Hands-on Lab: Monitoring a DAG

Estimated time needed: **20** minutes

Objectives

After completing this lab you will be able to:

- Search for a DAG.
- Pause/Unpause a DAG.
- Get the Details of a DAG.
- Explore tree view of a DAG.
- Explore graph view of a DAG.
- Explore Calendar view of a DAG.
- Explore Task Duration view of a DAG.
- Explore Details view of a DAG.
- View the source code of a DAG.
- Delete a DAG.

About Skills Network Cloud IDE

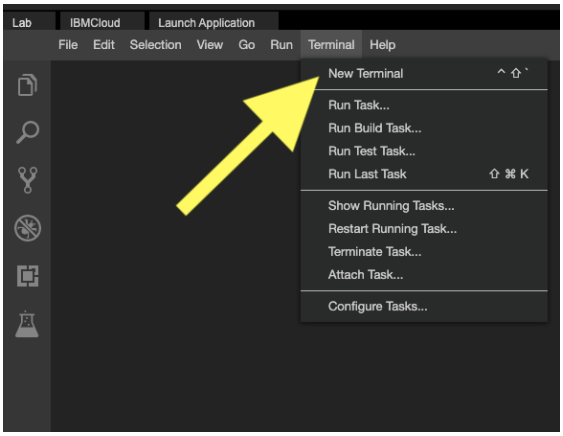
Skills Network Cloud IDE (based on Theia and Docker) provides an environment for hands on labs for course and project related labs. Theia is an open source IDE (Integrated Development Environment), that can be run on desktop or on the cloud. to complete this lab, we will be using the Cloud IDE based on Theia running in a Docker container.

Important Notice about this lab environment

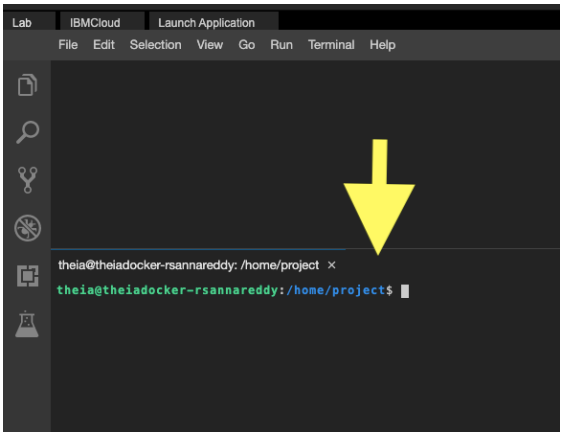
Please be aware that sessions for this lab environment are not persistent. A new environment is created for you every time you connect to this lab. Any data you may have saved in an earlier session will get lost. To avoid losing your data, please plan to complete these labs in a single session.

Exercise 1 - Getting the environment ready

Step 1.1. Open a new terminal by clicking on the menu bar and selecting **Terminal->New Terminal**, as shown in the image below.



This will open a new terminal at the bottom of the screen.



Run the commands below on the newly opened terminal. (You can copy the code by clicking on the little copy button on the bottom right of the codeblock below and then paste it, wherever you wish.)

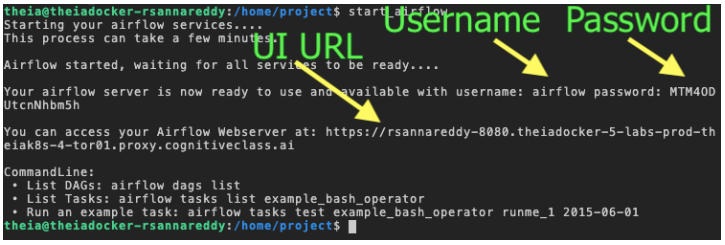
Start Apache Airflow in the lab environment.

```
1. 1
1. start_airflow
```

Copied!

Please be patient, it will take a few minutes for airflow to get started.

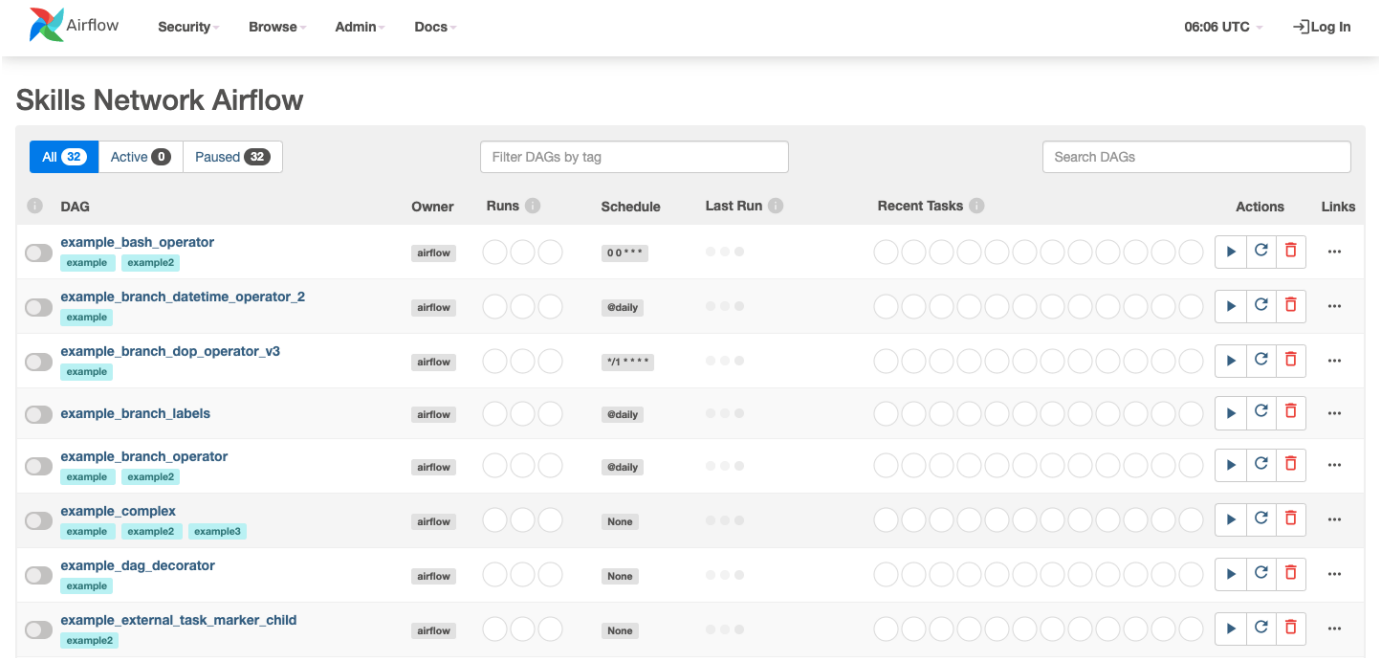
When airflow starts successfully, you should see an output similar to the one below:



Step 1.2. Open the Airflow Web UI

Copy the Web-UI URL and paste it on a new browser tab. Or your can click on the URL by holding the control key (Command key in case of a Mac).

You should land at a page that looks like this:



Exercise 2 - Submit a dummy DAG

For the purpose of monitoring, let's create a dummy DAG with three tasks.

Task1 does nothing but sleep for 1 second.

Task2 sleeps for 2 seconds.

Task3 sleeps for 3 seconds.

This DAG is scheduled to run every 1 minute.

Step 2.1. Using Menu->`File`->`New File` create a new file named `dummy_dag.py`.

Step 2.2. Copy and paste the code below into it and save the file.

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56. 56
57. 57
```

```
1. # import the libraries
2.
3. from datetime import timedelta
4. # The DAG object; we'll need this to instantiate a DAG
5. from airflow import DAG
6. # Operators; we need this to write tasks!
7. from airflow.operators.bash_operator import BashOperator
8. # This makes scheduling easy
9. from airflow.utils.dates import days_ago
10.
11. #defining DAG arguments
12.
13. # You can override them on a per-task basis during operator initialization
14. default_args = {
15.     'owner': 'Ramesh Sannareddy',
16.     'start_date': days_ago(0),
17.     'email': ['ramesh@somemail.com'],
18.     'email_on_failure': False,
19.     'email_on_retry': False,
20.     'retries': 1,
21.     'retry_delay': timedelta(minutes=5),
22. }
23.
24. # defining the DAG
25. dag = DAG(
26.     'dummy_dag',
27.     default_args=default_args,
28.     description='My first DAG',
29.     schedule_interval=timedelta(minutes=1),
30. )
31.
32. # define the tasks
33.
34. # define the first task
35.
36. task1 = BashOperator(
37.     task_id='task1',
38.     bash_command='sleep 1',
39.     dag=dag,
40. )
41.
42. # define the second task
43. task2 = BashOperator(
44.     task_id='task2',
45.     bash_command='sleep 2',
46.     dag=dag,
47. )
48.
49. # define the third task
50. task3 = BashOperator(
51.     task_id='task3',
52.     bash_command='sleep 3',
53.     dag=dag,
54. )
55.
56. # task pipeline
57. task1 >> task2 >> task3
```

Copied!

Submitting a DAG is as simple as copying the DAG python file into `dags` folder in the `AIRFLOW_HOME` directory.

Step 2.3. Open a terminal and run the command below to submit the DAG that was created in the previous exercise.

```
1. 1
```

```
1. cp dummy_dag.py $AIRFLOW_HOME/dags
```

Copied!

Step 2.4. Verify that our DAG actually got submitted.

Run the command below to list out all the existing DAGs.

```
1. 1
```

```
1. airflow dags list
```

Copied!

Verify that `dummy_dag` is a part of the output.

Step 2.5. Run the command below to list out all the tasks in `dummy_dag`.

```
1. 1
```

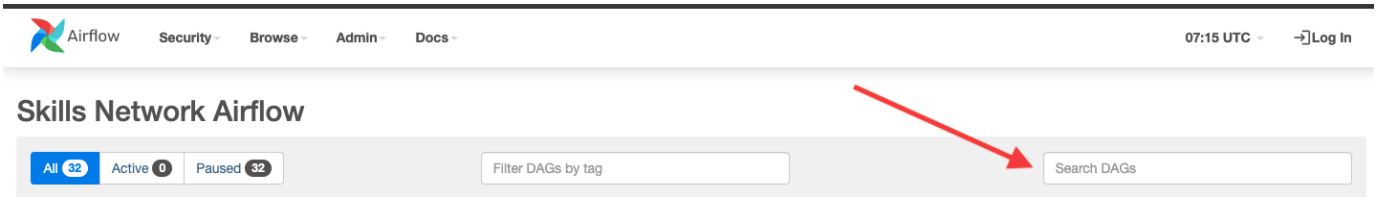
```
1. airflow tasks list dummy_dag
```

Copied!

You should see 3 tasks in the output.

Exercise 3 - Search for a DAG

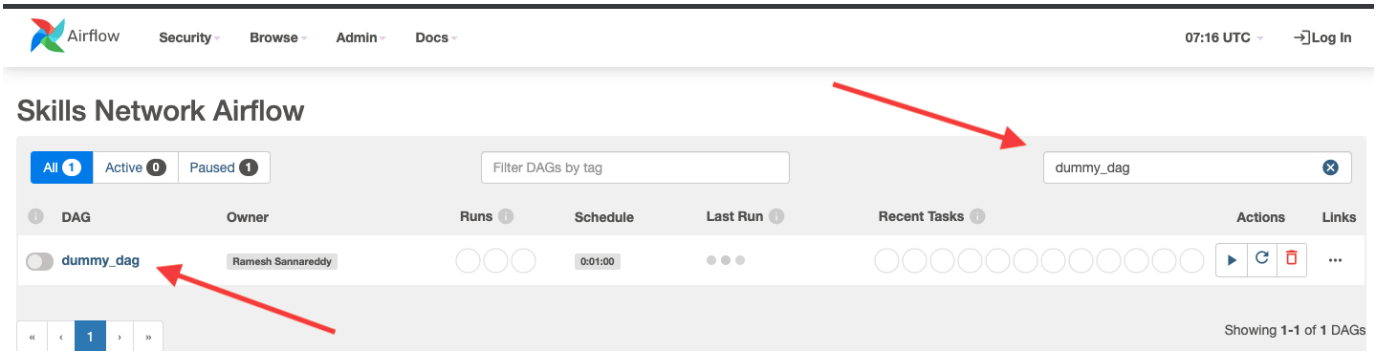
In the Web-UI, identify the `Search DAGs` text box as shown in the image below.



Type `dummy_dag` in the text box and press enter.

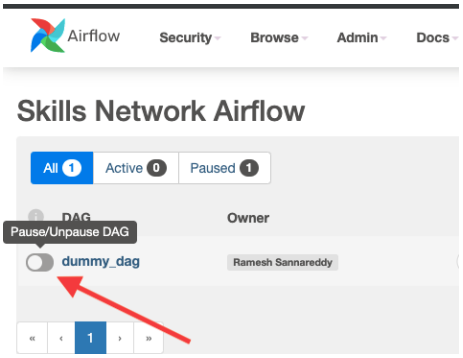
Note: It may take a couple of minutes for the dag to appear here. If you do not see your DAG, please give it a minute and try again.

You should see the `dummy_dag` listed as seen in the image below:

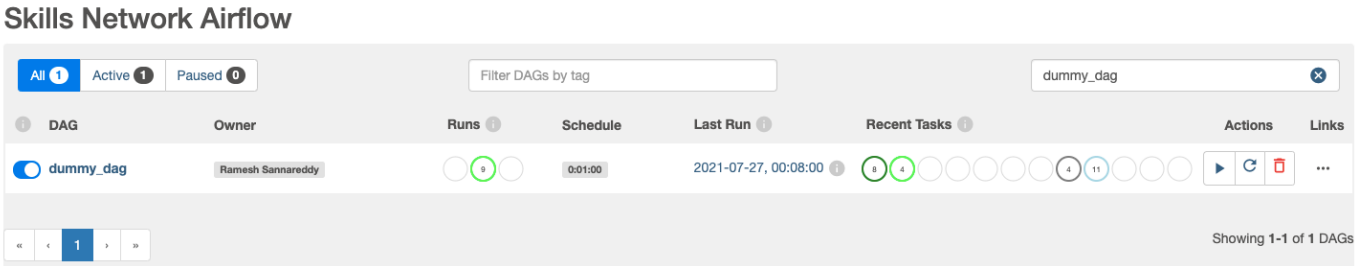


Exercise 4 - Pause/Unpause a DAG

Unpause the DAG using the Pause/Unpause button.



You should see the status as shown in the image below after you unpause the DAG.

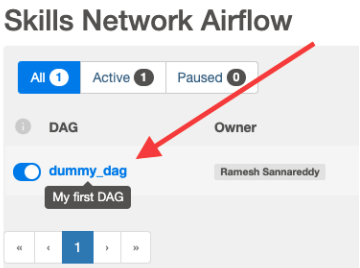


You can see the following details in this view.

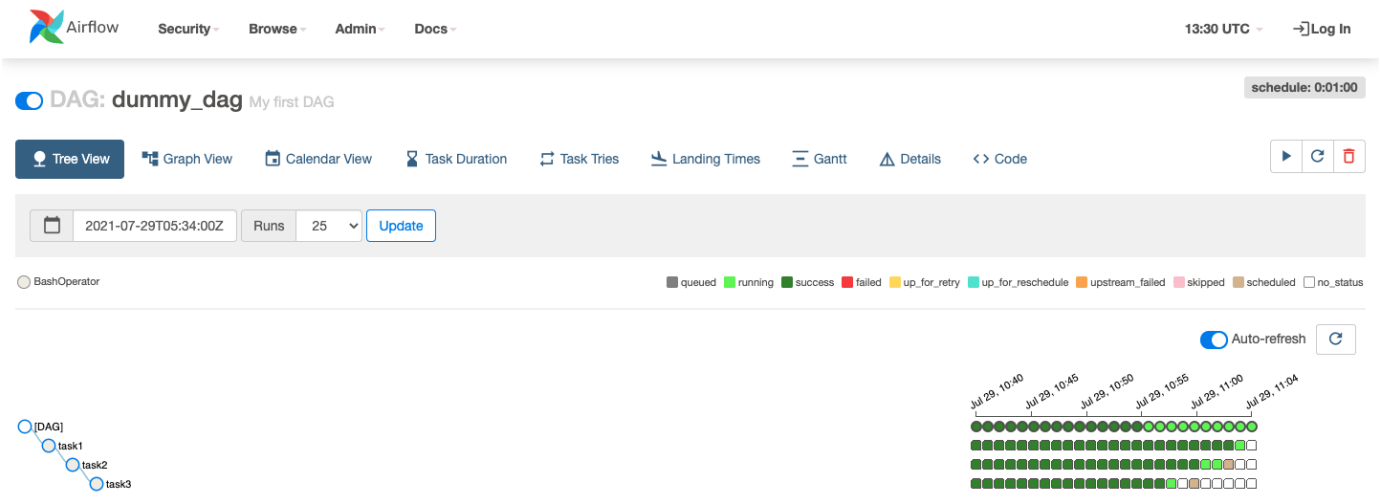
- Owner of the DAG
- How many times this DAG has run.
- Schedule of the DAG
- Last run time of the DAG
- Recent task status.

Exercise 5 - DAG - Detailed view

Click on the DAG name as shown in the image below to see the detailed view of the DAG.

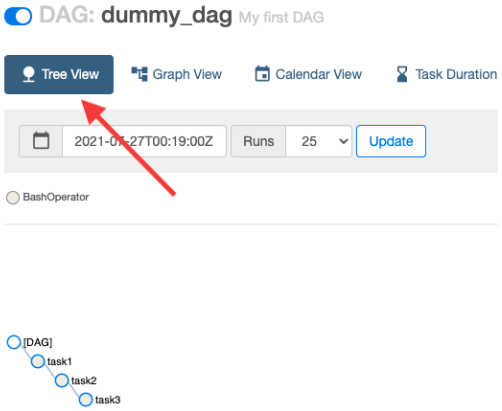


You will land a page that looks like this.



Exercise 6 - Explore tree view of DAG

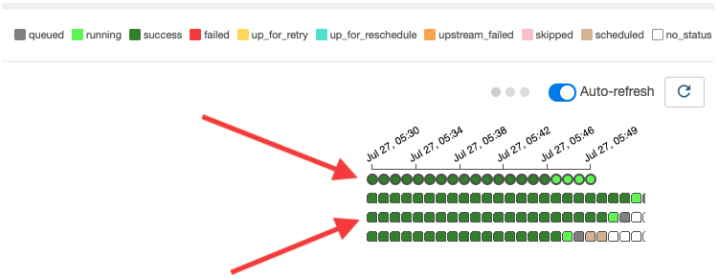
Click on the `Tree View` button to open the Tree view.



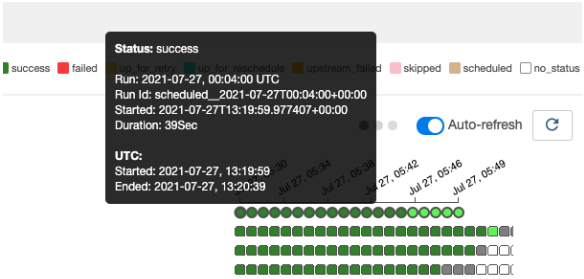
Click on the `Auto Refresh` button to switch on the auto refresh feature.

The tree view shows your DAG tasks in the form of a tree as seen in the image above.

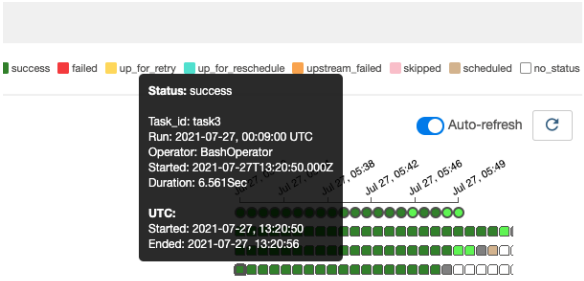
It also shows the DAG run and task run status as seen below.



The circles in the image below represent a single DAG run and the color indicates the status of the DAG run. Place your mouse on any circle to see the details.



The squares in the image below represent a single task within a DAG run and the color indicates its status. Place your mouse on any square to see the task details.



Exercise 7 - Explore graph view of DAG

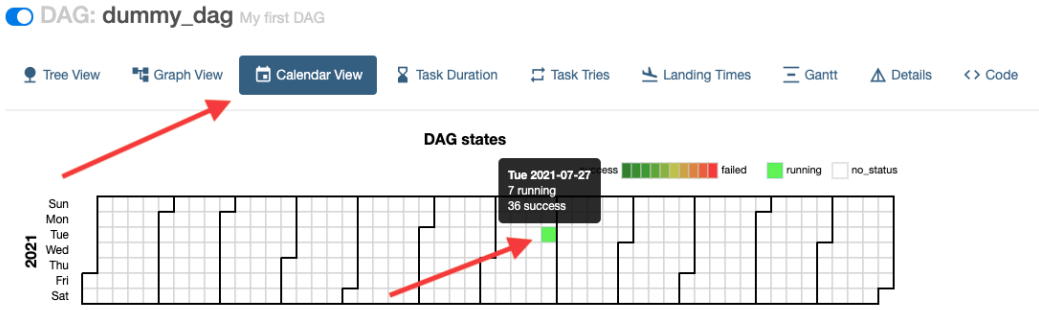
Click on the `Graph View` button to open the graph view.

Click on the `Auto Refresh` button to switch on the auto refresh feature.

The graph view shows the tasks in a form of a graph. With the auto refresh on, each task status is also indicated with the color code.

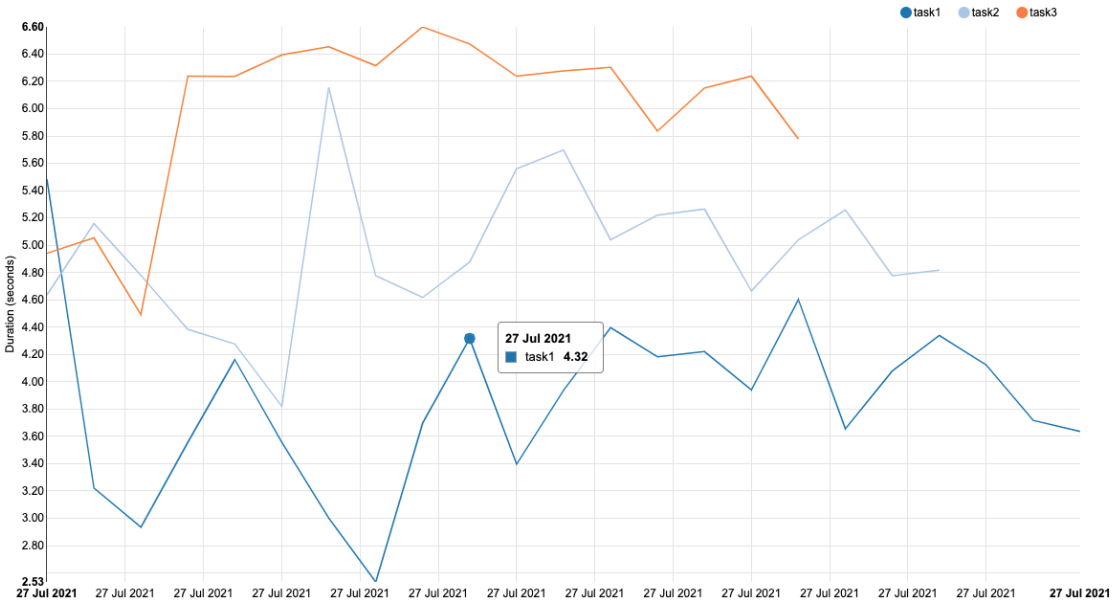
Exercise 8 - Calender view

The calender view gives you an overview of all the dates when this DAG was run along with its status as a color code.



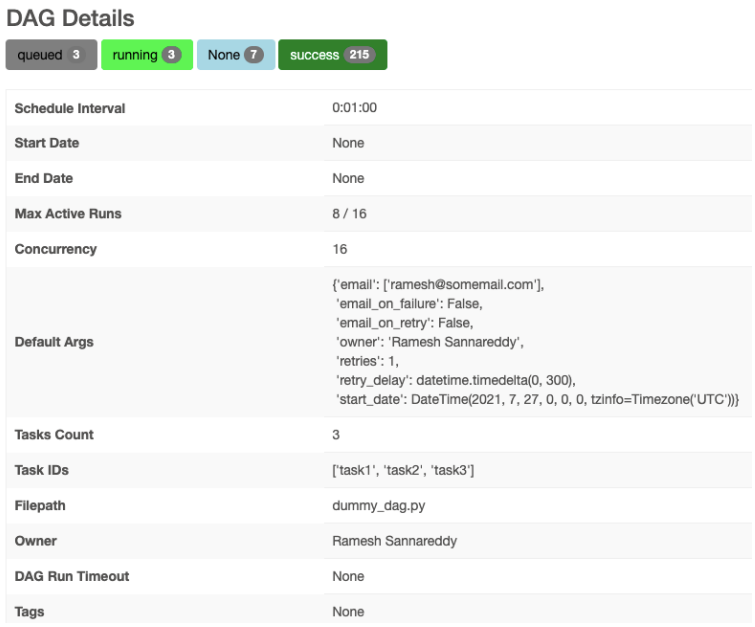
Exercise 9 - Task Duration view

The Task Duration view gives you an overview of how much time each task took to execute, over a period of time.



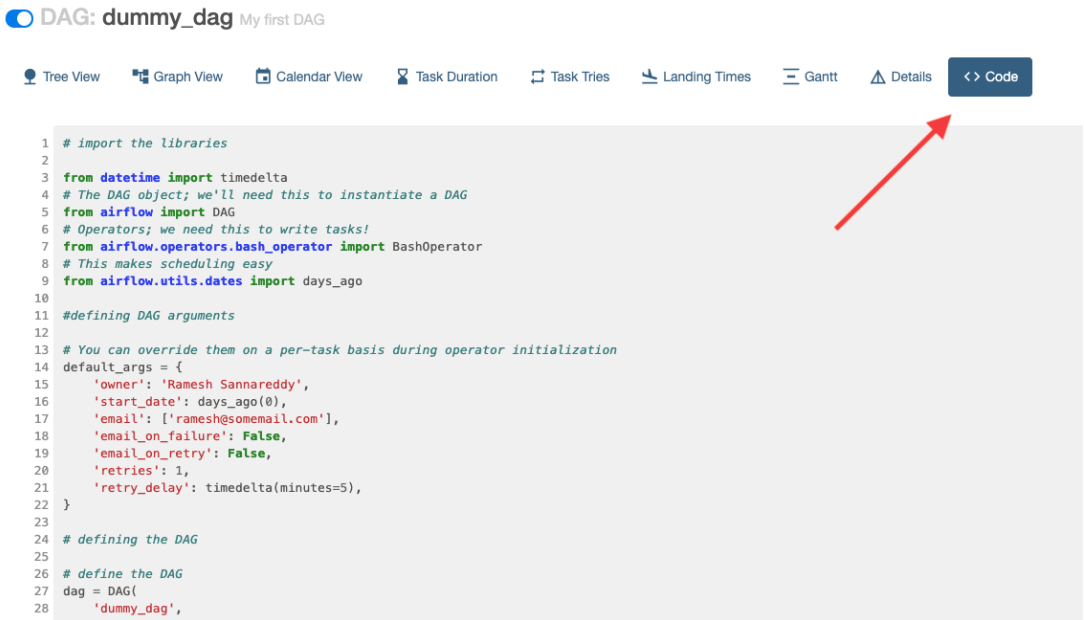
Exercise 10 - Details view

The Details view give you all the details of the DAG as specified in the code of the DAG.



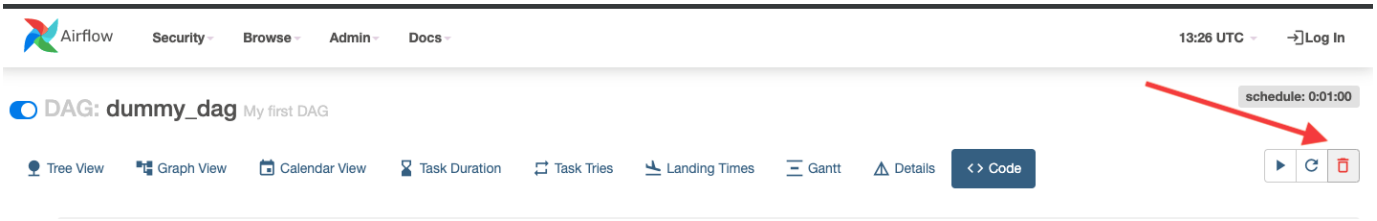
Exercise 11 - Code view

The Code view lets you view the code of the DAG.

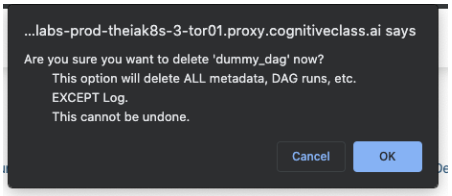


Exercise 12 - Delete a DAG

To delete a DAG click on the delete button.



You will get a confirmation pop up as shown in the image below. Click OK to delete the DAG.



Practice exercises

1. Problem:

   Unpause any existing DAG and monitor it.

Authors

Ramesh Sannareddy

Other Contributors

Rav Ahuja

Change Log

Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Version	Changed By	Change Description
2021-07-05	0.1	Ramesh Sannareddy	Created initial version of the lab