

MLOps Personas



ML
Engineer



ML
Researcher



Data
Scientist



Data
Engineer



Software
Engineer



DevOps



Business
Analyst

It should be becoming evident to you that ML development and deployment at scale is a complex problem. MLOps is a multi-faceted problem. MLOps is best performed by a coalition of experts who have specific responsibilities. At the same time, it is important to have a high-level vision of the whole pipeline to enable cross-discipline improvements. Below is a description of the generic ML Personas. In practice, these roles are often blurred and specific to the company and application. Nonetheless, these job descriptions are pervasive in any real-world application.

As we step through this course, we will highlight the personas that play a vital role in certain and specific roles. We hope that through this you will have a deeper understanding and appreciation for the big picture or 30,000 feet overview of MLOps.

Title	Description
ML Engineer	Designs and implements ML Systems. Responsible for writing the code to train and test the model before deployment. Usually a jack of multiple trades.
ML Researcher	Conducts research experiments to improve the underlying model and/or the training scheme. Usually transfers new developments to the ML Engineer before a new technology is implemented in production.
Data Scientist	Primarily focused on statistical methods and the analysis of the underlying data. A data scientist might be responsible for analyzing the models' impact on higher-level performance metrics like user satisfaction or user behaviors.
Data Engineer	Designs, implements and maintains the data pipelines, including the creation and processing of the original training dataset and the implementation of the continuous learning system. Often data engineers pass the curated datasets to Data Scientists.
Software Engineer	Writes the software (non-ML) component of the application or development pipeline. Usually integral in the deployment of the model because they are responsible for the surrounding application code.
DevOps	Develops and manages the systems that enable the continuous testing and improvement of the model. Ensures mechanisms are in place to support the work and insights generated by the other personas.
Business Analyst	Analyses market demand and potential revenue sources to provide insight on what ML applications are useful and profitable for the organization.