A Interview Guide

The following sections present a semi-structured guideline for the interviews. The actual conducted interview process may differ from this guide.

A.1 Pre-Interview

- Introduction of interviewer
- Acknowledgement of interviewee
- Pointer to research objective
- Seeking consent
- Sensitive handling of interview data
- Open questions
- Begin recording

A.2 Person

- Current position/role
- Years of experience in current position/role
- Business sector/branch

A.3 Definition of terms

- GitOps
- Promotion
- Release
- Environment

A.4 Questions

The following interview questions (IQs) were identified:

- IQ 1: How do you implement GitOps?
    - IQ 1.1: What GitOps tools do you use (e.g. ArgoCD, Flux)?
    - IQ 1.2: What Git-Providers do you use (e.g. GitHub, GitLab)?
- IQ 2: What problems do you have with promotions in GitOps?
    - IQ 2.1: How would you imagine a solution?
- IQ 3: How do you promote a new release to different environments?
    - IQ 3.1: What is a release in your case?
    - IQ 3.2: What configuration management tool do you use (e.g. Helm, Kustomize)?
    - IQ 3.3: How do your environments look like?
- IQ 4: Do you practice Continuous Deployment (commit to production is fully automated)?
    - IQ 4.1: Do you practice Progressive Delivery (e.g. Canary, Blue-Green)?

A.5 Post-Interview

- End recording
- Expression of gratitude for participation
- Announcement of results