

**Sharan Patil**

**(018327049)**

**Instructor: Prof. Keeyong Han**

**Homework 8: Running Pinecone Job as an Airflow Pipeline**

**GIT- [https://github.com/sharan9219790/HW8\\_DATAWAREHOUSE](https://github.com/sharan9219790/HW8_DATAWAREHOUSE)**

## **Introduction**

This report documents the complete workflow and implementation steps carried out for Homework 8 of the DATA 226 course. The task involved setting up an Apache Airflow pipeline integrated with Pinecone to perform end-to-end semantic search operations.

The pipeline automated the process of downloading a dataset, preprocessing it, creating a Pinecone index, converting text into embeddings, and running a semantic search query against the index. The setup was deployed using Docker and verified through successful Airflow task executions.

## **1. Environment Setup**

The first step was to set up the development environment using Docker Compose. We created a complete Airflow environment that included the webserver, scheduler, worker, Redis, and Postgres containers. A custom Dockerfile was written to pre-install the required Python libraries (sentence-transformers and pinecone), ensuring that Airflow could seamlessly run tasks involving these dependencies without restart errors. The docker-compose file was configured to expose Airflow on port 8080, map the required volumes, and initialize the Airflow database with an admin account.

We also created an .env file to store environment variables such as AIRFLOW\_UID and AIRFLOW\_GID to ensure proper file permissions on macOS. Once everything was configured, the setup was initialized and verified using the commands:

```
docker compose build --no-cache  
docker compose up airflow-init  
docker compose up -d
```

The screenshot shows the Docker Desktop application window. On the left, there's a sidebar with various sections like Ask Gordon, Containers (selected), Images, Volumes, Kubernetes, and Builds. The main area is titled 'Containers' with a 'Give feedback' link. It displays 'Container CPU usage' (56.85% / 1000%) and 'Container memory usage' (4.2GB / 7.47GB). A search bar at the top has the placeholder 'Search'. Below it is a table with columns: Name, Container ID, Image, Port(s), CPU (%), and Actions. The table lists several containers: hw8, postgres-1, redis-1, airflow-init-1, worker-1, and webserver-1. At the bottom right of the table, it says 'Showing 7 items'.

|                          | Name           | Container ID | Image       | Port(s)   | CPU (%) | Actions |
|--------------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|---------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | hw8            | -            | -           | -         | 57.75%  |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | postgres-1     | b16c664000c9 | postgres:1  | -         | 2.88%   |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | redis-1        | 68038693da56 | redis:7     | -         | 1.2%    |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | airflow-init-1 | 6b9fdb14f029 | hw8-airflow | -         | 0%      |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | worker-1       | 0969793bd6e0 | hw8-airflow | -         | 0.17%   |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | webserver-1    | 4105334914d4 | hw8-airflow | R0R0-R0R0 | 0.05%   |         |

## 2. Airflow and Pinecone Configuration

Once the environment was live, we accessed the Airflow UI via `http://localhost:8080` and created four Airflow Variables under Admin → Variables. These variables stored Pinecone credentials and configuration details:

- PINECONE\_API\_KEY
  - PINECONE\_INDEX\_NAME
  - PINECONE\_CLOUD
  - PINECONE\_REGION

This approach allowed us to keep sensitive API credentials secure while making them accessible to all Airflow tasks via the `Variable.get()` method.

A free Pinecone account was used, and when the default region was unsupported, we updated the variables to use gcp/us-central1, which is compatible with free-tier accounts.

The screenshot shows the Airflow Variables page. At the top, there are tabs for Airflow, DAGs, Cluster Activity, Datasets, Security, Browse, Admin, and Docs. The time is listed as 23:00 UTC. On the right, there is a user icon labeled 'AU'. Below the tabs, there is a file upload section with a 'Choose File' button, an 'Import Variables' button, and radio buttons for 'Overwrite if exists', 'Fail if exists', and 'Skip if exists'. A 'List Variable' section contains a search bar and a table with four rows. The table columns are Key, Val, Description, and Is Encrypted. The rows are:

|                          | Key                 | Val                  | Description                 | Is Encrypted |
|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PINECONE_API_KEY    | *****                | PINECONE AUTHENTICATION KEY | False        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PINECONE_CLOUD      | gcp                  | Pinecone cloud provider     | False        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PINECONE_INDEX_NAME | semantic-search-fast | Pinecone index name         | False        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PINECONE_REGION     | us-central1          | Pinecone region             | False        |

Record Count: 4

Version: v2.9.1  
Git Version: .release:2d53c1089f78d8d1416f51af60e1e0354781c661

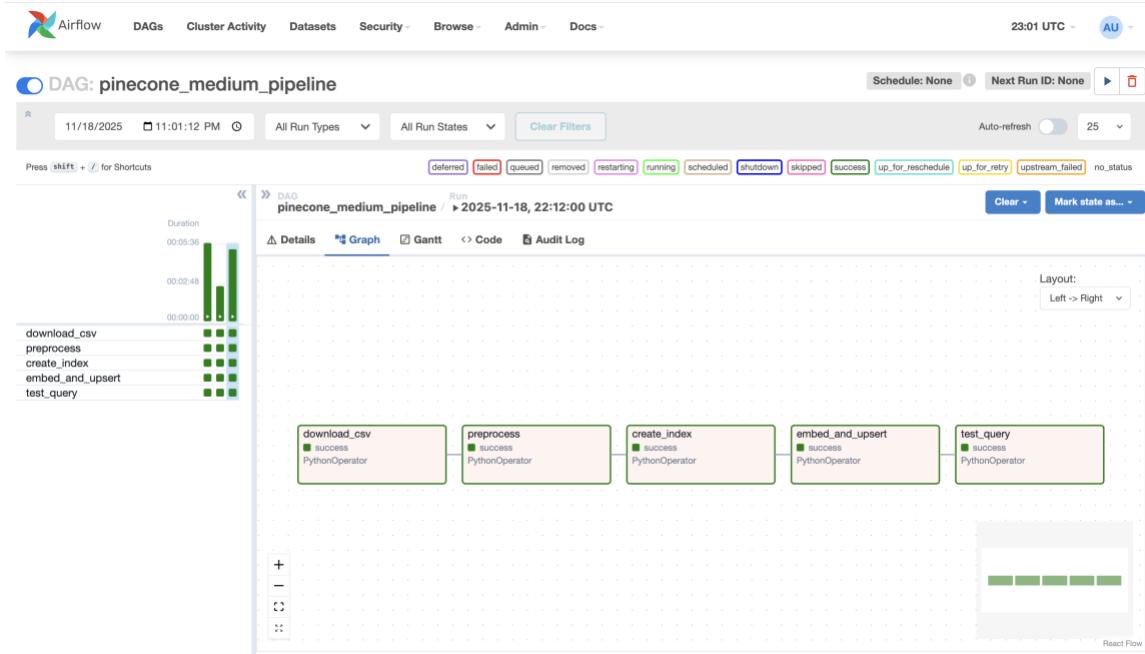
### 3. DAG Creation and Task Implementation

The Airflow DAG file `pinecone_medium_pipeline.py` was created to define the workflow. The DAG contained five PythonOperator tasks, each performing a specific stage of the process:

- `download_csv` → Downloaded the dataset from a public URL (Medium articles dataset).
- `preprocess` → Processed the CSV file by cleaning, merging title and subtitle, and generating a metadata column.
- `create_index` → Created a Pinecone serverless index (dimension 384, dotproduct metric). It automatically retried with alternate regions if the user's free plan didn't support the default region.
- `embed_and_upsert` → Loaded the SentenceTransformer model (all-MiniLM-L6-v2), generated text embeddings, and uploaded them to Pinecone using `upsert_from_dataframe()`.
- `test_query` → Queried Pinecone with a sample semantic search (“what is ethics in AI”) and logged the top results.

The DAG was defined with a retry mechanism, two-minute retry delay, and a clear dependency chain ensuring linear execution.

Each task was implemented as a standalone Python function with proper logging for debugging and monitoring.



## 4. Execution and Results

After configuring everything, we triggered the DAG manually from the Airflow UI. Each task executed successfully in sequence.

Initially, we encountered an error when creating the Pinecone index due to unsupported region configuration, which was resolved by modifying the region to us-central1. Once the pipeline was rerun, all tasks turned green (success).

The logs from the test\_query task confirmed that the embeddings and index were functioning correctly. The log entries showed top-ranked results for the semantic search query, validating that the pipeline successfully encoded, ingested, and queried data from Pinecone. The final DAG graph view showed all tasks completed successfully.

### LOGS SCREENSHOT FOR EVERY DAG TASK:

**(Next page)**

localhost:8080/dags/pinecone\_medium\_pipeline/grid?dag\_run\_id=manual\_2025-11-18T22%3A12%3A00.434537%2B00%3A00&tab=logs&task\_id=download\_csv

22:55 UTC AU

**Airflow** DAGs Cluster Activity Datasets Security Browse Admin Docs

Press shift + / for Shortcuts

DAG pinecone\_medium\_pipeline Run 2025-11-18, 22:12:00 UTC Task download\_csv

Duration

00:05:36

00:02:48

00:00:00

download\_csv preprocess create\_index embed\_and\_upsert test\_query

Task Details Graph Audit Log Logs XCom Task Duration

by attempts 1

All Levels All File Sources Wrap Download See More

```
0069793bd6e0
*** Found local files:
*** * /opt/airflow/logs/dag_id=pinecone_medium_pipeline/run_id=manual_2025-11-18T22:12:00.434537+00:00/task_id=download_csv/attemp1.log
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {local_task_job_runner.py:120} * Pre task execution logs
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {taskinstance.py:2876} INFO - Dependencies all met for dep_context:non-requeueable deps ti=>TaskInstance: pinecone_medium_pipeline.download_csv manual
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {taskinstance.py:2386} INFO - Dependencies all met for dep_context:requeueable deps ti=>TaskInstance: pinecone_medium_pipeline.download_csv manual
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {taskinstance.py:2386} INFO - Starting attempt 1 of 2
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {taskinstance.py:2338} INFO - Executing <TaskPythonOperator>.download_csv on 2025-11-18 22:12:00.434537+00:00
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {warnings.py:118} WARNING - /home/***/local/lib/python3.12/site-packages/**/task/task_runner/standard_task_runner.py:61: DeprecationWarning: This pid = os.fork()
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {standard_task_runner.py:63} INFO - Started process 202 to run task
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {standard_task_runner.py:98} INFO - Running: ['*', 'tasks', 'run', 'pinecone_medium_pipeline', 'download_csv', 'manual_2025-11-18T22:12:00.434537+00:00']
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {task_command.py:246} INFO - Running <TaskInstance: pinecone_medium_pipeline.download_csv_manual_2025-11-18T22:12:00.434537+00:00> on host
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {task_command.py:246} INFO - Exporting env vars: AIRFLOW_CTX_DAG_ID='spartan' AIRFLOW_CTX_DAG_NAME='pinecone_medium_pipeline' AIRFLOW_CTX_TASK_ID='pinecone_medium_pipeline.download_csv.manual_2025-11-18T22:12:00.434537+00:00'
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {task_command.py:246} INFO - Subtask download_csv
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {task_command.py:246} INFO - Log group end
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {python.py:237} INFO - Done. Returned value was: None
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {taskinstance.py:441} * Post task execution logs
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {taskinstance.py:1286} INFO - Marking task as SUCCESS. dag_id=pinecone_medium_pipeline, task_id=download_csv, run_id=manual_2025-11-18T22:12:00.434537+00:00
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {local_task_job_runner.py:240} INFO - Task exited with return code 0
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {local_task_job_runner.py:3498} INFO - 1 downstream tasks scheduled from follow-on schedule check
[2025-11-18, 22:12:01 UTC] {local_task_job_runner.py:222} *** Log group end
```

Version: v2.9.1  
Git Version: .release:2d53c1089f78d8d1416f51af60e1e0354781c661

localhost:8080/dags/pinecone\_medium\_pipeline/grid?tab=logs&dag\_run\_id=manual\_2025-11-18T22%3A12%3A00.434537%2B00%3A00&task\_id=preprocess

22:55 UTC AU

**Airflow** DAGs Cluster Activity Datasets Security Browse Admin Docs

Press shift + / for Shortcuts

DAG pinecone\_medium\_pipeline Run 2025-11-18, 22:12:00 UTC Task preprocess

Duration

00:05:36

00:02:48

00:00:00

download\_csv preprocess create\_index embed\_and\_upsert test\_query

Task Details Graph Audit Log Logs XCom Task Duration

by attempts 1

All Levels All File Sources Wrap Download See More

```
0069793bd6e0
*** Found local files:
*** * /opt/airflow/logs/dag_id=pinecone_medium_pipeline/run_id=manual_2025-11-18T22:12:00.434537+00:00/task_id=preprocess/attemp1.log
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {local_task_job_runner.py:120} * Pre task execution logs
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {taskinstance.py:2876} INFO - Dependencies all met for dep_context:non-requeueable deps ti=>TaskInstance: pinecone_medium_pipeline.preprocess manual
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {taskinstance.py:2386} INFO - Dependencies all met for dep_context:requeueable deps ti=>TaskInstance: pinecone_medium_pipeline.preprocess manual_2
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {taskinstance.py:2386} INFO - Starting attempt 1 of 2
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {taskinstance.py:2338} INFO - Executing <TaskPythonOperator>.preprocess on 2025-11-18 22:12:00.434537+00:00
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {warnings.py:118} WARNING - /home/***/local/lib/python3.12/site-packages/**/task/task_runner/standard_task_runner.py:61: DeprecationWarning: This pid = os.fork()
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {standard_task_runner.py:63} INFO - Started process 211 to run task
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {standard_task_runner.py:98} INFO - Running: ['*', 'tasks', 'run', 'pinecone_medium_pipeline', 'preprocess', 'manual_2025-11-18T22:12:00.434537+00:00']
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {task_command.py:246} INFO - Running <TaskInstance: pinecone_medium_pipeline.preprocess.manual_2025-11-18T22:12:00.434537+00:00> on host
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {task_command.py:246} INFO - Exporting env vars: AIRFLOW_CTX_DAG_ID='spartan' AIRFLOW_CTX_DAG_NAME='pinecone_medium_pipeline' AIRFLOW_CTX_TASK_ID='pinecone_medium_pipeline.preprocess.manual_2025-11-18T22:12:00.434537+00:00'
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {task_command.py:246} *** Log group end
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {pinecone_medium_pipeline.py:58} INFO - Processed rows: 2498 -> /opt/***/data/medium_processed.parquet
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {python.py:237} INFO - Done. Returned value was: None
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {taskinstance.py:311} * Post task execution logs
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {taskinstance.py:1286} INFO - Marking task as SUCCESS. dag_id=pinecone_medium_pipeline, task_id=preprocess, run_id=manual_2025-11-18T22:12:00.4345
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {local_task_job_runner.py:240} INFO - Task exited with return code 0
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {taskinstance.py:3498} INFO - 1 downstream tasks scheduled from follow-on schedule check
[2025-11-18, 22:12:02 UTC] {local_task_job_runner.py:222} *** Log group end
```

Version: v2.9.1  
Git Version: .release:2d53c1089f78d8d1416f51af60e1e0354781c661

localhost:8080/dags/pinecone\_medium\_pipeline/grid?tab=logs&dag\_run\_id=manual\_2025-11-18T22%3A12%3A00.434537%2B00%3A00&task\_id=create\_index

22:55 UTC AU

**DAG pinecone\_medium\_pipeline / Run 2025-11-18, 22:12:00 UTC / Task create\_index**

Duration: 00:05:36

Press shift + / for Shortcuts

Task Status: deferred failed queued removed restarting running scheduled shutdown skipped success up\_for\_reschedule up\_for\_retry upstream\_failed no\_status

Clear task Mark state as... Filter DAG by task

Details Graph Gantt Code Audit Log Logs XCom Task Duration

(by attempts) 1

All Levels All File Sources Wrap Download See More

```
0969793bd6e0
*** Found local files:
[.../opt/airflow/logs/dag_id/manual_2025-11-18T22%3A12%3A00.434537%2B00%3A00/task_id=create_index/attemp1.log]
[2025-11-18, 22:12:03 UTC] {standard_task_runner.py:128} INFO - Task execution logs
[2025-11-18, 22:12:03 UTC] {taskinstance.py:2876} INFO - Dependencies: all net for dep_context<non-requeueable deps ti=<TaskInstance: pinecone_medium_pipeline.create_index manual_2025-11-18, 22:12:03 UTC>
[2025-11-18, 22:12:03 UTC] {taskinstance.py:2386} INFO - Dependencies: all net for dep_context<requeueable deps ti=<TaskInstance: pinecone_medium_pipeline.create_index manual_2025-11-18, 22:12:03 UTC>
[2025-11-18, 22:12:03 UTC] {taskinstance.py:2338} INFO - Starting attempt 1 of 2
[2025-11-18, 22:12:03 UTC] {taskinstance.py:2338} INFO - Executing <TaskPythonOperator>.create_index on 2025-11-18 22:12:00.434537+00:00
[2025-11-18, 22:12:03 UTC] {warnings.py:118} WARNING: /home/***/local/lib/python3.12/site-packages/**/task/task_runner/standard_task_runner.py:61: DeprecationWarning: This pid is deprecated
[2025-11-18, 22:12:03 UTC] {standard_task_runner.py:63} INFO - Started process 216 to run task
[2025-11-18, 22:12:03 UTC] {standard_task_runner.py:98} INFO - Running: ['**', 'tasks', 'run', 'pinecone_medium_pipeline', 'create_index', 'manual_2025-11-18T22%3A12%3A00.434537%2B00%3A00']
[2025-11-18, 22:12:03 UTC] {task_command.py:126} INFO - Running <TaskInstance: pinecone_medium_pipeline.create_index manual_2025-11-18T22%3A12%3A00.434537%2B00%3A00> (running) on host
[2025-11-18, 22:12:03 UTC] {task_command.py:126} INFO - Log group end
[2025-11-18, 22:12:06 UTC] {pinecone_medium_pipeline.py:199} INFO - Index already exists: semantic-search-fast
[2025-11-18, 22:12:06 UTC] {python.py:237} INFO - Done. Returned value was: None
[2025-11-18, 22:12:06 UTC] {taskinstance.py:441} ▾ Post task execution logs
[2025-11-18, 22:12:06 UTC] {taskinstance.py:1286} INFO - Marking task as SUCCESS. dag_id=pinecone_medium_pipeline, task_id=create_index, run_id=manual_2025-11-18T22%3A12%3A00.434537%2B00%3A00
[2025-11-18, 22:12:06 UTC] {local_task_job_runner.py:240} INFO - Task exited with return code 0
[2025-11-18, 22:12:06 UTC] {taskinstance.py:3498} INFO - 1 downstream tasks scheduled from follow-on schedule check
[2025-11-18, 22:12:06 UTC] {local_task_job_runner.py:222} ▾ Log group end
```

Version: v2.9.1  
Git Version: .release:2d53c1089f78d8d1416f51af60e1e0354781c661

localhost:8080/dags/pinecone\_medium\_pipeline/grid?tab=logs&dag\_run\_id=manual\_2025-11-18T22%3A12%3A00.434537%2B00%3A00&task\_id=embed\_and\_upsert

22:56 UTC AU

**DAG pinecone\_medium\_pipeline / Run 2025-11-18, 22:12:00 UTC / Task embed\_and\_upsert**

Duration: 00:05:36

Press shift + / for Shortcuts

Task Status: deferred failed queued removed restarting running scheduled shutdown skipped success up\_for\_reschedule up\_for\_retry upstream\_failed no\_status

Clear task Mark state as... Filter DAG by task

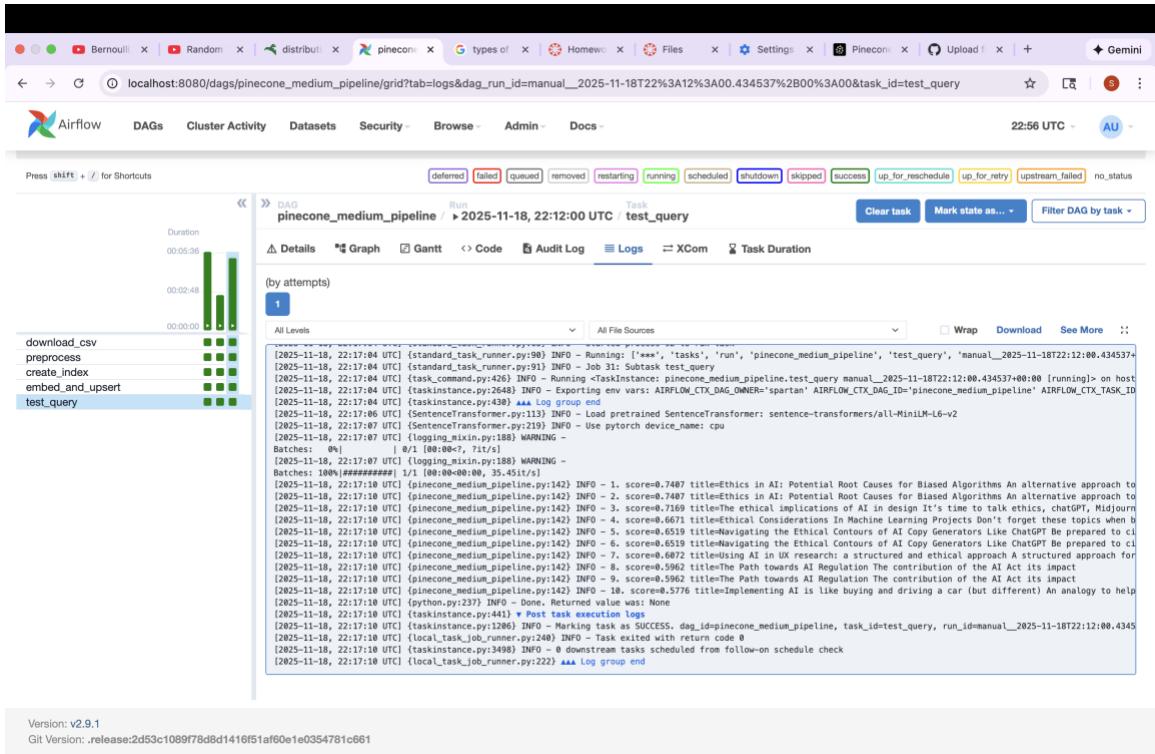
Details Graph Gantt Code Audit Log Logs XCom Task Duration

(by attempts) 1 2

All Levels All File Sources Wrap Download See More

```
[2025-11-18, 22:16:55 UTC] {logging_mixin.py:188} WARNING - Batches: 0% | 0/1 [00:00:<7, 717/s]
[2025-11-18, 22:16:55 UTC] {logging_mixin.py:188} WARNING - sending upsert requests: 0/2 [00:00:<7, 717/s]
[2025-11-18, 22:16:55 UTC] {logging_mixin.py:188} WARNING - sending upsert requests: 20/498 [00:01:<0:07, 285.40it/s]
[2025-11-18, 22:16:59 UTC] {logging_mixin.py:188} WARNING - sending upsert requests: 40/498 | 508/2498 [00:01:<0:08, 480.14it/s]
[2025-11-18, 22:16:59 UTC] {logging_mixin.py:188} WARNING - sending upsert requests: 40/498 | 1008/2498 [00:02:<0:03, 388.75it/s]
[2025-11-18, 22:17:03 UTC] {logging_mixin.py:188} WARNING - sending upsert requests: 1008/2498 | 1596/2498 [00:02:<0:02, 351.28it/s]
[2025-11-18, 22:17:03 UTC] {logging_mixin.py:188} WARNING - sending upsert requests: 1008/2498 | 2099/2498 [00:03:<0:01, 394.75it/s]
[2025-11-18, 22:17:03 UTC] {logging_mixin.py:188} WARNING - sending upsert requests: 1008/2498 | 2498/2498 [00:04:<0:00, 437.74it/s]
[2025-11-18, 22:17:03 UTC] {logging_mixin.py:188} WARNING - sending upsert requests: 1008/2498 | 2498/2498 [00:06:<0:00, 480.14it/s]
[2025-11-18, 22:17:03 UTC] {pinecone_medium_pipeline.py:119} INFO - Upserted 2498 vectors into semantic-search-fast
[2025-11-18, 22:17:03 UTC] {python.py:237} INFO - Done. Returned value was: None
[2025-11-18, 22:17:03 UTC] {taskinstance.py:441} ▾ Post task execution logs
[2025-11-18, 22:17:03 UTC] {taskinstance.py:1286} INFO - Marking task as SUCCESS. dag_id=pinecone_medium_pipeline, task_id=embed_and_upsert, run_id=manual_2025-11-18T22%3A12%3A00.434537%2B00%3A00
[2025-11-18, 22:17:03 UTC] {local_task_job_runner.py:240} INFO - Task exited with return code 0
[2025-11-18, 22:17:03 UTC] {taskinstance.py:3498} INFO - 1 downstream tasks scheduled from follow-on schedule check
[2025-11-18, 22:17:03 UTC] {local_task_job_runner.py:222} ▾ Log group end
```

Version: v2.9.1  
Git Version: .release:2d53c1089f78d8d1416f51af60e1e0354781c661



## 5. Conclusion

This project demonstrated the integration of Apache Airflow with Pinecone for managing and automating semantic search workflows.

By using Docker, the environment remained fully isolated and reproducible. Airflow ensured that each stage of the data pipeline executed in the correct order and was fully traceable through logs and UI visualization.

Key learnings from this assignment include:

- Managing Python dependencies in Airflow via Dockerfiles.
- Handling external API integrations (Pinecone) using Airflow Variables.
- Debugging distributed task failures in Airflow.
- Designing a robust, idempotent data ingestion and search workflow.

The final output proved that the pipeline could autonomously process text data, generate embeddings, store them in Pinecone, and perform vector-based semantic search efficiently. The workflow's modular design allows it to be extended for larger datasets or other vector databases in the future.

**(Pine cone verification screenshot on next page)**

← → ⌂ app.pinecone.io/organizations/-OeNwl gagcba9t4sg9yx/projects/70c79e1e-defe-4570-bb57-8503b8264832/indexes/semantic-search-fast/browser

Pinecone / sjsu / Default / Database

Docs Settings Get help ssp

Get started Database Indexes (1) Backups Assistant Inference API keys Manage

STARTER USAGE Storage 0.0041GB / 2GB RUUs 0 / 1M WUs 19K / 2M Upgrade now

Namespace Operation ID Top K  
\_default\_ Search by ID 1 X 10

+ Filter + Rerank Search

Search: 10 results (top\_k=10) 1 RUs

| Rank | ID   | Title  | Score  |
|------|------|--|--------|
| 1    | 1    | title: "Not All Rainbows and Sunshine: The Darker Side of ChatGPT Part 1: The Risks and Ethical Issues..."   | 1.0009 |
| 2    | 1634 | title: "Not All Rainbows and Sunshine: The Darker Side of ChatGPT Part 1: The Risks and Ethical Issues..."   | 1.0009 |
| 3    | 1666 | title: "ChatGPT—Handle With Care Behind the Hype—Understanding what ChatGPT can do and what it cannot do..." | 0.5885 |