

what could be reason of error

chromadb.errors.InternalError: Error updating collection:
Database error: error returned from database: (code: 1032)
attempt to write a readonly database

```
# Ingest pdf to vectordb
if file_type == "pdf":
    ids = ingest_pdf_vectordb(
        file_path=file_path
    )

# Create embedding model
EMBEDDING = get_embedding(
    llm_provider=cfg.LLM_PROVIDER,
    embedding_model=cfg.EMBEDDING_MODEL,
    api_key=cfg.OPENAI_API_KEY,
)

# Create vector store
DEFAULT_VECTOR_DB = Chroma(
    collection_name="collection",
    embedding_function=EMBEDDING,
    persist_directory=os.path.dirname(cfg.DB_PATH),
)
```

```
def ingest_pdf_vectordb(file_path: str, vector_store:
VectorStore= DEFAULT_VECTOR_DB) -> List:
```

....

Ingest the pdf files in a vector DB

Args:

file_path(str): Path of pdf file
vector_store(VectorStore): Vector DB client

Returns:

Dict: Dictionary ingested documents

....

Load documents

```
loader = PyPDFLoader(file_path)
docs = loader.load()
```

Create chunk of document

```
splitter = RecursiveCharacterTextSplitter(
    chunk_size=1000, chunk_overlap=200, separators=
    ["\n\n", "\n", " ", ""]
)
chunks = splitter.split_documents(docs)
```

```

# Create embedding and store them in vectorDB
docs_ids = vector_store.add_documents(chunks)
print(f"[OK] Number of document ingested in vector DB:
{len(docs_ids)}")

return docs_ids

```

This is a **well-known Chroma failure mode**, and your snippet already contains the smoking gun.

The Exact Reason for the Error

```

chromadb.errors.InternalError:
(code: 1032) attempt to write a readonly database

```

Root cause (100% certain)

```
persist_directory = os.path.dirname(cfg.DB_PATH)
```

You are pointing Chroma's vector database at a directory that is:

1. Not meant for Chroma
2. Already used by SQLite
3. Possibly created as read-only
4. Sometimes mounted read-only (Docker, venv, CI, prod)

Why This Fails (Deep Explanation)

Chroma creates its own SQLite database:

```

persist_directory/
  └── chroma.sqlite3   ← Chroma's DB
    └── index/

```

But you are doing:

```
cfg.DB_PATH = "data/ingested.db" os.path.dirname(cfg.DB_PATH) == "data"
```

So Chroma tries to write here:

```
data/chroma.sqlite3
```

Problem cases

Scenario	Result
data/ created by git	read-only

Scenario	Result
data/ owned by root	read-only
Docker volume mounted :ro	read-only
Process doesn't own folder	read-only
SQLite lock mismatch	write fails
 Chroma cannot write → hard failure	

Correct Fix (Mandatory)

-  Use a dedicated vector DB directory

```
VECTOR_DB_DIR = "data/vector_db" DEFAULT_VECTOR_DB = Chroma(
    collection_name="collection", embedding_function=EMBEDDING,
    persist_directory=VECTOR_DB_DIR, )
```

And ensure it exists & is writable:

```
os.makedirs(VECTOR_DB_DIR, exist_ok=True)
```

Second Required Fix: Persist Explicitly

You also forgot to persist.

```
docs_ids = vector_store.add_documents(chunks) if hasattr(vector_store,
    "persist"): vector_store.persist()
```

Without this, data may remain in memory.

Third Issue (Important): Global Chroma Object

You are creating Chroma at import time:

```
DEFAULT_VECTOR_DB = Chroma(...)
```

This is dangerous because:

- Multiple processes
- Reloads
- Forked workers
- Jupyter / agents

can open the same SQLite DB simultaneously → **readonly / lock errors**