# Terraform: From Beginner to Master with Examples in AWS

## 1 Your First Terraform Project

### Setting up Your First Project

This lesson will teach you how to set up your first project in Terraform and will go over each part of the project in detail.

In this chapter, we are going to create your first Terraform project. We will not cover everything in great detail as we will circle back and fill in the gaps in later chapters. We want the focus of this chapter to be about getting a feel for running Terraform and actually creating some infrastructure with it.

Setting up your first project

We’ll create a file named main.tf

Inside the file main.tf, we’ll paste the following text (replace <yourname> with your name or something unique):

provider "aws" {

region = "us-east-2"

}

resource "aws\_s3\_bucket" "first\_bucket" {

bucket = "<yourname>-first-bucket"

}

That’s all we need for our first Terraform project. The Terraform code we have just written will create an S3 bucket in AWS with the name <yourname>-first-bucket in the region us-east-2. You may have been able to guess this was going to happen, even without knowing Terraform. That is one of the strong parts of Terraform; the code is very readable and it is normally quite clear what is going to happen.

What does your first project do?

Let us take a second to explain each part of the code in a bit more detail.

First block

In the first 3 lines, we are defining the provider that we want to use. Terraform itself is just an engine that knows how to run a provider that conforms to an interface. The Terraform engine is smart and knows how to create dependency trees and plans, and it uses the provider to interface with the outside world. Since we are going to be using Terraform with AWS in this course, we need to configure the AWS provider.

To configure the provider, we use the keyword provider then follow it with the name of the provider in quotes (in this case "aws"). We start the provider block by opening a curly brace {. We can now specify any parameters we want to configure the provider.

To pass a parameter, you simply put the name of the parameter followed by an equals sign and then the value you want to pass the parameter in quotation markers. In our example, we are setting the region this provider will use to be us-east-2. This is the region where the AWS Terraform provider will create all of the infrastructures we define. We then end the provider block with a closing curly brace }.

Second block

The next block we have defined is a resource. A resource in Terraform represents a thing in the real world (in this case, an S3 bucket). To define a resource, you start a resource block by using the keyword resource. You then follow it with the resource you want to create in quotes. We want to create an S3 bucket, so we are using the S3 resource "aws\_s3\_bucket".

If you are following along in IntelliJ and typing in the code, you might have noticed that IntelliJ gave you a full list of possible resources once you started typing. You can see the full list on the AWS provider page if you are interested. After we have specified the type of resource we want to create, we put another space and then the identifier you want to give that resource in quotes, in our example "first\_bucket".

We then open the block in the same way that we did for the provider block with an opening curly brace {. Next, we can give any parameters the resource takes values. In this case, we are only setting the name of the bucket. We then end the resource block with a closing }.

### Creating Your First Infrastructure With Terraform

Learn to create an infrastructure using Terraform and how Terraform creates and destroys the infrastructure.

The first thing you have to do with a new Terraform project is to initialise Terraform for that project. To do this, provide aws\_access\_key\_id and aws\_secret\_access\_key, change <your-name> for the bucket name, and click the RUN button:

📝Note: Before running the project please do make sure that you have set up an AWS account. You can also refer to the lesson, Setting up an AWS Account.

Important Note:

If you cannot edit the access keys and other fields in the terminal below, you don’t need to provide your credentials. We have got you covered.

Please use only us-east-2 region for working in AWS in this course.

Please ensure that the bucket name is globally unique.

provider "aws" {

region = "us-east-2"

}

resource "aws\_s3\_bucket" "first\_bucket" {

bucket = "<your-name>-first-bucket"

}

Initialise your first Terraform project

You will see some output on the screen as Terraform initialises, then you should see the message Terraform has been successfully initialized!. Once you have initialised Terraform, you are ready to create the infrastructure by running:

terraform apply

Terraform apply command

After you run the apply, you will see quite a lot of output from Terraform. You will notice that the apply has paused and is awaiting a response from you.

Let’s take a second and look at what is happening here. By default, when you run terraform apply, Terraform will look at the code you have written and compare it to the infrastructure you currently have (in this case in AWS). Once Terraform has done this, it calculates a plan.

Terraform plan

The plan is what Terraform will do to get the real infrastructure from where it is now to how you have specified you want it to be in code. From looking at the plan, we can see Terraform is saying it will create an S3 bucket. You have told Terraform you want an S3 bucket, so Terraform went to AWS to check and realised that there is no S3 bucket in AWS with that name. Thus, it knows that it needs to create the bucket.

📝Note: Plans will be discussed in much more detail later in this course.

The great thing about this plan is that Terraform presents it to us and then pauses, giving us time to decide whether we want to go ahead. You can imagine how useful this is if you accidentally make a change that will destroy your database! To get Terraform to make these changes and create the S3 bucket, type yes and press enter.

Terraform apply

Once the apply has finished, you should see the message Apply complete! Resources: 1 added, 0 changed, 0 destroyed.. This is Terraform telling you that it successfully created the S3 bucket for you. Now, let’s work through the following steps:

Log onto the aws console (website). If you go to the S3 section, you will see the bucket that Terraform created.

Delete the bucket from the AWS console. Now go back to the terminal and run terraform apply again.

You will notice that Terraform has worked out that the S3 bucket is not there anymore, so it needs to create it again. At no point did you tell Terraform the bucket was gone, Terraform worked it out on its own.

Confirm the apply (by typing yes), so the S3 bucket exists again.

Now run terraform apply again when the bucket is there. You will see Terraform output Apply complete! Resources: 0 added, 0 changed, 0 destroyed..

Terraform realises that the state of the world is exactly how you want it to be, so Terraform is saying “nothing to do here!”

Terraform destroy

To finish up, let’s destroy the infrastructure we created, don’t worry, Terraform can take care of that for us:

Simply run the command terraform destroy.

Terraform will present a plan to you of what it is going to destroy and then pause so you can confirm.

Type yes and press enter. When the destroy finishes, you will see a message Destroy complete! Resources: 1 destroyed..

This is telling you Terraform has successfully destroyed everything.

Log into the AWS console and go to S3, and you will see that the bucket is now gone.

Summary

That concludes our first experience with Terraform. I hope you can start seeing the power and simplicity that Terraform provides. Feel free to play around with this project and try changing the properties like the name of the S3 bucket and see what happens. That is a great way to learn. Just remember to run terraform destroy when you are finished to ensure that you are not left with any infrastructure running in AWS.

Do not worry if you have more questions about any of the steps we just went through. We are going to cover everything in much more detail soon!

## 2 Resources

### Resources in Detail

This lesson will explore what Terraform resources are, how they work, and how you can add properties to them.

Terraform resources

Resources in Terraform represent things in the real world. For example, a resource could be an AWS Load Balancer, an alarm in PagerDuty, a policy in Vault, etc. The resource is the bedrock of Terraform. They allow you to define how you want to create something in the real world. Remember, you can create resources representing things from multiple vendors (for example, multiple clouds) in a single project.

Your project resource

Let’s take a look in a bit more detail at the resource we defined in the previous chapter:

resource "aws\_s3\_bucket" "first\_bucket" {

bucket = "<yourname>-first-bucket"

}

Resource you defined in your project

The resource type aws\_s3\_bucket starts with the name of the provider followed by an underscore (aws\_). This allows you to tell just from the first word of the resource which vendor or component this resource will be created in.

Resource examples

Let’s take a look at a few other examples:

resource "google\_folder" "department" {

display\_name = "Department"

parent = "organisation/1234567"

}

Resource example

The department resource above will create a folder in Google Cloud (GCP). You can see that it starts with google\_ which is the name of the Google Cloud (GCP) provider. Every resource for this provider will start with google\_.

Postgres provider resource example

resource "postgresql\_role" "my\_role" {

name = "my\_role"

login = true

password = "password123"

}

Postgres provider resource example

The my\_role resource above will create a login on a Postgres database, with login name my\_role and password password123. The resource name starts with postgresql\_ as every resource for the Postgres provider will.

If we look back at our S3 bucket resource, the last word on the line in quotes was "first\_bucket". This is the identifier for that S3 bucket within your Terraform project. The identifier is what we use inside our project to refer to an instance of a resource. If you created multiple instances of the same resource (for example, you could create many S3 buckets), the identifier would provide you a way to reference each one.

Resource properties

The key name value pairs that make up the body of the resource are the properties for the resource. Some properties on the resource are mandatory and some are optional. For an AWS S3 bucket, the only mandatory property is the name of the bucket. We could have set more properties on the bucket, though. For example:

resource "aws\_s3\_bucket" "first\_bucket" {

bucket = "kevholditch-first-bucket"

acl = "private"

versioning {

enabled = true

mfa\_delete = false

}

}

Setting properties for the resource

In the above example, we are setting the acl to private which essentially says that this bucket will only allow private access. We are also setting two properties for versioning, one to say we are enabling versioning and another to say that you do not require MFA to delete an item on this bucket. You will notice that the properties for versioning are nested in another object. This is a design choice by the resource creator that groups all of the versioning properties together. You may also notice that the two properties in the versioning section are booleans (true/false). These do not require quotes around them like strings do, as we have done for the other two properties.

You can get a full list of all of the properties that are supported for an S3 bucket on the Terraform provider documentation page. The documentation is quite easy to find on Google.

Another resource type

Let’s take a look at another resource type to examine the other data types that resources can take in their properties:

resource "aws\_security\_group" "my\_security\_group" {

name = "allow\_tls"

ingress {

protocol = "tcp"

from\_port = 443

to\_port = 443

cidr\_blocks = ["10.0.0.0/16", "11.0.0.0/16"]

}

}

Data resource

In the above resource, we have the two other types of data resources that can take numbers and lists. The port properties (from\_port and to\_port) are numbers and are set by providing a value without quotes. cidr\_blocks is a list type, which takes a list of CIDR blocks to which it will restrict this security group. You can see that a list is given in the same way a JSON array of strings is created, in that you surround it in square braces.

#### GPT

这个 Terraform 代码块是用于在 AWS（亚马逊网络服务）中创建和配置一个安全组。让我们一步一步地了解它的各个部分及其含义，尤其是对于不熟悉网络概念的人来说：

1. \*\*资源类型与名称\*\*:

- `resource "aws\_security\_group" "my\_security\_group"`: 这行代码定义了一个新的资源类型，即 AWS 安全组（Security Group）。`"my\_security\_group"`是我们给这个安全组指定的名称，以便在 Terraform 配置中引用。

2. \*\*安全组名称\*\*:

- `name = "allow\_tls"`: 这里设置了安全组在 AWS 中的显示名称为“allow\_tls”。这个名称有助于识别和管理 AWS 控制台中的安全组。

3. \*\*入站规则\*\*:

- `ingress { ... }`: 这部分定义了安全组的入站规则，也就是控制向安全组内的资源（如 EC2 实例）发送数据的规则。

4. \*\*协议\*\*:

- `protocol = "tcp"`: 指定了协议类型。在这里，它设置为 TCP（传输控制协议），这是一种常用的网络通信协议。

5. \*\*端口范围\*\*:

- `from\_port = 443`

- `to\_port = 443`: 这两行定义了允许数据传输的端口范围。由于起始端口（`from\_port`）和结束端口（`to\_port`）都设置为 443，因此这规则专门允许通过端口 443 的数据。端口 443 通常用于 TLS/SSL 加密的 HTTPS 流量，这是安全的网络通信标准。

6. \*\*CIDR 块\*\*:

- `cidr\_blocks = ["10.0.0.0/16", "11.0.0.0/16"]`: 这指定了一个或多个允许发送到指定端口的 IP 地址范围。CIDR（无类域间路由）块是一种表示 IP 地址范围的方法。在这个例子中，“10.0.0.0/16”和“11.0.0.0/16”代表了两个大型的 IP 地址范围。

总结一下，这个 Terraform 代码块创建了一个名为“allow\_tls”的 AWS 安全组，它允许从两个特定的 IP 地址范围到端口 443（通常用于 HTTPS 流量）的 TCP 流量。这样的配置通常用于确保只有特定的 IP 地址范围可以访问部署在 AWS 上的安全 HTTPS 服务。

#### VPC

CIDR（无类别域间路由）是一种用于表示 IP 地址和其关联网络的方法，广泛应用于网络配置和管理中。理解 CIDR 对于掌握网络基础知识非常重要。让我详细解释一下 CIDR 的概念及其在您提供的 Terraform 示例中的应用：

### CIDR 基础

1. \*\*IP 地址\*\*:

- IP 地址是分配给网络上每个设备的数字标签。在 IPv4（目前最常用的版本）中，它由四组数字组成，每组数字范围从 0 到 255，例如 192.168.1.1。

2. \*\*子网掩码\*\*:

- 子网掩码用于确定 IP 地址中哪些部分表示网络，哪些部分表示主机（即个别设备）。传统的子网掩码，如 255.255.255.0，以点分十进制形式表示。

3. \*\*CIDR 表示法\*\*:

- CIDR 表示法简化了子网掩码的表示。例如，`192.168.1.0/24` 表示 IP 地址范围 `192.168.1.0` 到 `192.168.1.255`。`/24` 表示前 24 位是网络地址，剩下的位数（在这种情况下是 8 位）用于主机地址。

### CIDR 在 Terraform 示例中的应用

在您的 Terraform 配置中，CIDR 用于定义安全组规则，指定哪些 IP 地址范围可以访问特定的端口。例如：

- `cidr\_blocks = ["10.0.0.0/16", "11.0.0.0/16"]`

这里，有两个 CIDR 块：

1. \*\*10.0.0.0/16\*\*:

- 这表示 10.0.0.0 到 10.0.255.255 的所有 IP 地址。`/16` 意味着前 16 位是网络地址，因此这个范围包含了 65,536（2^16）个可能的 IP 地址。

2. \*\*11.0.0.0/16\*\*:

- 同样地，这表示从 11.0.0.0 到 11.0.255.255 的 IP 地址，也包括 65,536 个地址。

在这个 Terraform 示例中，CIDR 块用于指定允许通过 TCP 协议在 443 端口（通常用于 HTTPS）进行通信的 IP 地址范围。这意味着任何在这两个 IP 范围内的设备都被允许访问通过该安全组保护的 AWS 资源，如 EC2 实例，前提是访问请求是通过 443 端口发起的。这样的设置有助于限制访问，增强网络安全性。

### Interpolation Syntax

In this lesson, we'll discuss the attributes a resource returns and will go through an example project to understand attributes reference.

Useful resource output

Once a resource is created, it returns a number of attributes. The attributes a resource returns can be found in the “Attributes Reference” section on the documentation page for any resource. This is amazingly useful as it allows you to use the output from one resource as the argument for another resource.

Project example

Consider the following project:

provider "aws" {

region = "us-east-2"

}

resource "aws\_vpc" "my\_vpc" {

cidr\_block = "10.0.0.0/16"

}

resource "aws\_security\_group" "my\_security\_group" {

vpc\_id = aws\_vpc.my\_vpc.id

name = "Example security group"

}

resource "aws\_security\_group\_rule" "tls\_in" {

protocol = "tcp"

security\_group\_id = aws\_security\_group.my\_security\_group.id

from\_port = 443

to\_port = 443

type = "ingress"

cidr\_blocks = ["0.0.0.0/0"]

}

Create AWS VPC with CIDR block using this project

This project creates an AWS VPC with CIDR block 10.0.0.0/16. Then it defines a security group (aws\_security\_group). Notice that the value of vpc\_id is set to aws\_vpc.my\_vpc.id in the definition of the security group . The value of aws\_vpc.my\_vpc.id is not known before we run the project, since AWS will randomly assign it when we create the VPC. By referencing the VPC we created, we can use this value even though we do not know what it will be until we run the project.

Output attribute

The format for using an output attribute from a resource is <resource\_type>.<resource\_identifier>.<attribute\_name>. In the VPC id example, we are getting the output from an aws\_vpc resource type, with the identifier name my\_vpc, and we want to get the id attribute value. Thus, we end up with aws\_vpc.my\_vpc.id. It is worth noting here that this syntax was greatly simplified in Terraform version 0.15 (which is the syntax all of the examples in this course will be using).

Security group rule

Next, in our project, we define a security group rule (aws\_security\_group\_rule). This allows ingress traffic on port 443. In the aws\_security\_group\_rule, we need to reference the id of the security group that we want to put this rule in. We can use the same technique as we did when we referenced the id of the VPC. Let’s work through how to figure this out together:

It will start with the type of resource we want to reference, aws\_security\_group.

Next, we use the identifier to specify which instance of the security group we want to use, which is my\_security\_group.

Lastly, we use the attribute of that property we want to use, which is id.

This leads us to build the expression aws\_security\_group.my\_security\_group.id which we can use for the value of the property security\_group\_id inside the aws\_security\_group\_rule resource.

Adding a new security group

To illustrate the way Terraform can create a project in parallel, consider what happens when we add a new security group rule to our project above:

resource "aws\_security\_group\_rule" "http\_in" {

protocol = "tcp"

security\_group\_id = aws\_security\_group.my\_security\_group.id

from\_port = 80

to\_port = 80

type = "ingress"

cidr\_blocks = ["0.0.0.0/0"]

}

New security rule group

When you run the project now, Terraform will realise that it can create both security group rules in parallel. Once the security group they both depend on is created, it will create both of the rules together. This feature of Terraform makes for excellent performance. It may seem obvious in this example, but as a project grows, the amount Terraform can run in parallel can be quite impressive.

📝Note: Once you are done with the project, do not forget to run terraform destroy and then confirm with yes to delete all of the resources in this project.

## 3 Providers

### Providers in Detail

This lesson will cover what Terraform providers are and how they work.

Terraform providers

A provider in Terraform is a connection that allows Terraform to manage infrastructure using a pre-defined interface. This abstraction means the provider is completely separate from the Terraform engine - which understands how to read state from a provider, read HCL code, and work out how to get to the desired state. This allows you to write a provider to connect to anything that has a programmable way to talk to it. All the writer of a provider has to do for each resource they want Terraform to control is provide Terraform with a way to create it, read it, and delete it.

📝Note: Updates are actually optional as Terraform can always delete and then create the resource if the update is not provided.

A provider in Terraform is a connection that allows Terraform to manage infrastructure using a predefined interface

Provider model

Due to the provider model that Terraform employs, providers are not part of the main Terraform source code. They are separate binaries that live in their own repositories and can move at their own speed. This means that if a provider needs to release a bug fix or new feature, they can release it. They do not need to coordinate a release of the main Terraform code base.

Provider examples

A provider is defined using a provider block. You have already used a provider block in the examples covered so far in this course. A provider block is shown below:

provider "aws" {

region = "us-east-2"

}

Provider block

The provider block is very simple. It starts with the keyword “provider” to indicate that this is a provider block. You then have to give the name of the provider that you are using. In this case we are using the AWS provider, so we put "aws". You then use a { to open the provider block. You can put all of the configurations you want for the provider inside the provider block. For the AWS provider, the only property that we are configuring is the region. This will be the region in which we are going to create our AWS resources. You then end the provider block with a closing }.

Downloading AWS provider

If you connect terminals and run terraform init, you will notice that Terraform downloads the AWS provider automatically. It will print the following message: Downloading plugin for provider "aws" (hashicorp/AWS) 2.27.0.... How does this happen, though? Hashicorp (the company that makes Terraform) hosts a registry that contains the most popular providers. If the provider you use is in the registry, then all you have to do to use it is define a provider block that sets up that provider and run terraform init to download it. You can see a full list of providers in the registry on the Hashicorp Terraform site.

Where Terraform puts the provider

What happens to the provider then? Terraform simply puts it inside the project where you are currently working in a special folder called .terraform.

The provider is actually a separate binary that Terraform calls out at a run time to do its work. As an interesting aside, the name of the provider binary is always in the format terraform-provider-<NAME>\_vX.Y.Z. Terraform uses this convention to search for providers on your machine so that it knows if you have a particular version of a provider when you run terraform init. Based on this, it decides whether or not to download it.

### Provider Best Practices

An overview of some tips and tricks for Terraform providers.

When you ran terraform init, Terraform downloaded the latest versions of all of the providers that you used in your project. You may have noticed the warning message that Terraform printed out:

Terraform has created a lock file .terraform.lock.hcl to record the provider

selections it made above. Include this file in your version control repository

so that Terraform can guarantee to make the same selections by default when

you run "terraform init" in the future.

terraform init warning message

Terraform creates a special file that is used to record the version of all of the providers used. This is so that when terraform init is run again (potentially on another machine), Terraform can select exactly the same versions of the providers that were used when the project was first to run. This is important for repeatability.

Terraform creates a special file that is used to record the version of all of the providers used

It can be useful to control the version of the provider that Terraform selects when init is first run. For example, some of your code may only work with v3 of a provider because there is a breaking change in v4. By committing the .terraform.lock.hcl file as suggested in the message, you will guarantee that the version of the provider you used when you set up this project will always be used.

Terraform project example

If you want to instruct Terraform to select a certain version of a provider when it first initializes (in case there is no lock file present) we can use a special terraform block to configure the version for the AWS provider.

Let’s see an example of this:

provider "aws" {

region = "us-east-2"

}

terraform {

required\_providers {

aws = {

version = "~> 3.46"

}

}

}

main.tf file of our Terraform providers project example

In the Terraform block above, we have defined a required\_providers block. This required provider block allows us to specify extra properties for each of the providers we are using in the project. Under required providers, we open an AWS block. There, we specify a version constraint for the AWS provider.

Running the project

Clicking the terminal will run terraform init. If prompted, enter yes to run the project.

The version constraint ∼> 3.46 is used by Terraform when there is no .terraform.lock.hcl present. This constraint means that any version greater than or equal to 3.46 but less than 4.0 is allowed. In normal operation, you should not need to worry about version constraints as long as you commit the lock file.

### More Than One Instance of the Same Provider

We'll cover the following

Creating multiple instances of the same provider

Project example

AWS provider instances

VPC creation

Provider property

Project output

Running the project

We will learn to create multiple instances of the same provider and to add provider property.

Creating multiple instances of the same provider

Since region is a required parameter in the AWS provider, you may be wondering how to create resources in different regions. Is that possible in a single Terraform project? Well, yes, it is. To do this, you simply create multiple instances of the same provider.

Project example

Consider the following project:

provider "aws" {

region = "us-east-1"

}

provider "aws" {

region = "us-east-2"

alias = "ohio"

}

resource "aws\_vpc" "n\_virginia\_vpc" {

cidr\_block = "10.0.0.0/16"

}

resource "aws\_vpc" "ohio\_vpc" {

cidr\_block = "10.1.0.0/16"

provider = aws.ohio

}

AWS provider instances

As you can see, we are defining two instances of the AWS provider. One points at the region us-east-1 while the other points at the region us-east-2. For the one that is pointing at us-east-2, you will notice that we are setting the alias property to ohio. Alias is a property you can set on any provider block. It is in no way special to the AWS provider. What this gives us is a way to distinguish between the two providers. Once you define two or more instances of the same provider, every definition must have an alias set after the first.

VPC creation

After we have defined the two AWS providers, we will create a VPC called n\_virginia\_vpc with the CIDR block 10.0.0.0/16. As we have not told Terraform which provider instance to use for this resource, Terraform will pick the instance of the AWS provider where you have not defined an alias. This means that this VPC will be created in the region us-east-1 (N. Virginia). The second VPC we have defined with the identifier ohio\_vpc has a CIDR block of 10.1.0.0/16. This time we have set the provider property on the resource to aws.ohio. This means that Terraform will use our second AWS provider, which points to the region us-east-2. When we run the project by doing terraform apply, this VPC will be created in us-east-2.

Provider property

Every resource has a provider property that you can set. The format of the value is set by <provider\_- name>.<provider\_alias>. For our example, we were using the AWS provider with the alias “Ohio” when we created the VPC in Ohio. Thus, we set the provider property to aws.ohio.

You can also explicitly tell Terraform to use the default provider. To do this, you can set the provider property to the provider name. So, for example, we could have defined the n\_virginia\_vpc:

resource "aws\_vpc" "n\_virginia\_vpc" {

cidr\_block = "10.0.0.0/16"

provider = "aws"

}

Setting provider property to the provider name

Project output

This would have given us the same output, thus adding extra code with no added value. No one in the community writes their HCL as a result. Less is more, and it is cleaner and easier to read if you omit the provider property when using the default provider instance.

Running the project

After running the project, it will create two VPCs, one in us-east-1 and one in us-east-2. Log into the AWS Console and navigate to find the VPC section. Switch into the us-east-1 and us-east-2 regions and you will see the VPCs that Terraform created.

📝Note: Once you are done with the project, do not forget to run terraform destroy and then confirm with yes to delete all of the resources in this project.

## 4 Data Sources

### Data Sources in Detail

This lesson will teach you about Terraform data and how it is to used.

We'll cover the following

Terraform data source

Project example

Referencing a bucket

AWS IAM policy

S3 bucket data source usage

Terraform data source

A data source in Terraform is used to fetch data from a resource that is not managed by the current Terraform project. This allows it to be used in the current project. You can think of it as a read-only resource that already exists; the object exists, but you want to read specific properties of that object for use in your project.

A data source in Terraform is used to fetch data from a resource that is not managed by the current Terraform project

Project example

Let’s dive into an example:

provider "aws" {

region = "us-east-2"

}

data "aws\_s3\_bucket" "bucket" {

bucket = "kevholditch-already-exists"

}

resource "aws\_iam\_policy" "my\_bucket\_policy" {

name = "my-bucket-policy"

policy = <<EOF

{

"Version": "2012-10-17",

"Statement": [

{

"Action": [

"s3:ListBucket"

],

"Effect": "Allow",

"Resource": [

"${data.aws\_s3\_bucket.bucket.arn}"

]

}

]

}

EOF

}

main.tf file of data source project example

As you can see from the above project, a data source block starts with the word “data”. The next word is the type of data source. We are using an aws\_s3\_bucket data source, which is used to lookup an S3 bucket. After the data source type, we give the data source an identifier, in this case "bucket". The identifier is used to reference the data source inside the Terraform project. The data source block is opened with a {. You then specify any properties you want Terraform to use to search for the resource. We are using the complete name of the S3 bucket we are looking for. You then close the data source block with }.

Referencing a bucket

Rather than creating the bucket as we did before, here we are referencing a bucket that already exists. So, before you run the above project, you will need to create an S3 bucket with the name that you specify inside the data block. In the example above, the bucket would be called kevholditch-already-exists. Name the bucket anything you want, but make sure to paste the name into the bucket property in the data source.

AWS IAM policy

At the bottom of this project, we create an AWS IAM policy that gives permissions to list the bucket that we looked up in the data source. There are a couple of new concepts in the aws\_iam\_policy resource that we first need to introduce. The IAM policy itself is a multi-line string enclosed in between <<POLICY and POLICY. This is how you define a multi-line string in Terraform. You open the multi-line string with << then place any identifier you wish as a single word. I have used POLICY in the example above since we are defining an IAM policy, but you can use any label like <<STATEMENT or <<IAM. You then start your multi-line string on the next line and finish it with the opening identifier without the <<.

📝Note: The closing marker must be at the start of a new line. Otherwise, it is a syntax error.

S3 bucket data source usage

Inside the IAM policy, we are using the S3 bucket data source. We take the arn from the S3 bucket so that we can use it in our IAM policy. You will notice that to get the value, we use the interpolation syntax ${data.aws\_s3\_bucket.bucket.arn}. The opening ${ and closing } are necessary because we are inside a multi-line string. They tell terraform that we want it to evaluate this value and not use it as a string literal. The format of a data source expression is data.<data\_type>.<data\_identifier>.<attribute\_name>. You can get a full list of the attributes that a data resource provides from the documentation website of the provider.

We are taking the arn from the S3 bucket so that we can use it in our IAM policy

#### GPT

这个 Terraform（TF）文件是用于配置 AWS（亚马逊网络服务）资源的。让我们一步步详细解读这个文件中的各个部分：

### 1. AWS 提供者配置

```hcl

provider "aws" {

region = "us-east-2"

}

```

- `provider "aws"`: 这一部分指定了 Terraform 将使用 AWS 作为云服务提供者。

- `region = "us-east-2"`: 这里设置 AWS 的地区为“us-east-2”，即美国东部（俄亥俄州）地区。这意味着所有通过这个 Terraform 文件创建的资源将位于这个特定地区。

### 2. 数据源配置

```hcl

data "aws\_s3\_bucket" "bucket" {

bucket = "kevholditch-already-exists"

}

```

- `data "aws\_s3\_bucket" "bucket"`: 这一部分定义了一个数据源，用于引用一个已经存在的 AWS S3 存储桶。

- `bucket = "kevholditch-already-exists"`: 这里指定了存储桶的名称为“kevholditch-already-exists”。通过这个数据源，Terraform 可以获取这个存储桶的相关信息，如其 Amazon Resource Name（ARN）。

### 3. IAM 策略资源

```hcl

resource "aws\_iam\_policy" "my\_bucket\_policy" {

name = "my-bucket-policy"

policy = <<EOF

{

"Version": "2012-10-17",

"Statement": [

{

"Action": [

"s3:ListBucket"

],

"Effect": "Allow",

"Resource": [

"${data.aws\_s3\_bucket.bucket.arn}"

]

}

]

}

EOF

}

```

- `resource "aws\_iam\_policy" "my\_bucket\_policy"`: 这部分定义了一个新的 AWS IAM（身份与访问管理）策略资源。

- `name = "my-bucket-policy"`: 为这个 IAM 策略指定了一个名字，即“my-bucket-policy”。

- `policy = <<EOF ... EOF`: 这里定义了 IAM 策略的具体内容。采用了多行字符串（heredoc）语法来定义 JSON 格式的策略。

- `"Version": "2012-10-17"`: 指定了策略语言的版本。

- `"Statement": [...]`: 策略声明部分，定义了具体的权限。

- `"Action": ["s3:ListBucket"]`: 指定了允许的操作，这里是列出 S3 存储桶的内容。

- `"Effect": "Allow"`: 设置了这个操作的效果为允许。

- `"Resource": ["${data.aws\_s3\_bucket.bucket.arn}"]`: 指定了这个策略适用的资源，这里是上面定义的 S3 存储桶的 ARN。

总体来说，这个 Terraform 文件配置了 AWS 的地区，引用了一个已存在的 S3 存储桶，并创建了一个 IAM 策略，允许列出该存储桶的内容。这个配置有助于在 AWS 环境中管理资源访问和权限。

这个 `aws\_iam\_policy` 定义的是一个基于角色的策略（Identity-based policy），而不是基于资源的策略（Resource-based policy）。

### 基于角色的策略（Identity-based policy）

- \*\*定义\*\*: 这类策略是直接附加到 IAM 用户、用户组或角色上的。它们用于定义这些身份（用户、组或角色）可以执行哪些操作，以及在什么条件下可以执行这些操作。

- \*\*本例中\*\*: `aws\_iam\_policy` 资源创建了一个 IAM 策略。这个策略目前还没有与任何特定的 IAM 用户、组或角色关联。为了使其生效，你需要将其附加到某个 IAM 实体上。

### 基于资源的策略（Resource-based policy）

- \*\*定义\*\*: 基于资源的策略是直接附加到资源上的，例如 S3 存储桶、SQS 队列等。这类策略定义谁可以执行哪些操作以及在什么条件下可以对这些资源执行操作。

- \*\*与本例的区别\*\*: 如果策略是直接附加到 S3 存储桶等资源上，那么它就是基于资源的策略。在你提供的代码中，策略是作为独立的 IAM 策略创建的，而不是直接附加到某个 AWS 资源上。

因此，根据你的 Terraform 代码，创建的是一个可用于附加到 IAM 用户、组或角色的基于角色的策略。

你是对的。在您提供的 Terraform 代码中，虽然定义了一个 IAM 策略 (`aws\_iam\_policy`)，但并没有显示这个策略被附加到任何 IAM 用户、角色或组上。仅仅定义一个 IAM 策略并不会自动将它应用到任何 AWS 身份（用户、角色或组）上。

要使这个策略生效，您需要进行额外的步骤，将这个策略附加到特定的 IAM 用户、角色或组。在 Terraform 中，这通常通过使用 `aws\_iam\_policy\_attachment`、`aws\_iam\_user\_policy\_attachment`、`aws\_iam\_role\_policy\_attachment` 或 `aws\_iam\_group\_policy\_attachment` 资源来完成。

例如，如果您想将这个策略附加到一个 IAM 角色上，您需要添加类似以下的 Terraform 配置：

```hcl

resource "aws\_iam\_role\_policy\_attachment" "my\_attachment" {

role = "指定的IAM角色名称"

policy\_arn = aws\_iam\_policy.my\_bucket\_policy.arn

}

```

这里，`aws\_iam\_role\_policy\_attachment` 资源创建了一个策略附加，将您定义的策略 (`aws\_iam\_policy.my\_bucket\_policy`) 附加到指定的 IAM 角色上。`role` 属性是您想附加策略的角色的名称，`policy\_arn` 是您创建的策略的 ARN（Amazon 资源名称），这可以通过 Terraform 的资源引用直接获取。

这个策略代码是 JSON 格式的 AWS IAM 策略语法，嵌入在 Terraform（TF）配置文件中。

### 解析策略代码的格式和语法

1. \*\*AWS IAM 策略语法（JSON格式）\*\*:

- IAM 策略通常以 JSON 格式编写，遵循 AWS 的策略语法。

- 策略定义了哪些操作（Actions）被允许或拒绝，对哪些资源（Resources）有效，以及在什么条件下（Conditions）这些规则适用。

2. \*\*在 Terraform 配置中的应用\*\*:

- Terraform 使用 HCL（HashiCorp 配置语言）语法编写，但它也可以嵌入其他数据格式，比如 JSON。

- 在您的 Terraform 代码中，IAM 策略被定义在一个多行字符串（使用 `<<EOF ... EOF`）内，这是 Terraform 的一种处理多行或嵌入式文本的方法。

### 具体例子中的应用

在您提供的 Terraform 代码中，IAM 策略被定义在 `aws\_iam\_policy` 资源中：

```hcl

resource "aws\_iam\_policy" "my\_bucket\_policy" {

name = "my-bucket-policy"

policy = <<EOF

{

"Version": "2012-10-17",

"Statement": [

{

"Action": [

"s3:ListBucket"

],

"Effect": "Allow",

"Resource": [

"${data.aws\_s3\_bucket.bucket.arn}"

]

}

]

}

EOF

}

```

- 这里，`policy` 部分是标准的 AWS IAM 策略，采用 JSON 格式编写。

- Terraform 使用 `<<EOF ... EOF` 来定义多行字符串，其中包含 JSON 格式的 IAM 策略。

总结来说，策略代码本身遵循 AWS IAM 策略的 JSON 格式，而这段代码被嵌入在遵循 HCL 语法的 Terraform 配置文件中。

### How are Data Sources Useful?

In this lesson, we'll discuss Terraform data source advantages.

We'll cover the following

Terraform data source advantages

Example

Another advantage

Terraform data source advantages

As your Terraform project grows, it can be sensible to break it up into smaller projects to make for easier maintenance. When this happens, you can use data sources to reference and utilize resources across Terraform projects. In this case, it would always be better to use a data source rather than to compute the arn yourself, as with something like an S3 bucket. This is because you want Terraform to fail if, for some reason, the bucket no longer exists. By using a data source, you maintain this behavior.

As your Terraform project grows it can be sensible to break it up into smaller projects to make for easie maintainance

Example

Imagine you want to create a new AWS EC2 instance using an AMI image from a private repository.

You could hard code the name of the AMI image when creating the instance and manually update it when a new AMI image is released.

This would technically work, but is quite cumbersome and would require a code change every time you wanted to use the latest version of the AMI image.

By using a data source instead, you can set things up to always read the repository and retrieve the latest version of the AMI image when you run Terraform.

You can then reference the data source when creating the EC2 instance to ensure that you always have the latest version of the image.

Another advantage

Another case when you may want to use a data source is if you are migrating existing infrastructure to Terraform and want to reference a resource that is not part of your Terraform project yet. As previously stated, it is always better to use a data source rather than compute the value yourself. You want Terraform to know that there is a dependency on the resource so that your terraform apply will fail if the resource cannot be found or if the attribute it returns changes. Terraform will realise this when you run “apply” and update your project with the new value.

Another use for data sources is when you are migrating existing infrastructure to Terraform and want to reference a resource that is not part of your Terraform project yet.

## 5 Outputs

### Outputs Explained

In this lesson, you'll learn how to write an output in Terraform, how they work, and how they are defined.

We'll cover the following

Terraform project output

Terraform project output example

Let’s dive into the project output

Output definition in Terraform

Terraform project output

Output in your Terraform project shows a piece of data after Terraform successfully completes. Outputs are useful as they allow you to echo values from the Terraform run to the command line. For example, if you are creating an environment and setting up a bastion jump box as part of that environment, it’s handy to be able to echo the public IP address of the newly created bastion to the command line. Then, after the terraform apply finishes, you are given the IP of the newly created bastion which is ready for you to ssh straight onto it.

Terraform project output example

Let’s start with an example of outputs:

output "message" {

value = "Hello World"

}

Terraform project example

Try running this project by connecting with the terminal. After running terraform init and terraform apply. You will see that Terraform runs and then prints the following:

Let’s dive into the project output

You can see from the message above that Terraform states that nothing changed (0 added, 0 changed, 0 destroyed.). You then see Outputs: under which Terraform prints out the values of all of the outputs you have defined. We defined a single output with the identifier message and gave it the value Hello world, so that is what Terraform printed.

Output definition in Terraform

To define an output, you open an output block by using the output keyword. You then start the output block with {. You are only allowed to set a single property called value. Whatever value you give to the value property will be outputted to the console after a successful terraform apply. You then close the output block with }.

📝Note: Outputs are used in modules too and have slightly different semantics. This will be covered in the chapter on modules.

### Outputting Resource Properties

Learn more about Terraform output and output resource properties.

We'll cover the following

Terraform output project example

Project output

The first example is pretty basic and, in the real world, probably not very useful. Outputs are much more useful when used to output the values of resources that have been created as part of a Terraform run.

Terraform output project example

Let’s create another Terraform project and output the values of resources as a part of a Terraform run:

provider "aws" {

region = "us-east-2"

}

resource "aws\_s3\_bucket" "first\_bucket" {

bucket = "kevholditch-bucket-outputs"

}

output "bucket\_name" {

value = aws\_s3\_bucket.first\_bucket.id

}

output "bucket\_arn" {

value = aws\_s3\_bucket.first\_bucket.arn

}

output "bucket\_information" {

value = "bucket name: ${aws\_s3\_bucket.first\_bucket.id}, bucket arn: ${aws\_s3\_bucket.first\_bucket.arn}"

}

main.tf file of Terraform output project example

Let’s walk through the above code.

The provider and resource should be familiar to you. We are simply defining the AWS provider to be used with the us-east-2 region and setting up an S3 bucket.

Feel free to change the name of the bucket to whatever you wish.

Next, we define an output called bucket\_name.

In the bucket\_name, we are going to output the name of the bucket by using the attribute of the S3 bucket resource that we create.

We use the same technique to output the ARN of the bucket that we will create in the output bucket\_arn.

Because we are directly using the attribute in both of those examples, we can just set it equal to value without any quotes.

The last output bucket\_information prints an interpolated string which will give us the bucket name and bucket arn. Since this value is a string with interpolated values, we have to surround it in quotes and ${ }.

Project output

Clicking the terminal will run terraform init and then terraform apply. When prompted, enter yes to run the project. Terraform runs, creates the S3 bucket and gives the following output under the Outputs: heading:

Running the Terraform project

Terraform got the values from the S3 bucket that it created and outputted them when the run completed. Note that Terraform prints the outputs in alphabetical order, not the order that you define them in your project.

Terraform does not care which order you define the blocks in your project. Try reordering them and running terraform apply again. You will notice that Terraform will say that there is nothing to do.

### Exporting all Attributes

Learn to output an entire resource or data block using the Terraform output resource.

We'll cover the following

Running the project

As of Terraform version 1.0.0 (which this course is based on), Terraform allows you to output an entire resource or data block. To do this, we’ll take the example that we just had in the last lesson and added the output "all" block:

provider "aws" {

region = "us-east-2"

}

resource "aws\_s3\_bucket" "first\_bucket" {

bucket = "kevholditch-bucket-outputs"

}

output "bucket\_name" {

value = aws\_s3\_bucket.first\_bucket.id

}

output "bucket\_arn" {

value = aws\_s3\_bucket.first\_bucket.arn

}

output "bucket\_information" {

value = "bucket name: ${aws\_s3\_bucket.first\_bucket.id}, bucket arn: ${aws\_s3\_bucket.first\_bucket.arn}"

}

output "all" {

value = aws\_s3\_bucket.first\_bucket

}

Project example to output an entire resource

After running the project, you will notice an output called all that has all of the attributes exported by the aws\_s3\_bucket resource. Sometimes, it can be handy to output the whole resource to the console. Normally, when you are debugging something though, you want to see the value of one of the properties.

Running the project

Clicking the terminal will run terraform init and then terraform apply. When prompted, enter yes to run the project.

## 6 Locals

### Locals in Detail

This lesson will cover Terraform local, how they work, and how to use them.

We'll cover the following

Terraform local

Project example

Project code in detail

Running the project

Locals referencing Resources

Terraform local

A local is Terraform’s representation of a normal programming language variable. Confusingly, Terraform also has a concept called a variable which is really an input (variables are covered in the variables chapter). A local can refer to a fixed value such as a string, or it can be used to refer to an expression such as two other locals concatenated together.

Project example

Let’s dive into an example:

provider "aws" {

region = "us-east-2"

}

locals {

first\_part = "hello"

second\_part = "${local.first\_part}-there"

bucket\_name = "${local.second\_part}-how-are-you-today"

}

resource "aws\_s3\_bucket" "bucket" {

bucket = local.bucket\_name

}

main.tf file of Locals project example

Project code in detail

In the code above:

We define a local block by using the keyword locals and then an opening {.

We define each local on a new line by giving it a name. The first local we define is called first\_part.

We then follow it with an = and give it a value. For the first\_part local, we give it the value of the string literal hello.

For the second local second\_part, we are use the value "${local.first\_part}-there".

As the whole expression is inside quotes, we need to use the ${ and } around our expression so Terraform evaluates it.

To reference a local, we use the expression syntax local.local\_identifier.

The second\_part local will be set to “hello-there”. In the bucket\_name local, we are using the second\_part local in the expression "${local.second\_part}-how-are-you-today" which will evaluate to hello-there-how-are-you-today.

At the bottom of the project, we define an S3 bucket and set the name to local.bucket\_name. This will create an S3 bucket with the name hello-there-how-are-you-today.

📝Note: We do not need the ${ and } as we are not inside quotes here.

We could also have set the bucket to "${local.bucket\_name}", which would be evaluated to the same thing.

In Terraform version 1.0.0, though, we can now omit the ${ and } for a single line expression where we are using the whole value. This makes the code cleaner and easier to read. Easily read code becomes vital when we define our infrastructure as code.

Locals referencing Resources

Locals can reference the output of a resource or a data source by using the expression syntax we have learned. This allows you to give something a meaningful name or to combine outputs from different resource and data source attributes to build up a more complex value.

## 7 Templates and Files

### Files

This lesson will teach you about Terraform files and how to use them.

We'll cover the following

Terraform files

Project example

Terraform files

We have seen in the locals chapter how you can place a multi-line string as a value for a property. This is useful for something like an IAM policy. It can be even cleaner to move the value out into a file and then reference that file from your project. Doing this may remove the clutter from your project and make it much more readable.

Project example

Let’s see an example of using files:

<<<main.tf>>>

provider "aws" {

region = "us-east-2"

}

resource "aws\_iam\_policy" "my\_bucket\_policy" {

name = "list-buckets-policy"

policy = file("./policy.iam")

}

<<<policy.iam>>>

{

"Version": "2012-10-17",

"Statement": [

{

"Action": [

"s3:ListBucket"

],

"Effect": "Allow",

"Resource": "\*"

}

]

}

Terraform files project example

The IAM policy creates a policy that gives list bucket permission to any bucket. If you look at the Terraform code, you will see we are configuring the AWS provider, as we will be connecting to AWS. Then we are defining an AWS IAM policy. Instead of placing the policy inline as we did in a previous chapter, we referenced the policy from the file policy.iam. We are calling the file function and passing in the argument as to where the file is.

📝Note: policy.iam is a relative file path from our current location.

### Templatefile Function

In this chapter, we will learn the templatefile function in detail.

We'll cover the following

templatefile

Project example

Code explanation

Project output

templatefile

Sometimes we want to use a file but do not know all of the values before we run the project. Other times, the values are dynamic and generated as a result of a created resource. To use dynamic values in a file, we need to use the templatefile function.

The templatefile function allows us to define placeholders in a template file and then pass their values at runtime.

Project example

Let’s dive into a simple example to see how it works. Clicking the “Run” button will run terraform init and then terraform apply. When prompted, enter yes to run the project.

<<<main.tf>>>

locals {

rendered = templatefile("./example.tpl", { name = "kevin", number = 7})

}

output "rendered\_template" {

value = local.rendered

}

<<<example.tpl>>>

hello there ${name}

there are ${number} things to say

Templatefile function example project

Code explanation

Let’s walk through the code we have written so we can understand what is going on:

We define a local (as we learned in the locals chapter) called rendered.

We set the value of the local (remember a local can have a value that is an expression) to the result of calling the templatefile function.

The template file function takes two arguments.

The first argument is the path to the template file.

In this example, we are using the relative path between the main.tf and the template file example.tpl, so the path is ./example.tpl.

The next parameter is a set of variables that we want to replace in our template.

We pass in a value for a name (kevin) and number (7).

You could set the value of these variables to any expression such as another local or an attribute from a created resource or a data source.

If you look at the example template code, you will see that we use the syntax ${<variable\_name>} when we want to reference a passed-in variable.

Terraform will replace ${name} in our template with the value passed in for the name, it will do the same with ${number}.

We then use an output to print the rendered value of the template out to the terminal. This is an easy way for us to see how the templatefile function works.

Project output

Let’s see templates in action. You will see the following output rendered:

Apply complete! Resources: 0 added, 0 changed, 0 destroyed.

Outputs:

rendered\_template =

hello there kevin

there are 7 things to say

Project example output

You can see that Terraform replaced the placeholders in our template with the values that we provided to the templatefile function. Thus, we see the message with kevin and 7 in it rather than the placeholders.

### Loops in a Template

This lesson will cover how to pass array values into a template using a loop.

We'll cover the following

Project example

Project output

Combine loops

You can pass in an array of values into a template and loop through them.

Project example

Let’s take a look at an example of how to do that:

<<<main.tf>>>

output "rendered\_template" {

value = templatefile("./backends.tpl", { port = 8080, ip\_addrs = ["10.0.0.1", "10.0.0.2"] })

}

<<<backends.tpl>>>

%{ for addr in ip\_addrs ~}

backend ${addr}:${port}

%{ endfor ~}

Project example for loops in template

This time we are just rendering the template straight to the output. Notice that we are passing in an array for ip\_addrs. Let’s look at the code in more detail:

In the template, we loop around the ip\_addrs array by using a foreach loop.

To do a foreach loop we use the syntax %{ for <var> in <variable\_name ∼} where <var> is any identifier we want to use to reference the current looped item and <variable\_name> is the name of the array that is passed into the template.

All of the lines we now write are inside the loop until we signal the end of the loop by putting %{ endfor ∼}.

Notice that inside the loop we are using the current value from the ip\_addr array and we are always referencing the port.

Project output

When we run the above project, you will notice the following output is rendered for the template:

backend 10.0.0.1:8080

backend 10.0.0.2:8080

Project example output

The word “backend” is constant as that is just text, so we see it in each iteration around the loop. The current element of the ip\_addr array is then printed, followed by the passed port, which always has the value 8080.

Combine loops

The fact that we can combine loops with interpolated values means that you can write some quite elaborate templates. These can be useful for programmatically generating things like IAM policies, where you can pass in the ARN of resources that Terraform creates and use as part of the template.

## 8 Variables

### Variables

This lesson will address Terraform variables and their uses.

We'll cover the following

Terraform variables

Our first Variable

Running the project

Destroy the project

Terraform variables

A variable in Terraform is something that can be set at runtime. It allows you to vary what Terraform will do by passing in or using a dynamic value.

Our first Variable

Let’s dive into an example of how to use variables so we can learn how they work:

provider "aws" {

region = "us-east-2"

}

variable "bucket\_name" {

description = "the name of the bucket you wish to create"

}

resource "aws\_s3\_bucket" "bucket" {

bucket = var.bucket\_name

}

Our first Terraform variable project example

You declare a variable by using the keyword variable, and then specify the identifier for the variable in quotes. We are using "bucket\_name" as the identifier. Inside the variable block, we add a description to describe to the user what this variable is used for. The description parameter is completely optional. We could have defined the variable as follows:

variable "bucket\_name" {}

📝Note: It is often a good idea to provide a description as it gives the user some indication as to what values to use and what the variable is used for.

To use the value of a variable in our Terraform code, we use the syntax var.<variable\_identifier>. We set the bucket property on the aws\_s3\_bucket resource to the value of our variable var.bucket\_name. This means that Terraform will use whatever value we give our variable as the name of the S3 bucket.

Running the project

After clicking the terminal, terraform init and terraform apply will run. Terraform will then pause and you will see the following output:

Terraform has paused because it is asking you to provide a value for the variable. The variable name is printed to the screen and underneath is the description we provided.

📝Note: If you do not set a description, only the variable name will be shown here.

Steps you should follow to run the project:

Type in a bucket name that you think will be unique. I used kevholditch-variable-bucket but it really doesn’t matter what value you use.

Press enter. You will notice that Terraform will pause again and ask if you want to apply the changes.

Type yes and create the bucket. Terraform will have created the bucket with a name of whatever value you gave it.

Destroy the project

Once you have run the project go ahead and destroy it again:

Run terraform destroy.

Terraform will ask you for a value for the variable again. It doesn’t actually matter what value you give it this time as the variable is not needed for Terraform to destroy the bucket.

Press enter and then type yes when Terraform asks you if you really want to destroy the project.

### Variable Defaults

This lesson will teach you how to set defaults in Terraform variables and their use.

We'll cover the following

Project example

Running the project

Project example

Consider the following project:

provider "aws" {

region = "us-east-2"

}

variable "bucket\_name" {

description = "the name of the bucket you wish to create"

}

variable "bucket\_suffix" {

default = "-abcd"

}

resource "aws\_s3\_bucket" "bucket" {

bucket = "${var.bucket\_name}${var.bucket\_suffix}"

}

Terraform default variables project example

We have extended the first example and added a second variable "bucket\_suffix" which has its default set to "-abcd". Setting a default on a variable means that if you do not provide a value for that variable, then the default will be used. We then use the value of the bucket\_name variable concatenated with the value of the bucket\_suffix variable for the value of the bucket name. As we use the values inside a string, we need to surround our variables with ${ and }. Otherwise, Terraform will not use the value of the variable and instead will just print the string var.bucket\_name.

Running the project

Clicking the terminal will run the terraform init command.

After running the project:

Terraform will ask you to provide a value for bucket\_name as before.

Enter a name for the bucket and press enter.

Notice that Terraform will now ask you to confirm the run by typing yes. Confirm the run and press enter.

Terraform will then create the bucket.

You may be wondering why Terraform never asked you for a value for bucket\_suffix. This is because Terraform does not need a value for bucket\_suffix since you already gave it a default value of -abcd.

The end result is that a bucket will be created with whatever name you enter for the bucket name with -abcd on the end of it.

#### GPT

在您提供的 Terraform 配置中，有两个变量：`bucket\_name` 和 `bucket\_suffix`。对于 `bucket\_suffix` 变量，由于它已经被赋予了一个默认值（`-abcd`），因此在运行 Terraform 配置时，您不必显式地提供这个变量的值。

### 如何处理变量：

1. \*\*有默认值的变量\*\*:

- 当一个变量被定义了默认值，如 `bucket\_suffix`，如果您在运行 Terraform 时没有提供一个不同的值，Terraform 将自动使用这个默认值。

- 这意味着您不需要在命令行中输入 `bucket\_suffix` 的值，除非您想覆盖默认值。

2. \*\*没有默认值的变量\*\*:

- 对于没有默认值的变量，如 `bucket\_name`，您需要在运行 Terraform 时提供值。这可以通过几种方式实现：

- 命令行参数：在运行 `terraform apply` 或 `terraform plan` 命令时使用 `-var` 参数。

- Terraform 变量文件：使用 `.tfvars` 文件或者默认的 `terraform.tfvars` 文件。

- 环境变量：设置形如 `TF\_VAR\_` 开头的环境变量。

### 示例中的应用

在您的示例中，`bucket` 资源使用这两个变量来构建 S3 存储桶的名称：

```hcl

resource "aws\_s3\_bucket" "bucket" {

bucket = "${var.bucket\_name}${var.bucket\_suffix}"

}

```

- 这里 `bucket` 的名称将是 `bucket\_name` 和 `bucket\_suffix` 的组合。

- 如果您不提供 `bucket\_name` 的值，Terraform 将会提示您输入。

- 如果您不提供 `bucket\_suffix` 的值，Terraform 将使用默认值 `-abcd`。

因此，只有当您想改变 `bucket\_suffix` 的默认值时，才需要显式地提供它的值。在大多数情况下，使用默认值是方便的，可以减少需要手动配置的变量数量。