For a user-defined role scoped for a non-admin database, the resource specification for its privileges must specify the same database as the role. User-defined roles scoped for the admin database can specify other databases.

Specify a Database as Resource If only the collection field is an empty string (""), the resource is the specified database, excluding the *system collections* (page 291). For example, the following resource document specifies the resource of the test database, excluding the system collections:

```
{ db: "test", collection: "" }
```

For a user-defined role scoped for a non-admin database, the resource specification for its privileges must specify the same database as the role. User-defined roles scoped for the admin database can specify other databases.

Note: When you specify a database as the resource, system collections are excluded, unless you name them explicitly, as in the following:

```
{ db: "test", collection: "system.js" }
```

System collections include but are not limited to the following:

- <database>.system.profile (page 291)
- <database>.system.js (page 291)
- system.users Collection (page 416) in the admin database
- system.roles Collection (page 413) in the admin database

Specify Collections Across Databases as Resource If only the db field is an empty string (""), the resource is all collections with the specified name across all databases. For example, the following document specifies the resource of all the accounts collections across all the databases:

```
{ db: "", collection: "accounts" }
```

For user-defined roles, only roles scoped for the admin database can have this resource specification for their privileges.

Specify All Non-System Collections in All Databases If both the db and collection fields are empty strings (""), the resource is all collections, excluding the *system collections* (page 291), in all the databases:

```
{ db: "", collection: "" }
```

For user-defined roles, only roles scoped for the admin database can have this resource specification for their privileges.

Cluster Resource

To specify the cluster as the resource, use the following syntax:

```
{ cluster : true }
```

Use the cluster resource for actions that affect the state of the system rather than act on specific set of databases or collections. Examples of such actions are shutdown, replSetReconfig, and addShard. For example, the following document grants the action shutdown on the cluster.

```
{ resource: { cluster : true }, actions: [ "shutdown" ] }
```