

# Spack 201

## Intermediate Spack Tutorial

The most recent version of these slides can be found at:

<https://spack-tutorial.readthedocs.io>

CORAL2 COE Spackathon  
Los Alamos National Laboratory  
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Chicago, IL



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[github.com/spack/spack](https://github.com/spack/spack)

 Lawrence Livermore  
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 ECP  
EXASCALE COMPUTING PROJECT

# Tutorial Materials

Download the latest version of slides and handouts at:

**[spack-tutorial.readthedocs.io](http://spack-tutorial.readthedocs.io)**

Click **v:latest** at the bottom of the sidebar

For more:

- Spack GitHub repository:  
<http://github.com/spack/spack>
- Spack Reference Documentation:  
<http://spack.readthedocs.io>

Then click **lan119** to get to this version

The screenshot shows the Spack documentation website. The sidebar on the left contains a 'LINKS' section with 'Main Spack Documentation', a 'TUTORIAL' section with 'Basic Installation Tutorial', 'Configuration Tutorial', 'Package Creation Tutorial', and 'Developer Workflows Tutorial', and a 'Versions' section. The 'Versions' section lists several versions: 'latest', 'sc18', 'sc19', 'sc19-riken19', 'pearl19', 'lan119', 'isc19', and 'ecp19'. The 'v: latest' link is circled in red, and the 'lan119' link is also circled in red. Red arrows point from the text instructions to these links. The main content area on the right shows the 'Tutorial: Spack' page, which is a full-day introductory tutorial for practicing and experiencing Spack in 2019. It includes a section for 'Slides' and 'Live Demos'.

# Tutorial Presenters



Greg Becker



Todd Gamblin



# Spack v0.13.1 is the latest release

- **Major new features:**

1. Chaining: use dependencies from external "upstream" Spack instances
2. Views for Spack environments (covered today)
3. Spack detects and builds *specifically* for your microarchitecture (not shown in tutorial)
  - named, understandable targets like skylake, broadwell, power9, zen2
4. Spack stacks: combinatorial environments for facility deployment (covered today)
5. Projections: ability to build easily navigable symlink trees environments (covered today)
6. Support no-source packages (BundlePackage) to aggregate related packages
7. Extensions: users can write custom commands that live outside of Spack repo
8. ARM + Fujitsu compiler support
9. GitLab Build Pipelines: Spack can generate a pipeline from a stack (covered in slides)

- **Over 3,500 packages (~700 added since last year)**

- **Full release notes:** <https://github.com/spack/spack/releases/tag/v0.13.0>

# Tutorial Overview (times are estimates)

- |    |   |               |
|----|---|---------------|
| 1. | <b>Welcome &amp; Overview</b>   | 9:00 - 9:05   |
| 2. | <b>Core Spack Refresher</b>   | 9:05 – 9:15   |
| 3. | <b>Developer Workflows</b>  | 9:15 – 9:45   |
| 4. | <b>Environments, <code>spack.yaml</code>, <code>spack.lock</code></b> | 9:45 - 10:30  |
| 5. | <b>-- 15 Minute Break --</b>  |               |
| 6. | <b>Spack Stacks</b>   | 10:45 - 11:15 |
| 7. | <b>Scripting and <code>spack-python</code></b>                        | 11:15 - 11:40 |
| 8. | <b>More New Features &amp; the Road Ahead</b>                         | 11:40 – 12:00 |

# Core Spack Refresher: Specs, Packages, and Concretization

# Spack provides a *spec* syntax to describe customized DAG 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=skylake	set target microarchitecture
\$ spack install mpileaks@3.3 ^mpich@3.2 %gcc@4.9.3	^ dependency information

- 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 *templates*

## They use a simple Python DSL to define how to build

```
from spack import *

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

    homepage = "https://computation.llnl.gov/projects/co-design/kripke"
    url       = "https://computation.llnl.gov/projects/co-design/download/kripke-openssl-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('openssl', default=True, description='Build with OpenSSL enabled.')

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

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

    def install(self, spec, prefix):
        # Kripke does not provide install target, so we have to copy
        # things into place.
        mkdirp(prefix.bin)
        install('./spack-build/kripke', prefix.bin)
```

**Base package**  
(CMake support)

**Metadata** at the class level

**Versions**

**Variants** (build options)

**Dependencies**  
(note: same spec syntax)

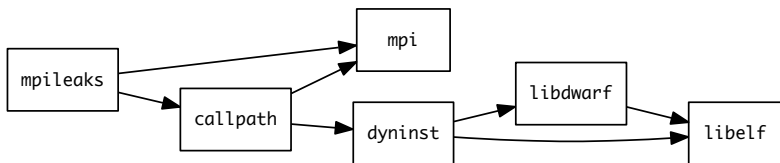
**Install logic**  
in instance methods

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



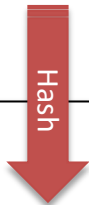
# Spack handles combinatorial software complexity.

## Dependency DAG



## Installation Layout

```
spack/opt/  
  linux-x86_64/  
    gcc-4.7.2/  
      mpileaks-1.1-0f54bf34cadk/  
        intel-14.1/  
          hdf5-1.8.15-lkf14aq3nqiz/  
            bgq/  
              xl-12.1/  
                hdf5-1-8.16-fqb3a15abrwX/  
                ...
```



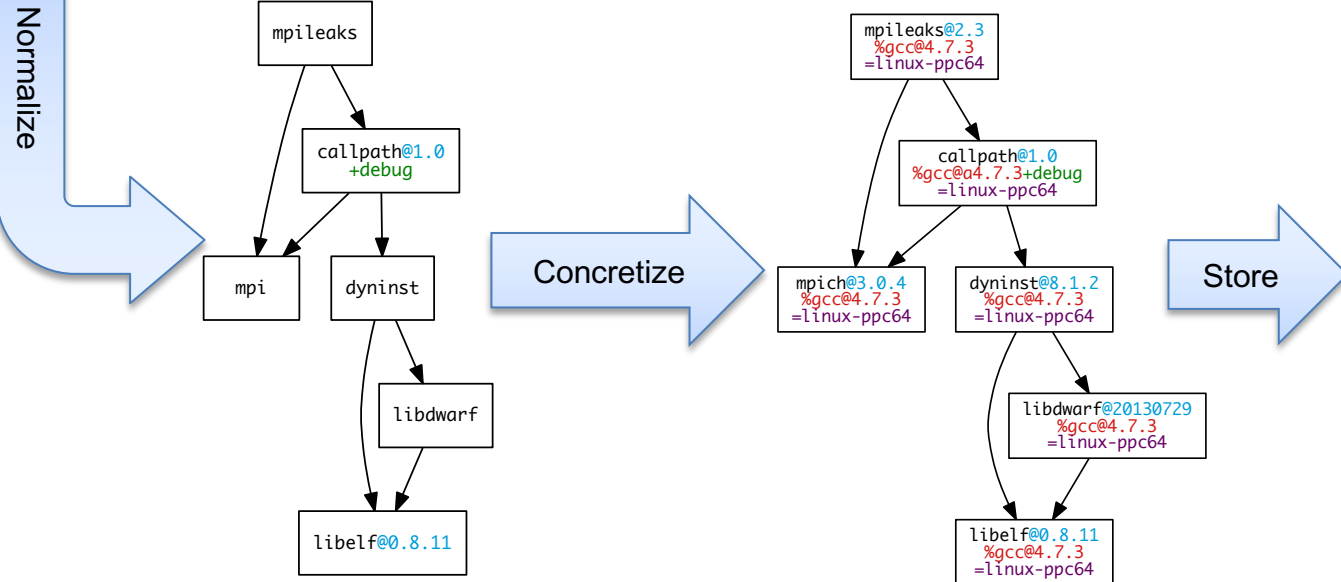
- Each unique dependency graph is a unique **configuration**.
- Each configuration installed in a unique directory.
  - Configurations of the same package can coexist.
- **Hash** of entire directed acyclic graph (DAG) is appended to each prefix.
- Installed packages automatically find dependencies
 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

# 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



*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*

```
spec:
- mpileaks:
  arch: linux-x86_64
  compiler:
    name: gcc
    version: 4.9.2
  dependencies:
    adept-utils: kszrtkpbzac3ss2ixcjkcorlaybnptp4
    callpath: bah5f4h4d2n47mgycej2mtrnrivvxy77
    mpich: aa4ar6ifj23yijamdabeakpejcli72t3
    hash: 33hjhxli7p6gyzn5ptgyes7sghyprujh
    variants: {}
    version: '1.0'
- adept-utils:
  arch: linux-x86_64
  compiler:
    name: gcc
    version: 4.9.2
  dependencies:
    boost: teesjv7ehpe5ksspjim5dk43a7qnowlq
    mpich: aa4ar6ifj23yijamdabeakpejcli72t3
    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
...
```

# 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
```

# Developer Workflows

Follow script at <http://spack-tutorial.rtf.d.io>  
Under “Tutorial: Spack 101”

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

Follow script at <http://spack-tutorial.rtf.d.io>  
Under “Tutorial: Spack 101”

# Spack Stacks

Follow script at <http://spack-tutorial.rtf.d.io>  
Under “Tutorial: Spack 101”

# Scripting and spack-python

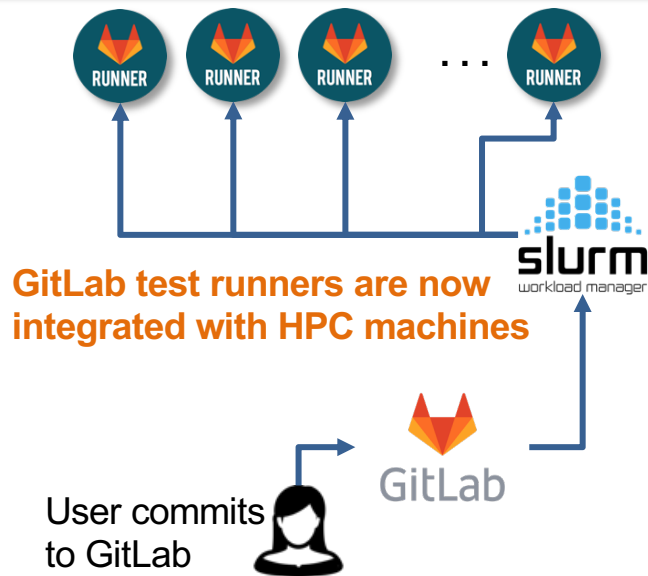
Follow script at <http://spack-tutorial.rtf.d.io>  
Under “Tutorial: Spack 101”

# More New Features and the Road Ahead



# We have been heavily involved in the ECP CI project.

- We have added security features to the open source GitLab product.
  - Integration with center identity management
  - Integration with schedulers like SLURM, LSF
- We are democratizing testing at Livermore Computing
  - Users can run tests across 30+ machines by editing a file
  - Previously, each team had to administer own servers
- ECP sites are deploying GitLab CI for users
  - All HPC centers can leverage these improvements
  - NNSA labs plan to deploy common high-side CI infrastructure
  - We are developing new security policies to allow external open source code to be tested safely on key machines



# Spack now understands specific target microarchitectures

- We have developed a cross-platform library to detect and compare microarchitecture metadata
  - Detects based on /proc/cpuinfo (Linux), sysctl (Mac)
  - Allows comparisons for compatibility, e.g.:

```
skylake > broadwell  
zen2 > x86_64
```

- Key features:
  - Know which compilers support which chips/which flags
  - Determine compatibility
  - Enable creation and reuse of optimized binary packages
  - Easily query available architecture features for portable build recipes

- We will be extracting this as a standalone library for other tools & languages
  - Hope to make this standard!

```
$ spack arch --known-targets  
Generic architectures (families)  
  aarch64  ppc64  ppc64le  x86  x86_64  
  
IBM - ppc64  
    power7  power8  power9  
  
IBM - ppc64le  
    power8le power9le  
  
AuthenticAMD - x86_64  
  barcelona bulldozer piledriver steamroller excavator zen zen2  
  
GenuineIntel - x86_64  
  nocona  westmere  haswell  mic_knl  cascadelake  
  core2   sandybridge  broadwell  skylake_avx512  icelake  
  nehalem ivybridge  skylake  cannonlake  
  
GenuineIntel - x86  
  i686  pentium2  pentium3  pentium4  prescott
```

Extensive microarchitecture knowledge

```
class OpenBlas(Package):  
  
    def configure_args(self, spec):  
        args = []  
        if 'avx512' in spec.target:  
            args.append('--with-avx512')  
        ...  
        return args
```

Simple feature query

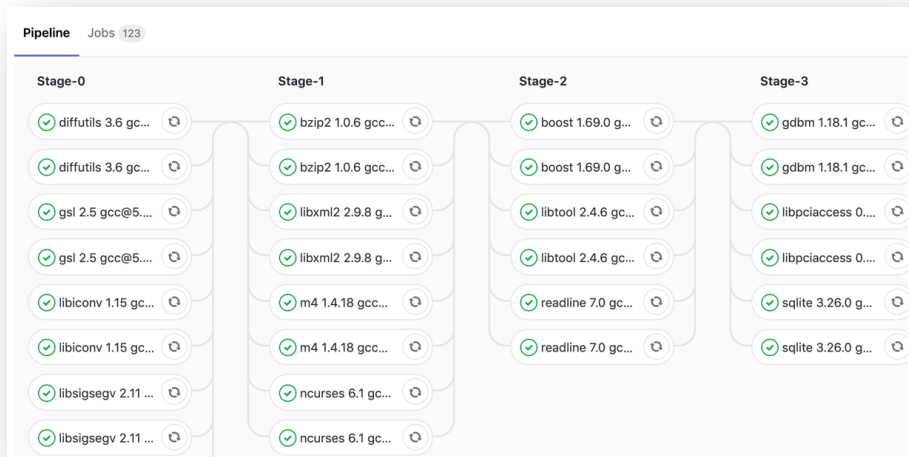
```
$ spack install lbann target=cascadelake  
$ spack install petsc target=zen2
```

Specialized installations




# Spack has added GitLab CI integration to automate package build pipelines

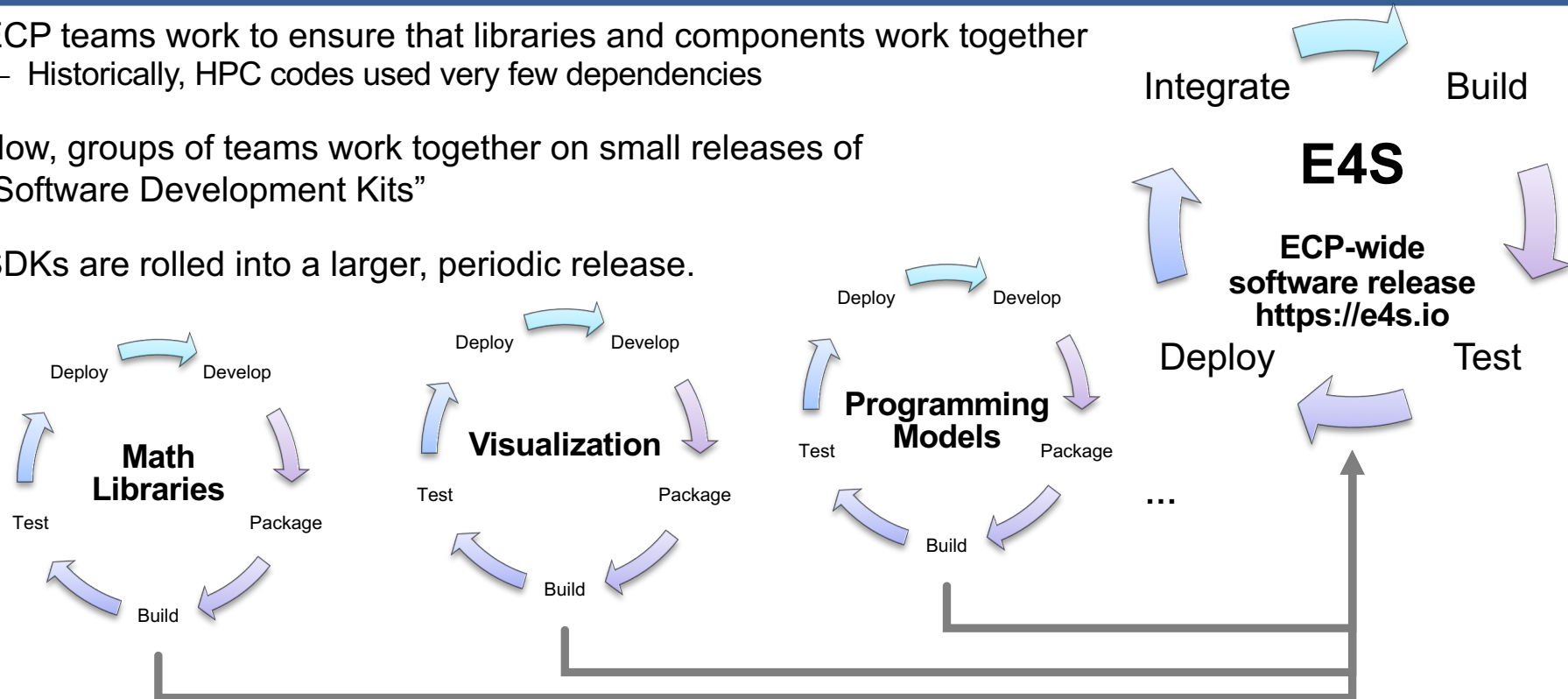
- Builds on Spack environments
  - Support auto-generating GitLab CI jobs
  - Can run in a Kube cluster or on bare metal runners at an HPC site
  - Sends progress to CDash



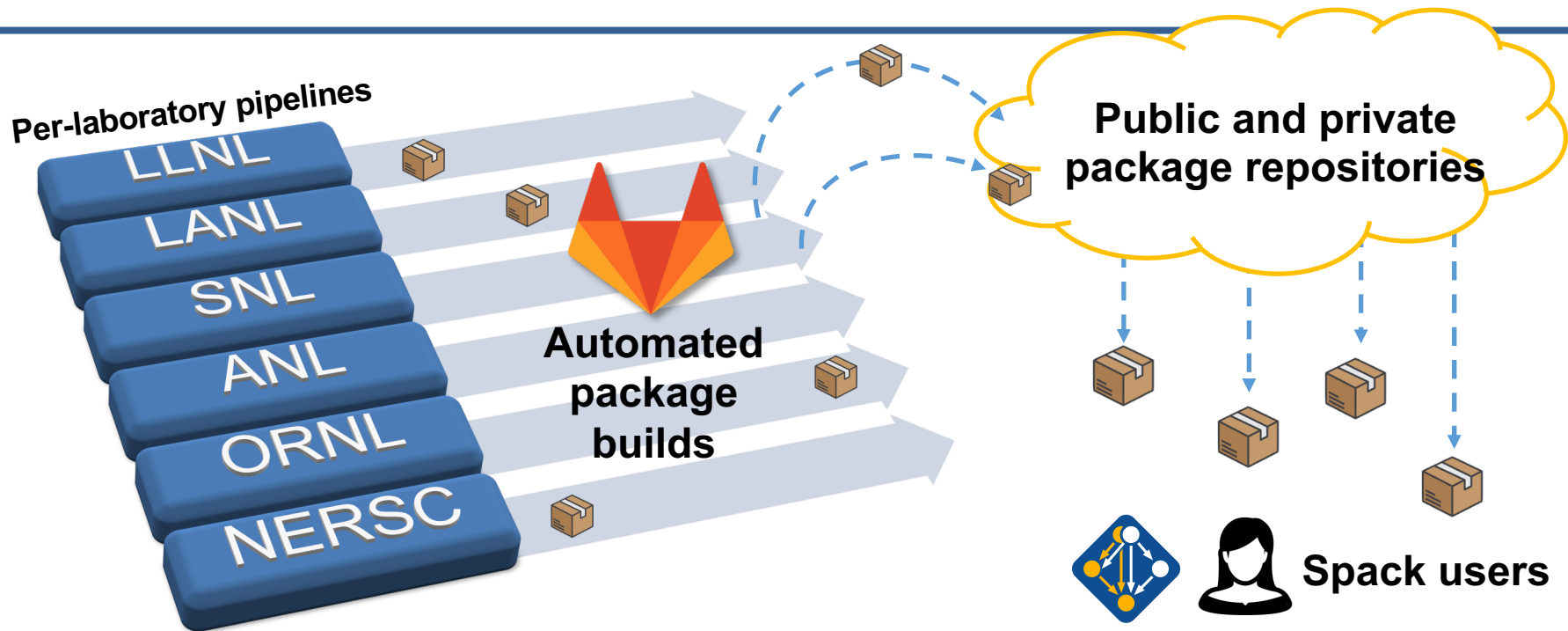
```
spack:
  definitions:
    - pkgs:
      - readline@7.0
    - compilers:
      - '%gcc@5.5.0'
    - oses:
      - os=ubuntu18.04
      - os=centos7
  specs:
    - matrix:
      - [$pkgs]
      - [$compilers]
      - [$oses]
  mirrors:
    cloud_gitlab: https://mirror.spack.io
  gitlab-ci:
    mappings:
      - spack-cloud-ubuntu:
        match:
          - os=ubuntu18.04
        runner-attributes:
          tags:
            - spack-k8s
          image: spack/spack_builder_ubuntu_18.04
      - 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
```

## ECP is working towards a periodic, hierarchical release process

- ECP teams work to ensure that libraries and components work together
    - Historically, HPC codes used very few dependencies
  - Now, groups of teams work together on small releases of “Software Development Kits”
  - SDKs are rolled into a larger, periodic release.
- 



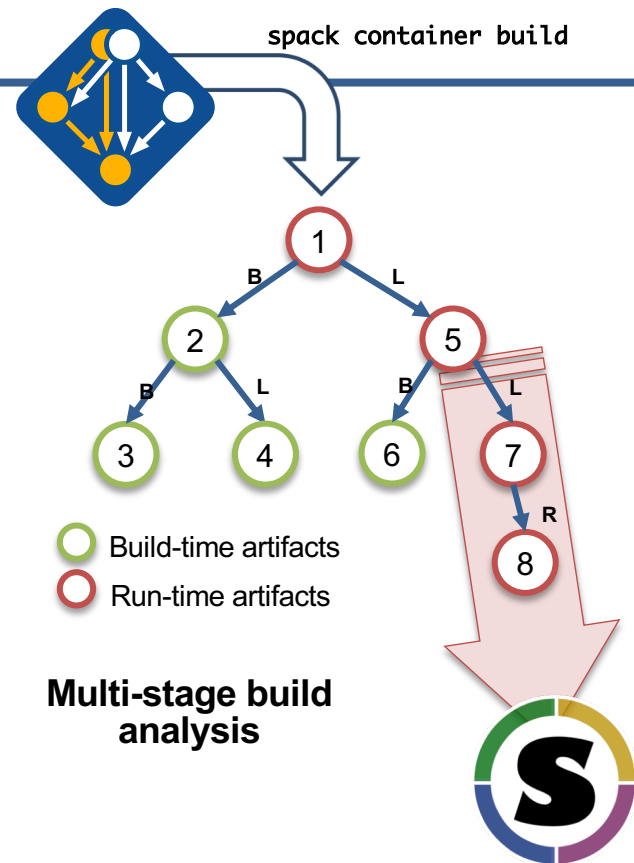
Automated builds using ECP CI will enable a robust, widely available HPC software ecosystem.



With pipeline efforts at E6 labs, users will no longer need to *build* their own software for high performance.

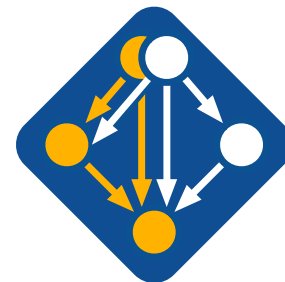
# Spack focus areas in FY20

- **Multi-stage container generation with Spack**
  - Add support to Spack to generate *multi-stage* container builds that exclude build dependencies from artifacts automatically
- **Build Hardening with Spack Pipelines**
  - Continue working with E4S team to harden container builds
- **Parallel builds**
  - “srun spack install” will use the entire allocation to build
- **New concretizer based on fast ASP/SAT solvers**
- **Improved dependency models for compilers**
  - icpc depends on g++ for its libstdc++, and other ABI nightmares



# Join the Spack community!

- There are lots of ways to get involved!
  - Contribute packages, documentation, or features at [github.com/spack/spack](https://github.com/spack/spack)
  - Contribute your configurations to [github.com/spack/spack-configs](https://github.com/spack/spack-configs)
- Talk to us!
  - Join our **Google Group** (see GitHub repo for info)
  - Join our **Slack channel** (see GitHub repo for info)
  - Submit GitHub issues and talk to us!



★  
Star us on GitHub!  
[github.com/spack/spack](https://github.com/spack/spack)



Follow us on Twitter!  
[@spackpm](https://twitter.com/spackpm)

We hope to make distributing & using HPC software easy!

