LaunchDarkly \Rightarrow

Building Dynamic Configuration into Terraform



Hosh Sadiq Platform Engineer



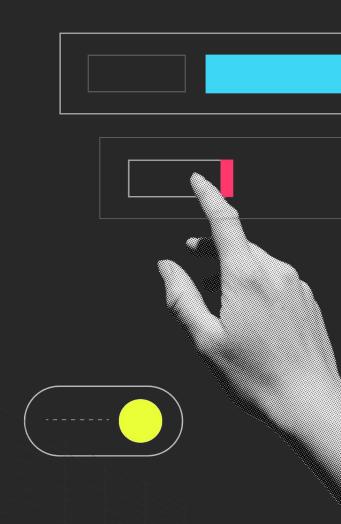
@hoshsadiq



Isabelle Miller Software Engineer



@sloloris



Who We Are / About Us



Hosh

- ✓ Platform Engineer at LaunchDarkly
- Really bomb at Terraform



Isabelle

- Works on integrations at LaunchDarkly
- Maintainer of the LD Terraform provider



Startups, eh?

Scaling is hard





Terraform management at LaunchDarkly

TI; dr oops monorepo

- Over 100 software engineers for one tiny platform team
- 🤶 You build it, you run it
- Almost all teams touch or maintain some Terraform configuration
- 🫕 Migrating Terraform is a pain





When in Rome...





^{**} This is an unreleased feature. Please do not complain to sales that you cannot find it yet.



Terraform: A New Provider

```
= 2
  flag key
  context = {
  count = 2
  spec {
    replicas =
data.ldflags evaluation int.k8s replicas[count.index].value
    // ...
```

* We're both also Terraform nerds, so it was a great opportunity to test out Terraform's experimental new SDK, which features actual support for nested attributes, custom types, and detecting unknown or null values. Ask us about the tradeoffs!



Why feature management in Terraform?

Key Takeaways

Avoid small code changes

No need to go through a pesky PR process to make small and harmless changes like changing a monitoring or SLO threshold.

Controlled access

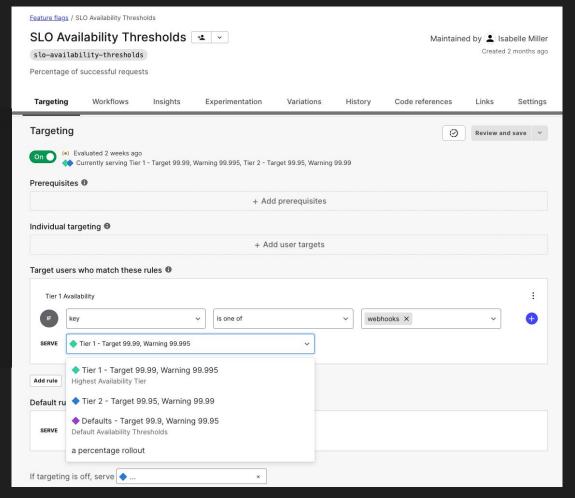
Your feature management platform can further limit who can make changes.

More independence

No need to involve Platform/DevOps teams for config updates, and engineers don't need to re-learn Terraform every time they dip their toes.

And more...?

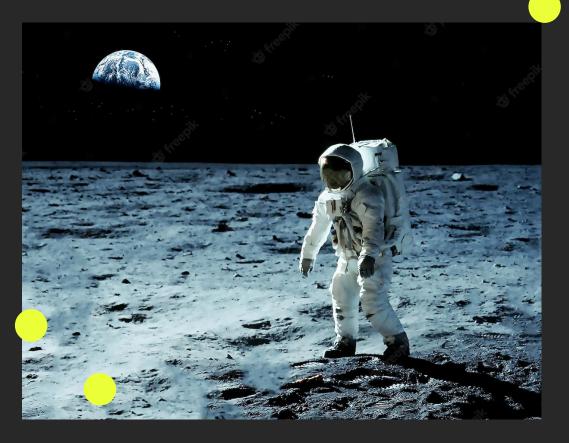






A New Frontier

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LaunchDarkly \Rightarrow That's all, folks!



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