

# Towards Converged MLOps and SRE: Adaptive AI-Driven Reliability Strategies in Cloud Environments

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## ARTICLE INFO

## ABSTRACT

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Converged MLOps and SRE bring together model deployment, monitoring, reliability, automation, and scalability into a unified standard for production-grade, near-continuous AI operations and infrastructure. This study describes how MLOps and Site Reliability Engineering convergence, combined with the power of adaptive AI technologies, can greatly improve system reliability, scalability and automation in cloud-native scenarios. The literature highlights the move towards automation and predictive reliability that is AI-driven, as well as policy-based operations. This study employed an explanatory mixed-method research design and qualitative and quantitative secondary data to discuss how MLOps and Site Reliability Engineering converge by using adaptive, AI-driven reliability approaches in contemporary cloud computing settings. The study also establishes that MLOps and SRE together with adaptive AI hold a lot of promise in improving the reliability of systems running in the cloud. The results include greater automation, predictive fault identification, and recovery. It provides real-world advantages, current limitations, and upcoming recommendations, which promote a powerful, scalable, and smart model of next-generation cloud-native operations.

**Keyword:** AI-Driven Reliability, MLOps, Site Reliability Engineering (SRE), Cloud-Native Operations, Predictive Maintenance, Automated Incident Resolution

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## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. Background to the Study

The growing complexity of the machine learning (ML) models deployment and management in production environments has given rise to the equivalent of DevOps practices: MLOps. Meanwhile, cloud-native systems require high reliability, which has been the role of Site Reliability Engineering (SRE) [1]. ML systems are getting thrust into critical applications, creating the necessity of MLOps and SRE integration. Moreover, reliability is currently being automated and adapted with the help of AI. The intersections of these disciplines in cloud environments present novel chances to optimise the performance of systems, availability and efficiency of operations via smart, self-remedial and elastic infrastructure approaches.

### B. Overview

The study focuses on the intersection between MLOps and SRE practices and how an adaptive approach to AI-driven reliability can enhance reliability in cloud-native environments. The interaction of automation,

observability and continuous integration/deployment (CI/CD) processes with SRE concepts such as Service Level Objectives (SLOs) and error budgets [2]. The study takes into account tools, frameworks, and real-life applications that help to eliminate the gap between ML lifecycle management and infrastructure reliability. Through the assessment of existing practices and new trends, the research offers clues into the creation of a coherent operational paradigm that would use AI to develop more resilient and efficient systems.

### *C. Problem Statement*

With the current progress in MLOps and SRE, most companies are practising these fields as disparate, which creates functional silos and unproductive inefficiencies. The main challenge is that Unmonitored model drift, infrastructure failures, or poor observability often cause ML systems to fail in production. Existing SRE tools do not quite have all the functionality required to deal with the dynamic nature of AI-powered systems [3]. This isolation brings about difficulties in reliability, scalability and performance, especially in intricate cloud setups. The unavailability of adaptive and AI-powered strategies to combine the two disciplines leads to increased downtime, incident resolution speed, and user credibility. There is an urgent need to adopt a systems perspective to increase the resilience of the systems and the agility of operations.

### *D. Aim and Objectives*

The study aims to develop a framework which integrates MLOps and SRE, which manages an adaptive, AI-driven approach to enhance reliability in cloud environments. The objectives are: 1. To analyse the current techniques and tools of reliability engineering that are used in MLOps and SRE. 2. To evaluate the application of AI in assisting predictive reliability and fully automating issue resolution. 3. To assess the converged operational model of AI-enhanced reliability in cloud platforms.

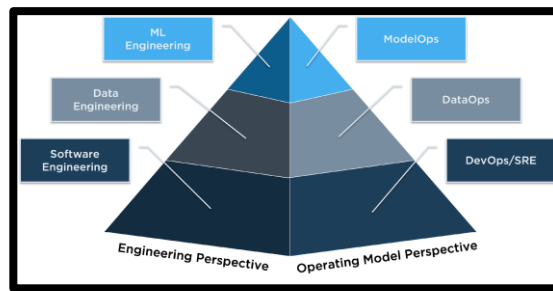
### *E. Scope and Significance*

The scope of the study is to cloud-based systems involving the deployment of machine learning models and consistent high reliability and scalability. The study explores the role of MLOps and SRE where AI can enhance performance by detecting issues and real-time optimisation. The significance is to provide an integrated perspective of AI-based reliability approaches that may assist enterprises in minimising failures, automating recovery, and increasing performance [4]. The work is relevant to building a coherent framework to align operational objectives with intelligent automation, which enhances service availability and confidence in cloud-native artificial intelligence-based applications.

## **II. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### *A. Modern Reliability Techniques in MLOps and SRE*

Reliability engineering in modern cloud-native systems is becoming more common together with MLOps and SRE practices, enabled by sophisticated tooling and techniques. Automated incident response is one of the approaches that have been widely adopted which automates alerting and escalation procedures [5]. Tools like Prometheus, Grafana, and Datadog are observability platforms that enable real-time monitoring, allowing teams to identify and troubleshoot anomalies before they escalate [6]. Model performance monitoring tools such as MLflow are used in the MLOps space to ensure that deployed models stay stable and reliable over time **[referred to Figure 1]**.



**Figure 1: The Different Aspects of MLOps**

[6]

Furthermore, chaos engineering, Chaos Monkey, and Gremlin have become tools to control test system resilience in cases of failure. SRE relies on service-level objectives and error budgets to help engineering teams strive to balance innovation and reliability [7]. Infrastructure-as-Code (such as Terraform) also embraces idempotent and recoverable deployments, which is critical to scalable reliability. All these tools and techniques contribute to the target of ensuring continuous reliability of machine learning operations and software systems.

#### *B. AI-Powered Predictive Reliability and Automated Issue Resolution*

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming the world of reliability engineering in that systems will be able to anticipate failures and machines will correct the problem without much human assistance. AI algorithms in modern MLOps and SRE systems are trained on large amounts of data collected in system logs, telemetry, and historical incident data to find patterns that correlate with failures before they happen [8]. Such predictive ability enables the proactive actions of teams to minimise unplanned downtimes and improve system availability.

Anomaly detection is one of the fundamental use cases, AI models are used to monitor system behaviour in real-time and alert on deviations [9]. Artificial intelligence operations (AIOps) tools, such as AIOps in Google Cloud and IBM Watson AIOps, apply machine learning to forecast possible outages and preventive measures. Also, natural language processing (NLP) can help analyse support tickets and log data to determine root causes more quickly. Automated remediation also runs on AI [10]. In the case of a predicted failure, AI systems may initiate preconfigured workflows with tools such as Runbooks, or even automatically remediate the situation via intelligent agents without human interaction. That results in incident resolution acceleration and also reduced mean time to recovery alongside enhanced reliability at Scale.

#### *C. The Converged Operational Model of AI-Enhanced Reliability in Cloud Platforms*

As cloud ecosystems become more complex and dynamic, a converged operational model of AI, MLOps, and SRE has become a strategic pattern to achieve reliability. The model comprises the key elements of continuous monitoring, automated deployment, and smart incident management into an overall operational system [11]. It is fundamentally an AI-powered proactive approach that helps to uncover risks anticipate failure and automate the resolution activities to reduce downtime and assure availability and consistent performance across cloud environments.

In this framework, MLOps is concerned with the lifecycle management of machine learning models, hosting them reliably through development, testing, and deployment. SRE adds structure to reliability targets with service-level objectives, error budgets, and observability practices [8]. The intersection occurs when AI

algorithms are incorporated into both areas, allowing, in real-time, the analysis of telemetry data, smart alerting, and auto-detection of anomalies. Reinforcement learning is also applied in AI-enhanced systems to enable them to adjust to dynamic environments and evolve with time. The model supports a self-regulating environment by integrating infrastructure-as-code, continuous integration/continuous delivery, and AIOps [12]. Automated remediation scripts may be initiated in real-time when performance anomalies are detected, minimising the need to rely on manual processes. This operational convergence not only enhances resilience but also offers more scalability, faster deployment cycles, and business continuity.

### **III. METHODOLOGY**

#### *A. Research Design*

The study uses explanatory research design to examine how MLOps and SRE convergence as the support of adaptive AI can improve reliability in cloud environments. The design will allow the analysis of cause-and-effect relationships between AI-driven strategies and system performance in a structured way [13]. Adaptive automation enhances availability, scalability and incident response is collected from real-world case studies and performance data. This method is appropriate because it can support revealing the underlying mechanisms and also provide the path of how and why the integration of AI results in enhanced operational reliability in advanced cloud-native architectures.

#### *B. Data Collection*

The study collects qualitative and quantitative secondary data to understand the intersection between MLOps and SRE on clouds. Qualitative data is collected from case studies, journal papers, and technical reports as it provides detailed information on practical implementations. Quantitative secondary data refers to numerical data that can be collected from existing sources, which can be used to give measurable evidence that can be analysed and compared [14]. Quantitative data was collected from industry statistics, graphs and performance charts. This method is appropriate as it enables a study to understand operational practices and quantifiable results in a cost-effective and time-saving manner.

#### *C. Case Studies/Examples*

##### **Case Study 1: Netflix Cloud Infrastructure**

Netflix combines MLOps and SRE with the help of an adaptive AI system that forecasts service degradations in real time [15]. Their ML-based models interpret user behaviour, traffic pattern abnormalities as well as system metrics that initiate proactive remediations. However, these AI insights are consumed by SRE teams to dynamically re-configure resources to ensure high availability at peak demand.

##### **Case Study 2: Google Cloud Operations Suite**

AI-powered monitoring converges MLOps and SRE strategies, which are used by Google in its Cloud Operations Suite [16]. Machine learning based algorithms identify deviations in the performance of distributed systems. The insights allow SREs to auto-scale services, latency optimisation, and the prevention of cascading failures. Continuous learning models improve incident response playbooks concerning past service disruptions.

*D. Metrics of Evaluation*

Metric	Description	Purpose
System Uptime (%)	Percentage of time the system remains fully operational [3].	Evaluates the overall reliability and availability of cloud services.
Mean Time to Recovery (MTTR)	Average time taken to restore service after a failure.	Assesses the effectiveness of adaptive AI in speeding up incident response.
Incident Frequency	Number of system failures or service disruptions within a given time frame	Measures the stability and resilience of MLOps and SRE-converged environments [7].
Deployment Frequency	Rate of successful software updates/releases.	Reflects the agility and integration of DevOps with AI-driven operational practices.
Error Rate (%)	Percentage of failed operations or transactions [11].	Indicates system accuracy and quality under adaptive AI reliability strategies.

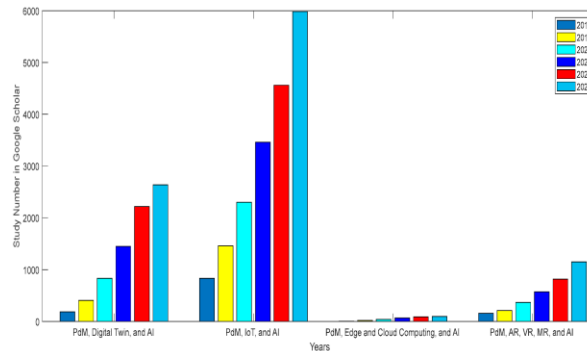
**Table 1: Evaluation Metrics**

(Source: Self-developed)

The table provides an overview of major evaluation criteria by which the reliability, agility, and performance of AI-driven MLOps and SRE systems are measured as uptime, MTTR, incident frequency, deployment frequency, and error rate [referred to in Table 1].

#### IV. RESULTS

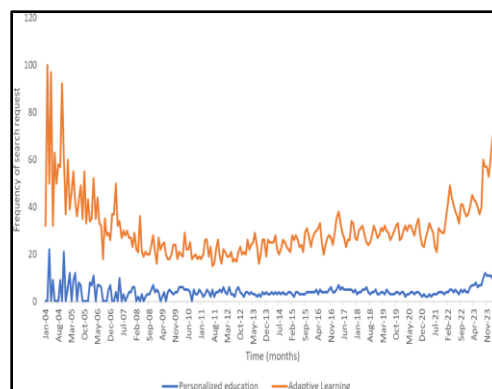
##### A. Data Interpretation

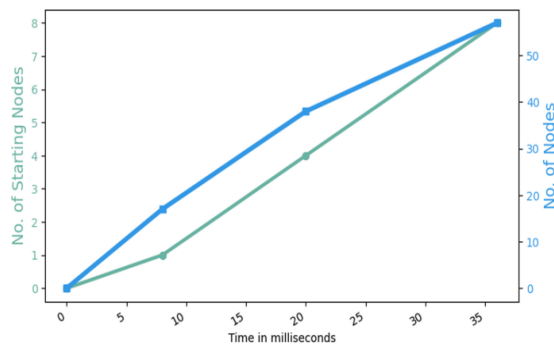


**Figure 2: AI for Predictive Maintenance Applications**

[17]

The bar graph as shown in the above figure contrasts the quantity of research of various AI-enabled PdM technologies between 2018 and 2023 [17]. The combination of PdM, IoT, and AI studies show the most significant growth and will reach its peak in 2023, which signals high research attention [17]. PdM using Digital Twins and AR/VR also experienced consistent growth, whereas PdM using Edge/Cloud was not yet explored, creating a research opportunity that applies to the MLOps-SRE convergence.



**Figure 4: Cost modelling and optimisation for cloud**

[19]

The line graph as shown in the above figure is a comparison of the number of nodes and start-up time. The degree of starting nodes as well as the total nodes linearly increases with time in milliseconds [19]. The scalability prospect of cloud-native systems anchors on the acute node addition, which is vital to AI-powered adaptive reliability approaches. The initialisation of nodes (startup) faster node initialisation affects the responsiveness of SRE and the resilience of the system directly.

### B. Findings

The findings from the graphs depict that the interest in adaptive learning has risen drastically over time, particularly after 2020, which points to the rising trend of dependence on intelligent and AI-based systems [18]. Based on research studies, the academic interest is the highest in PdM with IoT and AI, and PdM with edge/cloud technologies have not been examined as much yet, which implies that it is an area of high potential innovation [17]. The node initialisation graph indicates how the cloud-native infrastructure can scale quickly, which is a necessary aspect of adaptive reliability systems support [19]. Collectively, these insights point to the fact that although interest and research in AI applications are increasing, certain intersections, such as real-time cloud-based reliability models, remain on the way up. This justifies the usefulness of the MLOps and SRE integration enhanced by AI to address changing system needs.

### C. Case Study Outcomes

Case Study	AI Role	SRE Impact	Outcome
Netflix	Predictive AI detects traffic surges	Enables real-time auto-remediation	Reduced downtime and latency [15]
Google	ML models flag anomalies	Enhances proactive incident handling	Improved reliability and fault tolerance [16]



The case study result table helps to underline the fact that Netflix and Google are two companies that manage to utilize AI-based MLOps and SRE approaches. It demonstrates how predictive AI can spot anomalies in the system and the subsequent enhancement in incident response and uptime. Thus, results confirm the usefulness of adaptive AI when it comes to improving reliability in cloud-native settings.

#### D. Comparative Analysis

Authors	Aspects of Literature Review	Focus	Key Findings	Gaps Identified
[5]	Modern SRE tools and trends for future reliability	Future trends in SRE tools and automation techniques	Emphasizes observability, chaos engineering, and automation as key to next-gen reliability [5]	Limited exploration of MLOps integration or AI-driven convergence
[6]	DevOps and MLOps alignment in fintech	Workflow optimization and automation.	Collaborative pipelines improve deployment and monitoring.	Lacks AI-enabled reliability strategies [6].
[7]	Secure MLOps strategies for operational tech	MLOps integration in secure environments	Advocates for security-aware pipelines and anomaly detection	Limited focus on full SRE convergence and adaptive AI



			using ML [7]	remediation
[8]	Survey of MLOps and AIOps development	Trends and frameworks in MLOps and AIOps	Provides a comprehensive roadmap for MLOps-AIOps evolution and challenges [8]	Does not fully explore operational reliability strategies in live cloud systems
[9]	AI/ML for automated incident resolution	Real-time remediation in the cloud using AI	Highlights predictive alerts and AI-driven recovery to reduce MTTR [9]	Lacks discussion on integration with observability and DevOps tools
[10]	Trustworthy AI in cloud MLOps	Explainability, fairness, and security in AI-driven pipelines	Establishes principles of ethical AI, crucial in automated environments [10]	Limited practical resilience mechanisms and AI-SRE interactions

[11]	ML lifecycle management in the cloud for biotech	Cloud implications on ML for drug discovery	Explores reproducibility and scalability in scientific ML applications [11]	Context-specific (biotech); not generalisable to cross-industry cloud reliability needs
[12]	AI for drift detection in workflows	Adaptive drift detection in serverless environments.	AI supports stability in dynamic cloud settings.	Limited applicability to full-stack reliability in MLOps-SRE convergence [12].

The comparative analysis table provides the essential findings of the chosen literature on MLOps, SRE, and AI integration. It compares the focus of each source, its findings, as well as the research gaps. Analysis shows that the focus is heavy on the automation and monitoring but there is not much talk about converged AI-SRE frameworks in full, which opens up opportunities of future innovation.

## V. DISCUSSION

### A. Interpretation of Results

The consensual literature, case-based, and visual information confirms the increased need for adaptive, AI-powered reliability in cloud settings. The literature justifies convergence between MLOps and SRE to support real-time fault detection and resilience. The efficient approaches of utilising an AI-boosted reliability system are exemplified in the case studies at Netflix and Google, which enhanced the scalability and uptime [15, 16]. These findings are supported by graphs, which indicate the growing interest of people in adaptive systems and the research community in AI with IoT, but edge/cloud convergence is underrepresented [17]. Trends in node scalability pay attention to the preparedness of infrastructure to adaptability in AI. In general, findings confirm the need to align MLOps and SRE using AI to achieve performance expectations in dynamic, cloud-native environments.

### *B. Practical Implications*

The paper provides cloud-native businesses with a coherent model to promote system resilience using AI-based MLOps-SRE merger. Organisations may reduce downtimes, recovery time and enhance service delivery through automation of predictive monitoring and automation of remediation [20]. Expected implementation of those models contributes to the agility of DevOps, the operational resilience, and the minimisation of the dependence on manual incident management in the context of dynamic and elastic cloud-native environments.

### *C. Challenges and Limitations*

Despite this potential, MLOps and SRE convergence efforts are challenged by the absence of standardisation in tooling and integration frameworks. Data quality, bias and explainability are other limitations that AI models are subject to, and such automated decisions are more difficult to trust [21]. Also, the organisational transition to such a convergence needs a culture change, interdisciplinary cooperation and serious investment in competence development. The technical challenges that still exist involve scaling and real-time flexibility of AI models, especially in the process of operating multi-cloud or hybrid infrastructure environments.

### *D. Recommendations*

Organisations should bet on AI literacy, cross-functional group education, and integrated toolchains involving combined MLOps and SRE capabilities [10]. It should be stressed that it is necessary to deploy AIOps platforms enabling real-time analytics and autonomous remediation. Resilience will be further enhanced by the standardisation of observability metrics and the introduction of continuous learning loops into AI systems, minimising the incident response time and guaranteeing the sustainable reliability of cloud operations.

## **VI. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK**

This research paper has discussed the intersection between MLOps and SRE through adaptive AI to improve dependability in cloud-native systems. However, the results showed that predictive AI-powered automation could enhance operational resilience by greatly decreasing downtime, and recovery time as well as making scalable deployments. The Case studies, such as Netflix and Google, demonstrated a practical implementation of integrated AI models in the form of proactive failure identification and self-healing systems. The process of data analysis confirmed the increased tendency toward adaptive learning and predictive maintenance technologies and revealed the under-researched areas, including edge/cloud convergence.

Such limitations of the research as the complexity of integrating tools and the level of trust in AI automation serve as indicators of the fact that converged frameworks still require improvement. Future developments should look into further reinforcement learning methods and real-time federated AI models, which can change concerning a changing environment. Also, it may be interesting to apply the convergence model to hybrid and edge computing ecosystems, which would create new scalability advantages. In general, the paper reveals the imperative of constant innovations, an interdisciplinary approach, and the creation of smart policy-driven operations to make sure that cloud systems become not only resilient but autonomous and future-proof.

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