Managing HPC Software Complexity with Spack

ISC 2023
Hamburg, Germany
May 21, 2023

The most recent version of these slides can be found at:
https://spack-tutorial.readthedocs.io

LLNL-PRES-806064

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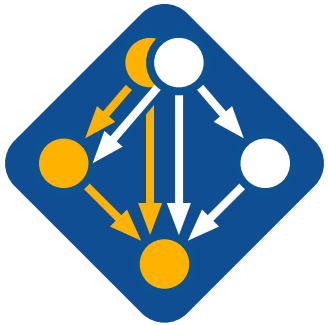
Come to our BOF on Wednesday!

ISC High Performance
The HPC Event.

- **Spack Community BOF**
  4:15-5:15pm, Hall E
- **Updates from v0.20**
- **Updates from collaborators!**
  - **AWS, Pawsey, Google**



4:15 PM
5:15 PM

Spack Community BoF

Spack is a package manager for scientific computing, with a rapidly growing open source community. With over 1,100 contributors from academia,...

Hall E - 2nd Floor

Birds of a Feather


Todd Gamblin
Lawrence Livermore National...

GB
Gregory Becker
Gregory Becker

MC
Massimiliano Culpo
n.p. complete, S.r.l.


Michael Kuhn
Otto von Guericke University...

HS
Harmen Stoppels
Stoppels Consulting

Exascale Systems

Tutorial Materials

Find these slides and associated scripts here:

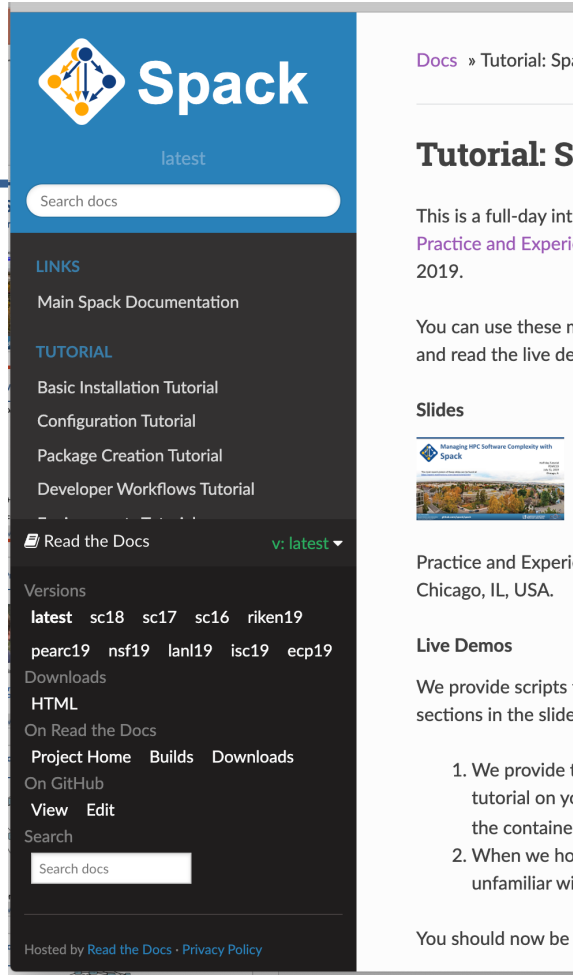
spack-tutorial.rtfd.io

We also have a chat room on Spack slack.
You can join here:

slack.spack.io

Join the **#tutorial** channel!

You can ask questions here after the conference is over.
Over **2,400 people** can help you on Slack!



Tutorial Presenters

Greg Becker
LLNL

Massimiliano Culpo
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Otto von Guericke
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Agenda (we are doing the first half of our full day tutorial)

For this half-day tutorial:

Intro	14:00
Basics	14:15
Concepts	15:05
Environments	15:30
Break	16:00
More Environments!	16:30
< You Choose! >	16:45
Packaging	17:15

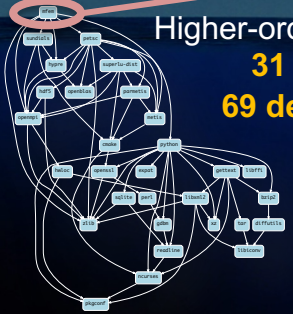
You can find additional sections from our normal full-day tutorial at **spack-tutorial.readthedocs.io.**

Options for the "you choose" session:

1. Combinatorial Stack Deployment
2. Developer Workflows
3. Module File Generation

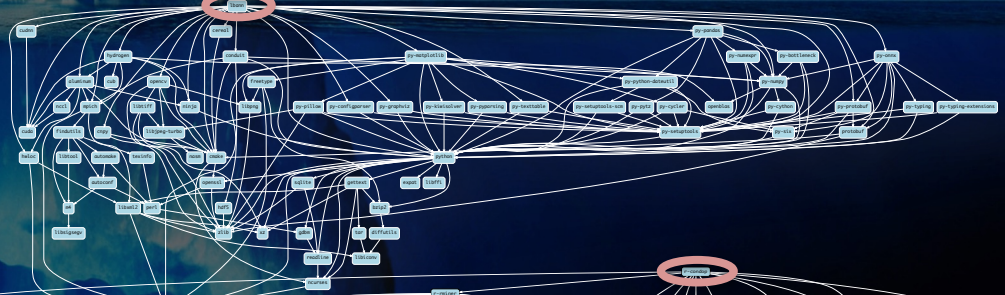
Modern scientific codes rely on icebergs of dependency libraries

MFEM:
Higher-order finite elements
31 packages,
69 dependencies



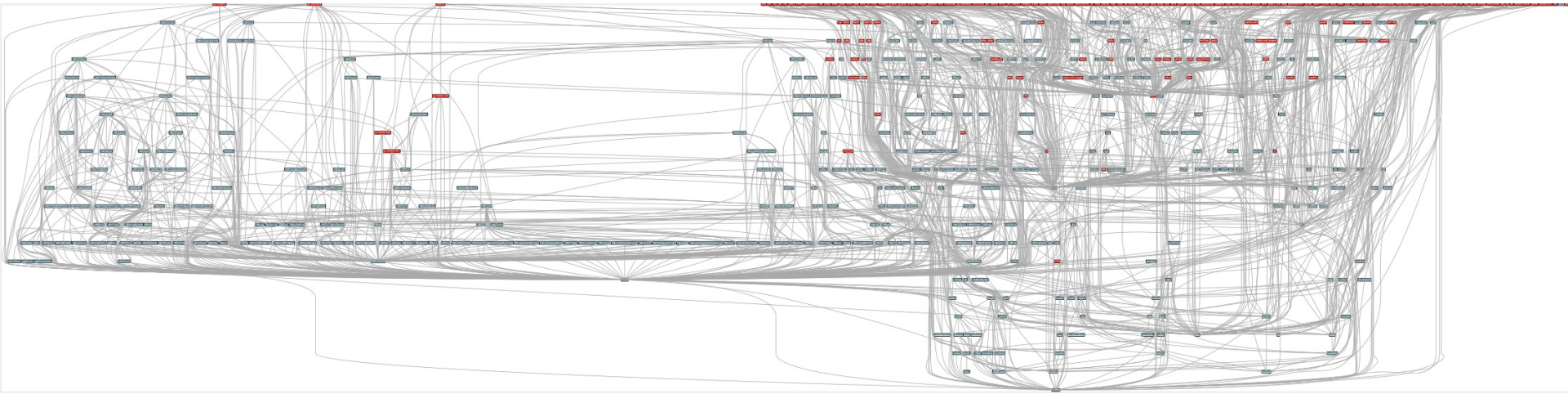
71 packages
188 dependencies

LBANN: Neural Nets for HPC



r-condop:
R Genome Data Analysis Tools
179 packages,
527 dependencies

ECP's E4S stack is even larger than these codes



- Red boxes are the packages in it (about 100)
- Blue boxes are what *else* you need to build it (about 600)
- It's infeasible to build and integrate all of this manually

Some fairly common (but questionable) assumptions made by package managers (conda, pip, apt, etc.)

- **1:1 relationship between source code and binary (per platform)**
  - Good for reproducibility (e.g., Debian)
  - Bad for performance optimization
- **Binaries should be as portable as possible**
  - What most distributions do
  - Again, bad for performance
- **Toolchain is the same across the ecosystem**
  - One compiler, one set of runtime libraries
  - Or, no compiler (for interpreted languages)

Outside these boundaries, users are typically on their own

High Performance Computing (HPC) violates many of these assumptions

- **Code is typically distributed as source**
  - With exception of vendor libraries, compilers
- **Often build many variants of the same package**
  - Developers' builds may be very different
  - Many first-time builds when machines are new
- **Code is optimized for the processor and GPU**
  - Must make effective use of the hardware
  - Can make 10-100x perf difference
- **Rely heavily on system packages**
  - Need to use optimized libraries that come with machines
  - Need to use host GPU libraries and network
- **Multi-language**
  - C, C++, Fortran, Python, others all in the same ecosystem

Some Supercomputers

Current

Oak Ridge National Lab
Power9 / NVIDIA

RIKEN
Fujitsu/ARM a64fx

Upcoming

Lawrence Berkeley National Lab
AMD Zen / NVIDIA

Argonne National Lab
Intel Xeon / Xe

Oak Ridge National Lab
AMD Zen / Radeon

Lawrence Livermore National Lab
AMD Zen / Radeon

What about containers?

- **Containers provide a great way to reproduce and distribute an already-built software stack**
- **Someone needs to build the container!**
  - This isn't trivial
  - Containerized applications still have hundreds of dependencies
- **Using the OS package manager inside a container is insufficient**
  - Most binaries are built unoptimized
  - Generic binaries, not optimized for specific architectures
- **HPC containers may need to be *rebuilt* to support many different hosts, anyway.**
  - Not clear that we can ever build one container for all facilities
  - Containers likely won't solve the N-platforms problem in HPC

We need something more flexible to **build** the containers

Spack enables Software distribution for HPC

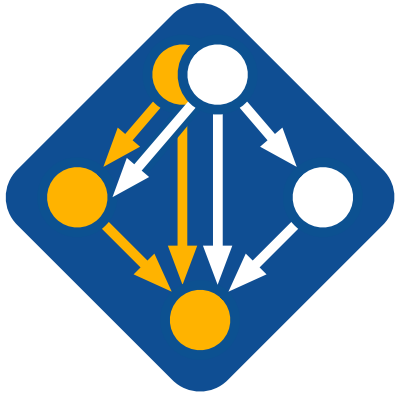
- Spack automates the build and installation of scientific software
- Packages are *parameterized,* so that users can easily tweak and tune configuration

No installation required: clone and go

```
$ git clone https://github.com/spack/spack
$ spack install hdf5
```

Simple syntax enables complex installs

```
$ spack install hdf5@1.10.5                  $ spack install hdf5@1.10.5 cppflags="-O3 -g3"
$ spack install hdf5@1.10.5 %clang@6.0       $ spack install hdf5@1.10.5 target=haswell
$ spack install hdf5@1.10.5 +threadssafe     $ spack install hdf5@1.10.5 +mpi ^mpich@3.2
```



github.com/spack/spack

- Ease of use of mainstream tools, with flexibility needed for HPC
- In addition to CLI, Spack also:
  - Generates (but does **not** require) *modules*
  - Allows conda/virtualenv-like *environments*
  - Provides many devops features (CI, container generation, more)

What's a package manager?

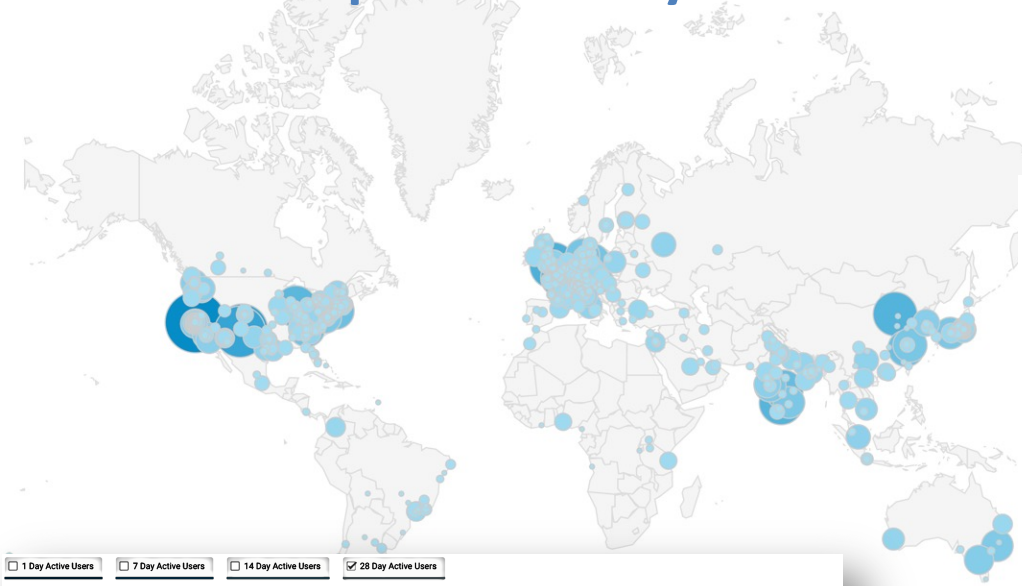
- Spack is a ***package manager***
  - **Does not** a replace Cmake/Autotools
  - Packages built by Spack can have any build system they want
- Spack manages ***dependencies***
  - Drives package-level build systems
  - Ensures consistent builds
- Determining magic configure lines takes time
  - Spack is a cache of recipes

Who can use Spack?

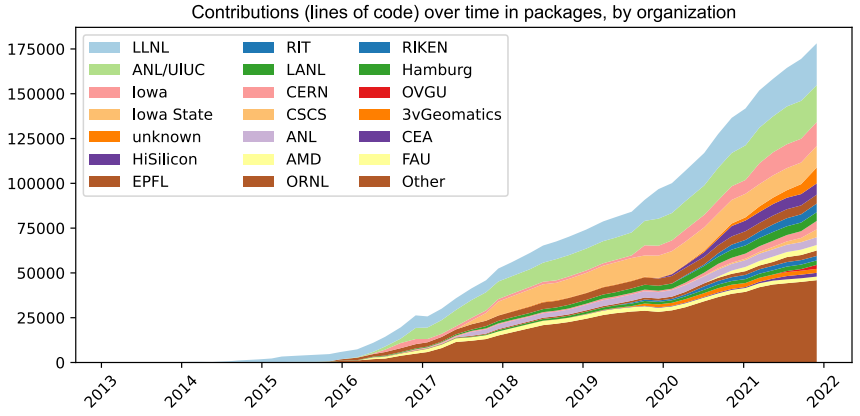
People who want to use or distribute software for HPC!

1. **End Users of HPC Software**
   - Install and run HPC applications and tools
2. **HPC Application Teams**
   - Manage third-party dependency libraries
3. **Package Developers**
   - People who want to package their own software for distribution
4. **User support teams at HPC Centers**
   - People who deploy software for users at large HPC sites

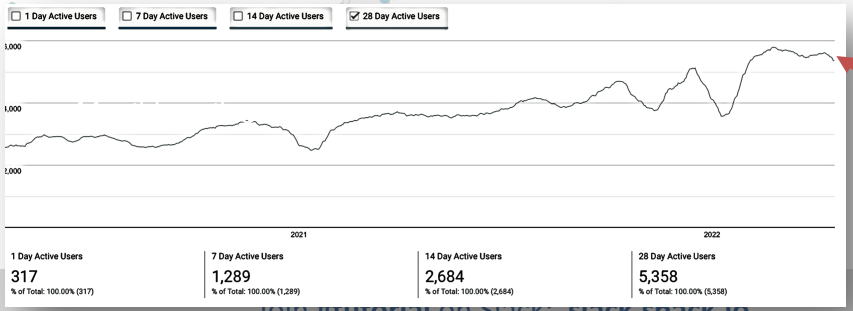
Spack sustains the HPC software ecosystem with the help of its many contributors



6,400+ software packages
Over 1,030 contributors



Most package contributions are ***not*** from DOE
But they help sustain the DOE ecosystem!



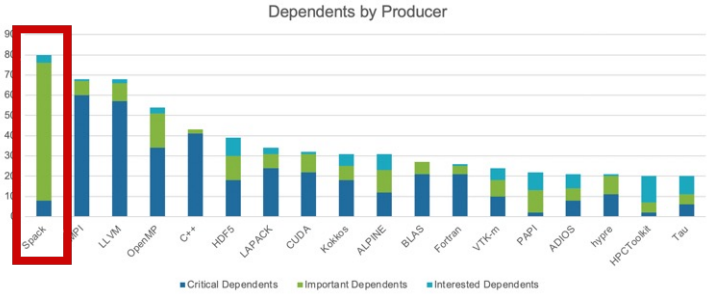
Nearly 6,000 monthly active users
(per documentation site)

Spack is critical for ECP's mission to create a robust, capable exascale software ecosystem.

EXASCALE COMPUTING PROJECT

https://e4s.io

- Spack will be used to build software for the three upcoming U.S. exascale systems
- ECP has built the Extreme Scale Scientific Software Stack (E4S) with Spack – more at https://e4s.io
- Spack will be integral to upcoming ECP testing efforts.



Spack is the most depended-upon project in ECP

One month of Spack development is pretty busy!

April 21, 2023 – May 21, 2023

Period: 1 month

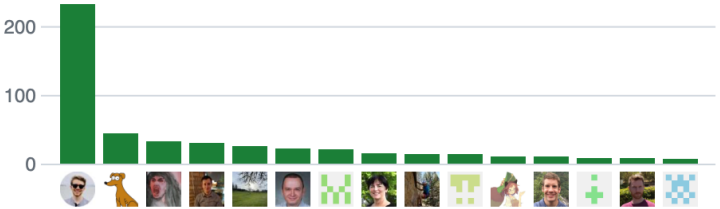
Overview

703 Active pull requests

145 Active issues

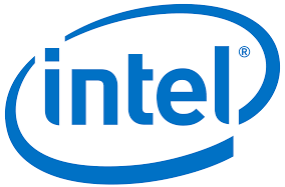
568	135	99	46
Merged pull requests	Open pull requests	Closed issues	New issues

Excluding merges, **109 authors** have pushed **568 commits** to develop and **625 commits** to all branches. On develop, **1,228 files** have changed and there have been **33,421 additions** and **17,043 deletions**.



Spack's widespread adoption has drawn contributions and collaborations with many vendors

- **AWS** invests significantly in cloud credits for Spack build farm
  - Joint Spack tutorial with AWS had 125+ participants
  - Joint AWS/AHUG Spack Hackathon drew 60+ participants
- **AMD** has contributed ROCm packages and compiler support
  - 55+ PRs mostly from AMD, also others
  - ROCm, HIP, aocc packages are all in Spack now
- **HPE/Cray** is doing internal CI for Spack packages, in the Cray environment
- **Intel** contributing OneApi support and licenses for our build farm
- **NVIDIA** contributing NVHPC compiler support and other features
- **Fujitsu and RIKEN** have contributed a **huge** number of packages for ARM/a64fx support on Fugaku
- **ARM** and **Linaro** members contributing ARM support
  - 400+ pull requests for ARM support from various companies

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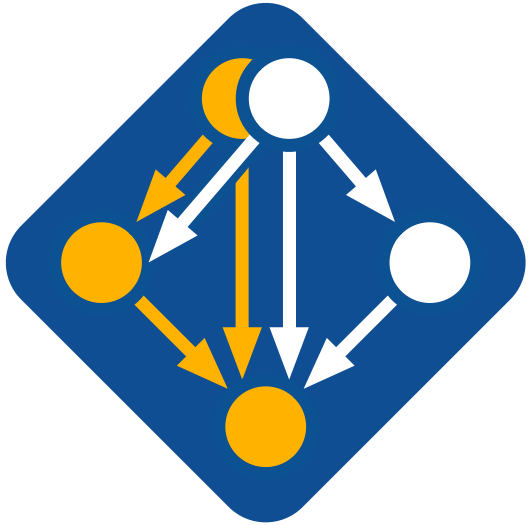
Spack v0.20.0 was released last week!

Major new features:

1. `requires()` directive, enhanced package requirements
2. Exact versions with @=
3. New testing interface
4. More stable concretization
5. Weekly develop snapshot releases
6. Specs in buildcaches can be referenced by hash
7. New package and buildcache index websites
8. Default CMake and Meson build types are now Release



github.com/spack/spack

Full release notes:
`https://github.com/spack/spack/releases/tag/v0.20.0`

Spack is not the only tool that automates builds

1. **"Functional" Package Managers**
   - Nix — https://nixos.org/
   - GNU Guix — https://www.gnu.org/s/guix/

2. **Build-from-source Package Managers**
   - Homebrew, LinuxBrew — http://brew.sh
   - MacPorts — https://www.macports.org
   - Gentoo — https://gentoo.org

Other tools in the HPC Space:

- **Easybuild** — http://hpcugent.github.io/easybuild/
  - An installation tool for HPC
  - Focused on HPC system administrators – different package model from Spack
  - Relies on a fixed software stack – harder to tweak recipes for experimentation

- **Conda / Mamba** — https://conda.io
  - Very popular binary package ecosystem for data science
  - Not targeted at HPC; generally has unoptimized binaries

Hands-on Time: Spack Basics

Follow script at spack-tutorial.readthedocs.io

Core Spack Concepts

Most existing tools do not support combinatorial versioning

- Traditional binary package managers
  - RPM, yum, APT, yast, etc.
  - Designed to manage a single stack.
  - Install *one* version of each package in a single prefix (`/usr`).
  - Seamless upgrades to a *stable, well tested* stack
- Port systems
  - BSD Ports, portage, Macports, Homebrew, Gentoo, etc.
  - Minimal support for builds parameterized by compilers, dependency versions.
- Virtual Machines and Linux Containers (Docker)
  - Containers allow users to build environments for different applications.
  - Does not solve the build problem (someone has to build the image)
  - Performance, security, and upgrade issues prevent widespread HPC deployment.

Spack provides a *spec* syntax to describe customized package configurations

```
$ spack install mpileaks                          unconstrained
$ spack install mpileaks@3.3                      @ custom version
$ spack install mpileaks@3.3 %gcc@4.7.3           % custom compiler
$ spack install mpileaks@3.3 %gcc@4.7.3 +threads  +/- build option
$ spack install mpileaks@3.3 cppflags="-O3 -g3"   set compiler flags
$ spack install mpileaks@3.3 target=cascadelake   set target microarchitecture
$ spack install mpileaks@3.3 ^mpich@3.2 %gcc@4.9.3  ^ dependency constraints
```

- Each expression is a ***spec*** for a particular configuration
  - Each clause adds a constraint to the spec
  - Constraints are optional – specify only what you need.
  - Customize install on the command line!

- Spec syntax is recursive
  - Full control over the combinatorial build space

Spack packages are *parameterized* using the spec syntax

Python DSL defines many ways to build

```
from spack import *

class Kripke(CMakePackage):
    """Kripke is a simple, scalable, 3D Sn deterministic particle transport mini-app."""

    homepage = "https://computation.llnl.gov/projects/co-design/kripke"
    url      = "https://computation.llnl.gov/projects/co-design/download/kripke-openmp-1.1.tar.gz"

    version('1.2.3', sha256='3f7f2eef0d1ba5825780d626741eb0b3f026a096048d7ec4794d2a7dfbe2b8a6')
    version('1.2.2', sha256='eaf9ddf562416974157b34d00c3a1c880fc5296fce2aa2efa039a86e0976f3a3')
    version('1.1', sha256='232d74072fc7b848fa2adc8a1bc839ae8fb5f96d50224186601f55554a25f64a')

    variant('mpi',    default=True, description='Build with MPI.')
    variant('openmp', default=True, description='Build with OpenMP enabled.')

    depends_on('mpi', when='+mpi')
    depends_on('cmake@3.0:', type='build')

    def cmake_args(self):
        return [
            '-DENABLE_OPENMP=%s' % ('+openmp' in self.spec),
            '-DENABLE_MPI=%s' % ('+mpi' in self.spec),
        ]

    def install(self, spec, prefix):
        mkdirp(prefix.bin)
        install('../spack-build/kripke', prefix.bin)
```

Base package
(CMake support)

Metadata at the class level

Versions

Variants (build options)

Dependencies
(same spec syntax)

Install logic
in instance methods

Don't typically need `install()` for `CMakePackage`, but we can work around codes that don't have it.

***One* package.py file per software project!**

Conditional variants simplify packages

CudaPackage: a mix-in for packages that use CUDA

```
class CudaPackage(PackageBase):
    variant('cuda', default=False,
            description='Build with CUDA')

    variant('cuda_arch',
            description='CUDA architecture',
            values=any_combination_of(cuda_arch_values),
            when='+cuda')

    depends_on('cuda', when='+cuda')

    depends_on('cuda@9.0:',     when='cuda_arch=70')
    depends_on('cuda@9.0:',     when='cuda_arch=72')
    depends_on('cuda@10.0:',    when='cuda_arch=75')

    conflicts('%gcc@9:', when='+cuda ^cuda@:10.2.89 target=x86_64:')
    conflicts('%gcc@9:', when='+cuda ^cuda@:10.1.243 target=ppc64le:')
```

`cuda` is a variant (build option)

`cuda_arch` is only present if cuda is enabled

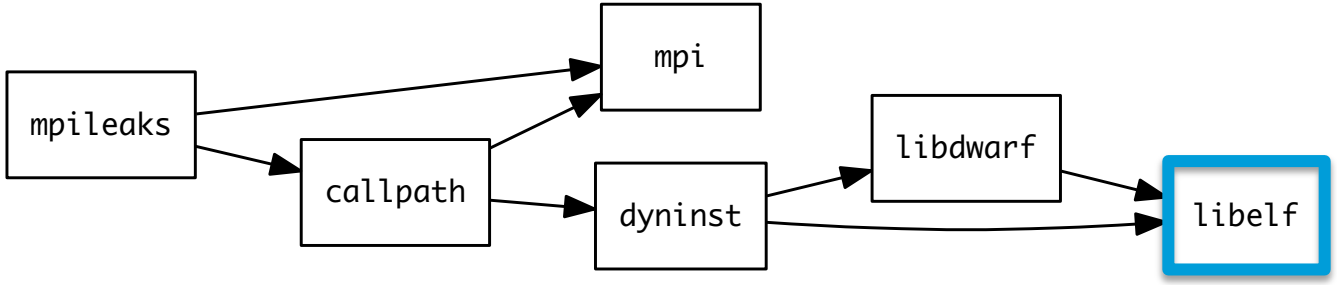
dependency on `cuda`, but only if `cuda` is enabled

constraints on `cuda` version

compiler support for `x86_64` and `ppc64le`

There is a lot of expressive power in the Spack package DSL.

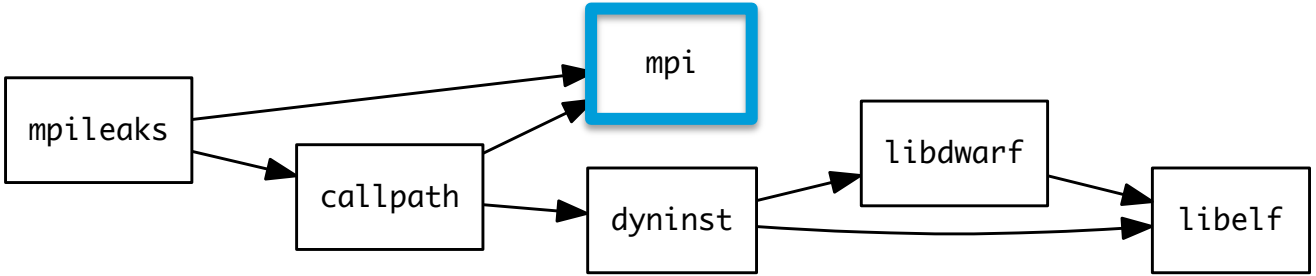
Spack Specs can constrain versions of dependencies




```
$ spack install mpileaks %intel@12.1 ^libelf@0.8.12
```

- Spack ensures *one* configuration of each library per DAG
  - Ensures ABI consistency.
  - User does not need to know DAG structure; only the dependency *names.*
- Spack can ensure that builds use the same compiler, or you can mix
  - Working on ensuring ABI compatibility when compilers are mixed.

Spack handles ABI-incompatible, versioned interfaces like MPI



- `mpi` is a *virtual dependency*
- Install the same package built with two different MPI implementations:

```
$ spack install mpileaks ^mvapich@1.9
```

```
$ spack install mpileaks ^openmpi@1.4:
```

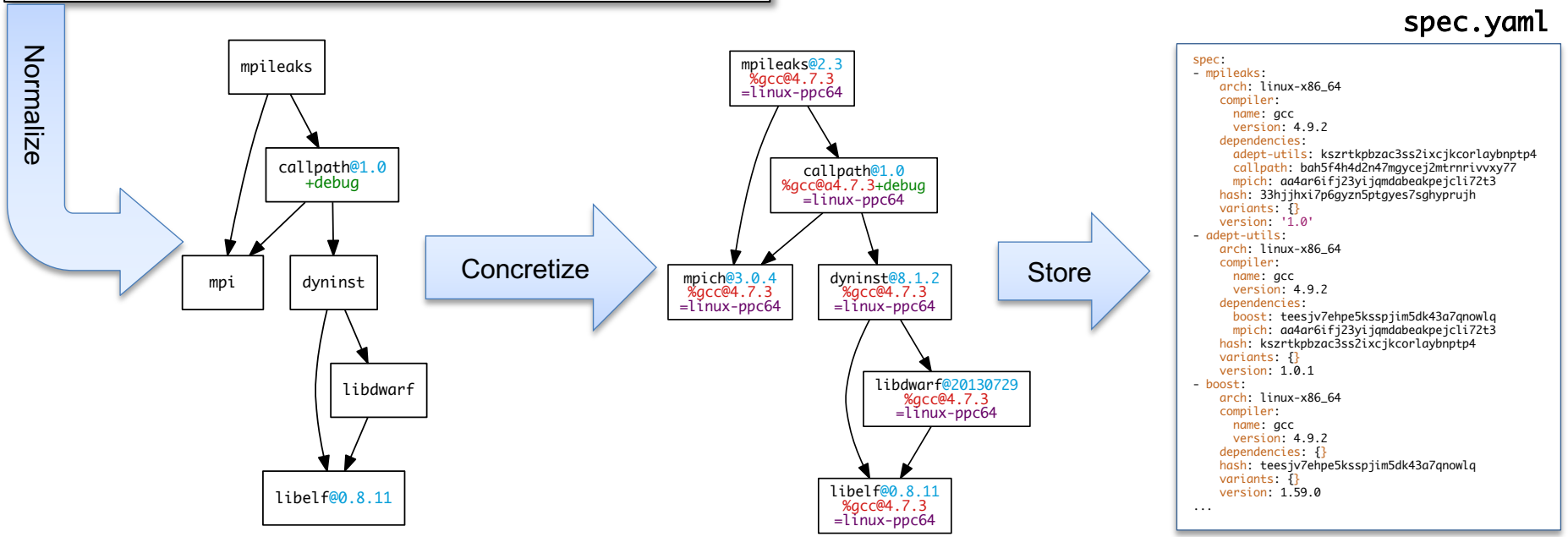
- Let Spack choose MPI implementation, as long as it provides MPI 2 interface:

```
$ spack install mpileaks ^mpi@2
```

Concretization fills in missing configuration details when the user is not explicit.

```
mpileaks ^callpath@1.0+debug ^libelf@0.8.11
```

User input: *abstract* spec with some constraints



spec.yaml

```
spec:
- mpileaks:
    arch: linux-x86_64
    compiler:
      name: gcc
      version: 4.9.2
    dependencies:
      adept-utils: kszrtkpbzac3ss2ixcjkcorlaybnptp4
      callpath: bah5f4h4d2n47mgycej2mtrnrivvxy77
      mpich: aa4ar6ifj23yijqmdabeakpejcli72t3
    hash: 33hjjhxi7p6gyzn5ptgyes7sghyprujh
    variants: {}
    version: '1.0'
- adept-utils:
    arch: linux-x86_64
    compiler:
      name: gcc
      version: 4.9.2
    dependencies:
      boost: teesjv7ehpe5ksspjim5dk43a7qnowlq
      mpich: aa4ar6ifj23yijqmdabeakpejcli72t3
    hash: kszrtkpbzac3ss2ixcjkcorlaybnptp4
    variants: {}
    version: 1.0.1
- boost:
    arch: linux-x86_64
    compiler:
      name: gcc
      version: 4.9.2
    dependencies: {}
    hash: teesjv7ehpe5ksspjim5dk43a7qnowlq
    variants: {}
    version: 1.59.0
...
```

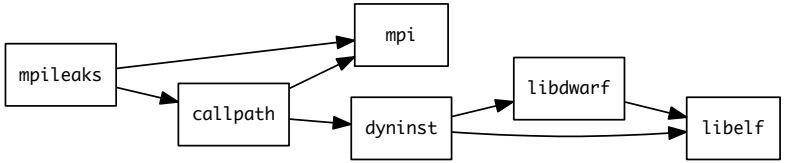
Abstract, normalized spec with some dependencies.

Concrete spec is fully constrained and can be passed to install.

Detailed provenance is stored with the installed package

Hashing allows us to handle combinatorial complexity

Dependency DAG



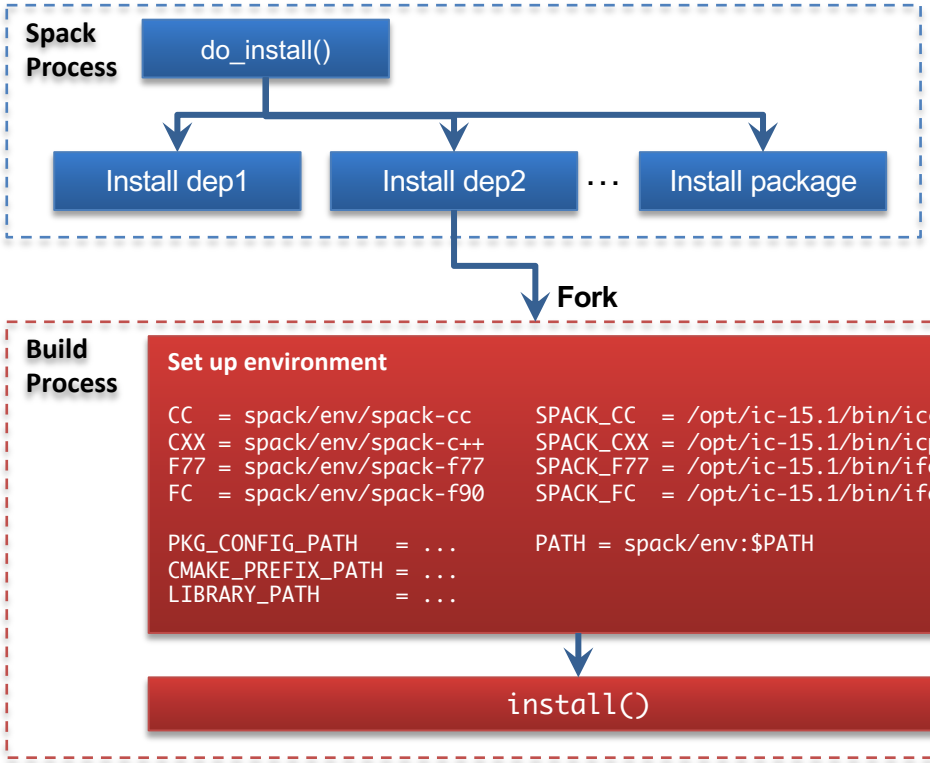
Installation Layout

Hash

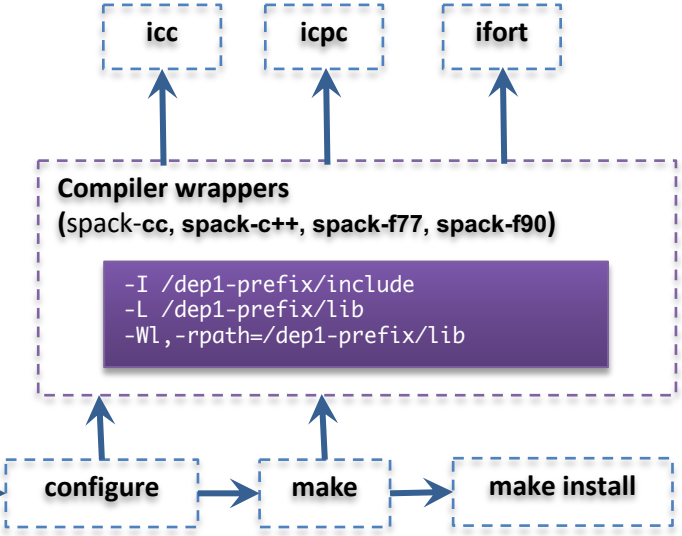
```
opt
└── spack
    ├── darwin-mojave-skylake
    |   └── clang-10.0.0-apple
    |       ├── bzip2-1.0.8-hc4sm4vuzpm4znmvrfzri4ow2mkphe2e
    |       ├── python-3.7.6-daqqpssxb6qbfrztsezkmhus3xoflbsy
    |       ├── sqlite-3.30.1-u64v26igxvxyn23hysmklfums6tgjv5r
    |       ├── xz-5.2.4-u5eawkvaoc7vonabe6nndkcfwuv233cj
    |       └── zlib-1.2.11-x46q4wm46ay4pltriijbgizxjrhbaka6
    ├── darwin-mojave-x86_64
    |   └── clang-10.0.0-apple
    |       └── coreutils-8.29-pl2kcytejqcys5dzecfrtjqxfdssvnob
```

- Each unique dependency graph is a unique ***configuration***.
- Each configuration in a unique directory.
  - Multiple configurations of the same package can coexist.
- **Hash** of entire directed acyclic graph (DAG) is appended to each prefix.
- Installed packages automatically find dependencies
  - Spack embeds RPATHs in binaries.
  - No need to use modules or set LD_LIBRARY_PATH
  - Things work *the way you built them*

An isolated compilation environment allows Spack to easily swap compilers



- **Forked build process isolates environment for each build.**
- **Uses compiler wrappers to:**
  - Add include, lib, and RPATH flags
  - Ensure that dependencies are found automatically
  - Load Cray modules (use right compiler/system deps)

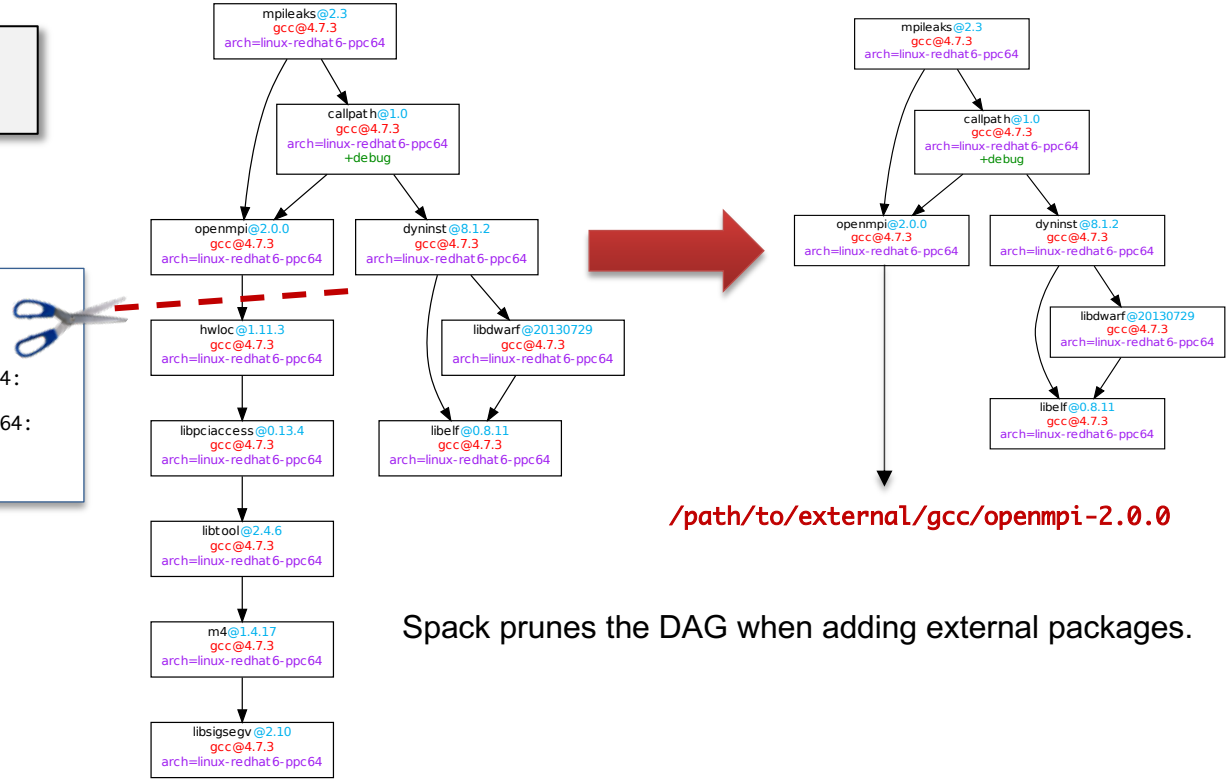


We can configure Spack to build with external software

```
mpileaks ^callpath@1.0+debug
    ^openmpi ^libelf@0.8.11
```

packages.yaml

```
packages:
  mpi:
    buildable: False
    paths:
      openmpi@2.0.0 %gcc@4.7.3 arch=linux-rhel6-ppc64:
        /path/to/external/gcc/openmpi-2.0.0
      openmpi@1.10.3 %gcc@4.7.3 arch=linux-rhel6-ppc64:
        /path/to/external/gcc/openmpi-1.10.3
      ...
```

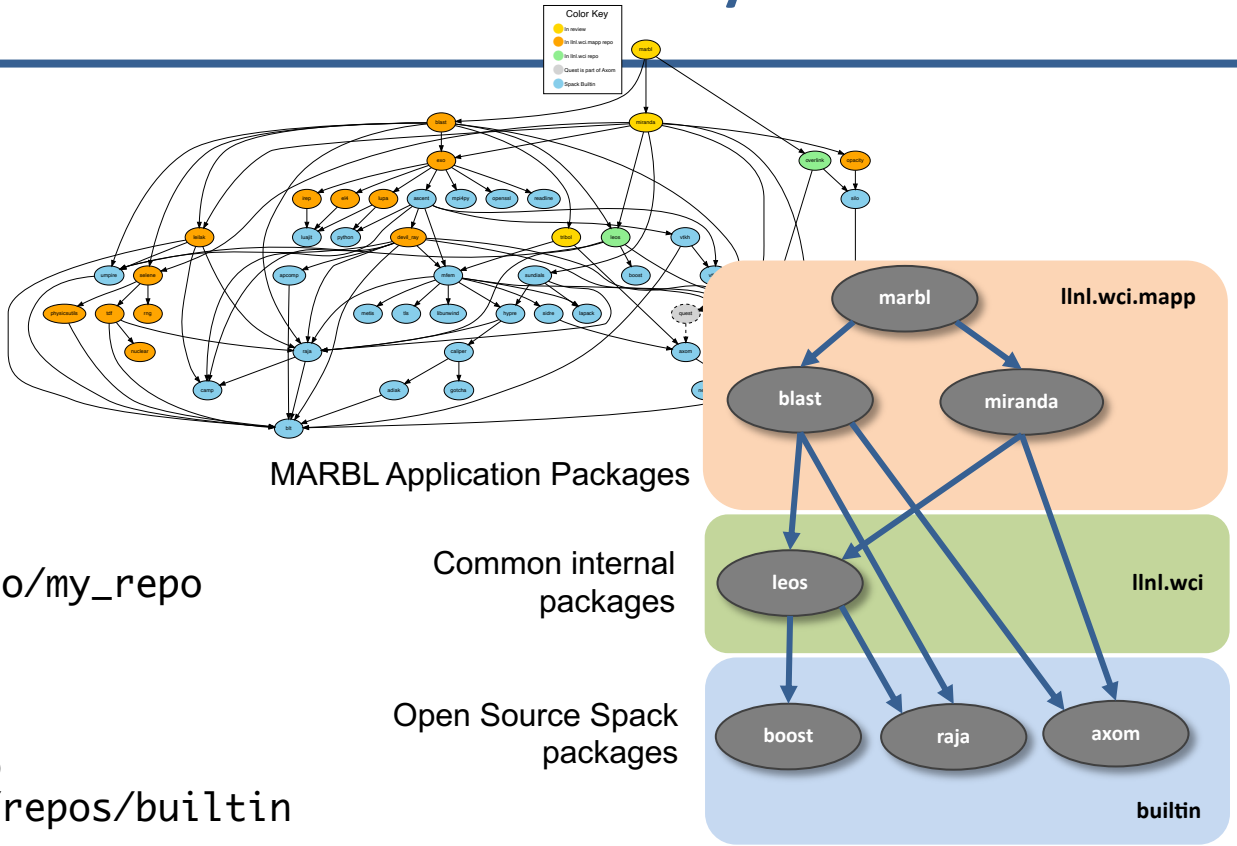


Users register external packages in a configuration file (more on these later).

Spack prunes the DAG when adding external packages.

Spack package repositories allow stacks to be layered

LLNL MARBL multi-physics application



MARBL Application Packages

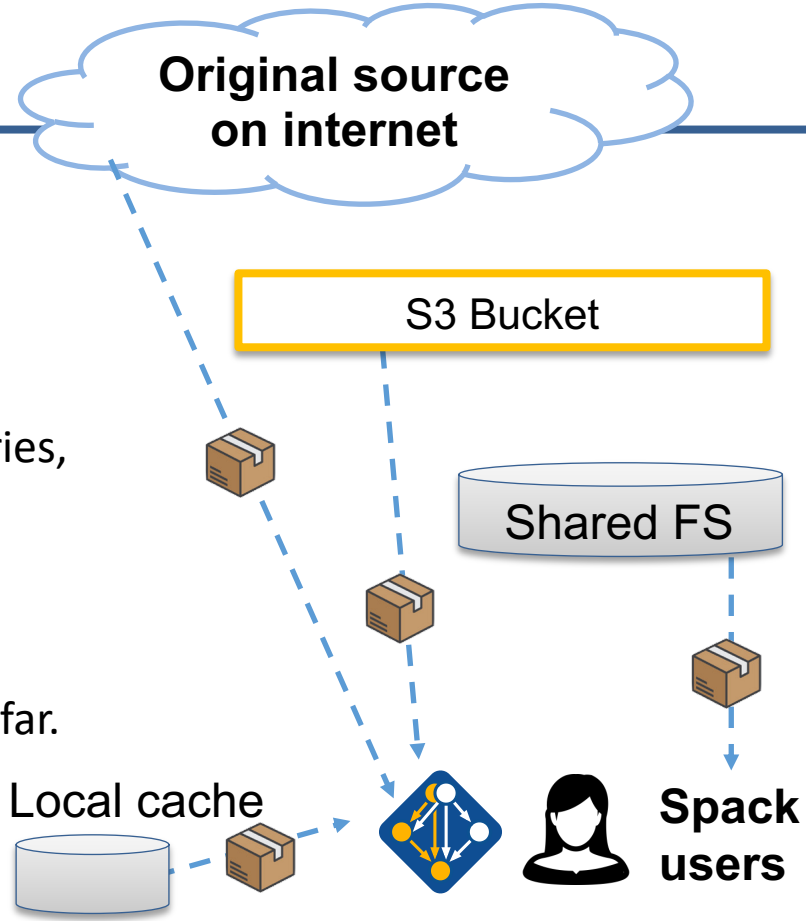
Common internal packages

Open Source Spack packages

```
$ spack repo create /path/to/my_repo
$ spack repo add my_repo
$ spack repo list
==> 2 package repositories.
my_repo    /path/to/my_repo
builtin    spack/var/spack/repos/builtin
```

Spack mirrors

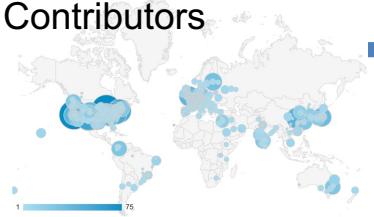
- Spack allows you to define *mirrors:*
  - Directories in the filesystem
  - On a web server
  - In an S3 bucket
- Mirrors are archives of fetched tarballs, repositories, and other resources needed to build
  - Can also contain binary packages
- By default, Spack maintains a mirror in var/spack/cache of everything you've fetched so far.
- You can host mirrors internal to your site
  - See the documentation for more details



The concretizer includes information from packages, configuration, and CLI

Dependency solving is NP-hard

Contributors



- new versions
- new dependencies
- new constraints

package.py repository

concretizer

spack developers — yaml — default config `packages.yaml`

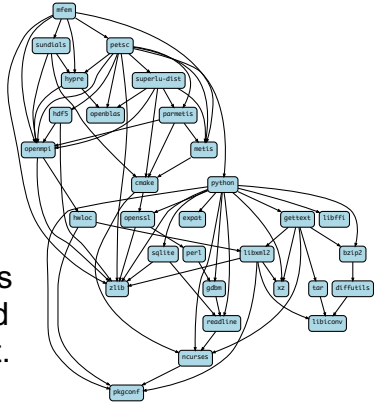
admins, users — yaml — local preferences config `packages.yaml`

users — yaml — local environment config `spack.yaml`

users — Command line constraints

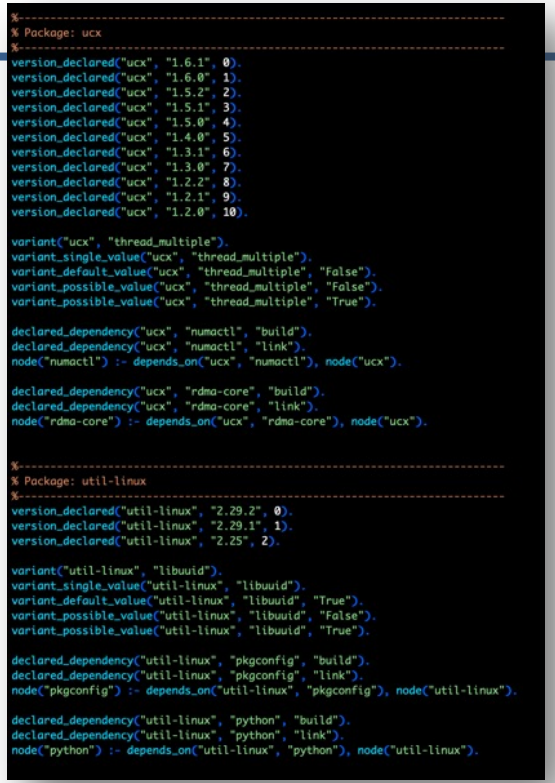
```
spack install hdf5@1.12.0 +debug
```

Concrete spec is fully constrained and can be built.



We use logic programming to simplify package solving

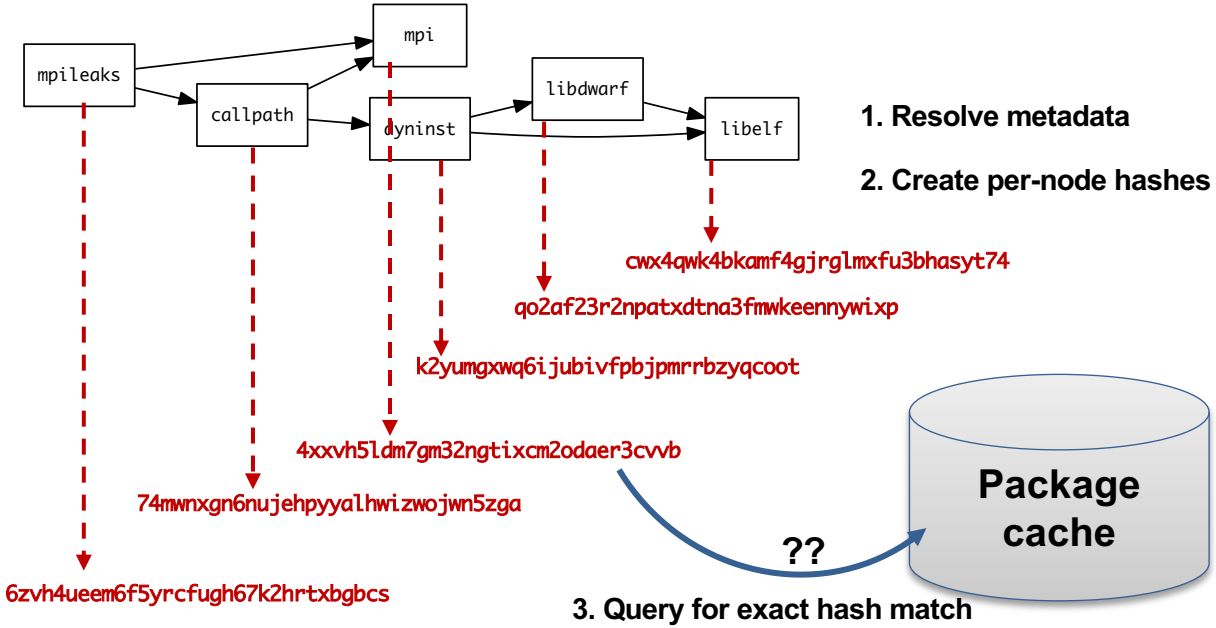
- New concretizer leverages Clingo (see potassco.org)
- Clingo is an Answer Set Programming (ASP) solver
  - ASP looks like Prolog; leverages SAT solvers for speed/correctness
  - ASP program has 2 parts:
    1. Large list of facts generated from our package repositories and config
    2. Small logic program (~800 lines)
       - includes constraints and optimization criteria
- New algorithm on the Spack side is conceptually simpler:
  - Generate facts for all possible dependencies, send to logic program
  - Optimization criteria express preferences more clearly
  - Build a DAG from the results
- New concretizer solves many specs that old concretizer can't
  - Backtracking is a huge win – many issues resolved
  - Conditional logic that was complicated before is now much easier



```
%-----------------------------------------------------------------------------
% Package: ucx
%-----------------------------------------------------------------------------
version_declared("ucx", "1.6.1", 0).
version_declared("ucx", "1.6.0", 1).
version_declared("ucx", "1.5.2", 2).
version_declared("ucx", "1.5.1", 3).
version_declared("ucx", "1.5.0", 4).
version_declared("ucx", "1.4.0", 5).
version_declared("ucx", "1.3.1", 6).
version_declared("ucx", "1.3.0", 7).
version_declared("ucx", "1.2.2", 8).
version_declared("ucx", "1.2.1", 9).
version_declared("ucx", "1.2.0", 10).

variant("ucx", "thread_multiple").
variant_single_value("ucx", "thread_multiple").
variant_default_value("ucx", "thread_multiple", "False").
variant_possible_value("ucx", "thread_multiple", "False").
variant_possible_value("ucx", "thread_multiple", "True").

declared_dependency("ucx", "numactl", "build").
declared_dependency("ucx", "numactl", "link").
node("numactl") :- depends_on("ucx", "numactl"), node("ucx").

declared_dependency("ucx", "rdma-core", "build").
declared_dependency("ucx", "rdma-core", "link").
node("rdma-core") :- depends_on("ucx", "rdma-core"), node("ucx").


%-----------------------------------------------------------------------------
% Package: util-linux
%-----------------------------------------------------------------------------
version_declared("util-linux", "2.29.2", 0).
version_declared("util-linux", "2.29.1", 1).
version_declared("util-linux", "2.25", 2).

variant("util-linux", "libuuid").
variant_single_value("util-linux", "libuuid").
variant_default_value("util-linux", "libuuid", "True").
variant_possible_value("util-linux", "libuuid", "False").
variant_possible_value("util-linux", "libuuid", "True").

declared_dependency("util-linux", "pkgconfig", "build").
declared_dependency("util-linux", "pkgconfig", "link").
node("pkgconfig") :- depends_on("util-linux", "pkgconfig"), node("util-linux").

declared_dependency("util-linux", "python", "build").
declared_dependency("util-linux", "python", "link").
node("python") :- depends_on("util-linux", "python"), node("util-linux").
```

Some facts for the HDF5 package

`--fresh` only reuses builds if hashes match



- Hash matches are very sensitive to small changes
- In many cases, a satisfying cached or already installed spec can be missed
- Nix, Spack, Guix, Conan, and others reuse this way

`--reuse` (now the default) is more aggressive

- --reuse tells the solver about all the installed packages!
- Add constraints for all installed packages, with their hash as the associated ID:

```
installed_hash("openssl","lwatuuysmwkhuahrncywvn77icdhs6mn").
imposed_constraint("lwatuuysmwkhuahrncywvn77icdhs6mn","node","openssl").
imposed_constraint("lwatuuysmwkhuahrncywvn77icdhs6mn","version","openssl","1.1.1g").
imposed_constraint("lwatuuysmwkhuahrncywvn77icdhs6mn","node_platform_set","openssl","darwin").
imposed_constraint("lwatuuysmwkhuahrncywvn77icdhs6mn","node_os_set","openssl","catalina").
imposed_constraint("lwatuuysmwkhuahrncywvn77icdhs6mn","node_target_set","openssl","x86_64").
imposed_constraint("lwatuuysmwkhuahrncywvn77icdhs6mn","variant_set","openssl","systemcerts","True").
imposed_constraint("lwatuuysmwkhuahrncywvn77icdhs6mn","node_compiler_set","openssl","apple-clang").
imposed_constraint("lwatuuysmwkhuahrncywvn77icdhs6mn","node_compiler_version_set","openssl","apple-clang","12.0.0").
imposed_constraint("lwatuuysmwkhuahrncywvn77icdhs6mn","concrete","openssl").
imposed_constraint("lwatuuysmwkhuahrncywvn77icdhs6mn","depends_on","openssl","zlib","build").
imposed_constraint("lwatuuysmwkhuahrncywvn77icdhs6mn","depends_on","openssl","zlib","link").
imposed_constraint("lwatuuysmwkhuahrncywvn77icdhs6mn","hash","zlib","x2anksgssxsxa7pcnhzg5k3dhgacglze").
```

Telling the solver to minimize builds is surprisingly simple in ASP

1. Allow the solver to *choose* a hash for any package:

```
{ hash(Package, Hash) : installed_hash(Package, Hash) } 1 :- node(Package).
```

2. Choosing a hash means we impose its constraints:

```
impose(Hash) :- hash(Package, Hash).
```

3. Define a build as something *without* a hash:

```
build(Package) :- not hash(Package, _), node(Package).
```

4. Minimize builds!

```
#minimize { 1@100,Package : build(Package) }.
```

With and without --reuse optimization

```
(spackle):solver> spack solve -Il hdf5
==> Best of 9 considered solutions.
==> Optimization Criteria:
  Priority  Criterion                                                  Installed  ToBuild
  1         number of packages to build (vs. reuse)                            -       20
  2         deprecated versions used                                           0        0
  3         version weight                                                     0        0
  4         number of non-default variants (roots)                             0        0
  5         preferred providers for roots                                      0        0
  6         default values of variants not being used (roots)                  0        0
  7         number of non-default variants (non-roots)                         0        0
  8         preferred providers (non-roots)                                    0        0
  9         compiler mismatches                                                0        0
  10        OS mismatches                                                      0        0
  11        non-preferred OS's                                                 0        0
  12        version badness                                                    0        2
  13        default values of variants not being used (non-roots)              0        0
  14        non-preferred compilers                                            0        0
  15        target mismatches                                                  0        0
  16        non-preferred targets                                              0        0

  -   zzngfs3  hdf5@1.10.7%apple-clang@13.0.0~cxx~fortran~hl~ipo~java+mpi+shared~szip~threadsafe+tools api=default b
  -   nsylovq      ^cmake@3.21.4%apple-clang@13.0.0~doc+ncurses+openssl+ownlibs~qt build_type=Release arch=darwin-bi
  -   xdbaqeo          ^ncurses@6.2%apple-clang@13.0.0~symlinks+termlib abi=none arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  -   kfureok              ^pkgconf@1.8.0%apple-clang@13.0.0 arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  -   5ekd4ap          ^openssl@1.1.1l%apple-clang@13.0.0~docs certs=system arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  -   xz6a265              ^perl@5.34.0%apple-clang@13.0.0+cpanm+shared+threads arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  -   xgt3tls                  ^berkeley-db@18.1.40%apple-clang@13.0.0+cxx~docs+stl patches=b231fcc4d5cff05e5c3a4814
  -   65edjf6                  ^bzip2@1.0.8%apple-clang@13.0.0~debug~pic+shared arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  -   662adoo                      ^diffutils@3.8%apple-clang@13.0.0 arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  -   fu7tfsr                          ^libiconv@1.16%apple-clang@13.0.0 libs=shared,static arch=darwin-bigsur-skyla
  -   vjg67nd                  ^gdbm@1.19%apple-clang@13.0.0 arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  -   tjceldr                      ^readline@8.1%apple-clang@13.0.0 arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  -   xevvljj                  ^zlib@1.2.11%apple-clang@13.0.0+optimize+pic+shared arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  -   xelfobh      ^openmpi@4.1.1%apple-clang@13.0.0~atomics~cuda~cxx~cxx_exceptions+gpfs~internal-hwloc~java~legacy
  -   zruns75          ^hwloc@2.6.0%apple-clang@13.0.0~cairo~cuda~gl~libudev+libxml2~netloc~nvml~opencl~pci~rocm+sha
  -   ib4fnkf              ^libxml2@2.9.12%apple-clang@13.0.0~python arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  -   dwiv2ys                  ^xz@5.2.5%apple-clang@13.0.0~pic libs=shared,static arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  -   blitnbl          ^libevent@2.1.12%apple-clang@13.0.0+openssl arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  -   h7jalyu          ^openssh@8.7p1%apple-clang@13.0.0 arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  -   7v7bqx2              ^libedit@3.1-20210216%apple-clang@13.0.0 arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
```

Pure hash-based reuse: all misses

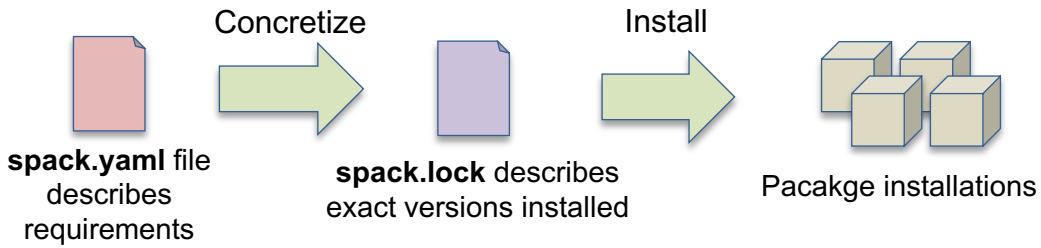
```
(spackle):spack> spack solve --reuse -Il hdf5
==> Best of 10 considered solutions.
==> Optimization Criteria:
  Priority  Criterion                                                  Installed  ToBuild
  1         number of packages to build (vs. reuse)                            -        4
  2         deprecated versions used                                           0        0
  3         version weight                                                     0        0
  4         number of non-default variants (roots)                             0        0
  5         preferred providers for roots                                      0        0
  6         default values of variants not being used (roots)                  0        0
  7         number of non-default variants (non-roots)                         2        0
  8         preferred providers (non-roots)                                    0        0
  9         compiler mismatches                                                0        0
  10        OS mismatches                                                      0        0
  11        non-preferred OS's                                                 0        0
  12        version badness                                                    6        0
  13        default values of variants not being used (non-roots)              1        0
  14        non-preferred compilers                                           15        4
  15        target mismatches                                                  0        0
  16        non-preferred targets                                              0        0

  -   yfkfnsp  hdf5@1.10.7%apple-clang@12.0.5~cxx~fortran~hl~ipo~java+mpi+shared~szip~threadsafe+tools api=defaul
  [+] zd4m26e      ^cmake@3.21.1%apple-clang@12.0.5~doc+ncurses+openssl+ownlibs~qt build_type=Release arch=darwin
  [+] 53i5zxr          ^ncurses@6.2%apple-clang@12.0.5~symlinks+termlib abi=none arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  [+] us36bwr          ^openssl@1.1.1l%apple-clang@12.0.5~docs+systemcerts arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  [+] 74mwnxg              ^zlib@1.2.11%apple-clang@12.0.5+optimize+pic+shared arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  -   3ijfnel      ^openmpi@4.1.1%apple-clang@12.0.5~atomics~cuda~cxx~cxx_exceptions+gpfs~internal-hwloc~java~leg
  -   jxexyb7          ^hwloc@2.6.0%apple-clang@12.0.5~cairo~cuda~gl~libudev+libxml2~netloc~nvml~opencl~pci~rocm+
  [+] ckdn5zf              ^libxml2@2.9.12%apple-clang@12.0.5~python arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  [+] k7auat3                  ^libiconv@1.16%apple-clang@12.0.5 libs=shared,static arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  [+] kzyumgx                  ^xz@5.2.5%apple-clang@12.0.5~pic libs=shared,static arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  [+] grgtlcd              ^pkgconf@1.8.0%apple-clang@12.0.5 arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  -   nnc66ug          ^libevent@2.1.12%apple-clang@12.0.5+openssl arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  [+] 63xbksk          ^openssh@8.6p1%apple-clang@12.0.5 arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  [+] snhgldt              ^libedit@3.1-20210216%apple-clang@12.0.5 arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  [+] qbkmtdd          ^perl@5.34.0%apple-clang@12.0.5+cpanm+shared+threads arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  [+] tnvkifs              ^berkeley-db@18.1.40%apple-clang@12.0.5+cxx~docs+stl patches=b231fcc4d5cff05e5c3a4814f
  [+] 7d5woqt              ^bzip2@1.0.8%apple-clang@12.0.5~debug~pic+shared arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  [+] vh6di3i              ^gdbm@1.19%apple-clang@12.0.5 arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
  [+] qgy3v4l                  ^readline@8.1%apple-clang@12.0.5 arch=darwin-bigsur-skylake
```

With reuse: 16 packages were reusable

Use `spack spec` to see the results of concretization

```
$ spack spec mpileaks
Input spec
------------------------------
  mpileaks

Concretized
------------------------------
  mpileaks@1.0%gcc@5.3.0 arch=darwin-elcapitan-x86_64
      ^adept-utils@1.0.1%gcc@5.3.0 arch=darwin-elcapitan-x86_64
          ^boost@1.61.0%gcc@5.3.0+atomic+chrono+date_time~debug+filesystem~graph
           ~icu_support+iostreams+locale+log+math~mpi+multithreaded+program_options
           ~python+random +regex+serialization+shared+signals+singlethreaded+system
           +test+thread+timer+wave arch=darwin-elcapitan-x86_64
              ^bzip2@1.0.6%gcc@5.3.0 arch=darwin-elcapitan-x86_64
              ^zlib@1.2.8%gcc@5.3.0 arch=darwin-elcapitan-x86_64
          ^openmpi@2.0.0%gcc@5.3.0~mxm~pmi~psm~psm2~slurm~sqlite3~thread_multiple~tm~verbs+vt arch=darwin-elcapitan-x86_64
              ^hwloc@1.11.3%gcc@5.3.0 arch=darwin-elcapitan-x86_64
                  ^libpciaccess@0.13.4%gcc@5.3.0 arch=darwin-elcapitan-x86_64
                      ^libtool@2.4.6%gcc@5.3.0 arch=darwin-elcapitan-x86_64
                          ^m4@1.4.17%gcc@5.3.0+sigsegv arch=darwin-elcapitan-x86_64
                              ^libsigsegv@2.10%gcc@5.3.0 arch=darwin-elcapitan-x86_64
      ^callpath@1.0.2%gcc@5.3.0 arch=darwin-elcapitan-x86_64
          ^dyninst@9.2.0%gcc@5.3.0~stat_dysect arch=darwin-elcapitan-x86_64
              ^libdwarf@20160507%gcc@5.3.0 arch=darwin-elcapitan-x86_64
                  ^libelf@0.8.13%gcc@5.3.0 arch=darwin-elcapitan-x86_64
```

Spack environments enable users to build customized stacks from an abstract description



- spack.yaml describes project requirements
- spack.lock describes exactly what versions/configurations were installed, allows them to be reproduced.
- Can be used to maintain configuration of a software stack.
  - Can easily version an environment in a repository

Simple spack.yaml file

```
spack:
  # include external configuration
  include:
  - ../special-config-directory/
  - ./config-file.yaml

  # add package specs to the `specs` list
  specs:
  - hdf5
  - libelf
  - openmpi
```

Concrete spack.lock file (generated)

```
{
 "concrete_specs": {
   "6s63so2kstp3zyvjezglndmavy6l3nul": {
     "hdf5": {
         "version": "1.10.5",
         "arch": {
             "platform": "darwin",
             "platform_os": "mojave",
             "target": "x86_64"
         },
         "compiler": {
             "name": "clang",
             "version": "10.0.0-apple"
         },
         "namespace": "builti
         "parameters":
```

Environments,
`spack.yaml` and `spack.lock`

Follow script at **spack-tutorial.readthedocs.io**

We'll resume at:
16:30 CET

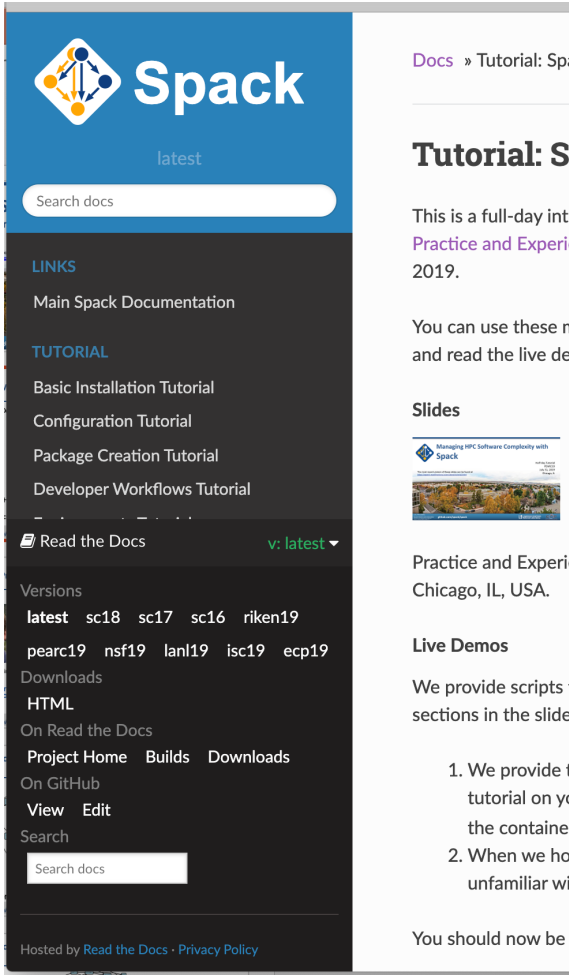
Find the slides and associated scripts here:

spack-tutorial.readthedocs.io

Remember to join Spack slack so you can get help after ISC!

slack.spack.io

Join the **#tutorial** channel!



Hands-on Time: Configuration

Follow script at **spack-tutorial.readthedocs.io**

Environments,
`spack.yaml` and `spack.lock` Continued

Follow script at **spack-tutorial.readthedocs.io**

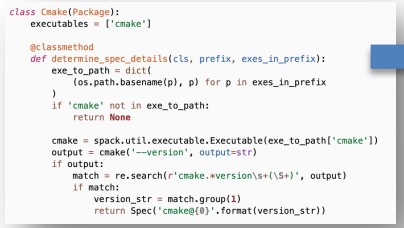
Hands-on Time: You Choose!

1. Combinatorial Stack Deployments
2. Developer Workflows
3. Module File Generation

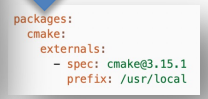
Follow script at **spack-tutorial.readthedocs.io**

More Features and the Road Ahead

Environments have enabled us to add build many features to support developer workflows



package.py



`spack.yaml` configuration

`spack external find`

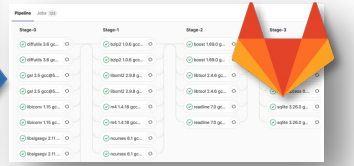
Automatically find and configure external packages on the system

`spack test`

Packages know how to run their own test suites

package.py

`spack.yaml`



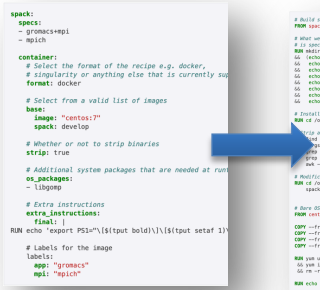
`.gitlab-ci.yml` CI pipeline

`spack ci`

Automatically generate parallel build pipelines (more on this later)

`spack containerize`

Turn environments into container build recipes

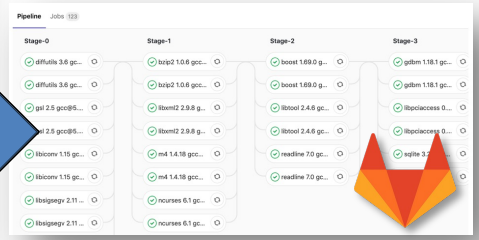


Spack environments are the foundation of Spack CI

- `spack ci` enables any environment to be turned into a build pipeline
- Pipeline generates a `.gitlab-ci.yml` file from spack.lock
- Pipelines can be used just to build, or to generate relocatable binary packages
  - Binary packages can be used to keep the same build from running twice
- Same repository used for spack.yaml can generate pipelines for project

```
spack:
  definitions:
  - pkgs:
    - readline@7.0
  - compilers:
    - '%gcc@5.5.0'
  - oses:
    - os=ubuntu18.04
    - os=centos7
  specs:
  - matrix:
    - [$pkgs]
    - [$compilers]
    - [$oses]
  mirrors:
    cloud_gitlab: https://mirror.spack.io
  gitlab-ci:
    mappings:
      - spack-cloud-ubuntu:
          match:
            - os=ubuntu18.04
          runner-attributes:
            tags:
              - spack-k8s
            image: spack/spack_builder_ubuntu_18.0
      - spack-cloud-centos:
          match:
            - os=centos7
          runner-attributes:
            tags:
              - spack-k8s
            image: spack/spack_builder_centos_7
  cdash:
    build-group: Release Testing
    url: https://cdash.spack.io
    project: Spack
    site: Spack AWS Gitlab Instance
```

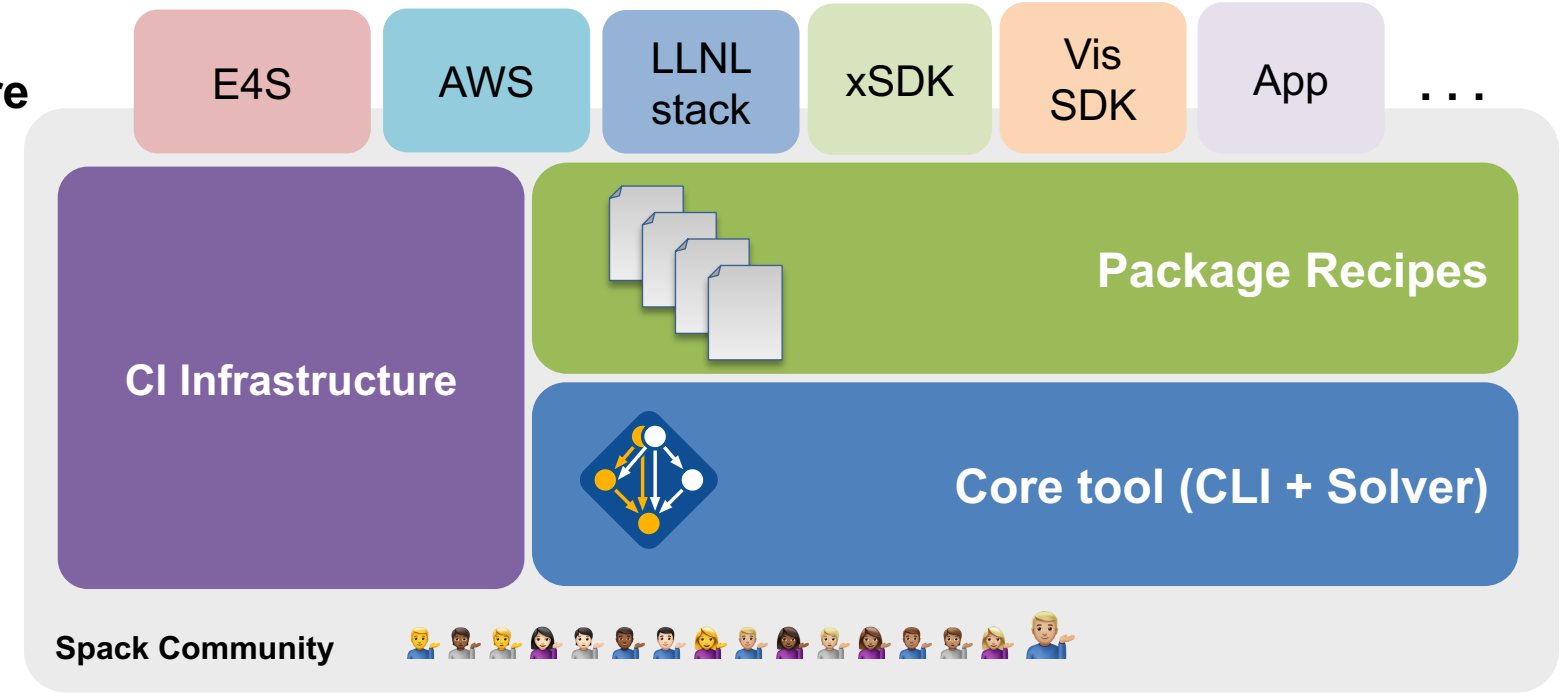
spack.yaml



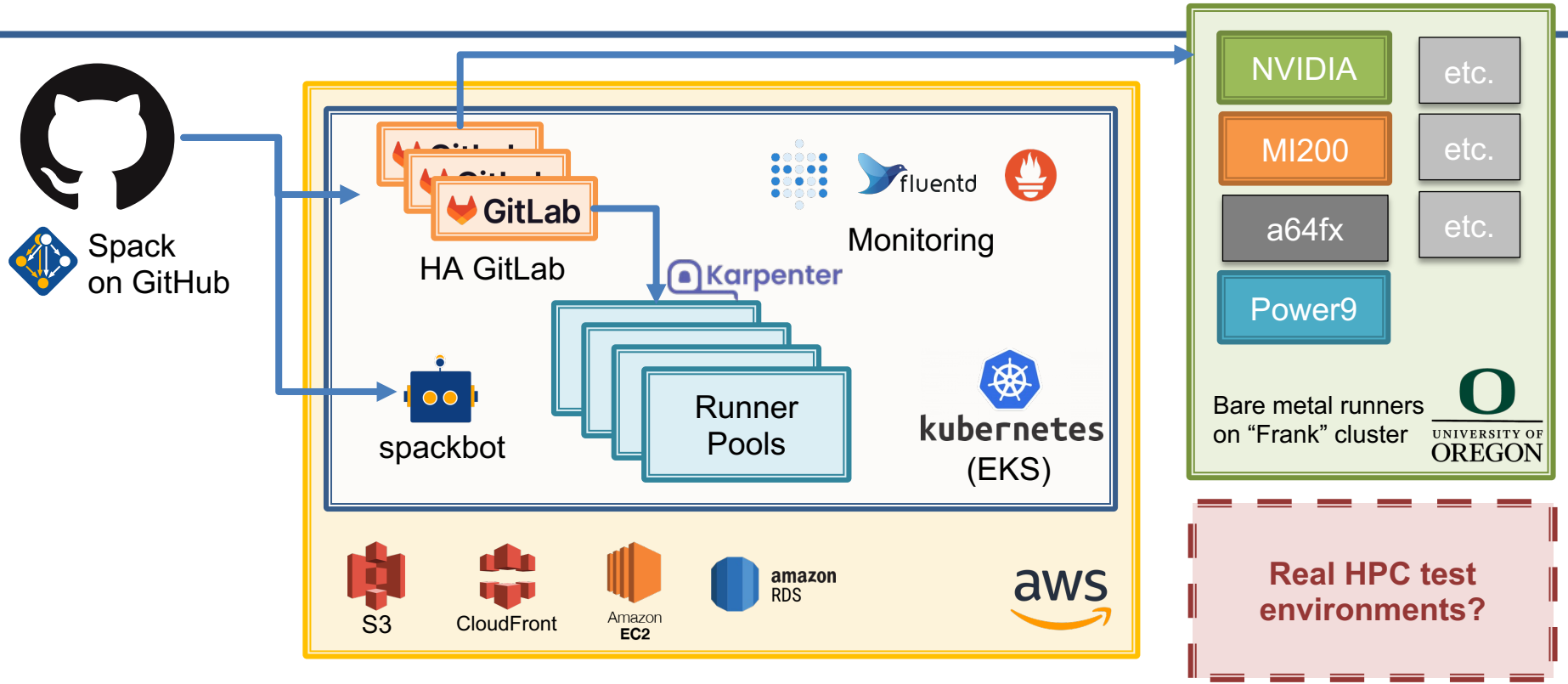
Parallel GitLab build pipeline

The Spack project enables communities to build their own software stacks

Lots of Software Stacks!



We have been collaborating with AWS on a CI system for Spack



We want to reduce downstream work

External Contributors on GitHub

Spack develop branch
- Bleeding edge: 400-600 changes/month
- Latest features and package versions

Applications
- Consume software from any of these channels, via Spack
- Use bleeding edge or stable

Spack release branches
- Stable spack
- Stable package versions
- Bugfixes backported

E4S release branches
- Facility testing
- Curated public build caches (manually created)

Software Integration at HPC Facilities
- Local builds and testing
- Local configuration
- Local filesystem installation
- Local module scheme

Cloud collaboration is enabling us to move much of this work upstream

Facilities

Argonne NATIONAL LABORATORY

OAK RIDGE National Laboratory

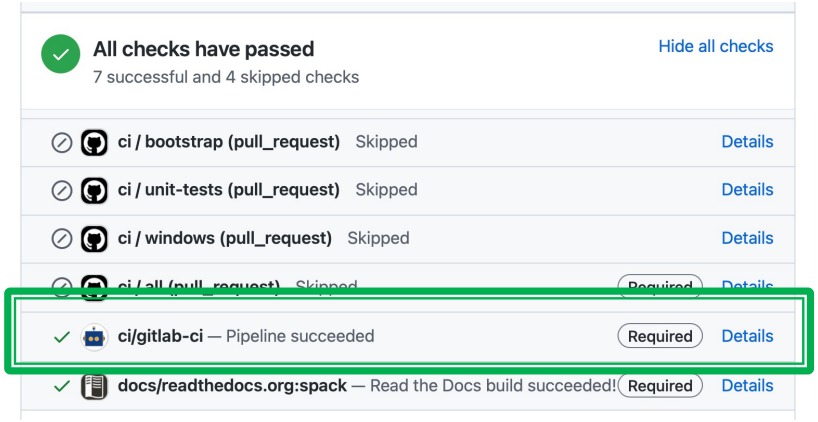
BERKELEY LAB

Los Alamos NATIONAL LABORATORY EST. 1943

Sandia National Laboratories

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

We announced our public binary cache last June. We're maintaining ~4,600 builds in CI!



✅ Easy (mostly) for contributors!

✅ Easy for users!

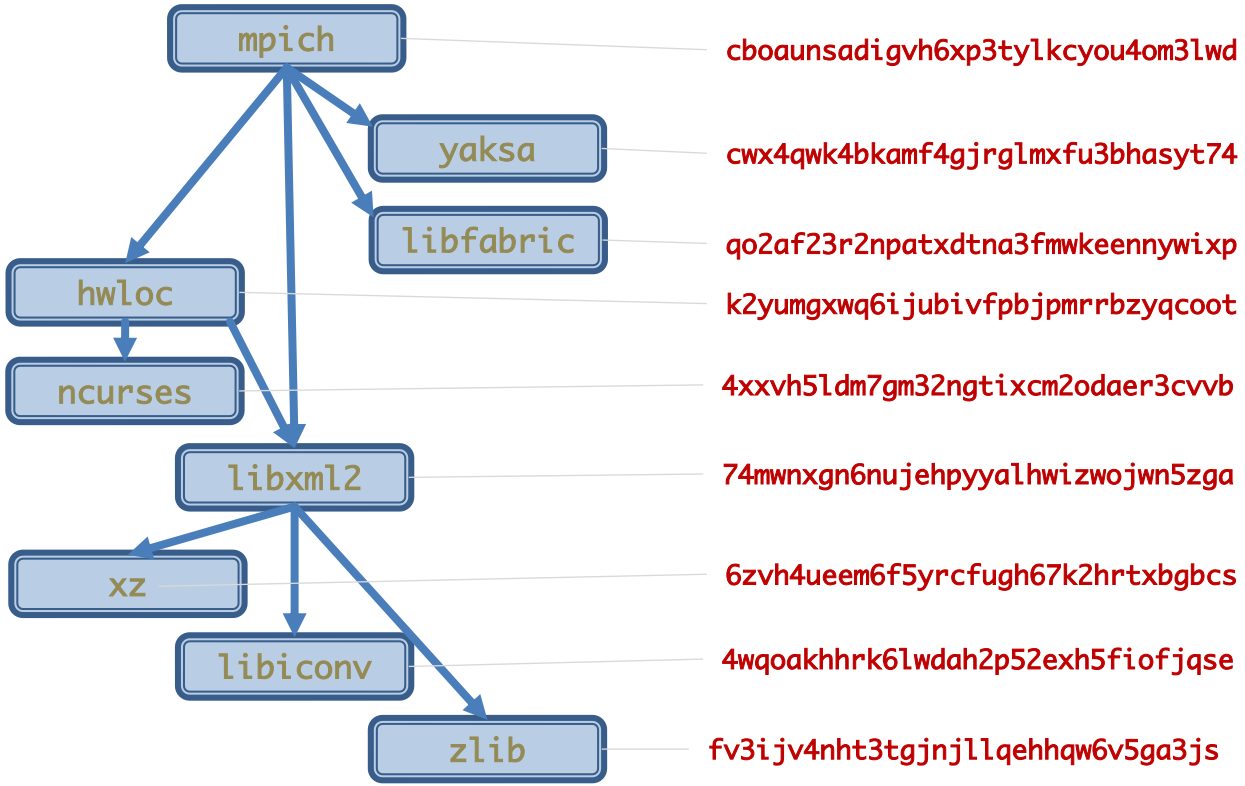
⚠️ Still need HPC CI, but working on it

```
# latest v0.18.x release binaries
spack mirror add v018 https://binaries.spack.io/releases/v0.18

# rolling release: bleeding edge binaries
spack mirror add develop https://binaries.spack.io/develop
```

So, what else could go wrong?

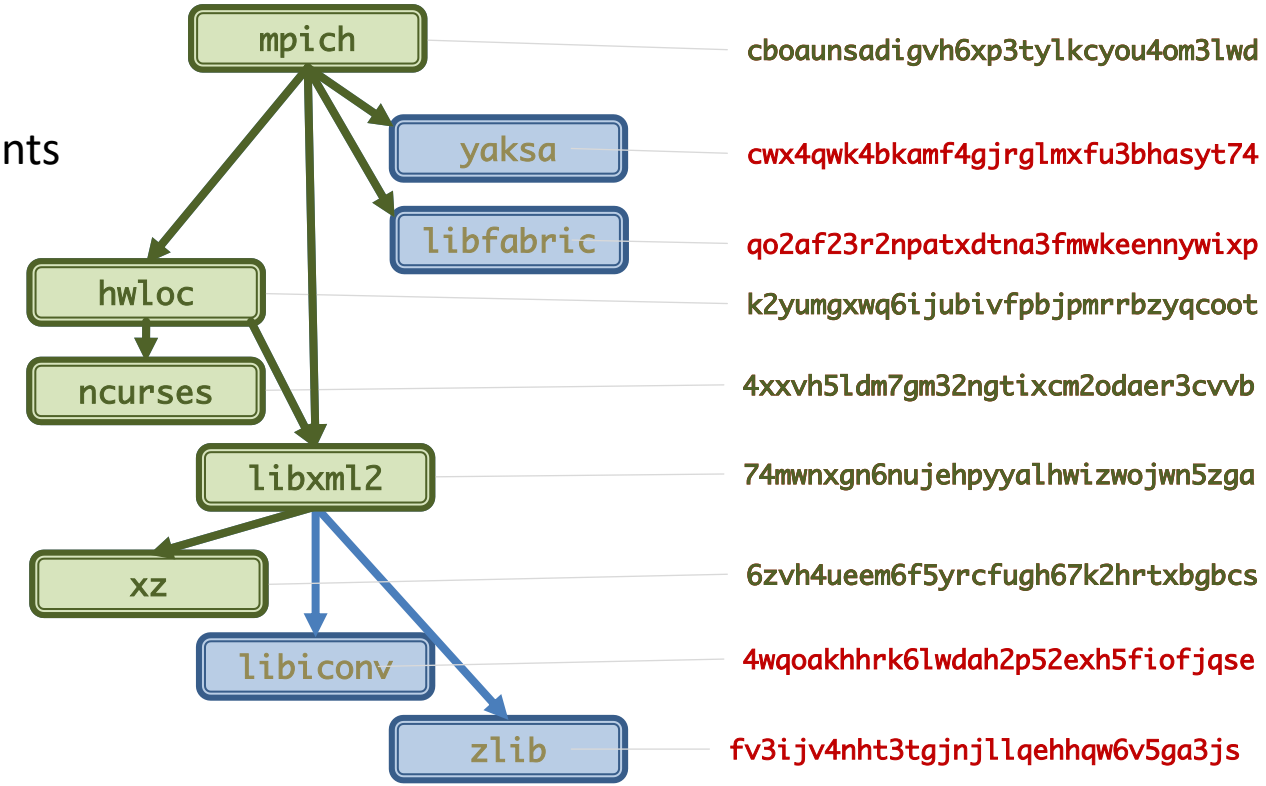
Scalability: Build caches are different from RPM/deb packages

- Each node has a unique hash (ala Nix or Guix)
- Hash includes config of node and dependencies
- Currently, you *must* deploy exact hash deps
  - Can't mix and match

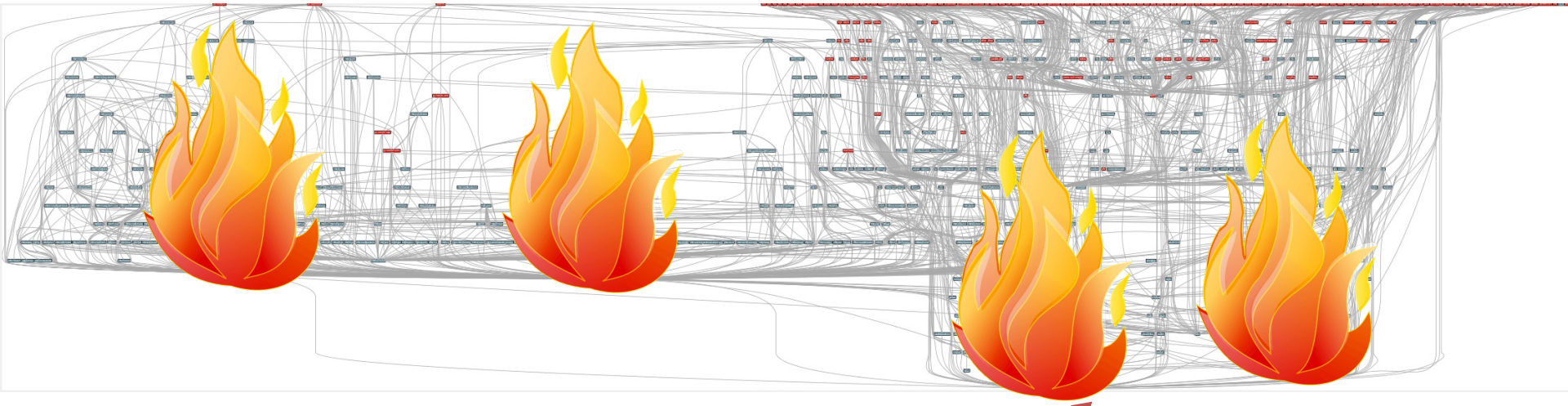


Many rebuilds, but reuse of dependencies is still possible

- Rebuild one package
  → must rebuild dependents
- Need it for a consistent build cache
- Otherwise, missing hashes



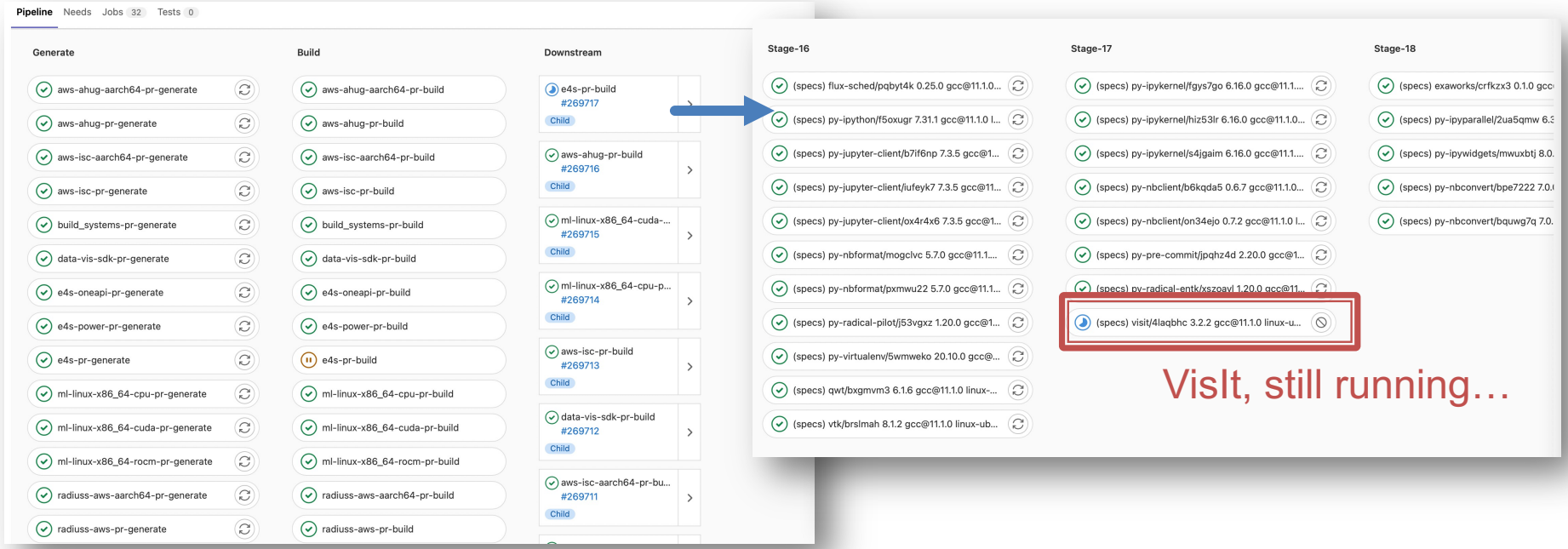
Stacks can be very large, e.g. the Extreme Scale Scientific Software Stack (E4S)



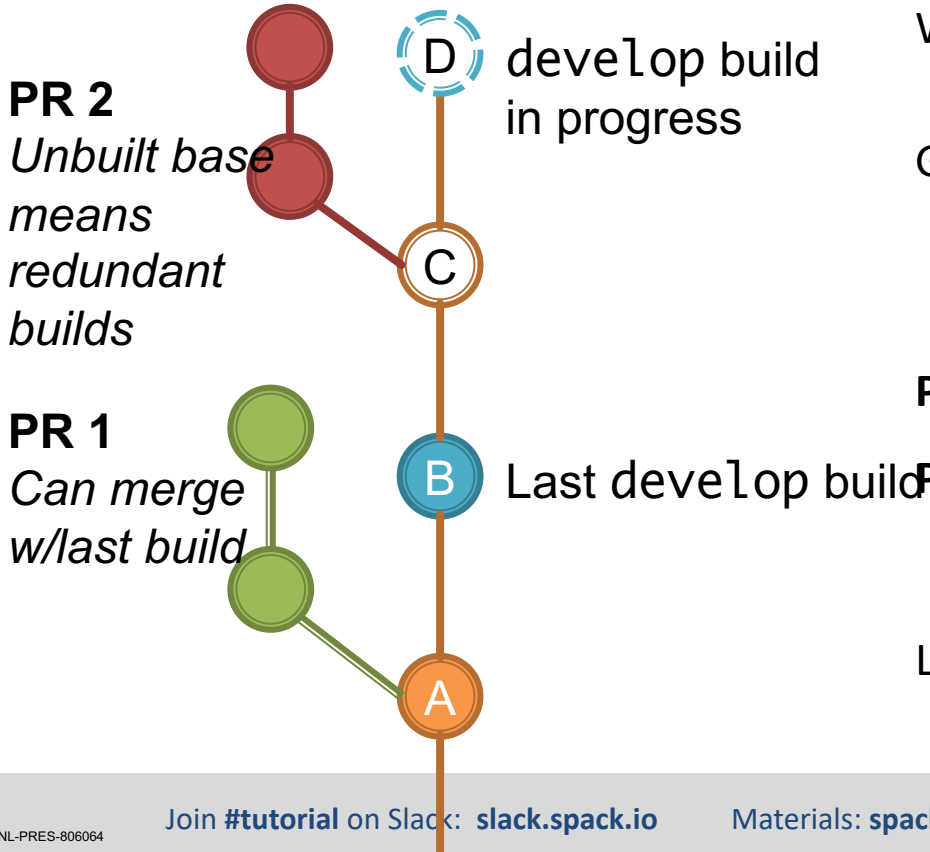
- Used by the US Exascale Computing Project
- Red boxes are the packages in it (about 100)
- Blue boxes are what *else* you need to build it (about 600)

pkgconf 😬
mass rebuild of doom!

Are long pipelines sustainable?



Delicate balance between redundant builds and holding up PRs



We don't require PRs to be up to date
- Too slow – we'd never get any PRs in

GitHub normally merges with develop HEAD
- Can cause a lot of redundant PR builds
- Need think hard about what merge commit gets sent to GitLab

PR 1 can merge with **B** and get cache reuse

PR 2 is ahead of B
- Merging with **C** or **D** means builds are redundant w/**D**

Launching *many* like **PRs 2** can be ***very*** wasteful
- So we wait for **D**

CI keeps things stable, but long PR wait times can frustrate contributors

Builds have been noticeably more reliable since we added CI 🎉

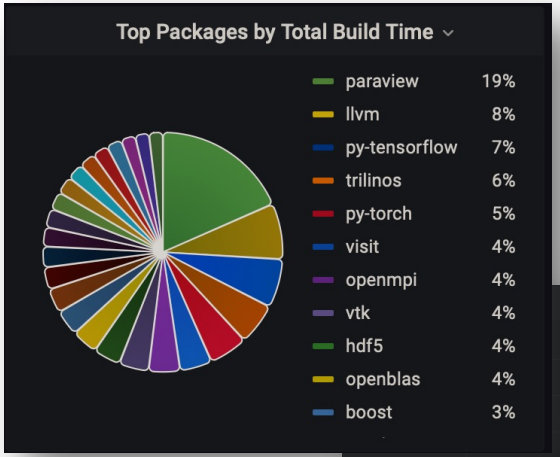
Most Spack committers are adding small changes
- New version/checksum
- New feature/build option on a package

Small changes can trigger hundreds of builds!
- And we do them twice: on PRs and develop

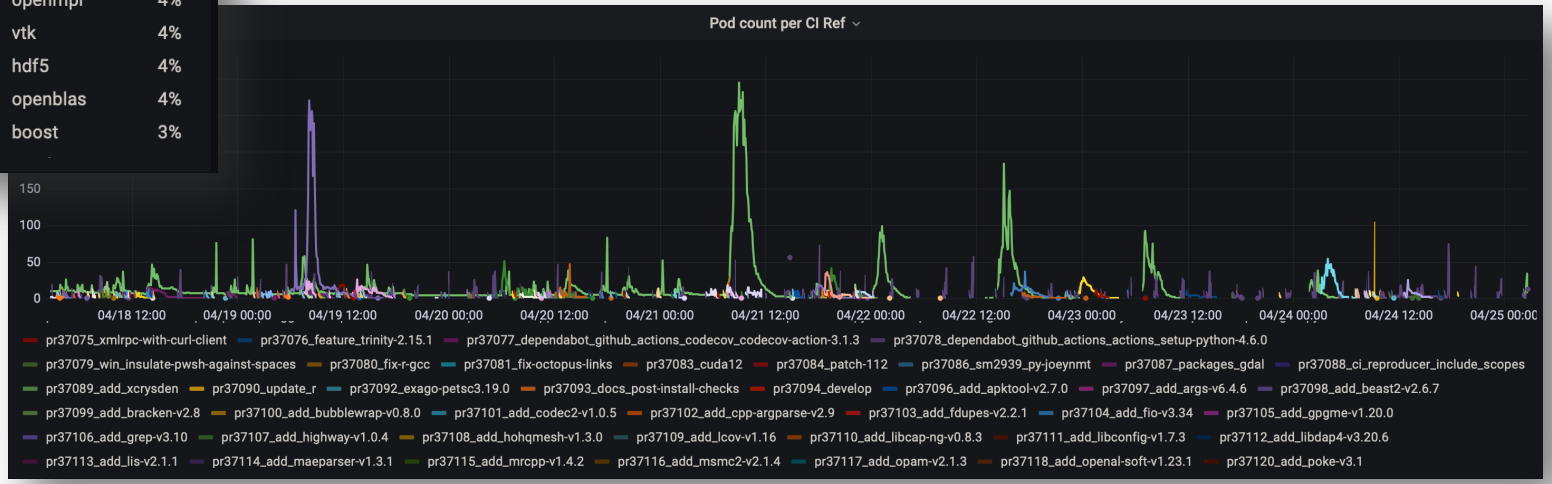
Issues:
- Likelihood of an **unrelated system error** in any one build is very high. 💥💣🐞
- GitLab can't always differentiate a real **build failure vs. a system failure**
  - Using k8s runners makes this worse
  - Hard to know when to auto-restart
- Committers have to **babysit** pipelines and restart failed jobs

Contributors have become more frustrated as stacks have grown

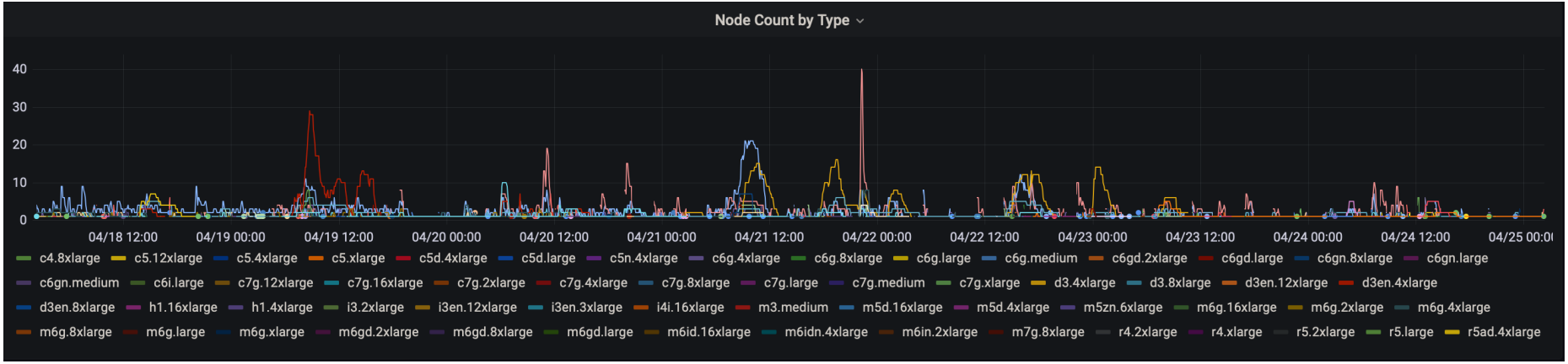
We have added extensive monitoring to bring down failure rates in our CI system.



- There is room for improvement with ParaView builds
  - Not sure why it's significantly higher than other packages
- Can trace load on the system to specific PRs/branches:



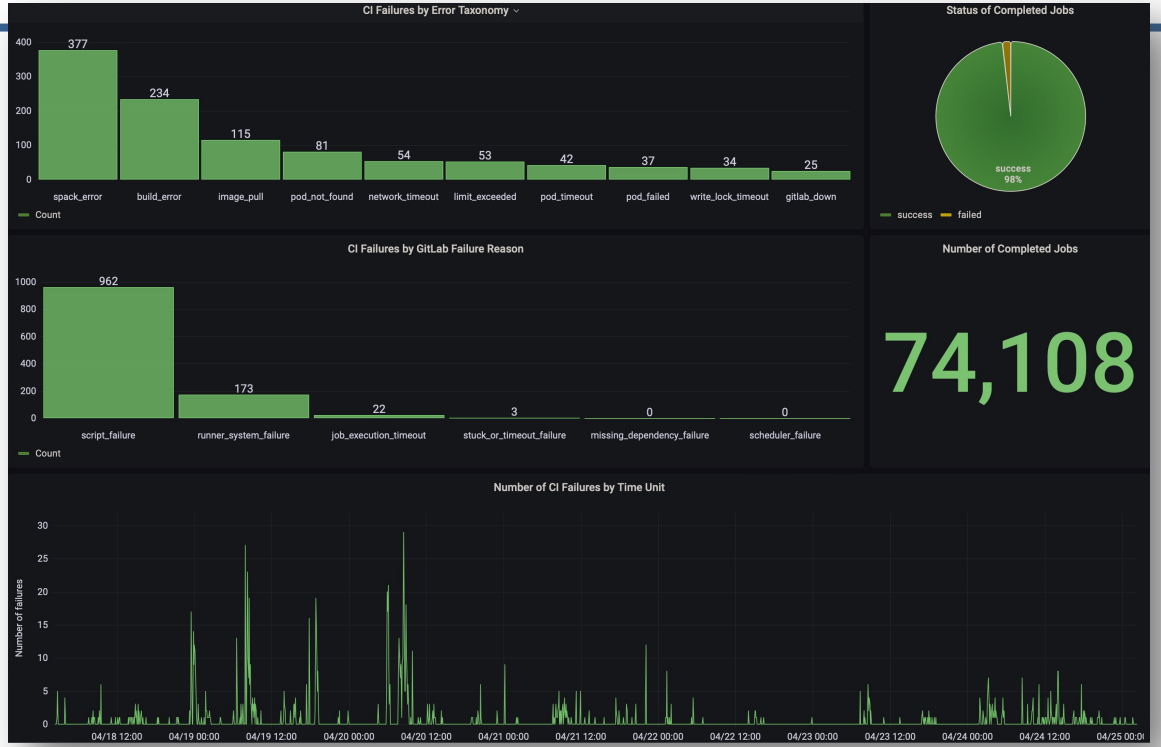
We are able to leverage many different spot instance types in AWS



- We request instances with archspec tags
- Karpenter maps archspec names to instance types
  - Not automatic currently, but makes things way easier
- We use multiple instance types to get greater spot capacity

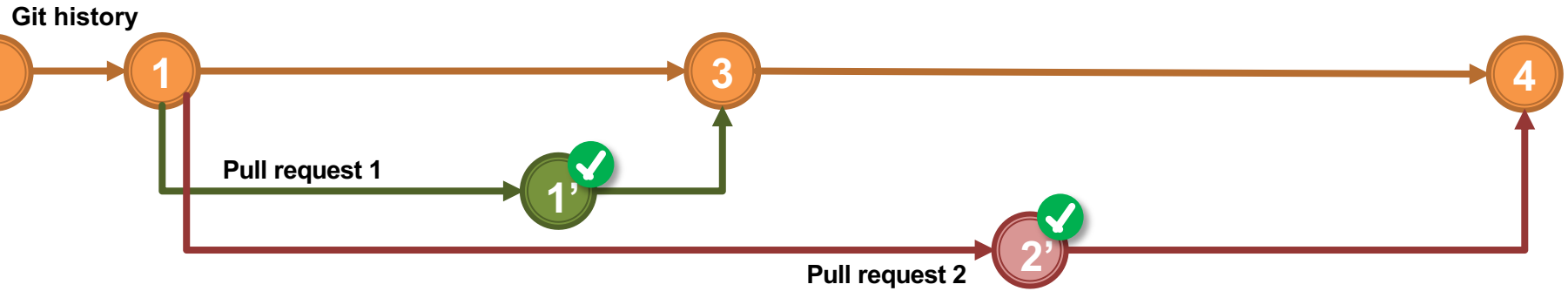
We are able to track (many) causes of successes and failures

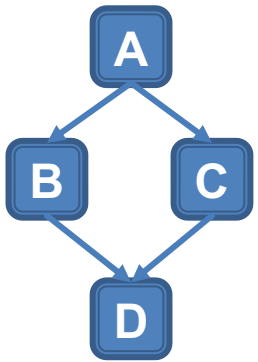
- Cloud tooling was killing CI jobs to consolidate nodes
  - Thought they were stateless services
  - Led to many pipeline failures
- Tweaked a few settings:
  - Disabled consolidation for build jobs
  - Added affinity preferences to pack pods more tightly together
- Went from ~12% failure ratve to 2% failures
  - Most remaining errors are normal development issues
  - expected in a CI pipeline
- Pipelines currently keeping users very happy.



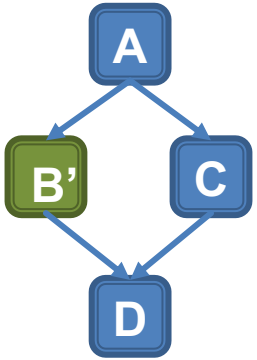
We can easily test changes to dependencies against thousands of dependents

Also hard to stay correct:
Testing on PRs not always sufficient to ensure a working develop branch

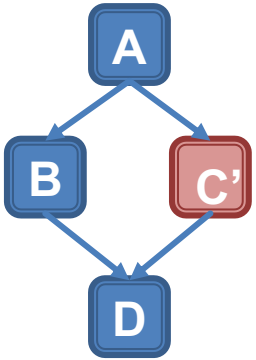




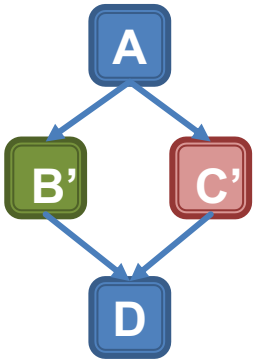
Initial Package State



Test on PR 1



Test on PR 2



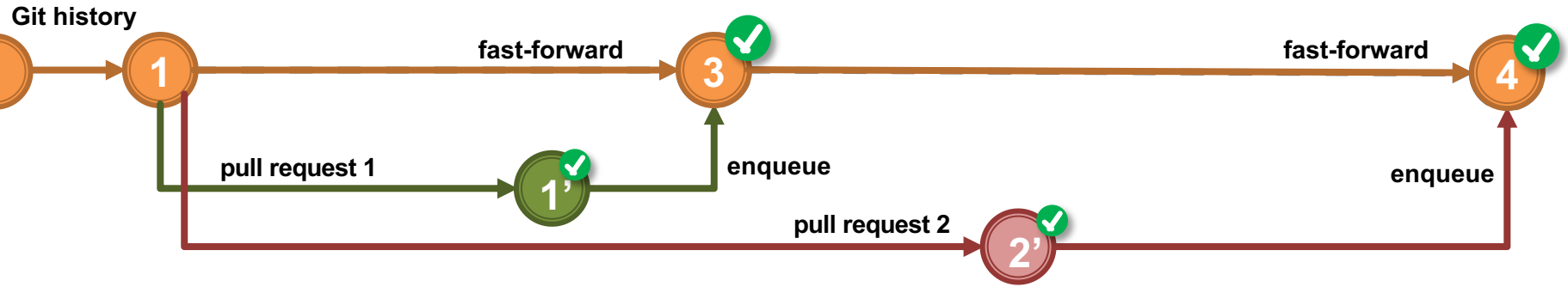
Merged but untes

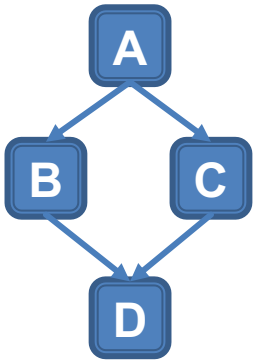
Merge Queues solve this problem and offer a lot of benefits

- Allow faster iteration on PRs with assurance of correctness
  - Merged in sequence
  - Tested in parallel
  - PRs don't have to be up to date
- Good balance of CI vs. responsiveness
  - contributors get simple changes in queue fast
  - Large rebuilds can happen only after enqueue
    - Essentially a staging mechanism
    - Nicer interface: contributor finds out when queued builds fail
- Preserve our security model + avoids rebuilds
  - Queued builds are already *approved by maintainers*
  - *Can* move binaries from queued builds straight to cache on success

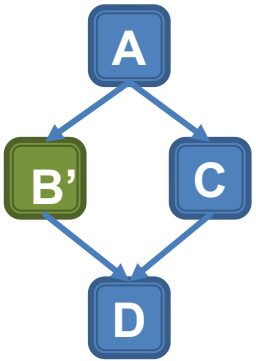
🤞 **Public Merge Queue Beta is coming from GitHub in "a few weeks"** 🤞

Merge Queues can help!

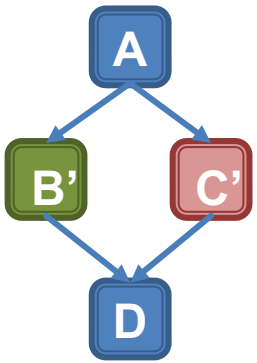




Initial Package State



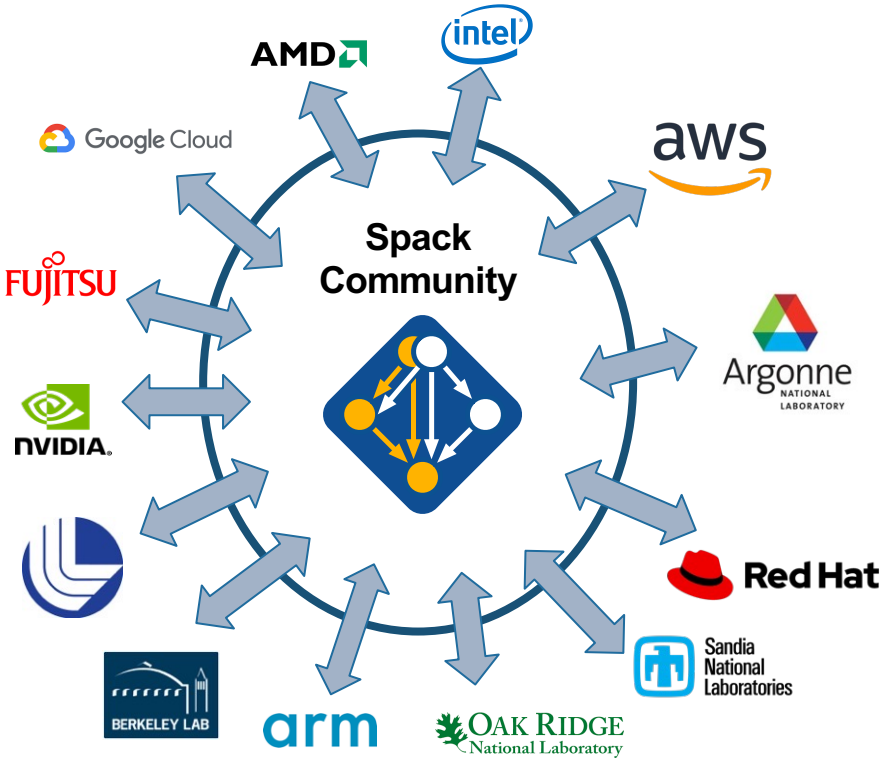
Test merge of PR 1



Test merge of PR2

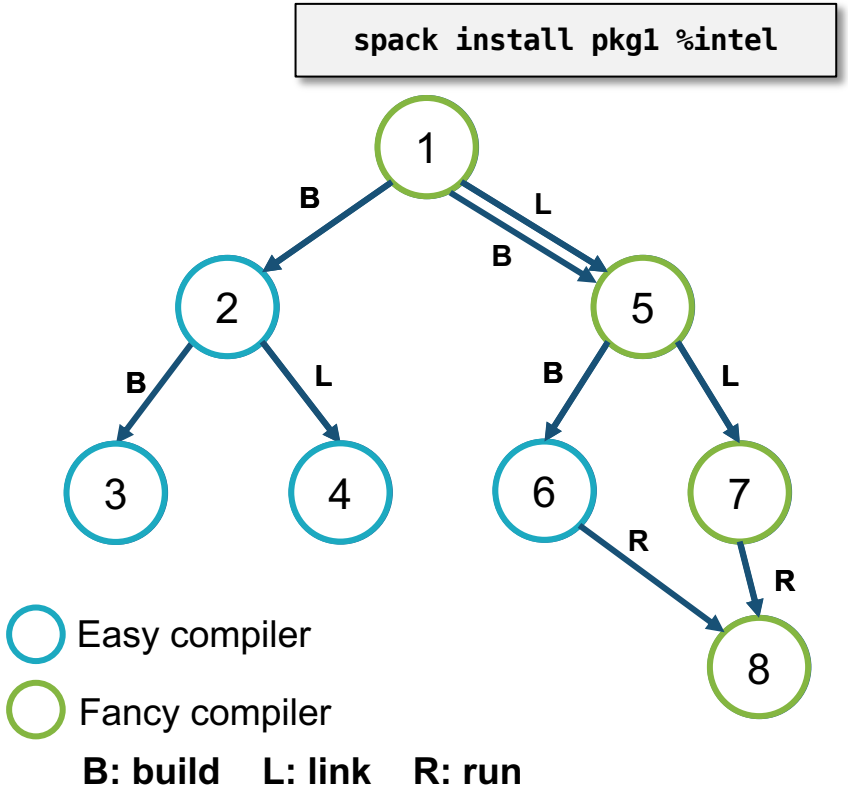
Spack's long-term strategy is based around broad adoption and collaboration

- **Not sustainable without a community**
  - Broad adoption incentivizes contributors
  - Cloud resources and automation absolutely necessary
- **Spack preserves build knowledge in a cross-platform, reusable way**
  - Minimize rewriting recipes when porting
- **CI ensures builds continue to work as packages evolve**
  - Keep packages flexible but verify key configurations
- **Growing contributor base and continuing to automate are the most important priorities**
  - **377 contributors to 0.18 release!**



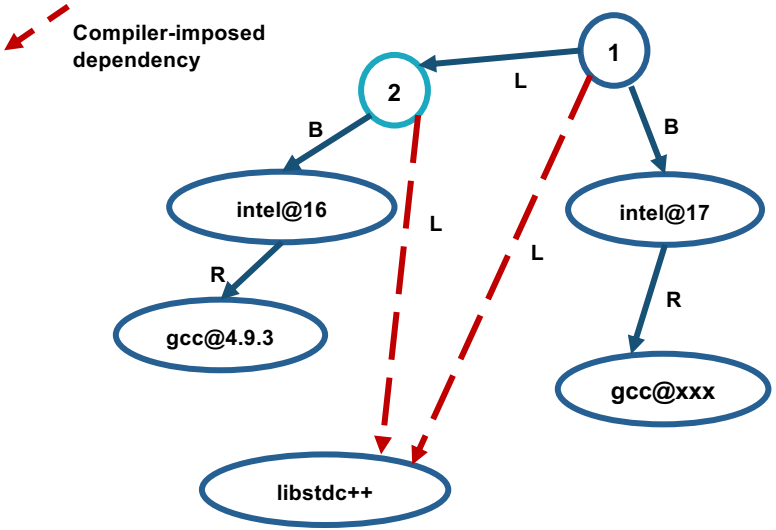
Spack v0.21 roadmap: Separate concretization of build dependencies

- We want to:
  - Build build dependencies with the "easy" compilers
  - Build rest of DAG (the link/run dependencies) with the fancy compiler
- 2 approaches to modify concretization:
  1. **Separate solves**
     - Solve run and link dependencies first
     - Solve for build dependencies separately
     - May restrict possible solutions (build ←→ run env constraints)
  2. **Separate models**
     - *Allow* a bigger space of packages in the solve
     - Solve *all* runtime environments together
     - May explode (even more) combinatorially



Spack 0.21 Roadmap: compilers as dependencies

- **We need deeper modeling of compilers to handle compiler interoperability**
  - libstdc++, libc++ compatibility
  - Compilers that depend on compilers
  - Linking executables with multiple compilers
- **First prototype is complete!**
  - We've done successful builds of some packages using compilers as dependencies
  - We need the new concretizer to move forward!
- **Packages that depend on languages**
  - Depend on **cxx@2011**, **cxx@2017**, **fortran@1995**, etc
  - Depend on **openmp@4.5**, other compiler features
  - Model languages, openmp, cuda, etc. as virtuals



Compilers and runtime libs fully modeled as dependencies

When would we go to “Version 1.0”?

Big things we’ve wanted for 1.0 are:

- New concretizer
- production CI
- production public build cache

Done!

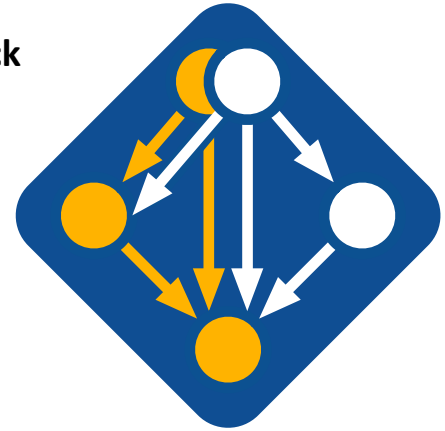
- Compilers as dependencies
- Stable package API
  - Enables separate package repository

We are still working on the last 3 here, but getting much closer!

Join the Spack community!

- There are lots of ways to get involved!
  - Contribute packages, documentation, or features at **github.com/spack/spack**
  - Contribute your configurations to **github.com/spack/spack-configs**

- Talk to us!
  - You're already on our **Slack channel** (spackpm.herokuapp.com)
  - Join our **Google Group** (see GitHub repo for info)
  - Submit **GitHub issues** and **pull requests**!



★ Star us on GitHub!

github.com/spack/spack

Follow us on Twitter!

@spackpm

We hope to make distributing & using HPC software easy!

Hands-on Time: Creating Packages

Follow script at **spack-tutorial.readthedocs.io**

Hands-on Time:
Binary Caches and Mirrors

Follow script at **spack-tutorial.readthedocs.io**

Hands-on Time:
Stacks

Follow script at **spack-tutorial.readthedocs.io**

Hands-on Time:
Scripting

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