

Let's go through these, one at a time.

## Conditionals with the count Parameter

The `count` parameter you saw earlier lets you do a basic loop. If you're clever, you can use the same mechanism to do a basic conditional. Let's begin by looking at if-statements in the next section and then move on to if-else-statements in the section thereafter.

### If-statements with the count parameter

In [Chapter 4](#), you created a Terraform module that could be used as a “blueprint” for deploying web server clusters. The module created an Auto Scaling Group (ASG), Application Load Balancer (ALB), security groups, and a number of other resources. One thing the module did *not* create was the scheduled action. Because you want to scale the cluster out only in production, you defined the `aws_autoscaling_schedule` resources directly in the production configurations under *live/prod/services/webserver-cluster/main.tf*. Is there a way you could define the `aws_autoscaling_schedule` resources in the `webserver-cluster` module and conditionally create them for some users of the module and not create them for others?

Let's give it a shot. The first step is to add a Boolean input variable in *modules/services/webserver-cluster/variables.tf* that you can use to specify whether the module should enable auto scaling:

```
variable "enable_autoscaling" {  
  description = "If set to true, enable auto scaling"  
  type        = bool  
}
```

Now, if you had a general-purpose programming language, you could use this input variable in an if-statement:

```
# This is just pseudo code. It won't actually work in Terraform.  
if var.enable_autoscaling {  
  resource "aws_autoscaling_schedule"
```

```

"scale_out_during_business_hours" {
    scheduled_action_name = "${var.cluster_name}-scale-out-
during-business-hours"
    min_size              = 2
    max_size              = 10
    desired_capacity      = 10
    recurrence             = "0 9 * * *"
    autoscaling_group_name = aws_autoscaling_group.example.name
}

resource "aws_autoscaling_schedule" "scale_in_at_night" {
    scheduled_action_name = "${var.cluster_name}-scale-in-at-
night"
    min_size              = 2
    max_size              = 10
    desired_capacity      = 2
    recurrence             = "0 17 * * *"
    autoscaling_group_name = aws_autoscaling_group.example.name
}
}

```

Terraform doesn't support if-statements, so this code won't work. However, you can accomplish the same thing by using the `count` parameter and taking advantage of two properties:

- If you set `count` to 1 on a resource, you get one copy of that resource; if you set `count` to 0, that resource is not created at all.
- Terraform supports *conditional expressions* of the format `<CONDITION> ? <TRUE_VAL> : <FALSE_VAL>`. This *ternary syntax*, which may be familiar to you from other programming languages, will evaluate the Boolean logic in `CONDITION`, and if the result is `true`, it will return `TRUE_VAL`, and if the result is `false`, it'll return `FALSE_VAL`.

Putting these two ideas together, you can update the `webserver-cluster` module as follows:

```

resource "aws_autoscaling_schedule"
"scale_out_during_business_hours" {
    count = var.enable_autoscaling ? 1 : 0

```

```

    scheduled_action_name = "${var.cluster_name}-scale-out-during-
business-hours"
    min_size               = 2
    max_size               = 10
    desired_capacity       = 10
    recurrence              = "0 9 * * *"
    autoscaling_group_name = aws_autoscaling_group.example.name
}

resource "aws_autoscaling_schedule" "scale_in_at_night" {
    count = var.enable_autoscaling ? 1 : 0

    scheduled_action_name = "${var.cluster_name}-scale-in-at-
night"
    min_size               = 2
    max_size               = 10
    desired_capacity       = 2
    recurrence              = "0 17 * * *"
    autoscaling_group_name = aws_autoscaling_group.example.name
}

```

If `var.enable_autoscaling` is true, the `count` parameter for each of the `aws_autoscaling_schedule` resources will be set to 1, so one of each will be created. If `var.enable_autoscaling` is false, the `count` parameter for each of the `aws_autoscaling_schedule` resources will be set to 0, so neither one will be created. This is exactly the conditional logic you want!

You can now update the usage of this module in staging (in *live/stage/services/webserver-cluster/main.tf*) to disable auto scaling by setting `enable_autoscaling` to false:

```

module "webserver_cluster" {
    source = "../../../../../modules/services/webserver-cluster"

    cluster_name           = "webserver-stage"
    db_remote_state_bucket = "(YOUR_BUCKET_NAME)"
    db_remote_state_key     = "stage/data-
stores/mysql/terraform.tfstate"

    instance_type          = "t2.micro"
    min_size                = 2
    max_size                = 2
}

```