

Research Proposal

Ilona, Egor, Maksim

Innopolis University

April 26, 2024

I Introduction

Development and Operations (DevOps) is a collection of methodologies and cultural principles that is used within the software development industry [1]. The stated benefits of DevOps includes increased corporate IT performance and productivity, lower software lifecycle costs, improved operational efficacy and efficiency, and higher-quality software products [1]. However, the implementation of DevOps remains a difficult issue [2], [3], [4], [5]. Moreover, limited understanding exists regarding practitioners' perspectives on effective DevOps adoption [6].

The objective of the research is to study the practitioners' perspectives on the adoption of DevOps on a specific scenario.

II Literature Review

DevOps is an software quality-oriented approach aimed at reducing the gap between development and IT operations teams, even when they are spread across different locations [7]. DevOps emphasizes building a collaborative culture and using automation to help team members interact effectively [8]. The main aim is to boost the delivery of software changes by improving processes and encouraging continuous integration and delivery [9]. Moreover, DevOps focuses on optimizing organizational structures and policies, responding to external pressures, refining release processes, meeting quality demands, and addressing socio-technical challenges [8].

DevOps integration is a crucial part of software development process, which helps to improve software security, sustainability, and performance. In [8], the authors found that incorporation of DevOps leads to security improvement, deployment predictability. Moreover, Azad et al. [10] explored various success factors categorized within their study and concluded that the integration of DevOps methodologies notably enhances performance engineering, as well as automation in build and testing procedures. Additionally, the authors of [11] and [12] highlighted the beneficial effects of DevOps integration on improving software security and sustainability within companies.

However, the adoption of DevOps is still a challenging task due to such factors as being in a transitional phase or demonstrating a cautious approach toward complete automation [11]. Secondly, the complexity and range of skills required for successful DevOps implementation present significant obstacles. Thirdly, ineffective management of communication exacerbates coordination issues between development and operations teams [8]. Security remains a prominent concern, as inadequate management may lead to significant data breaches and service disruptions in DevOps-based applications [5]. Addressing these challenges requires innovative solutions. For example, the effectiveness of DevOps anomaly detection frameworks has been demonstrated in identifying and mitigating issues throughout the DevOps lifecycle [13].

III Research Design

We have formulated our hypothesis grounded in existing literature, leading to the selection of a deductive research design. Our investigation focuses on conducting a case study concerning the integration of DevOps within a particular company. To achieve this, the survey will be conducted both pre- and post-DevOps integration, necessitating a duration of approximately one year. This period will include the integration of DevOps practices along with a subsequent period of observation until distinguishable outcomes appear. Subsequently, a comprehensive analysis will arise, requiring an additional three-month period for research composition and documentation.

In order to gather data, a survey will be conducted to collect the viewpoints of employees. The survey will include all staff from the company. Utilization of a non-probability sampling method is warranted due to the targeted nature of the survey among employees within a specific company, thereby necessitating the application of purposive sampling. Company will be chosen among Innopolis Special Economic Zone. Subsequent to data collection, qualitative analysis techniques will be employed for thorough examination and interpretation.

IV Anticipated Results

The anticipated results of this study involve comparing two surveys to assess the impact of DevOps integration. Expected improvements include enhanced software development and deployment processes, improved communication and collaboration among teams, and an increase in the frequency of software releases. However, potential negative effects on job satisfaction are anticipated due to the challenges associated with adapting to DevOps practices.

V Discussion

We anticipate that DevOps integration brings positive changes in internal processes of the company.

The results of the study may be used by companies, which are trying integrate DevOps to do it more convinient for employees. If the proposal is not accepted, companies will face more challenges while adopting DevOps. We expect performance enhancement like similar to [14].

The main limitation of our study that is only one company observed. Our results can be less trustworthy. Moreover, we did not use metrics to evaluate our results in comparison to [15].

In future research, the model of DevOps integration may be created based on our research to consider the state of employees [16].

In conclusion, our study can become very important in DevOps integration topic.

References

- [1] L. E. Lwakatare, P. Kuvaja, and M. Oivo, “An exploratory study of devops extending the dimensions of devops with practices,” *ICSEA 2016*, vol. 104, pp. 91–99, Aug. 2016. [Online]. Available: <https://scholar.google.com/scholar?q=Lwakatare%2C%20L.E.%2C%20Kuvaja%2C%20P.%2C%20Oivo%2C%20M.%2C%202016.%20An%20exploratory%20study%20of%20DevOps%20extending%20the%20dimensions%20of%20DevOps%20with%20practices.%20pp.%2091%E2%80%9399>, Accessed: 22 Apr., 2024.
- [2] M. H. Tanzil, M. Sarker, G. Uddin, and A. Iqbal, “A mixed method study of devops challenges,” *Information and Software Technology*, vol. 161, Sep. 2023, Art. no. 107244. DOI: [10.1016/j.infsof.2023.107244](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infsof.2023.107244). [Online]. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0950584923000988>, Accessed: 21 Apr., 2024.
- [3] J. Díaz *et al.*, “Harmonizing devops taxonomies — a grounded theory study,” *Journal of Systems and Software*, vol. 208, Feb. 2024, Art. no. 111908. DOI: [10.1016/j.jss.2023.111908](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jss.2023.111908). [Online]. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0164121223003035>, Accessed: 29 Mar., 2024.
- [4] D. E. Rzig, F. Hassan, and M. Kessentini, “An empirical study on ml devops adoption trends, efforts, and benefits analysis,” *Information and Software Technology*, vol. 152, p. 107 037, 2022, ISSN: 0950-5849. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infsof.2022.107037>. [Online]. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0950584922001537>.
- [5] G. Sriraman and S. R., “Slide-block: End-to-end amplified security to improve devops resilience through pattern-based authentication,” *Heliyon*, vol. 10, no. 4, e26312, 2024, ISSN: 2405-8440. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2024.e26312>.

- [Online]. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2405844024023430>.
- [6] W. P. Luz, G. Pinto, and R. Bonifácio, “Adopting devops in the real world: A theory, a model, and a case study,” *Journal of Systems and Software*, vol. 157, Nov. 2019, Art. no. 110384. DOI: [10.1016/j.jss.2019.07.083](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jss.2019.07.083). [Online]. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0164121219301517>, Accessed: 31 Mar., 2024.
 - [7] A. Mishra and Z. Otaiwi, “Devops and software quality: A systematic mapping,” *Computer Science Review*, vol. 38, p. 100308, 2020, ISSN: 1574-0137. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cosrev.2020.100308>. [Online]. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1574013720304081>.
 - [8] R. Grande, A. Vizcaíno, and F. O. García, “Is it worth adopting devops practices in global software engineering? possible challenges and benefits,” *Computer Standards Interfaces*, vol. 87, Jan. 2024, Art. no. 103767. DOI: [10.1016/j.csi.2023.103767](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.csi.2023.103767). [Online]. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S092054892300048X>, Accessed: 29 Mar., 2024.
 - [9] A. Hrusto, E. Engström, and P. Runeson, “Towards optimization of anomaly detection in devops,” *Information and Software Technology*, vol. 160, Aug. 2023, Art. no. 107241. DOI: [10.1016/j.infsof.2023.107241](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infsof.2023.107241). [Online]. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0950584923000952>, Accessed: 28 Mar., 2024.
 - [10] N. Azad and S. Hyrynsalmi, “Devops critical success factors — a systematic literature review,” *Information and Software Technology*, vol. 157, May 2023, Art. no. 107150. DOI: [10.1016/j.infsof.2023.107150](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infsof.2023.107150). [Online]. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0950584923000046>, Accessed: 30 Mar., 2024.
 - [11] O. H. Plant, J. van Hillegersberg, and A. Aldea, “Rethinking it governance: Designing a framework for mitigating risk and fostering internal control in a devops environment,” *International Journal of Accounting Information Systems*, vol. 45, p. 100560,

- 2022, ISSN: 1467-0895. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.accinf.2022.100560>. [Online]. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1467089522000124>.
- [12] D. Port, B. Taber, and P. Emkani, “Investigating effectiveness and compliance to devops policies and practices for managing productivity and quality variability,” *Journal of Systems and Software*, p. 112 030, 2024, ISSN: 0164-1212. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jss.2024.112030>. [Online]. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0164121224000736>.
- [13] A. H. Fawzy, K. Wassif, and H. Moussa, “Framework for automatic detection of anomalies in devops,” *Journal of King Saud University - Computer and Information Sciences*, vol. 35, no. 3, pp. 8–19, 2023, ISSN: 1319-1578. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jksuci.2023.02.010>. [Online]. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1319157823000393>.
- [14] L. E. Lwakatare, T. Kilamo, T. Karvonen, *et al.*, “Devops in practice: A multiple case study of five companies,” *Information and Software Technology*, vol. 114, pp. 217–230, 2019. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infsof.2019.06.010>. [Online]. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0950584917302793>.
- [15] L. Giamattei, A. Guerriero, R. Pietrantuono, *et al.*, “Monitoring tools for devops and microservices: A systematic grey literature review,” *Journal of Systems and Software*, vol. 208, p. 111 906, 2024, ISSN: 0164-1212. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jss.2023.111906>. [Online]. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0164121223003011>.
- [16] A. Wiedemann, M. Wiesche, H. Gewald, and H. Krcmar, “Integrating development and operations teams: A control approach for devops,” *Information and Organization*, vol. 33, no. 3, p. 100 474, 2023, ISSN: 1471-7727. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infoandorg.2023.100474>. [Online]. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1471772723000283>.