csvs/lengthOf_dict.csv"
         dataset11 = pd.read_csv(file,names=names)
         print(dataset11)
```

	number-of-elements	time
0	1	0.000003
1	6667	0.000006
2	13333	0.000004
3	19999	0.000003
4	26665	0.000003
5	33331	0.000002
6	39997	0.000004
7	46663	0.000004
8	53329	0.000004
9	59995	0.000004
10	66661	0.000004
11	73327	0.000003
12	79993	0.000003
13	86659	0.000003
14	93325	0.000004

```
In [43]: ax11 = dataset11.plot(kind='scatter',x='number-of-elements',y='time')
         ax11.set_ylim(0,.01)
```

```
Out[43]: (0, 0.01)
```



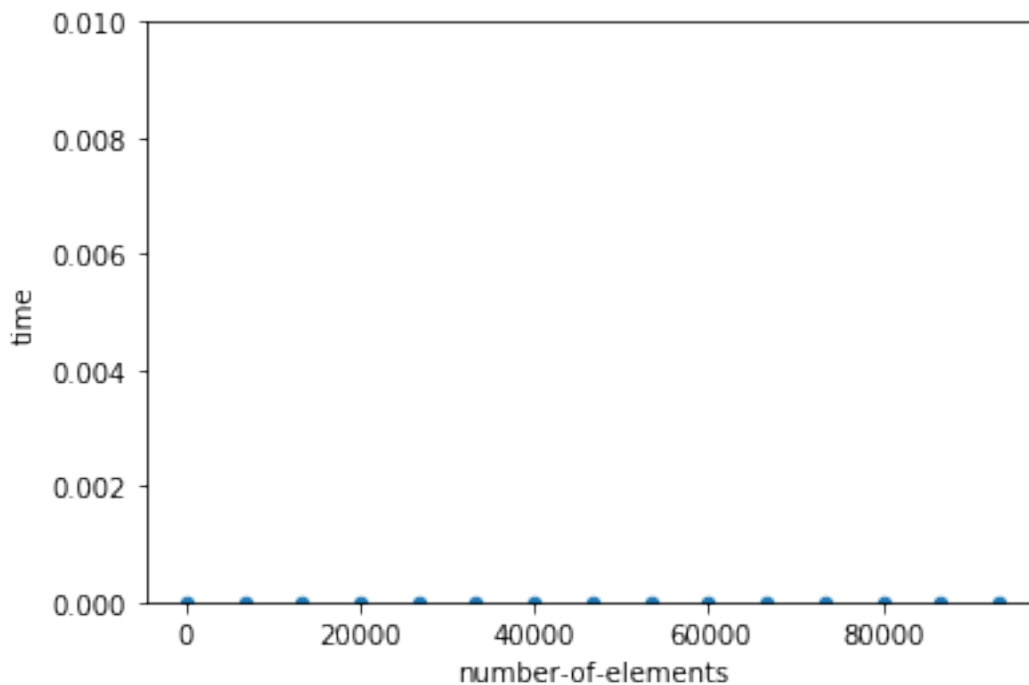
Lists

```
In [42]: file = "csvs/lengthOf_list.csv"
        dataset12 = pd.read_csv(file,names=names)
        print(dataset12)
```

	number-of-elements	time
0	2	1.668930e-06
1	6668	7.152557e-07
2	13334	1.192093e-06
3	20000	2.384186e-06
4	26666	3.576279e-06
5	33332	2.622604e-06
6	39998	3.814697e-06
7	46664	3.099442e-06
8	53330	2.145767e-06
9	59996	2.861023e-06
10	66662	3.099442e-06
11	73328	4.053116e-06
12	79994	2.861023e-06
13	86660	2.861023e-06
14	93326	3.337860e-06

```
In [44]: ax12 = dataset12.plot(kind='scatter',x='number-of-elements',y='time')
        ax12.set_ylim(0,.01)
```

Out[44]: (0, 0.01)



Explanation Getting the length of a list or dictionary is a constant operation, is the length saved as meta data or easily calculated?

1.2.7 Sort the Data Structure

Dictionary Dictionaries cannot be ordered by key, value elements.

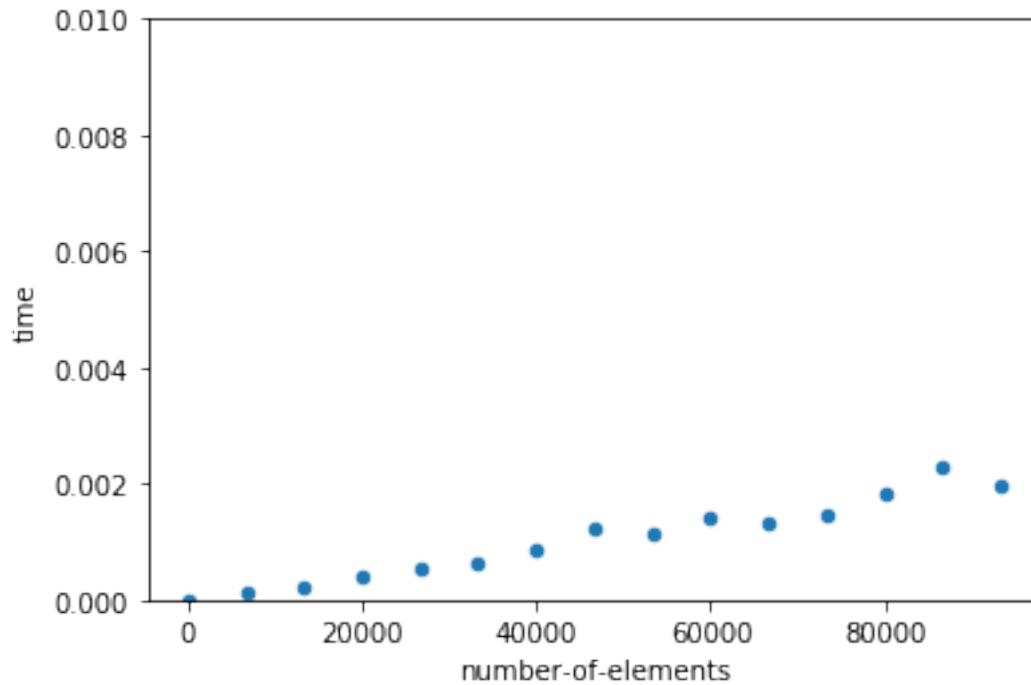
List

```
In [47]: file = "csvs/sort_list.csv"
         dataset14 = pd.read_csv(file,names=names)
         print(dataset14)
```

	number-of-elements	time
0	2	0.000002
1	6668	0.000126
2	13334	0.000237
3	20000	0.000422
4	26666	0.000553
5	33332	0.000641
6	39998	0.000846
7	46664	0.001221
8	53330	0.001121
9	59996	0.001438
10	66662	0.001315
11	73328	0.001483
12	79994	0.001853
13	86660	0.002292
14	93326	0.001969

```
In [53]: ax14 = dataset14.plot(kind='scatter',x='number-of-elements',y='time')
         ax14.set_ylim(0,.01)
```

```
Out [53]: (0, 0.01)
```

Explanation Sorting of a list is linear.

1.2.8 Summary

Operations are either constant, when independent of the number of elements in a data structure, or linear, when the operation is dependent on the number of elements in the structure.