

# Retour d'expérience sur l'utilisation de Guix dans le cadre d'un programme de recherche

Benjamin Arrondeau, Dylan Bissuel

*7 novembre 2024*

# Who am I?

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- I obtained a PhD in CFD (Computational Fluid Dynamics) less than a year ago  
*so mainly a physics background with some basic programming (Python, Fortran90)*
- After my PhD, I wanted to continue in the research world  
*to be a support to the research but not leading it!*



# Who am I?

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- I obtained a PhD in CFD (Computational Fluid Dynamics) less than a year ago  
*so mainly a physics background with some basic programming (Python, Fortran90)*
- After my PhD, I wanted to continue in the research world  
*to be a support to the research but not leading it!*

Currently, I am an **HPC support Engineer** at Gricad but mostly working for the PEPR DIADEM (DIAMOND project) for whom I **containerize/package** codes/workflows, **manage/set-up** the platform infrastructures and **support** the other engineers.



# Table of content

---

1 Guix context

2 First time with Guix

3 Application to DIAMOND project

4 What is the progress so far?

5 What is next?



# Table of content

---

1

Guix context

2

First time with Guix

3

Application to DIAMOND project

4

What is the progress so far?

5

What is next?



# Guix context

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- Guix available for users on head-nodes and compute-nodes since **2019**
- Custom channel for specific user requests since **2020**
- General documentation
- Support to users

# Guix context



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- Guix was completely *unknown*
- First training the 7 of March by @PAB
- Learning approach:
  - Package a known-code
  - Benchmark the perfs (to be fully convinced)

# Table of content

---

1 Guix context

2 First time with Guix

3 Application to DIAMOND project

4 What is the progress so far?

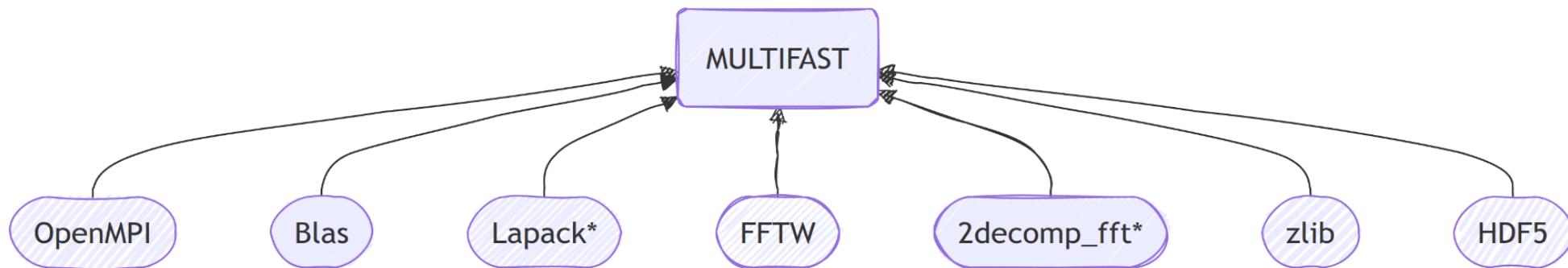
5 What is next?



# First steps: Test case

Try to package the code I used during my thesis:

- common dependencies so little needs to package extra-stuff
- common build chain so little needs to change phases



# First steps: Test case

```
(define-public multifast
  (package
    (name "multifast")
    (version "1")
    (source ...)
    (propagated-inputs ...)
    (build-system gnu-build-system)
    (arguments '(#:phases (modify-phases %standard-phases
      (add-after 'unpack 'fix_binsh ... )
      (replace 'configure ... )
      (replace 'install ... )
      ...
    )))
    (home-page "https://github.com/Benji12358/multifast")
    (synopsis "MULTIFAST synopsis")
    (description "MULTIFAST description")
    (license license:gpl3+)))
```

# First steps: Performance benchmark

*The main idea was to compare performance between Nix environment, Apptainer image and Guix package*

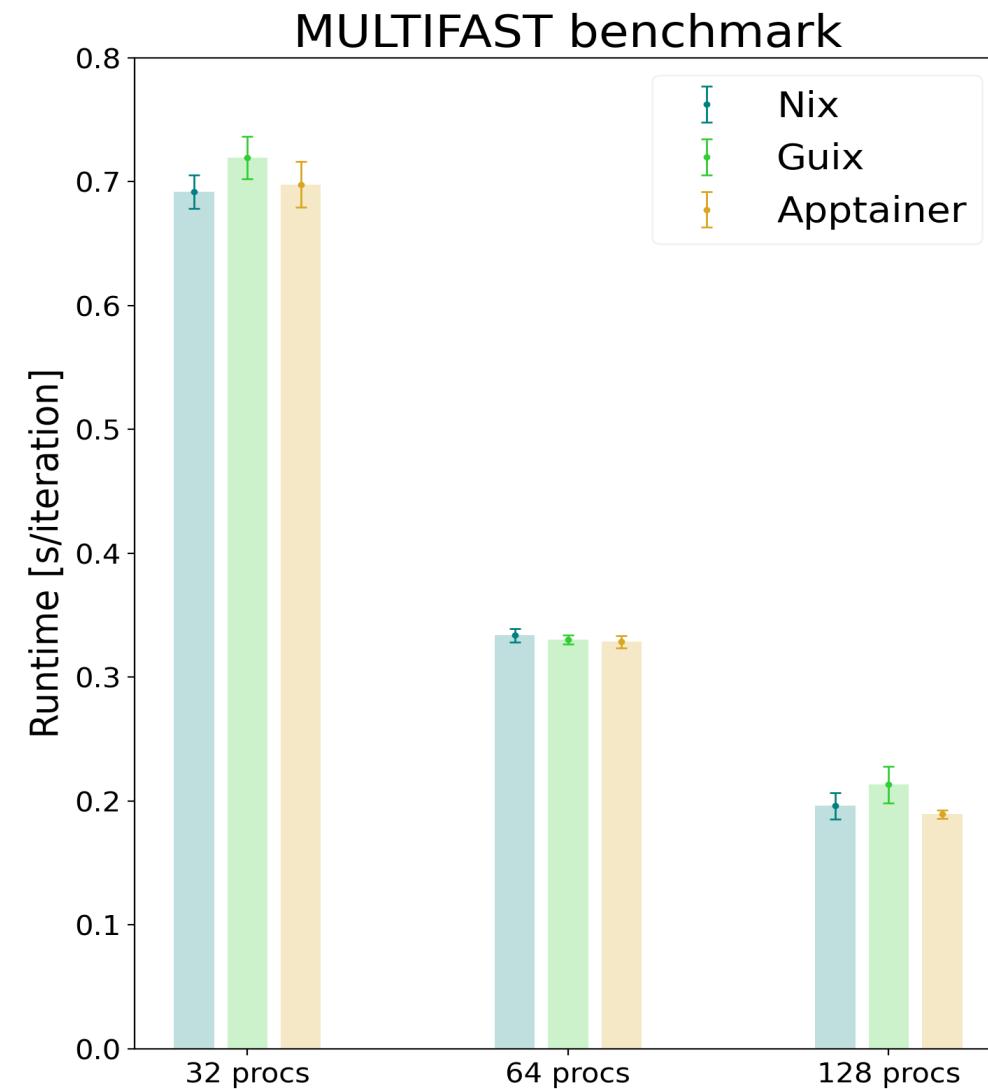
- 1000 iterations of a turbulent channel flow with MULTIFAST
- Tests on 32 procs (1 node) and 64 and 128 procs (2 nodes)
- 12 runs on Dahu cluster (Gricad) for each case
- Same nodes (Gold Processors 6130, 32 cores per node, 192 Go RAM)



# First steps: Performance benchmark

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- 1000 iterations of a turbulent channel flow with MULTIFAST
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# First steps: User support

>User

Dear support team,

I want to install this wonderfull soft with Guix.  
Can you help me?

Me

Hello user,

You can install this soft with the following command ...

We have packaged this soft. You can add our channel to your profile and install it with the following command ...

Do not hesitate to look at our documentation ;)



# First steps: User support

>User

Dear support team,

I want to use this wonderfull soft with Guix  
but I am getting a lot of errors on the cluster  
while it is working on my machine...  
Can you help me?

Me

Hello user,

I recommend you to use with the following  
command ... to spawn a custom environment in  
which you can use your soft.

Do not hesitate to look at our documentation ;)



# First steps: User support

>User

Dear support team,

I want to use this wonderfull soft with Guix  
but it is not packaged yet and I am allergic to  
brackets.

Can you help me?

Me

Hello user,

We have managed to package the soft you  
wanted. It is now available on our Guix channel.

Do not hesitate to look at our documentation ;)



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---

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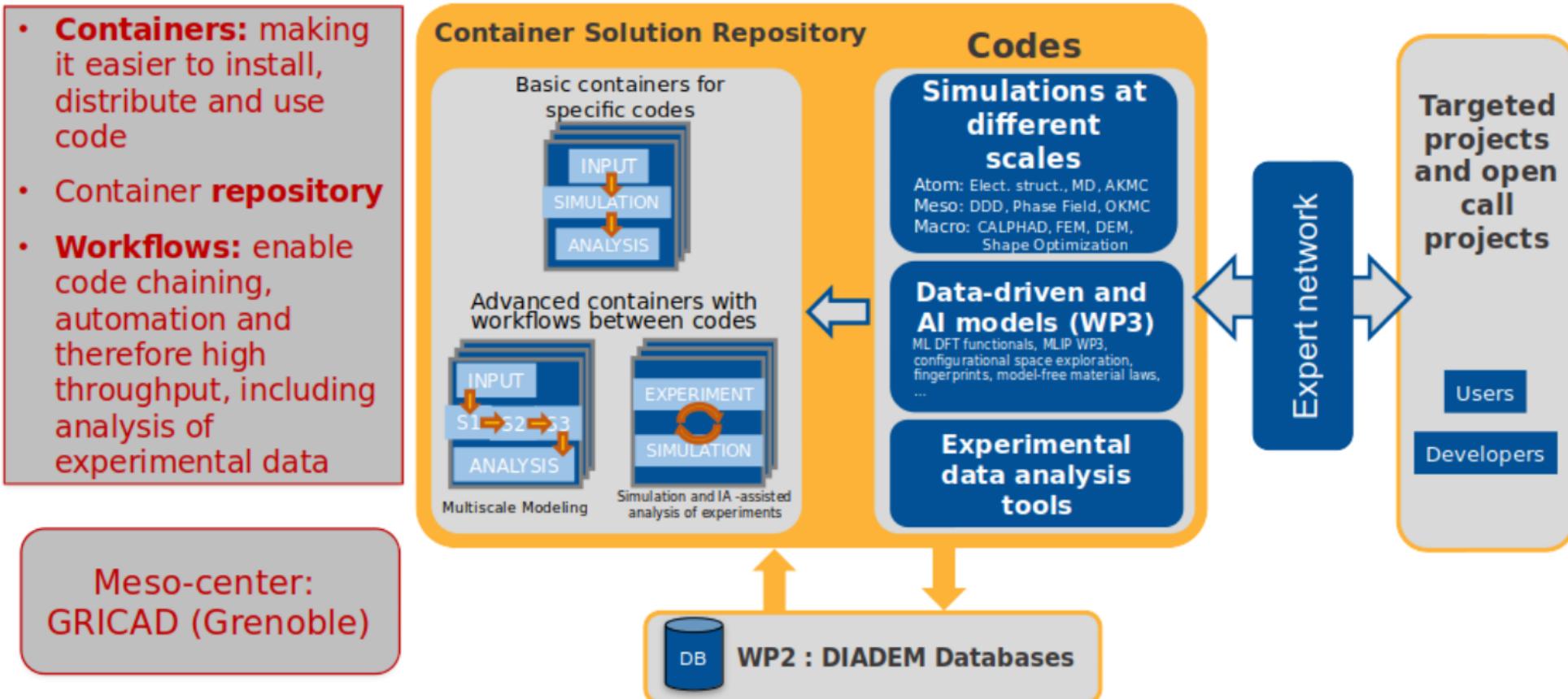
5 What is next?



# Application to DIAMOND project (PEPR DIADEM)

DIADEM stands for *DI*scovery *A*cceleration for the *D*eployment of *E*merging *M*aterials

DIAMOND stands for *D*ata management and *I*nfrastructures for *A*I, *M*odelling, *O*ptimization and *N*umerical *D*esign



# Application to DIAMOND project

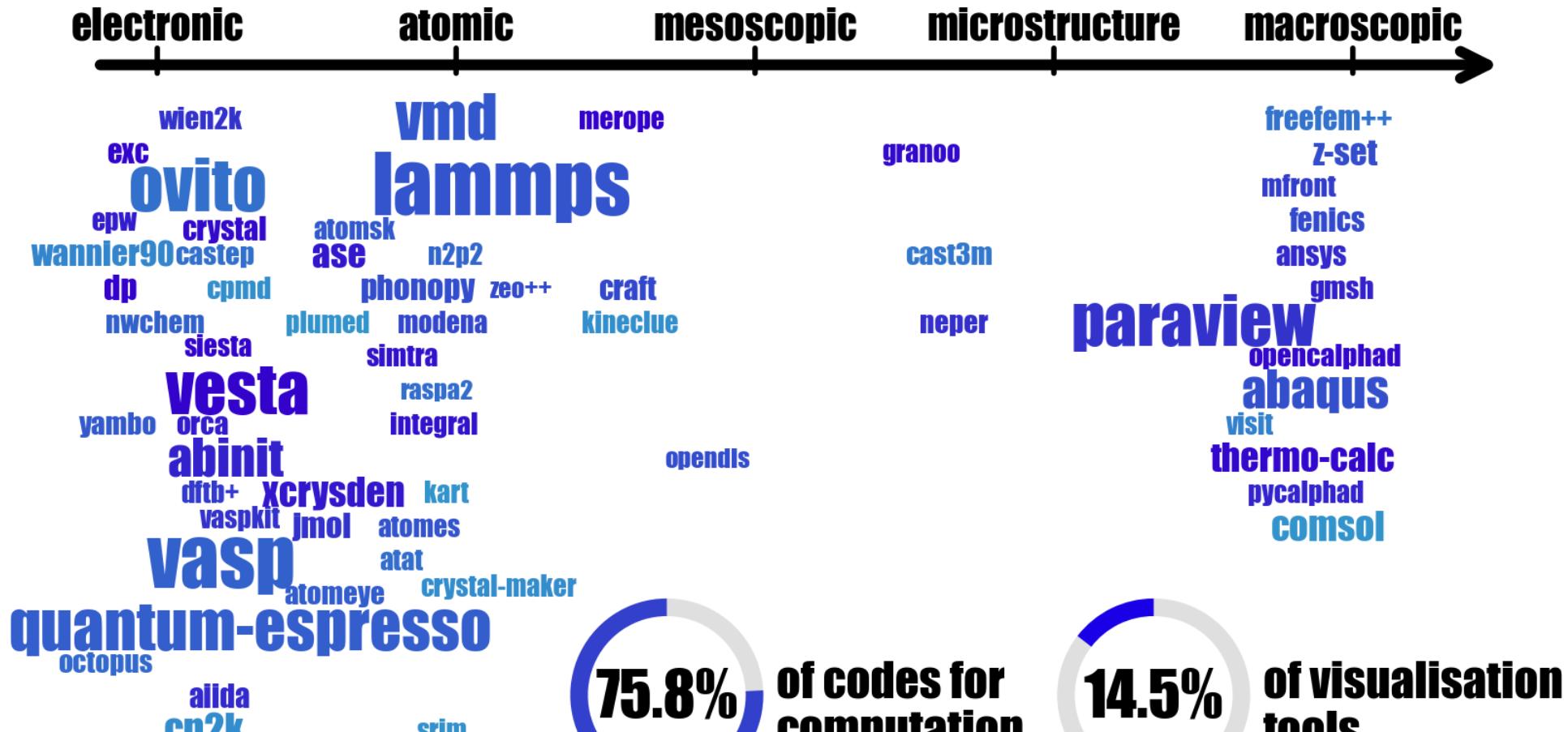
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*In brief:*

- PEPR DIADEM aims to accelerate the **development and production** of more efficient and sustainable materials
- WP1 of DIAMOND (one project of DIADEM) aims to set-up a **numerical infrastructure** for this instance
- This infrastructure should provide **codes** (for simulation or visualisation), **workflows** (to automate series of calculation) and access to a **database** (grouping both experimental and simulation data)

# Application to DIAMOND project

Results from a survey conducted by @BissuelD during the summer 2023



# Application to DIAMOND project



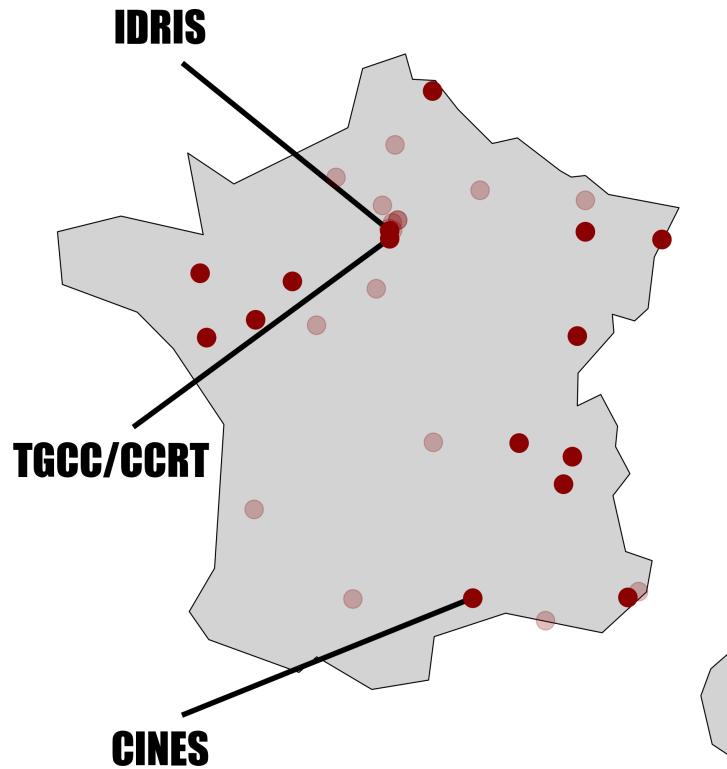
## Apptainer as containerization solution

*to embed a code and its dependencies in lightweight images*



## Guix as packaging solution

*to automate install and update of a code and its dependencies  
... and for software reproducibility*



48.5% ont un système de conteneurs

28.1% ont guix

# Application to DIAMOND project



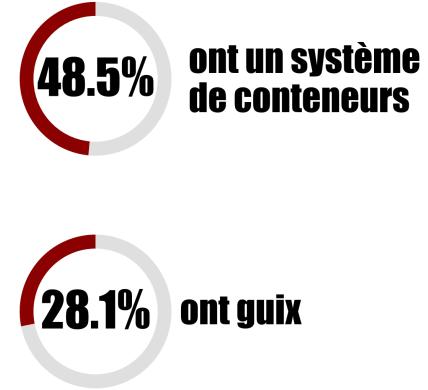
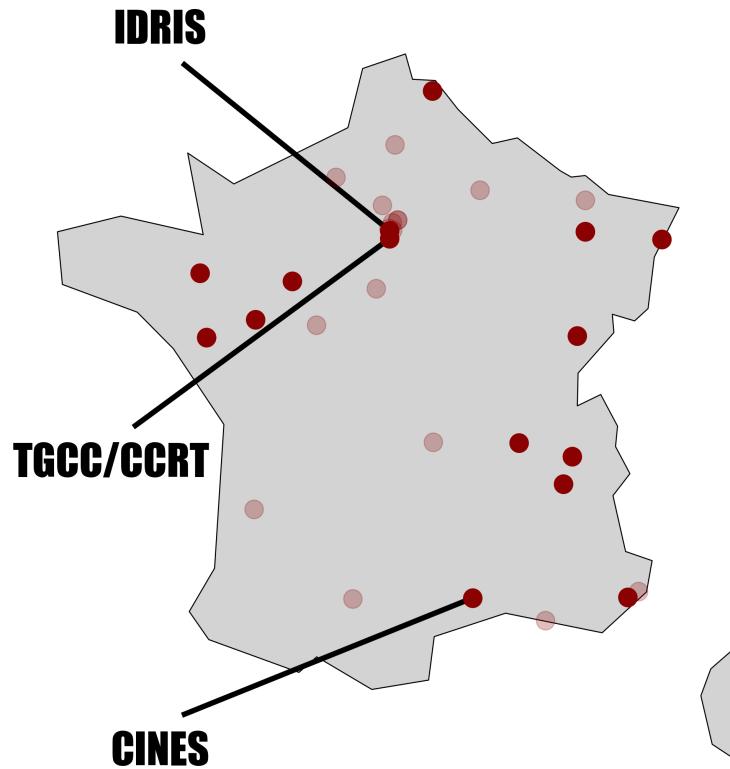
**Apptainer** as containerization solution

*to embed a code and its dependencies in lightweight images*



**Guix** as packaging solution

*to automate install and update of a code and its dependencies  
... and for software reproducibility*



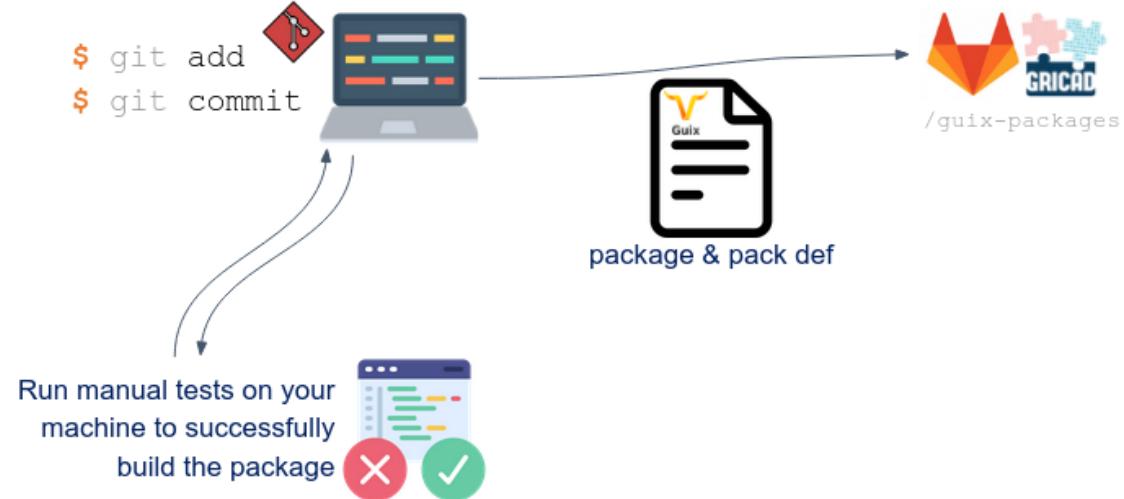
How can we combine **Apptainer** images and **Guix** packages?

# Application to DIAMOND project: CI/CD pipeline

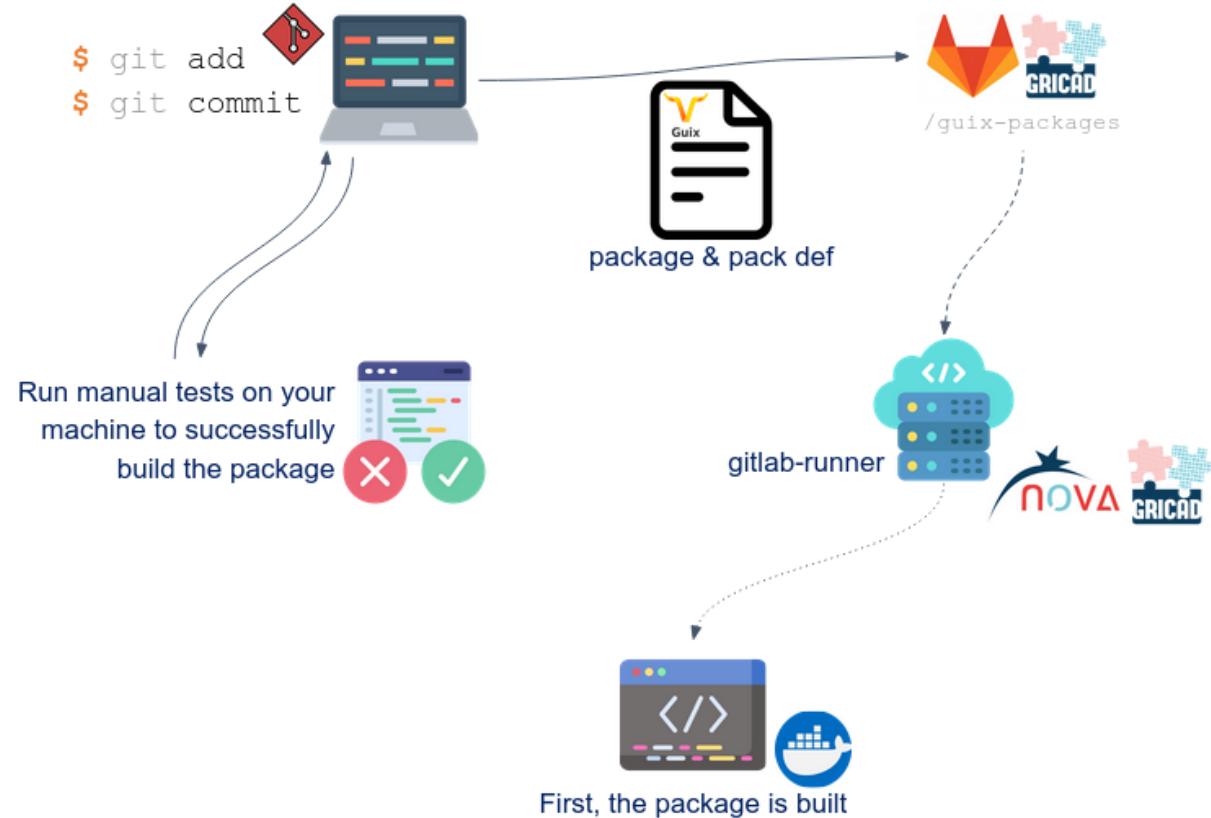
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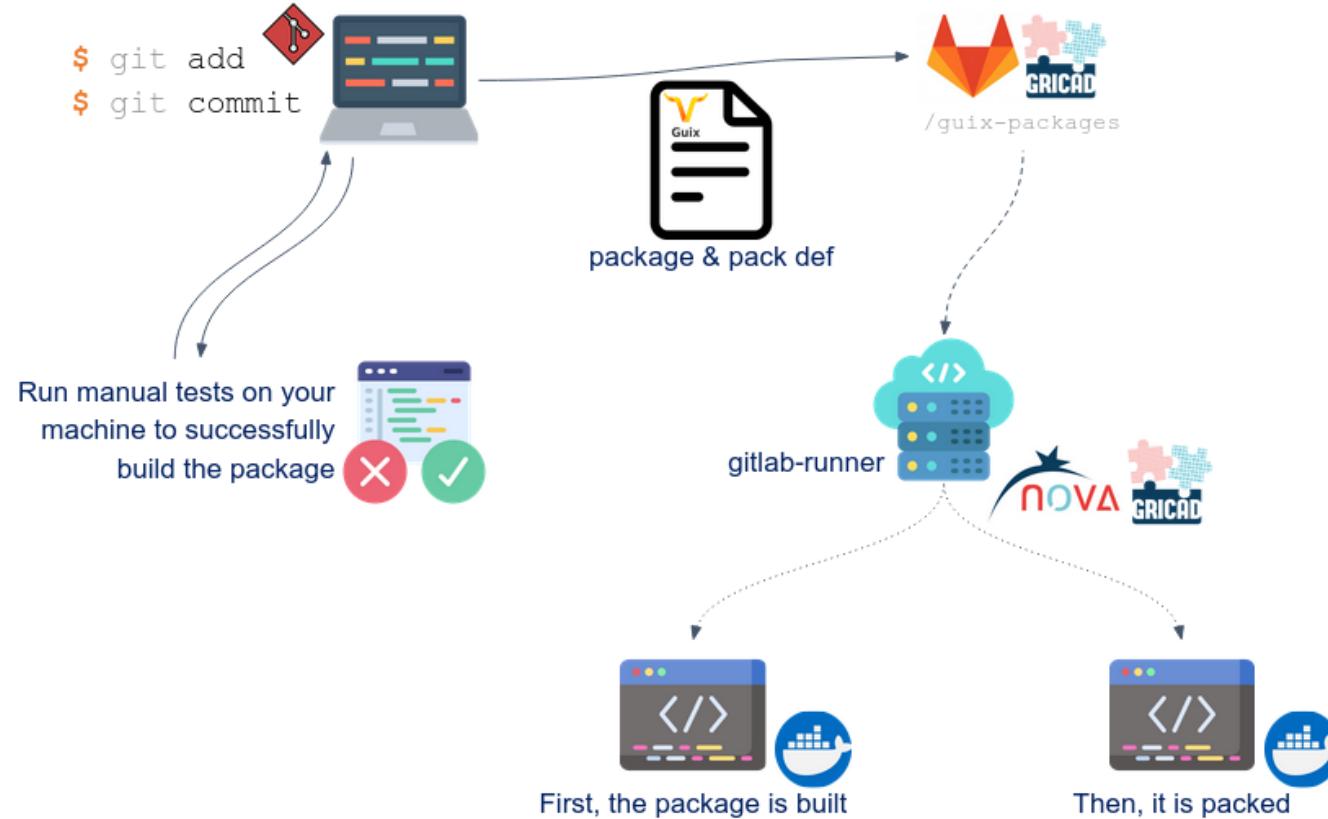
# Application to DIAMOND project: CI/CD pipeline



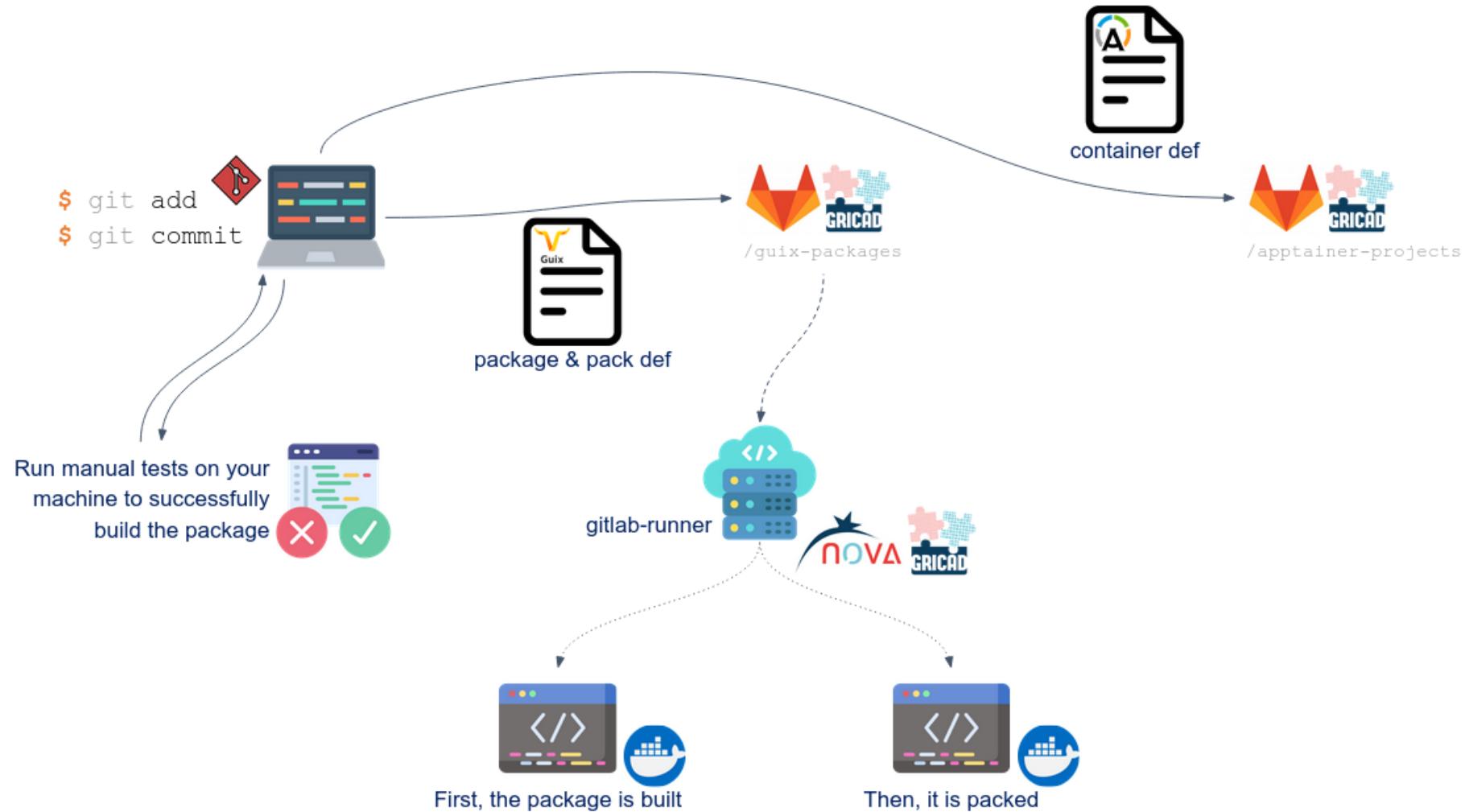
# Application to DIAMOND project: CI/CD pipeline



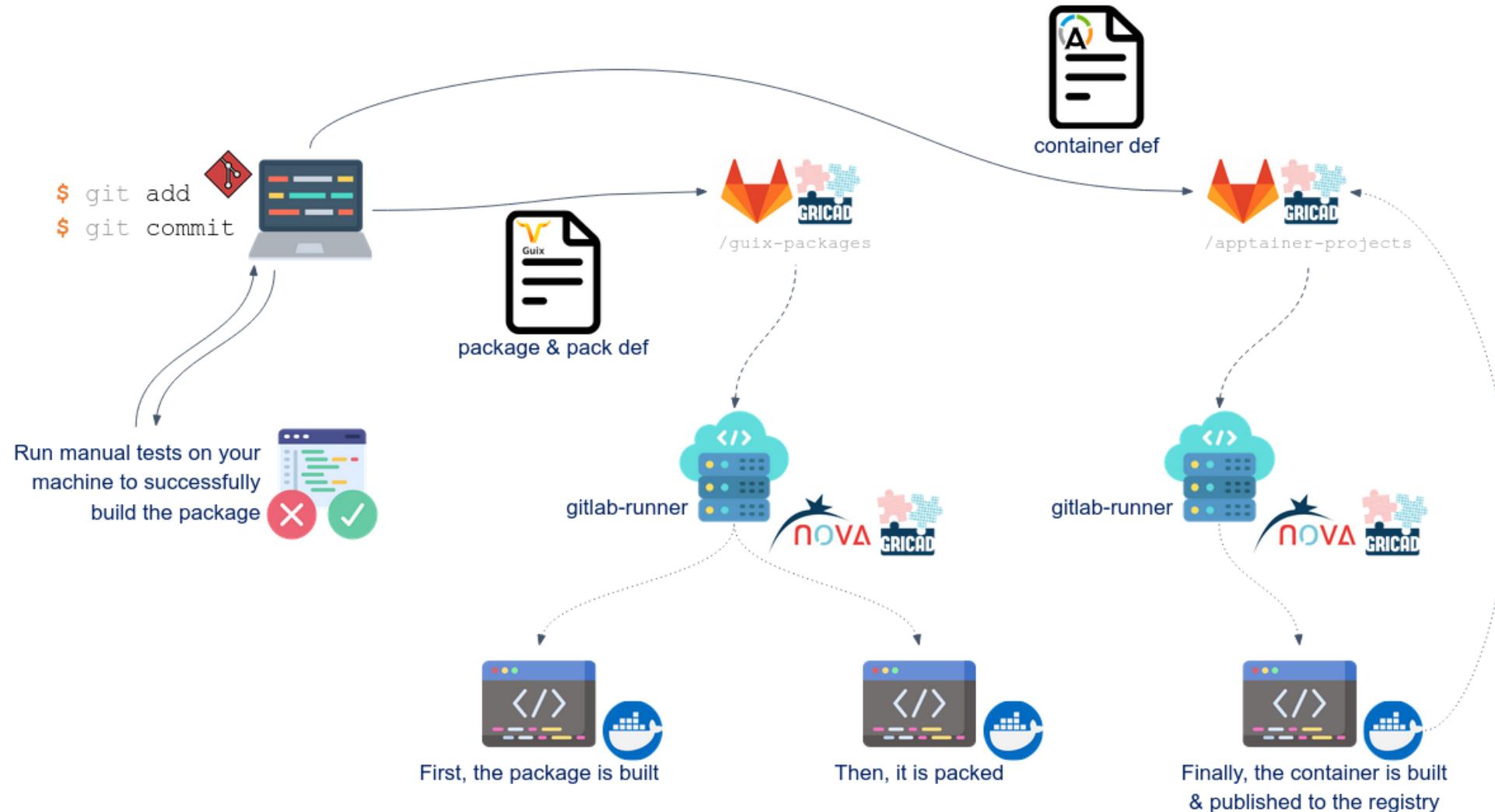
# Application to DIAMOND project: CI/CD pipeline



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# Application to DIAMOND project: CI/CD pipeline

```
# For gitlab-ci : regex=lammps-openmpi-openssh
Bootstrap: localimage
From: /gnu/store/5w1mqjgia33yy3qy9wjwvi37hvdbfzzl-lammps-plumed-bash-minimal-squashfs-pack.gz.squashfs

%files
    empty_file /etc/passwd # to remove warning about /etc/passwd
    empty_file /etc/group # to remove warning about /etc/group

%post
    profile_path=$(ls /gnu/store | grep profile)
    mkdir -p /usr/share/lammps/potentials
    cp /gnu/store/$profile_path/share/lammps/potentials/* /usr/share/lammps/potentials

%environment
    export LAMMPS_POTENTIALS=/usr/share/lammps/potentials

%help
    This container embeds LAMMPS (2 August 2023 stable version, update 2) with OpenMPI support.
    For more information about this image, please run "apptainer inspect <this-image>"
    ...

%labels
    Owner Sandia Corporation
    Author dylan.bissuel@univ-lyon1.fr
    Label LAMMPS_stable_2Aug2023_update2
    EntryPoint https://www.lammps.org/
```



# Table of content

---

1

Guix context

2

First time with Guix

3

Application to DIAMOND project

4

**What is the progress so far?**

5

What is next?



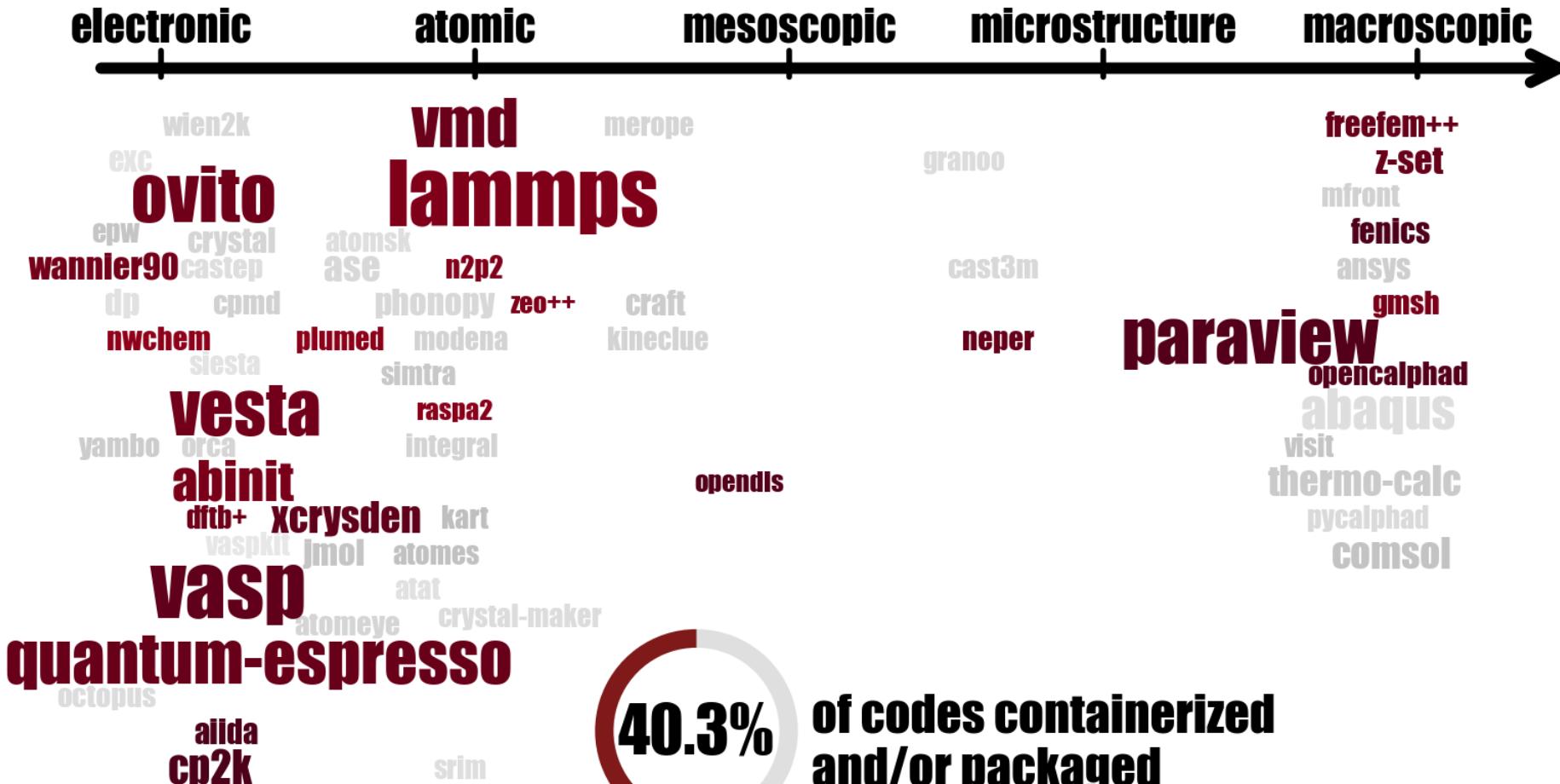
# What is the progress so far?

Guix packages available 38

Guix squashfs images available 21

Apptainer images available 23

Apptainer WM images available 6



# What is the progress so far?

*In practice:*

- A channel was created to store all the **Guix** packages
- All **Apptainer** images are stored on the Gitlab registry
- Some codes have not been packaged with Guix yet

*AiiDA*

- Some codes are proprietary licence
- The hell of dependencies ...

*VASP, ovito, z-set*

*23 packages definition for cp2k*



# What is the progress so far?

```
(define-public costa
  (package
    (name "costa")
    (version "2.2.2")
    (source
      (origin
        (method git-fetch)
        (uri (git-reference
              (url "https://github.com/eth-cscs/COSTA")
              (commit "bb84528d023db9a6b00ad729fb44b8c3cef8c981")))
        (file-name (git-file-name name version))
        (sha256 (base32 "026svdxdihh1zrm4ydwpq417f4y69d8l1v72kj22phmvf1jk484f")))))
    (build-system cmake-build-system)
    (propagated-inputs
      (list openmpi
            gfortran
            scalapack))
    (arguments
      '(#:phases
        (modify-phases %standard-phases
          ;; Remove check phase
          (delete 'check)
        )))
    (synopsis synopsis)
    (description description)
    (home-page "https://github.com/eth-cscs/COSTA")
    (license license:bsd-3)))
```



# What is the progress so far?

```
(define-public quip
  (package
    (version "v0.9.14")
    (source
      (origin
        (method git-fetch)
        (uri (git-reference
              (url "https://github.com/libAtoms/QUIP")
              (commit "72af33c9403fe22361bf3fd4295c516dd1094")
              (recursive? #t)))
        (file-name (git-file-name name version))
        (sha256 (base32 "17nask73vj0xy797pjz8h8wfrq14czysmcxjni3zh7gx26zjx3")))
    (build-system gnu-build-system)
    (propagated-paths
      (list gfortran
            openblas-openmp
            lapack
            openblas
            python-sans-pip
            python2-minimal
            perl
            tcsh))
    (arguments
      #:parallel-build? #f
      #:phases
        (modify-phases %standard-phases
          ; Remove check phase
          (delete 'check)
          ; Add a phase to fix bash interpreter
          ;(add-after 'unpack' 'fix-interpreters
          ;  (lambda* (#:key inputs #:allow-other-keys)
          ;    (for-each (lambda (f)
          ;      (invoke 'patchelf' (string-append "$@/bin/bash@" (which "bash") "@g") f)
          ;      (find-file "")))
          ;    )))
          ; Add a phase to prepare the Makefile used during the build
          (add-before 'configure' 'prepare_makefile
            (lambda* (#:key inputs #:allow-other-keys)
              (invoke "sed" "-i" "@{QUIPPY_FCOMPILER=gfortran@g" "arch/Makefile.linux_x86_64_gfortran"))
            ; Replace the configure phase
            ; as the user might (pressing enter) cannot mimick, the default options are forced
            ; to do so, the output is hard written
            ; this file was found by reversing the source code ...
            ;(replace 'configure
            ;  (lambda* (#:key inputs outputs #:allow-other-keys)
            ;    (setenv "QUIP_ROOT" (getcwd))
            ;    (setenv "MAKEFILE_DIR" (string-append "build/" (getenv "QUIP_ARCH")))
            ;    (setenv "MAKEFILE_FILE" (string-append (getenv "MAKEFILE_DIR") "/Makefile.inc"))
            ;    (makefile-set! "MAKEFILE_DIR")
            ;    (call-with-output-file (getenv "MAKEFILE_FILE")
            ;      (lambda (port)
            ;        (format port "# Place to override setting elsewhere, in particular things set in ~a
            ; look in ~a for defaults set by arch
            ;# F77=gfortran
            ;# F90=gfortran
            ;# F95=gfortran
            ;# CC=gcc
            ;# CPLUSPLUS=g++
            ;# FPP=gfortran -E -x f95-cpp-input
            ;# LIBOMP=gfortran
            ;#LIBINTL=
            ;# OPTIM=
            ;# QM=
            ;# INSTALL_OPTS=
            ;# DEBUG=-O0 -g -DDUMP_CORE_ON_ABORT -DDEBUG -fbounds-check
            ;# DEBUG=
            ;# CDEBUG=
            ;# MATHLINKOPTS=-a
            ;# PYTHON=-a
            ;# PIP=-a
            ;# EXTRA_LINKOPTS=
            ;# HAVE_Q2PK=a
            ;# HAVE_VASP=b
            ;# HAVE_TB=b
            ;# HAVE_PICCON=1
            ;# HAVE_NINER=0
            ;# HAVE_LOCAL_E_MIX=0
            ;# HAVE_QC=0
            ;# HAVE_GEM=0
            ;# HAVE_DESCRIPTORs_NONCOMMERCIAL=0
            ;# HAVE_QR=1
            ;# HAVE_SCALAPACK=0
            ;# HAVE_THIRDPARTY=0
            ;# HAVE_TBB=0
            ;# HAVE_SCHME=0
            ;# HAVE_MTP=0
            ;# HAVE_MBD=0
            ;# HAVE_NETCDF=0
            ;# HAVE_CH4=0
            ;# HAVE_NETCDF4=0
            ;# HAVE_MDCORE=0
            ;# HAVE_QM=0
            ;# HAVE_KIM=0
            ;# HAVE_GAL=0
            ;# HAVE_METS=0
            ;# HAVE_LMDT_TBE=0
            ;# SIZEOF_FORTRAN_T=2
```

```
" (getenv "QUIP_ARCH")
  (string-append (getcwd) "arch/Makefile." (getenv "QUIP_ARCH"))
  ;;; libquip - libquip is a collection of software tools to carry out molecular dynamics simulations.
  ;;; It implements a variety of interatomic potentials and tight-binding quantum mechanics, and is also able to
  ;;; call external packages, and serve as plugins to other software such as LAMMPS, CP2K and also the python
  ;;; framework ASE. Various hybrid combinations are also supported in the style of QM/MM, with a particular focus
  ;;; on materials such as metal-oxide semiconductors.
  ;;; (home-page "https://libatoms.github.io")
  ;;; (license license:gpl3+)))
  (synopsis "libquip/molmd: molecular dynamics framework")
  (description "The libquip/molmd is a collection of software tools to carry out molecular dynamics simulations.
  It implements a variety of interatomic potentials and tight-binding quantum mechanics, and is also able to
  call external packages, and serve as plugins to other software such as LAMMPS, CP2K and also the python
  framework ASE. Various hybrid combinations are also supported in the style of QM/MM, with a particular focus
  on materials such as metal-oxide semiconductors.
  (home-page "https://libatoms.github.io")
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# Table of content

---

1

Guix context

2

First time with Guix

3

Application to DIAMOND project

4

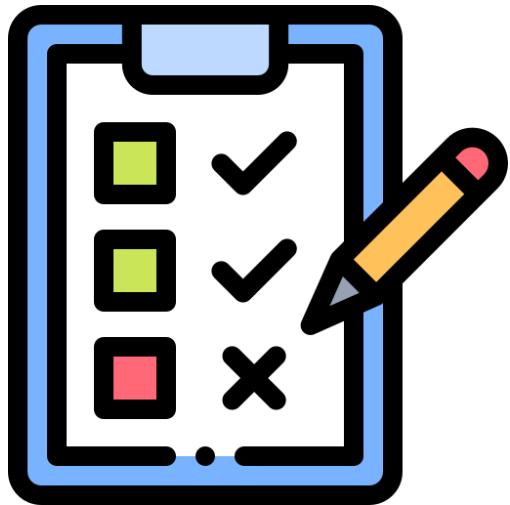
What is the progress so far?

5

**What is next?**



# What is next?



- Design a solution for the workflows

*more or less identical to that of codes*

- Deploy the cuirass service

*useful to come back to the last working commit*

- Continue packaging ...

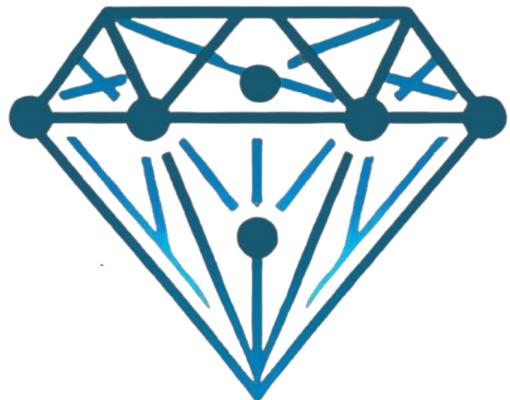
*all codes in codecloud and others ... and provide GPU support*

- Learn more about Guix system

*for system reproducibility ...*

# Acknowledgement

*the dev team:*



- Dylan Bissuel

*has packaged/containerized most of the codes/workflows* |

- David Martin-Calle

*has designed and deployed the DIAMOND website* |

- Arthur Hardiagon, João Paulo Mendonça, Jonathan Daubin

*have developed workflows and professionalised codes* |

- Cinthya Herrera, Akshay Krishna

*for the different discussions across DIAMOND WPs* |



**Thanks for your attention!**

**Any questions?**