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# XaaS Containers: Performance-Portable Representation With Source and IR Containers



MARCIN COPIK<sup>1</sup>, EIMAN ALNUAIMI<sup>2</sup>, ALOK KAMATAR<sup>3</sup>, VALERIE HAYOT-SASSON<sup>3</sup>, ALBERTO MADONNA<sup>4</sup>, TODD GAMBLIN<sup>5</sup>, KYLE CHARD<sup>3,6</sup>, IAN FOSTER<sup>3,6</sup>, TORSTEN HOEFLER<sup>1,4</sup>

# XaaS Containers: Performance-Portable Representation With Source and IR Containers

## XaaS: Acceleration as a Service to Enable Productive High-Performance Cloud Computing

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Ian Foster , Argonne National Laboratory, Lemont, IL, 60439, USA

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Daniel Reed , Utah University, Salt Lake City, UT, 84117, USA

Matthias Troyer , Microsoft, Redmond, WA, 98052, USA

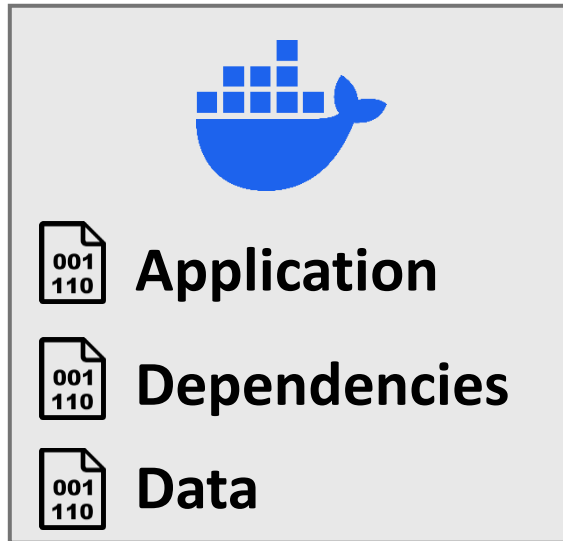
Thomas Schulthess , Swiss National Supercomputing Centre, Lugano, 6900, Switzerland

Daniel Ernst , Nvidia, Santa Clara, CA, 95051, USA

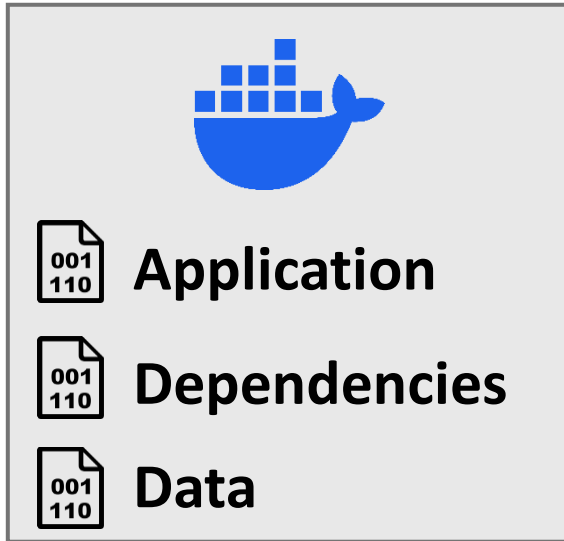
Jack Dongarra , University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, 37996, USA



# Wonderful World of Containers



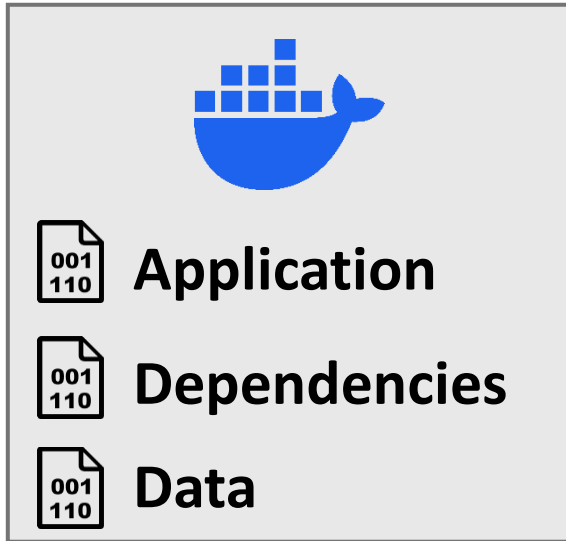
# Wonderful World of Containers



**docker run gromacs:2025.0**

x64 & arm64

# Wonderful World of Containers



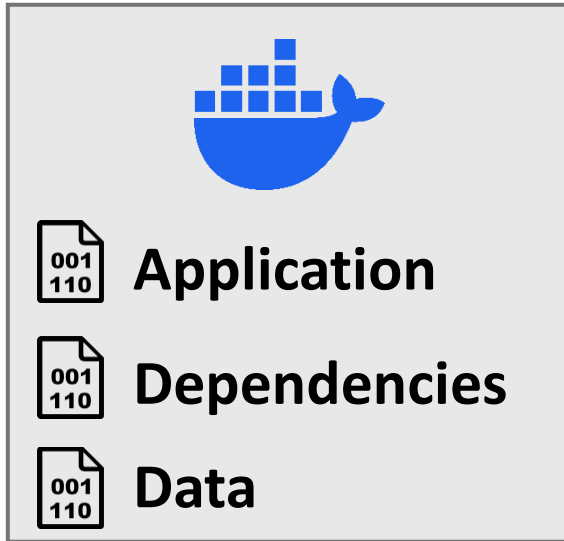
**Will it work?**



**docker run gromacs:2025.0**

x64 & arm64

# Wonderful World of Containers



Will it work?



Will it be fast?



**docker run gromacs:2025.0**

x64 & arm64

# Containers: Portable, but not Performant



**gromacs:2025.0, x64 & arm64**

# Containers: Portable, but not Performant



**gromacs:2025.0, x64 & arm64**

**x86 Execution Time: Intel Xeon Gold 6130**

**ARM Execution Time: NVIDIA GH200**

Execution Time (seconds)

Execution Time (seconds)

# Containers: Portable, but not Performant



**gromacs:2025.0, x64 & arm64**

**x86 Execution Time: Intel Xeon Gold 6130**

**ARM Execution Time: NVIDIA GH200**

Execution Time (seconds)

None

SSE2

SSE4.1

AVX2\_128

AVX\_256

AVX\_512

**Vectorization Type**

Execution Time (seconds)

None

SVE

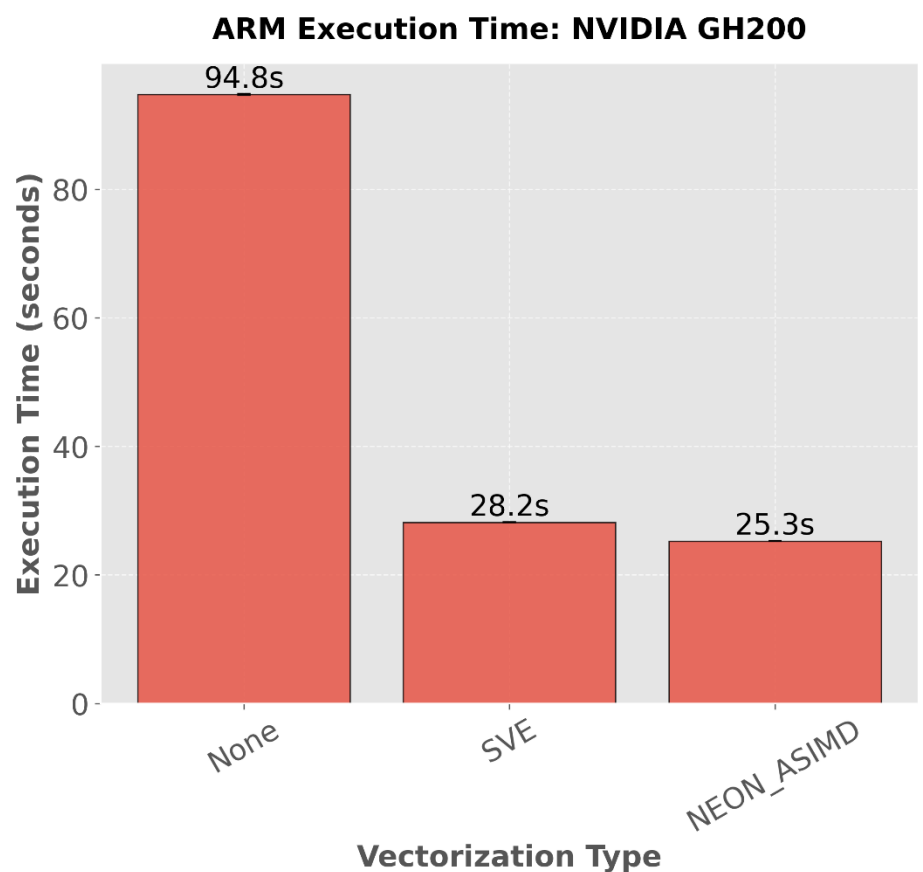
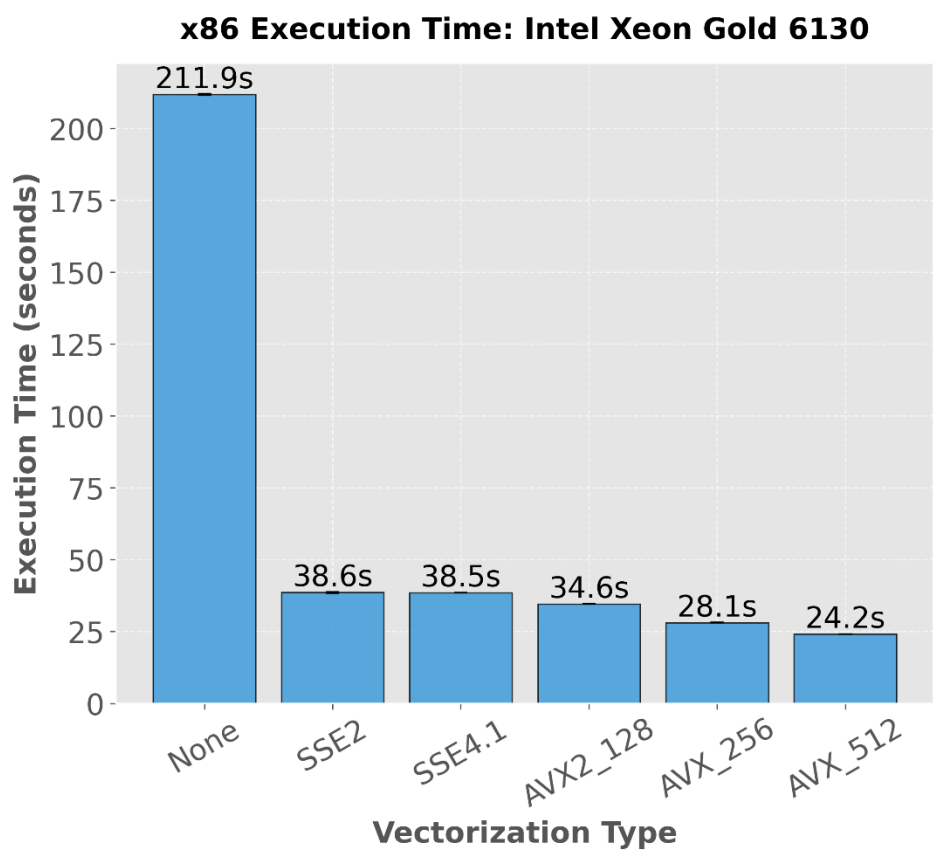
NEON\_ASIMD

**Vectorization Type**

# Containers: Portable, but not Performant



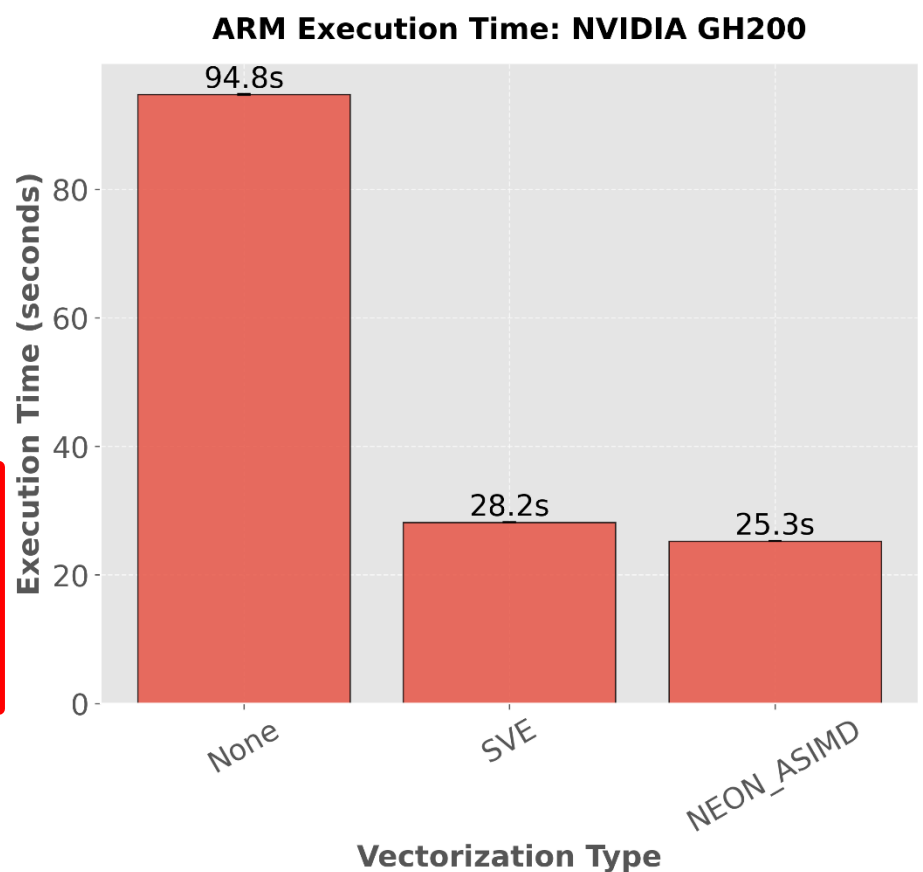
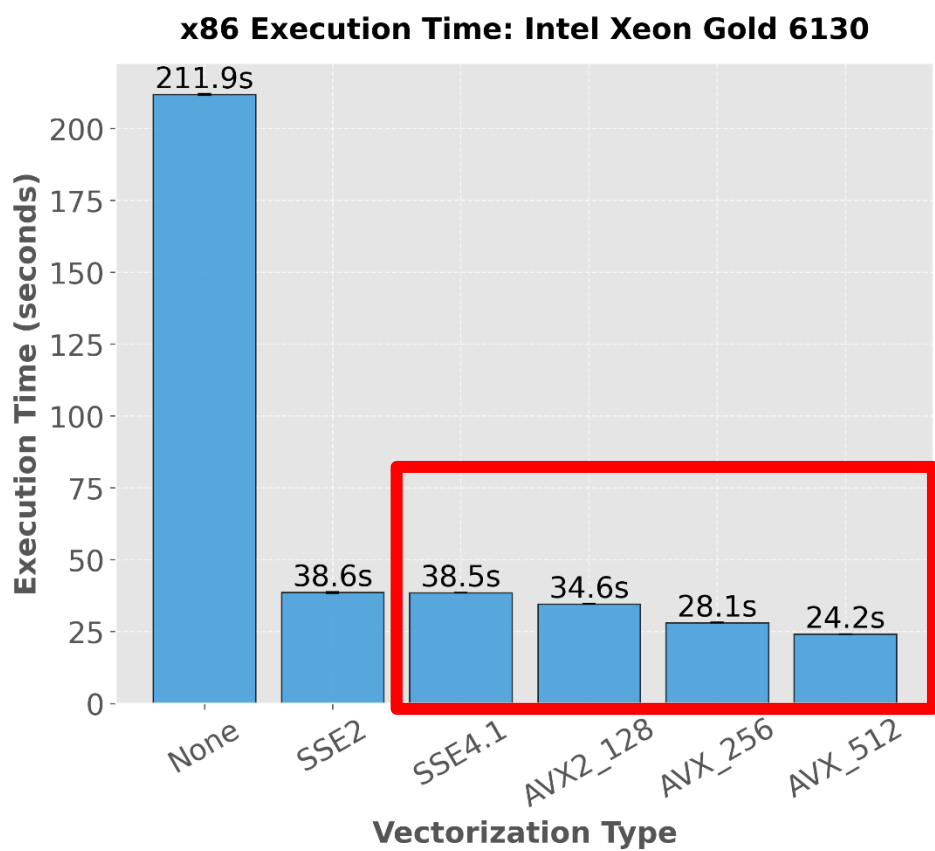
**gromacs:2025.0, x64 & arm64**



# Containers: Portable, but not Performant



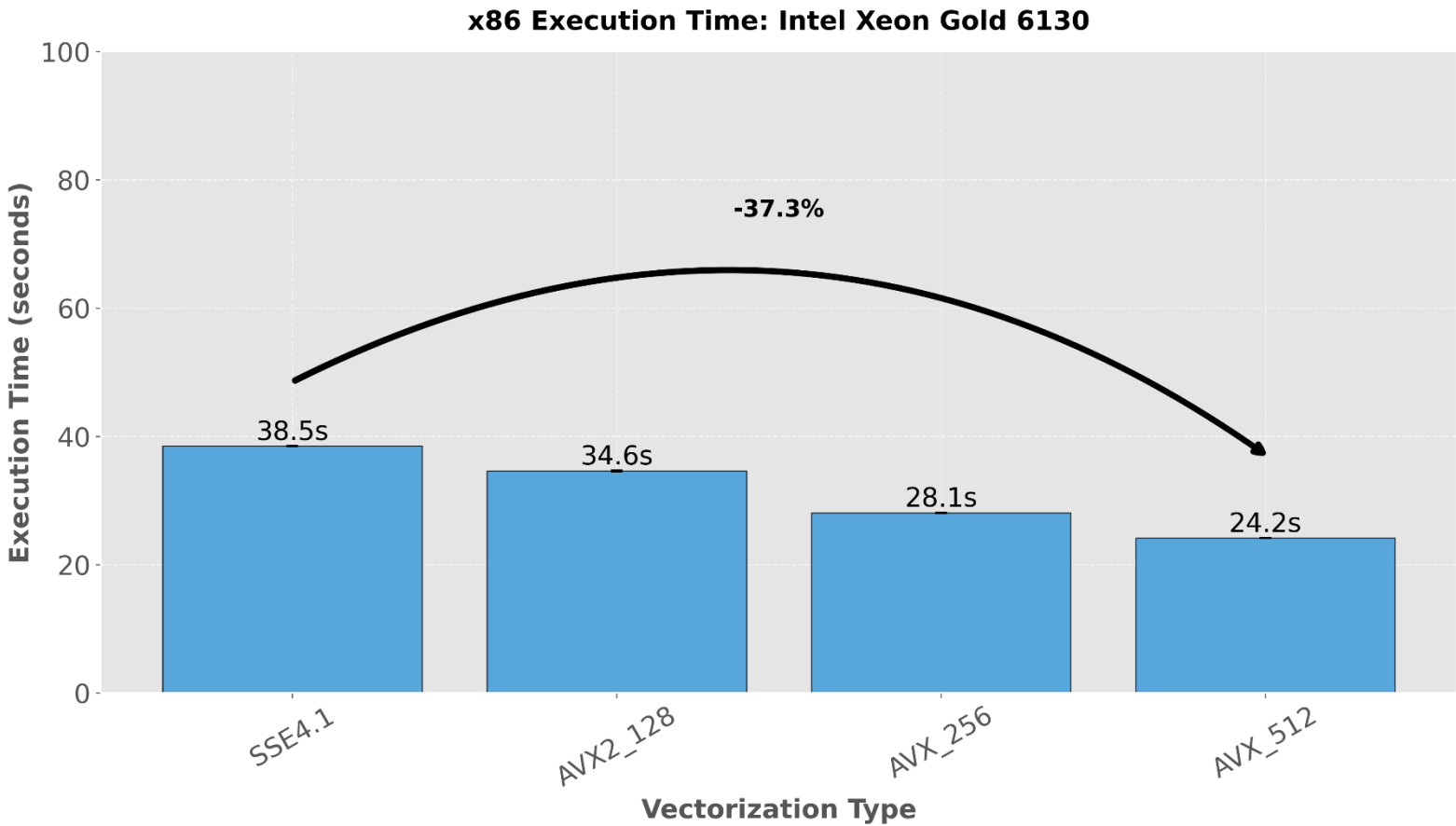
**gromacs:2025.0, x64 & arm64**



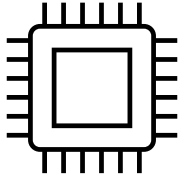
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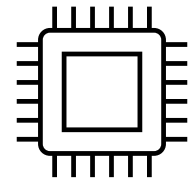
**gromacs:2025.0, x64 & arm64**



# Just One More Container...



# Just One More Container...





**gromacs:2025.0**

**sse4.1**



001  
110

Dependencies , Data



**gromacs:2025.0**

**avx-128**



001  
110

Dependencies , Data



**gromacs:2025.0**

**avx-256**



001  
110

Dependencies , Data



**gromacs:2025.0**

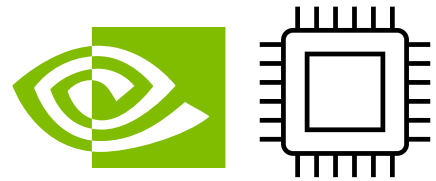
**avx-512**



001  
110

Dependencies , Data

# Just One More Container...



 gromacs:2025.0

**sse4.1**

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110 Dependencies , Data

 gromacs:2025.0

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 001  
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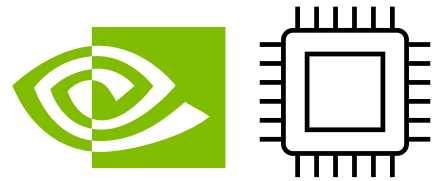
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 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-512**

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**gromacs:2025.0**

**sse4.1-cuda**

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**gromacs:2025.0**

**avx-128-cuda**

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**gromacs:2025.0**

**avx-256-cuda**

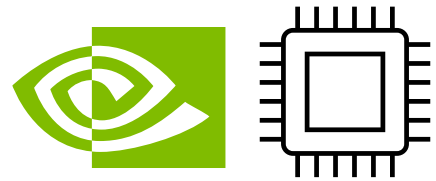
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**avx-512-cuda**

 001  
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**avx-256-cuda**

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**avx-512**

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 Dependencies , Data

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 gromacs:2025.0  
**sse4.1-cuda**

 gromacs:2025.0  
**sse4.1-rocm**  
 Dependencies , Data

 gromacs:2025.0

 gromacs:2025.0  
**avx-128-cuda**

 gromacs:2025.0  
**avx-128-rocm**  
 Dependencies , Data

 gromacs:2025.0

 gromacs:2025.0  
**avx-256-cuda**

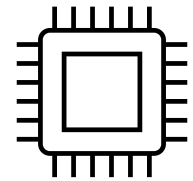
 gromacs:2025.0  
**avx-256-rocm**  
 Dependencies , Data

 gromacs:2025.0

 gromacs:2025.0  
**avx-512-cuda**

 gromacs:2025.0  
**avx-512-rocm**  
 Dependencies , Data

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 gromacs:2025.0

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**sse4.1-cuda**

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 Dependencies , Data

 gromacs:2025.0

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 Dependencies , Data

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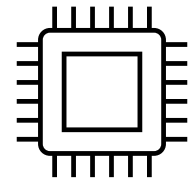
 gromacs:2025.0  
**avx-256-rocm**  
 Dependencies , Data

 gromacs:2025.0

 gromacs:2025.0  
**avx-512-cuda**

 gromacs:2025.0  
**avx-512-rocm**  
 Dependencies , Data

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 gromacs:2025.0

**sse4.1**

 gromacs:2025.0

**sse4.1-cuda**

 gromacs:2025.0

**sse4.1-rocm**

 gromacs:2025.0

**sse4.1-sycl**

 001 110 Dependencies , Data

 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-128**

 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-128-cuda**

 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-128-rocm**

 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-128-sycl**

 001 110 Dependencies , Data

 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-256**

 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-256-cuda**

 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-256-rocm**

 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-256-sycl**

 001 110 Dependencies , Data

 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-512**

 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-512-cuda**

 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-512-rocm**

 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-512-sycl**

 001 110 Dependencies , Data



Just One More Container...

Which BLAS library should I use? Which FFT library?

|                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <br>gromacs:2025.0<br><b>sse4.1-cuda</b>  | <br>gromacs:2025.0<br><b>avx-128-cuda</b>  | <br>gromacs:2025.0<br><b>avx-256-cuda</b>  | <br>gromacs:2025.0<br><b>avx-512-cuda</b>  |
| <br>gromacs:2025.0<br><b>sse4.1-rocm</b>  | <br>gromacs:2025.0<br><b>avx-128-rocm</b>  | <br>gromacs:2025.0<br><b>avx-256-rocm</b>  | <br>gromacs:2025.0<br><b>avx-512-rocm</b>  |
| <br>gromacs:2025.0<br><b>sse4.1-sycl</b> | <br>gromacs:2025.0<br><b>avx-128-sycl</b> | <br>gromacs:2025.0<br><b>avx-256-sycl</b> | <br>gromacs:2025.0<br><b>avx-512-sycl</b> |
| <br>Dependencies , Data                | <br>Dependencies , Data                  | <br>Dependencies , Data                  | <br>Dependencies , Data                  |

Just One More Container...



Which BLAS library should I use? Which FFT library?

 gromacs:2025.0

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 gromacs:2025.0

Should we use OpenMP? Which MPI?

 gromacs:2025.0

**sse4.1-rocm**

 gromacs:2025.0

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 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-256-rocm**

 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-512-rocm**

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**avx-128-sycl**

 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-256-sycl**

 gromacs:2025.0

**avx-512-sycl**

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Dependencies , Data

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Dependencies , Data

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Dependencies , Data



Just One More Container...

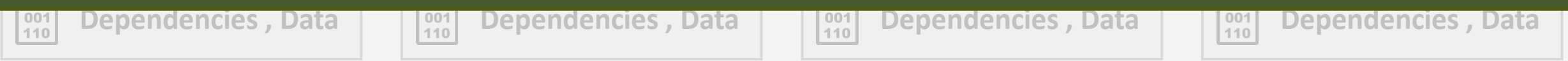
Which BLAS library should I use? Which FFT library?



Should we use OpenMP? Which MPI?



What if container has CUDA 12.9, and my system driver is at 12.1?  
For which CUDA architecture should we emit code?



# HPC Specialization Points

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**Vectorization**

**Acceleration**

**Parallelism & Network Communication**

**Performance Libraries**

**System-Specific Optimizations**

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**Specialization Points**

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**System-Specific Optimizations**

## Specialization Points

Difficult to build one binary that supports  
all possible options!

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**WheelNext**

# HPC Specialization Points

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## Specialization Points

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## WheelNext

### blas-lapack-variant-provider

This is a plugin for the proposed [wheel variants implementation](#) that provides BLAS/LAPACK library selection.

This plugin always returns a fixed list of supported variants, and so can be used as a build-time plugin.

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### blas-lapack-variant-provider

This is a plugin for the proposed [wheel variants implementation](#) that provides BLAS/LAPACK library selection.

This plugin always returns a fixed list of supported variants, and so can be used as a build-time plugin.

HPC is not only Python!  
We need a **general-purpose** solution.

# How to Provide Portability for HPC Software?

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**Building  
Source**

# How to Provide Portability for HPC Software?



**Building  
Source**



**Relinking  
Dependencies**

# How to Provide Portability for HPC Software?



**Building  
Source**



**(Re)lowering  
Application**

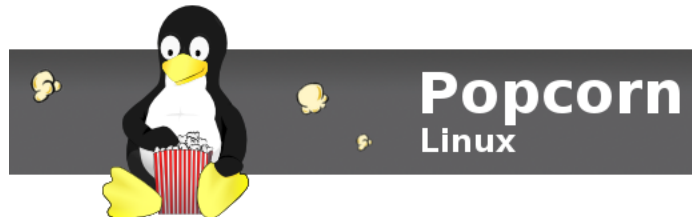


**Relinking  
Dependencies**

# How to Provide Portability for HPC Software?



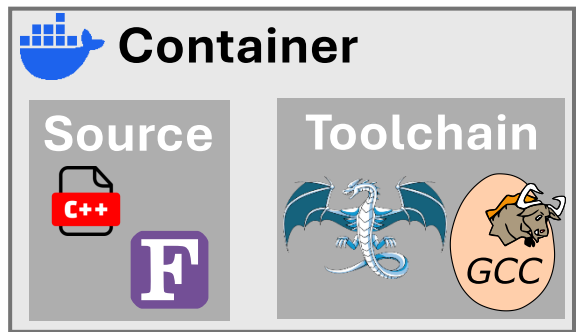
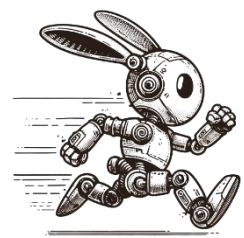
**Building  
Source**



**(Re)lowering  
Application**

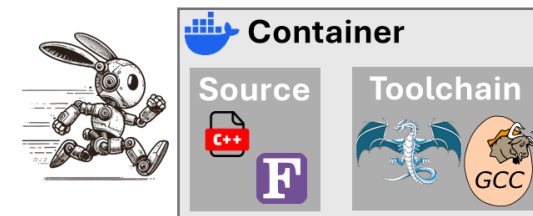


**Relinking  
Dependencies**



**XaaS Source Container**

# Configuring Containers for HPC Specializations



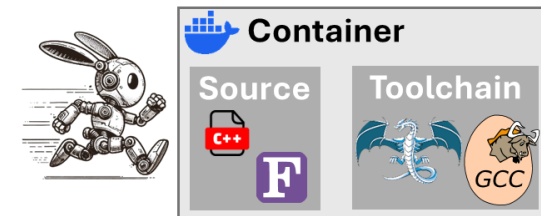
**XaaS Source Container**

```
{
  "gpu_build": {"value": true, "build_flag": "-DGMX_GPU"},
  "gpu_backends": {
    "CUDA": {"min_version": "12.1", "flag": "-DGMX_GPU=CUDA"},
    "HIP": {"min_version": "5.4.3", "flag": "-DGMX_GPU=HIP"}
  },
  "vectorization": {
    "None": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=None"},
    "SSE4.1": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=SSE4.1"},
    "AVX2_256": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=AVX2_256"},
    "AVX_512": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=AVX_512"},
    "ARM_NEON_ASIMD": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=ARM_NEON_ASIMD"}
  }
}
```



**Specialization Discovery**

# Configuring Containers for HPC Specializations



XaaS Source Container

```
{
  "gpu_build": {"value": true, "build_flag": "-DGMX_GPU"},
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  }
}
```



Specialization Discovery



## GROMACS

In-Context Learning

### Gemini 1.5 & 2.0

F1 Scores: 0.86 – 0.99



## llama.cpp

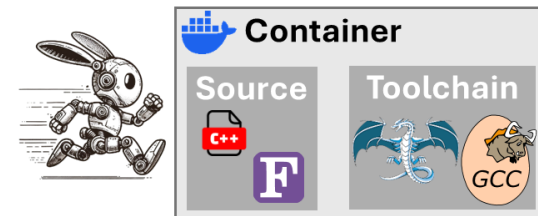
Generalization

### GPT-o3

F1 Scores: 0.73 - 0.79

**F1 Score:** harmonic mean between **precision** (minimize false positives) and **recall** (minimize false negatives).

# Configuring Containers for HPC Specializations



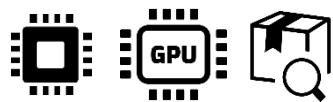
XaaS Source Container

```
{
  "gpu_build": {"value": true, "build_flag": "-DGMX_GPU"},
  "gpu_backends": {
    "CUDA": {"min_version": "12.1", "flag": "-DGMX_GPU=CUDA"},
    "HIP": {"min_version": "5.4.3", "flag": "-DGMX_GPU=HIP"}
  },
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    "ARM_NEON_ASIMD": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=ARM_NEON_ASIMD"}
  }
}
```

```
{
  "CPU Info": {
    "Architecture": "x86_64",
    "Vectorization": [
      "avx512f", "avx", "avx2", "sse4_1"
    ]
  },
  "GPU Backends": {
    "CUDA": { "version": "12.1",
      "lib": ["/lib/libcuda.so.1"],
    }
  }
}
```

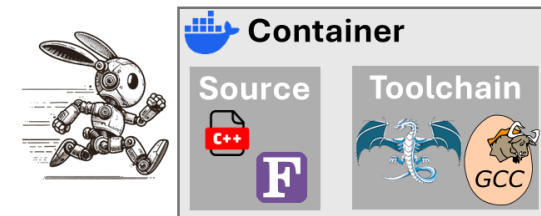


Specialization Discovery



System Discovery

# Configuring Containers for HPC Specializations



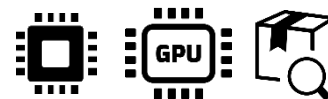
**XaaS Source Container**

```
{
  "gpu_build": {"value": true, "build_flag": "-DGMX_GPU"},
  "gpu_backends": {
    "CUDA": {"min_version": "12.1", "flag": "-DGMX_GPU=CUDA"},
    "HIP": {"min_version": "5.4.3", "flag": "-DGMX_GPU=HIP"}
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  "vectorization": {
    "None": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=None"},
    "SSE4.1": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=SSE4.1"},
    "AVX2_256": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=AVX2_256"},
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  }
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    ]
  },
  "GPU Backends": {
    "CUDA": { "version": "12.1",
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    }
  }
}
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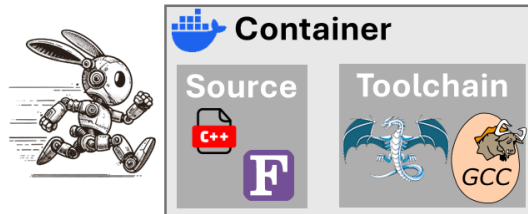


**Specialization Discovery**



**System Discovery**

# Configuring Containers for HPC Specializations



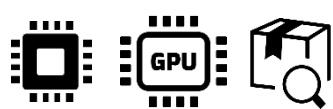
XaaS Source Container

```
{
  "gpu_build": {"value": true, "build_flag": "-DGMX_GPU"},
  "gpu_backends": {
    "CUDA": {"min_version": "12.1", "flag": "-DGMX_GPU=CUDA"},
    "HIP": {"min_version": "5.4.3", "flag": "-DGMX_GPU=HIP"}
  },
  "vectorization": {
    "None": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=None"},
    "SSE4.1": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=SSE4.1"},
    "AVX2_256": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=AVX2_256"},
    "AVX_512": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=AVX_512"},
    "ARM_NEON_ASIMD": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=ARM_NEON_ASIMD"}
  }
}
```

```
{
  "CPU Info": {
    "Architecture": "x86_64",
    "Vectorization": [
      "avx512f", "avx", "avx2", "sse4_1"
    ]
  },
  "GPU Backends": {
    "CUDA": { "version": "12.1",
      "lib": ["/lib/libcuda.so.1"],
    }
  }
}
```

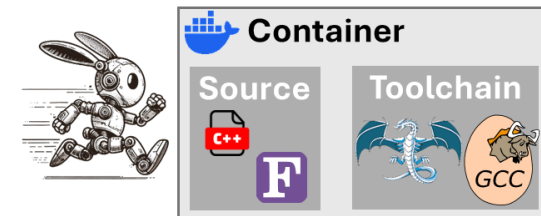


Specialization Discovery



System Discovery

# Configuring Containers for HPC Specializations



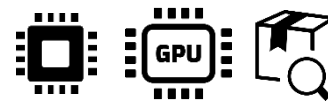
XaaS Source Container

```
{
  "gpu_build": {"value": true, "build_flag": "-DGMX_GPU"},
  "gpu_backends": {
    "CUDA": {"min_version": "12.1", "flag": "-DGMX_GPU=CUDA"},
    "HIP": {"min_version": "5.4.3", "flag": "-DGMX_GPU=HIP"}
  },
  "vectorization": {
    "None": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=None"},
    "SSE4.1": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=SSE4.1"},
    "AVX2_256": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=AVX2_256"},
    "AVX_512": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=AVX_512"},
    "ARM_NEON_ASIMD": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=ARM_NEON_ASIMD"}
  }
}
```

```
{
  "CPU Info": {
    "Architecture": "x86_64",
    "Vectorization": [
      "avx512f", "avx", "avx2", "sse4_1"
    ]
  },
  "GPU Backends": {
    "CUDA": { "version": "12.1",
      "lib": ["/lib/libcuda.so.1"],
    }
  }
}
```

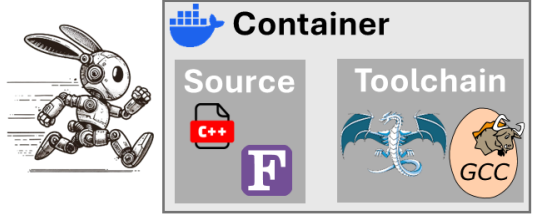


Specialization Discovery



System Discovery

# Configuring Containers for HPC Specializations



XaaS Source Container

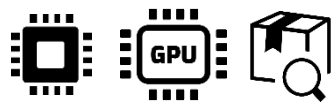
```
{
  "gpu_build": {"value": true, "build_flag": "-DGMX_GPU"},
  "gpu_backends": {
    "CUDA": {"min_version": "12.1", "flag": "-DGMX_GPU=CUDA"},
    "HIP": {"min_version": "5.4.3", "flag": "-DGMX_GPU=HIP"}
  },
  "vectorization": {
    "None": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=None"},
    "SSE4.1": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=SSE4.1"},
    "AVX2_256": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=AVX2_256"},
    "AVX_512": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=AVX_512"},
    "ARM_NEON_ASIMD": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=ARM_NEON_ASIMD"}
  }
}
```

```
{
  "CPU Info": {
    "Architecture": "x86_64",
    "Vectorization": [
      "avx512f", "avx", "avx2", "sse4_1"
    ]
  },
  "GPU Backends": {
    "CUDA": { "version": "12.1",
      "lib": ["/lib/libcuda.so.1"],
    }
  }
}
```

```
"vectorization_flags": {
  "SSE4.1": "-DGMX_SIMD=SSE4.1",
  "AVX_512": "-DGMX_SIMD=AVX_512",
  "AVX2_256": "-DGMX_SIMD=AVX2_256"
},
```

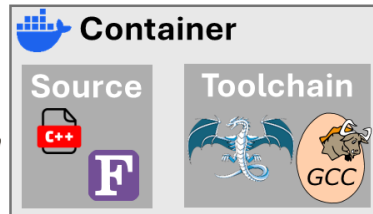
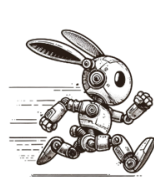


Specialization Discovery



System Discovery

# Configuring Containers for HPC Specializations



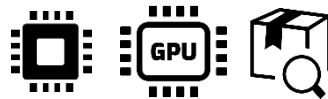
## XaaS Source Container

```
{
  "gpu_build": {"value": true, "build_flag": "-DGMX_GPU"},
  "gpu_backends": {
    "CUDA": {"min_version": "12.1", "flag": "-DGMX_GPU=CUDA"},
    "HIP": {"min_version": "5.4.3", "flag": "-DGMX_GPU=HIP"}
  },
  "vectorization": {
    "None": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=None"},
    "SSE4.1": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=SSE4.1"},
    "AVX2_256": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=AVX2_256"},
    "AVX_512": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=AVX_512"},
    "ARM_NEON_ASIMD": {"flag": "-DGMX_SIMD=ARM_NEON_ASIMD"}
  }
}
```



## Specialization Discovery

```
{
  "CPU Info": {
    "Architecture": "x86_64",
    "Vectorization": [
      "avx512f", "avx", "avx2", "sse4_1"
    ]
  },
  "GPU Backends": {
    "CUDA": { "version": "12.1",
      "lib": ["/lib/libcuda.so.1"],
    }
  }
}
```



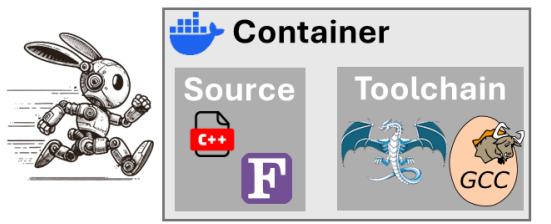
## System Discovery

```
{
  "common_specialization": {
    "vectorization_flags": {
      "SSE4.1": "-DGMX_SIMD=SSE4.1",
      "AVX_512": "-DGMX_SIMD=AVX_512",
      "AVX2_256": "-DGMX_SIMD=AVX2_256"
    },
    "gpu_backends": {
      "CUDA": { "version": "12.1",
        "flag": "-DGMX_GPU=CUDA",
      },
    },
  }
}
```



## Feature Intersection

# XaaS Source Containers Deployment

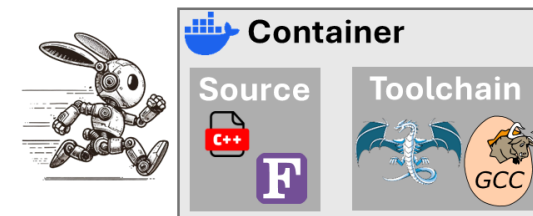


**XaaS Source Container**

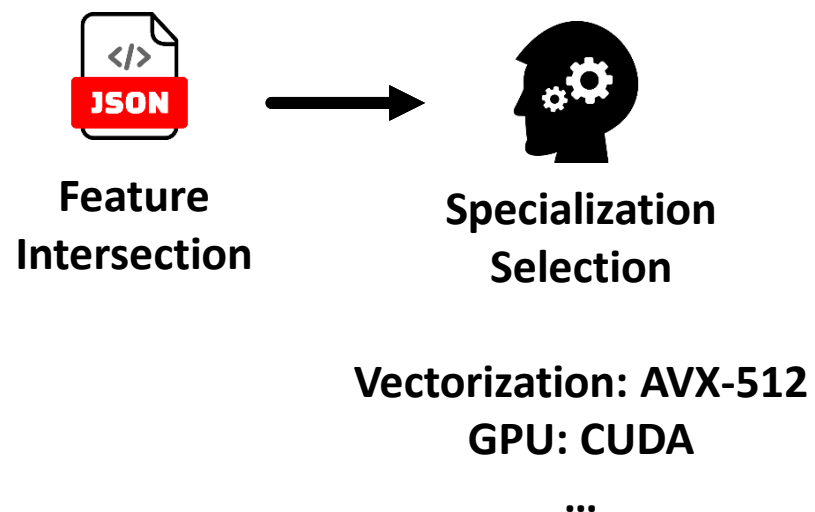


**Feature  
Intersection**

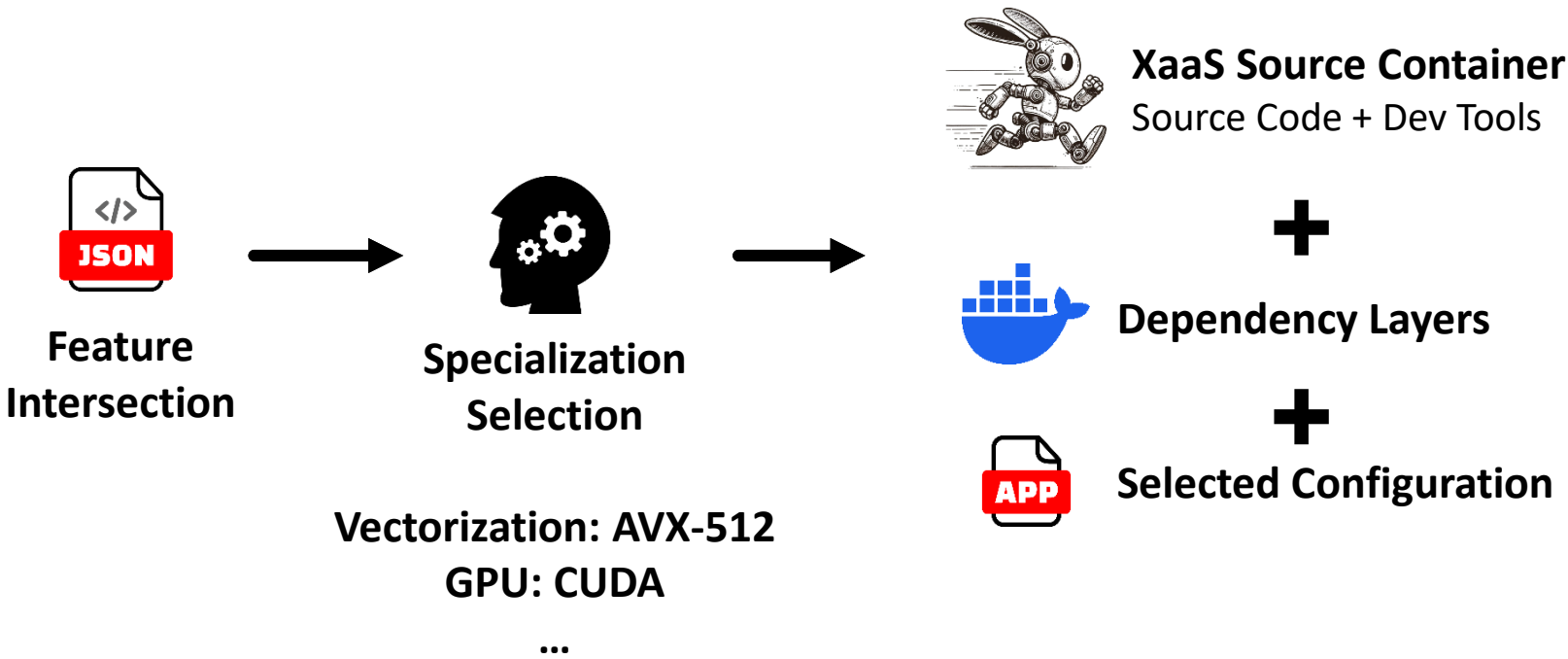
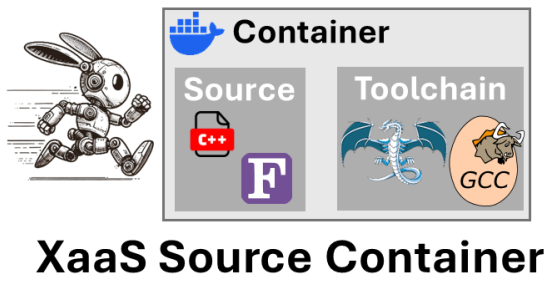
# XaaS Source Containers Deployment



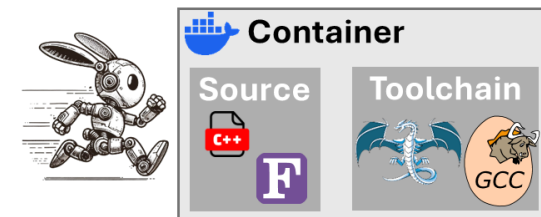
**XaaS Source Container**



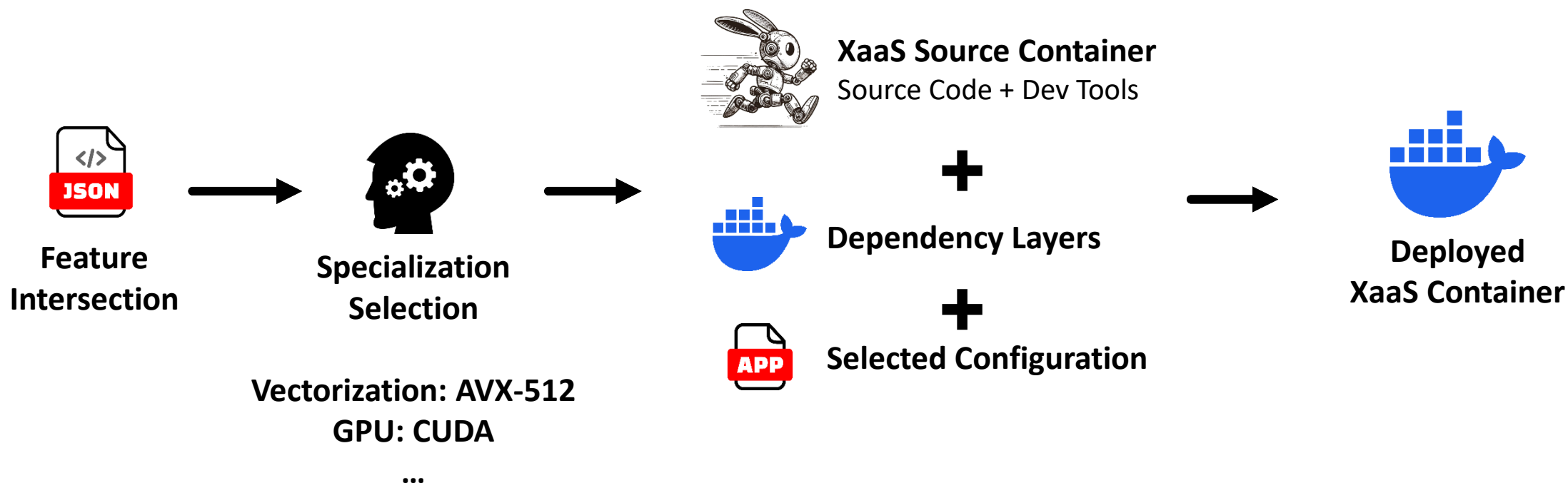
# XaaS Source Containers Deployment



# XaaS Source Containers Deployment



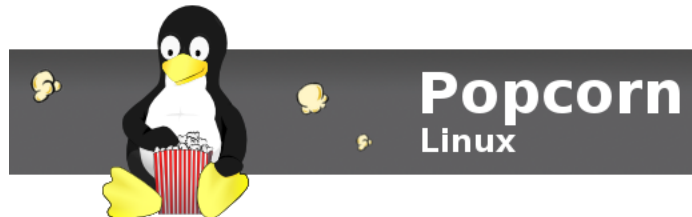
**XaaS Source Container**



# How to Provide Portability for HPC Software?



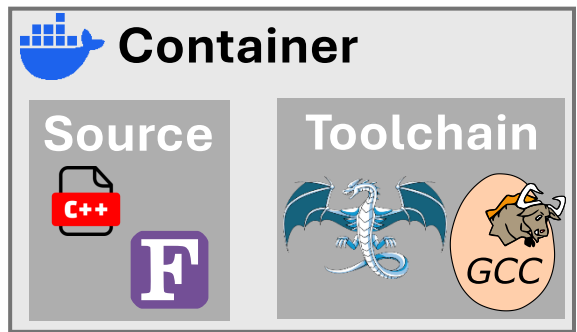
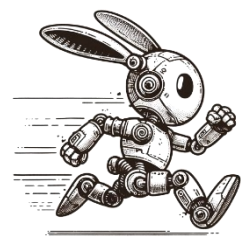
**Building  
Source**



**(Re)lowering  
Application**

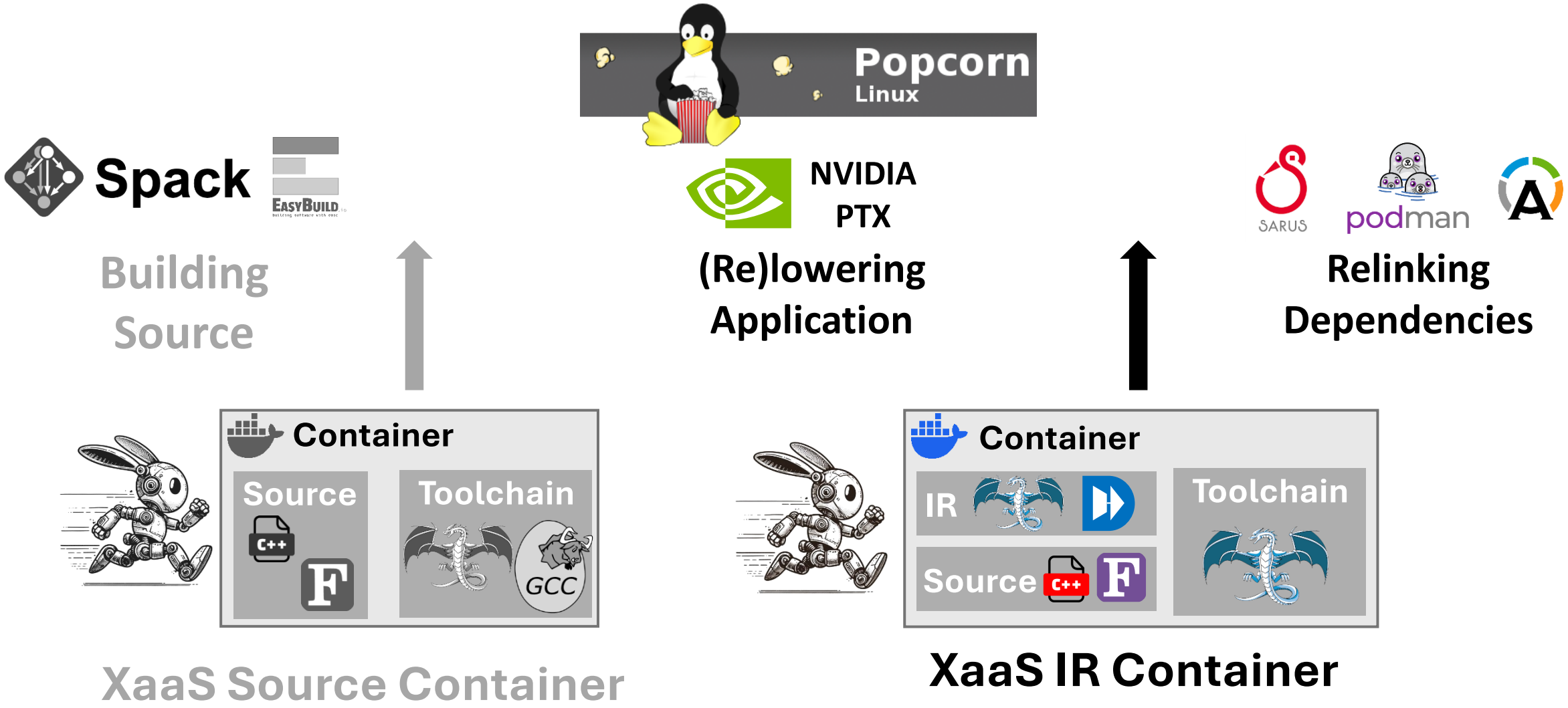


**Relinking  
Dependencies**

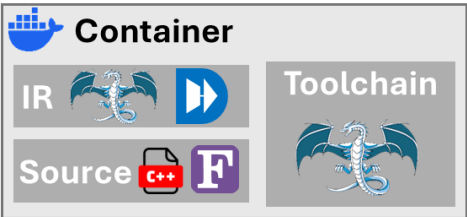


**XaaS Source Container**

# How to Provide Portability for HPC Software?

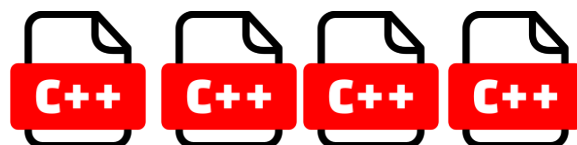


# XaaS IR Containers: Eliminating Redundancy

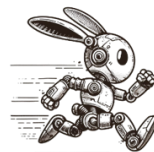


**XaaS IR Container**

# XaaS IR Containers: Eliminating Redundancy



**Config N° 1**  
AVX-256, no GPU, OpenMP



 **Container**

 IR





Source

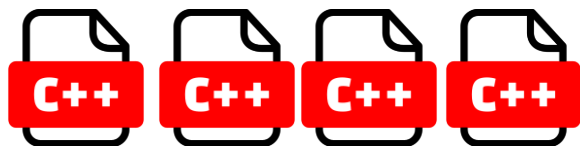




**Toolchain**  

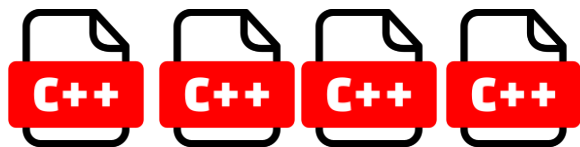

**XaaS IR Container**

# XaaS IR Containers: Eliminating Redundancy



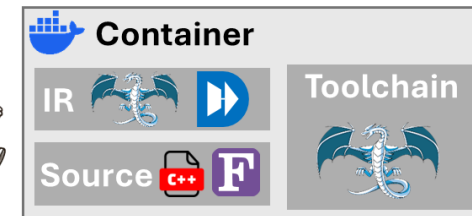
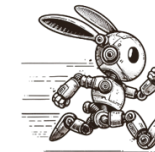
## Config N° 1

AVX-256, no GPU, OpenMP



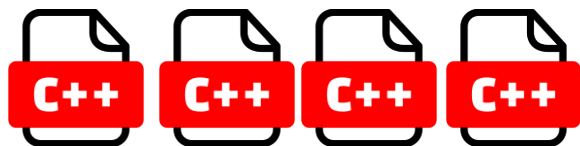
## Config N° 2

AVX-512, CUDA, MPI



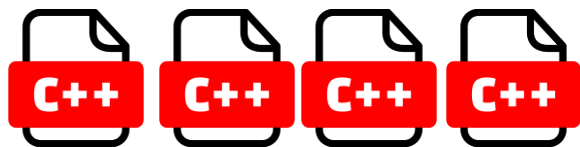
**XaaS IR Container**

# XaaS IR Containers: Eliminating Redundancy



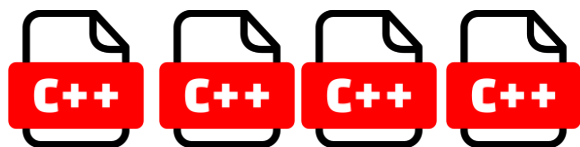
## Config N° 1

AVX-256, no GPU, OpenMP



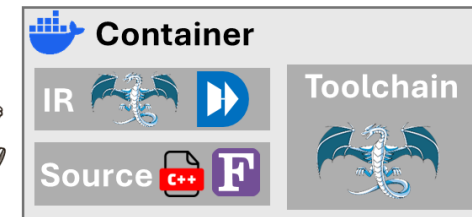
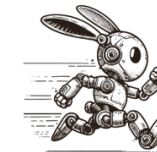
## Config N° 2

AVX-512, CUDA, MPI



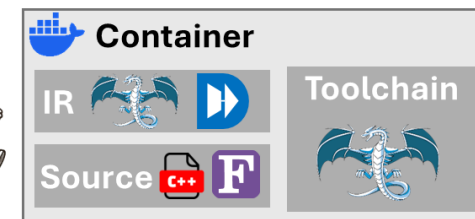
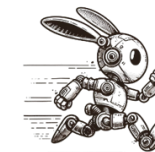
## Config N° 3

AVX-256, CUDA, MPI

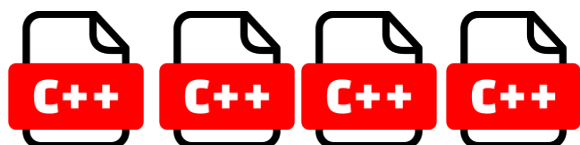


**XaaS IR Container**

# XaaS IR Containers: Eliminating Redundancy



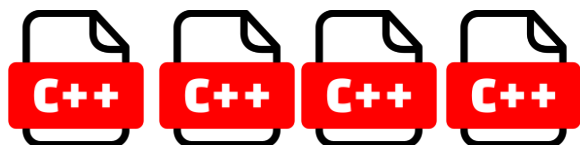
## XaaS IR Container



### Config N° 1

AVX-256, no GPU, OpenMP

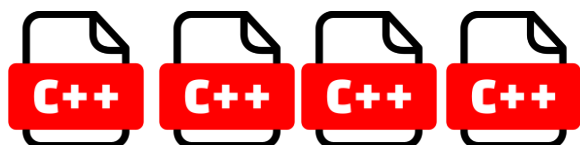
✗ Compile-time definitions.



### Config N° 2

AVX-512, CUDA, MPI

✗ Include paths in build directories.



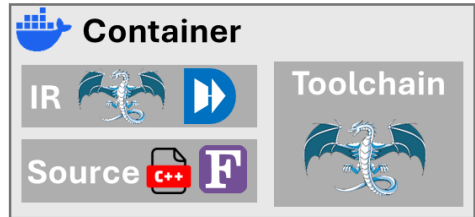
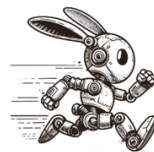
### Config N° 3

AVX-256, CUDA, MPI

✗ Vectorization and architecture flags.

✗ OpenMP flags.

# XaaS IR Containers: Eliminating Redundancy



XaaS IR Container



**Config N° 1**  
AVX-256, no GPU, OpenMP



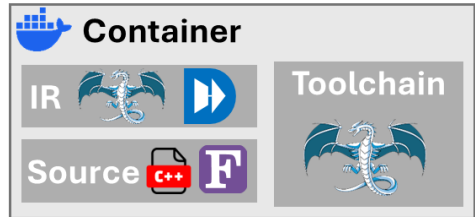
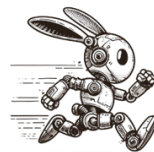
**Config N° 2**  
AVX-512, CUDA, MPI



**Config N° 3**  
AVX-256, CUDA, MPI

- ✗ Compile-time definitions.
- ✗ Include paths in build directories.
- ✗ Vectorization and architecture flags.
- ✗ OpenMP flags.

# XaaS IR Containers: Eliminating Redundancy



XaaS IR Container



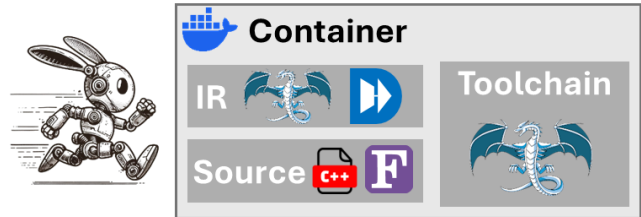
**Config N° 1**  
AVX-256, no GPU, OpenMP

**Config N° 2**  
AVX-512, CUDA, MPI

**Config N° 3**  
AVX-256, CUDA, MPI

- ✗ Compile-time definitions.
- ✗ Include paths in build directories.
- ✗ Vectorization and architecture flags.
- ✗ OpenMP flags.

# XaaS IR Containers: Eliminating Redundancy



XaaS IR Container



**Config N° 1**  
AVX-256, no GPU, OpenMP

**Config N° 2**  
AVX-512, CUDA, MPI

**Config N° 3**  
AVX-256, CUDA, MPI

- ✗ Compile-time definitions.
- ✗ Include paths in build directories.
- ✗ Vectorization and architecture flags.
- ✗ OpenMP flags.

Example 1: GROMACS, CPU Vectorization (5)

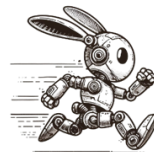
Example 2: GROMACS, CUDA + CPU Vectorization (2)

5 Build Configurations: 8710 compiled files  
IR Container: 2695 IRs -> **69% reduction**

4 Build Configurations: 7052 compiled files  
IR Container: 2694 IRs -> **62% reduction**

# XaaS IR Containers: Build & Deploy

## Container Build



 **Container**

IR 

Source  

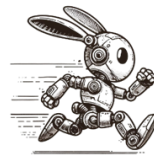
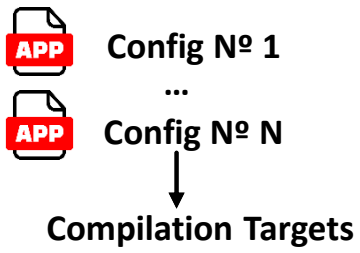


**Toolchain**  


XaaS IR Container

# XaaS IR Containers: Build & Deploy

## Container Build

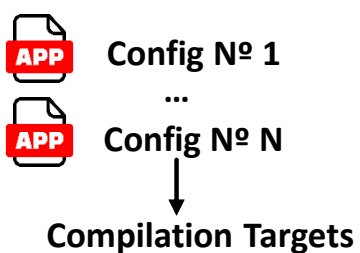


|                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <b>Container</b> |                                                                                                                                                                         |
|  IR               |  Toolchain                                                                           |
|  Source           |   |

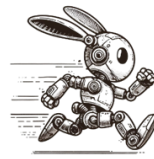
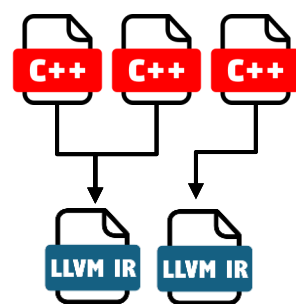
**XaaS IR Container**

# XaaS IR Containers: Build & Deploy

## Container Build



- Preprocessing
- OpenMP Detection
- Vectorization
- Building IRs

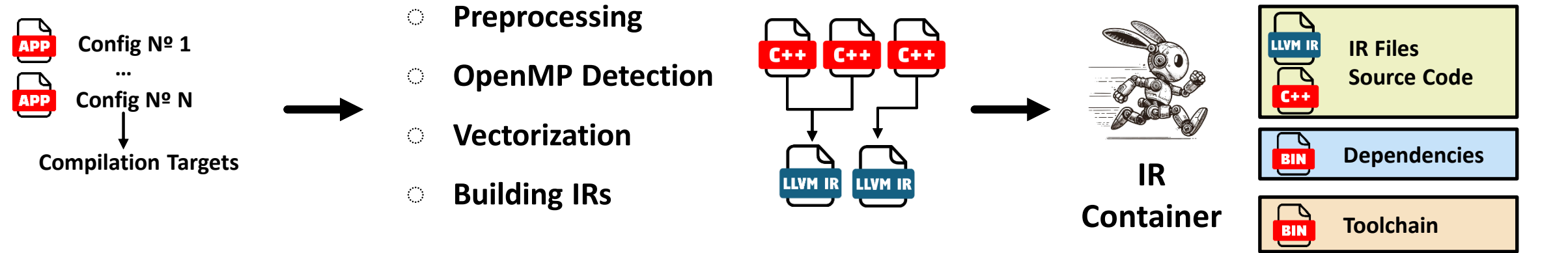


|                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <b>Container</b>                                                                           |                                                                                               |
|  IR                                                                                         |  Toolchain |
| Source   |            |

**XaaS IR Container**

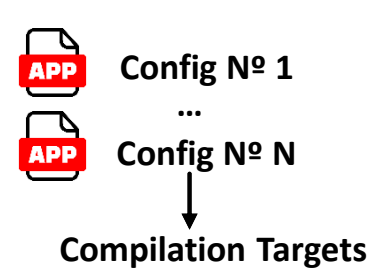
# XaaS IR Containers: Build & Deploy

## Container Build

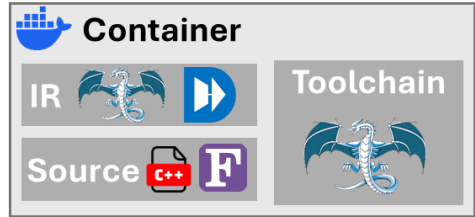
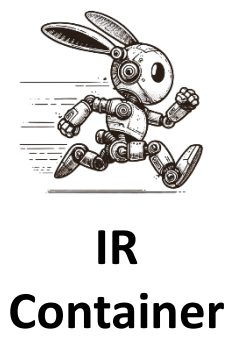
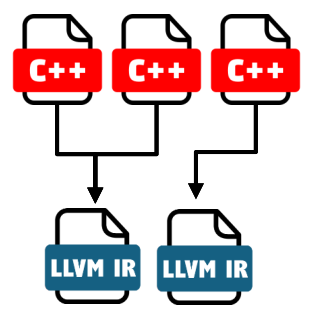


# XaaS IR Containers: Build & Deploy

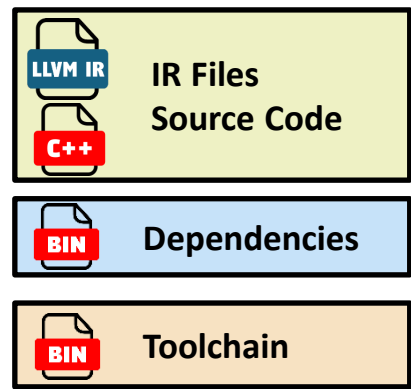
## Container Build



- Preprocessing
- OpenMP Detection
- Vectorization
- Building IRs



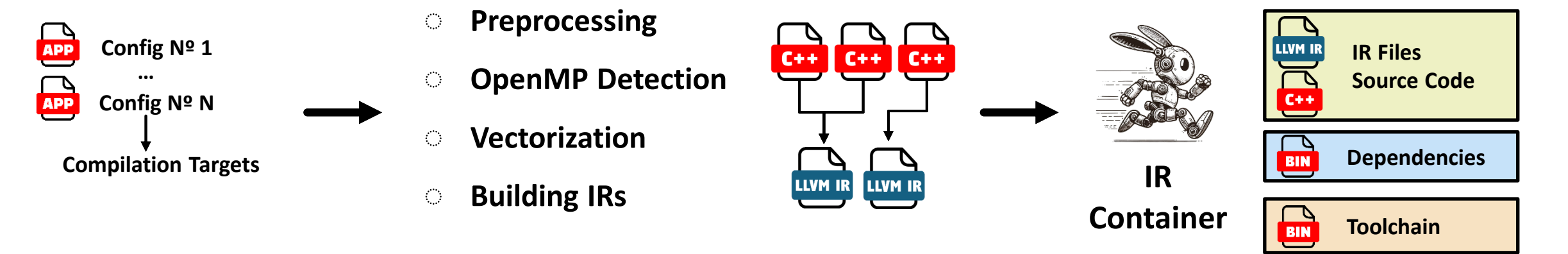
### XaaS IR Container



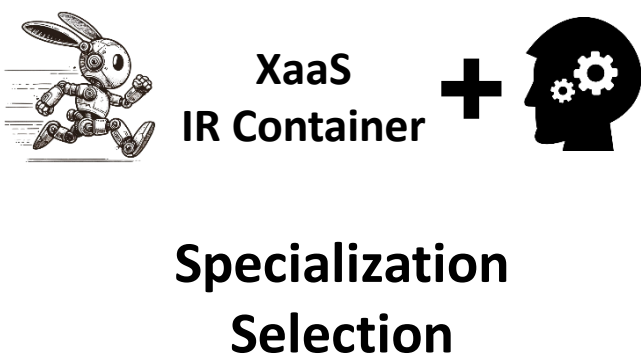
## Container Deployment

# XaaS IR Containers: Build & Deploy

## Container Build

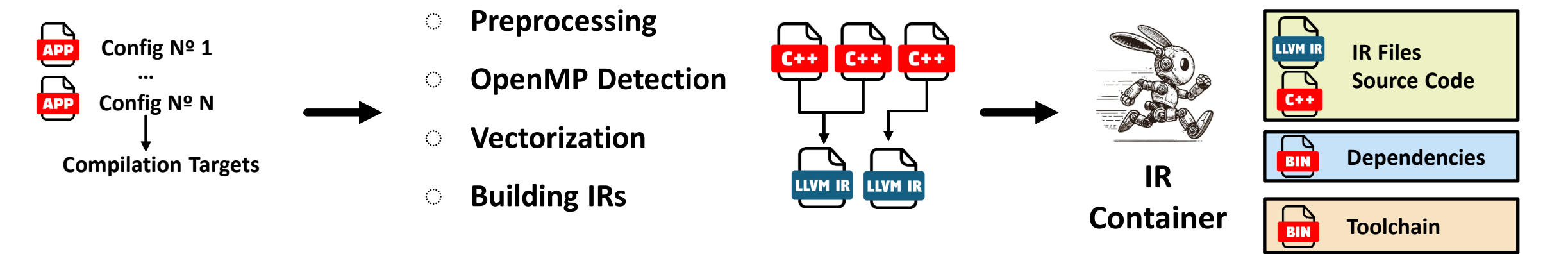


## Container Deployment

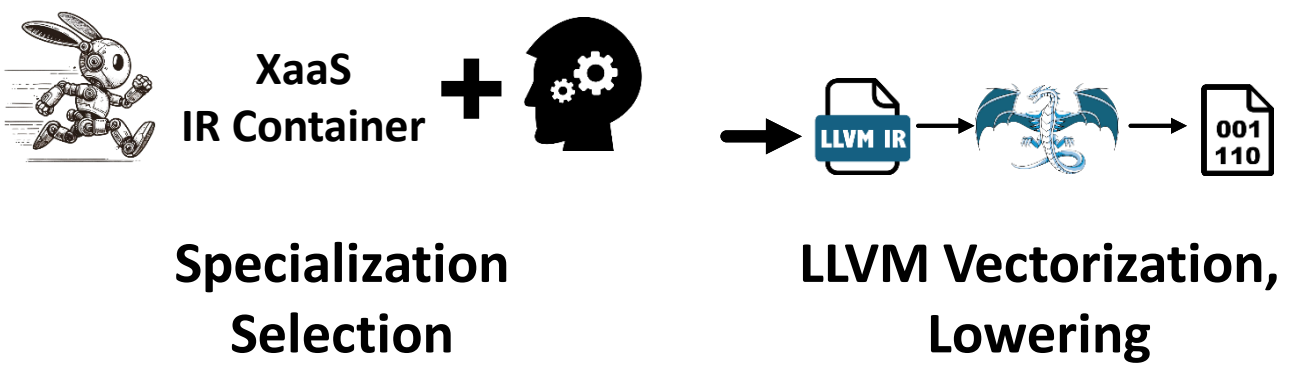


# XaaS IR Containers: Build & Deploy

## Container Build

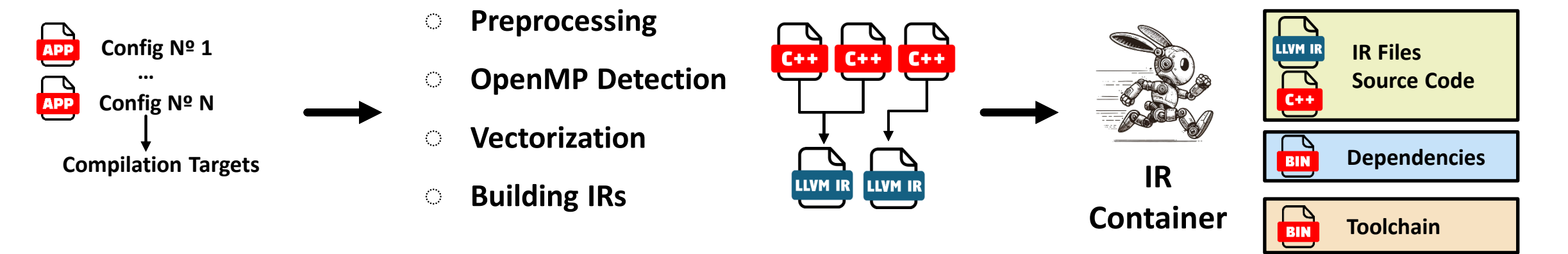


## Container Deployment

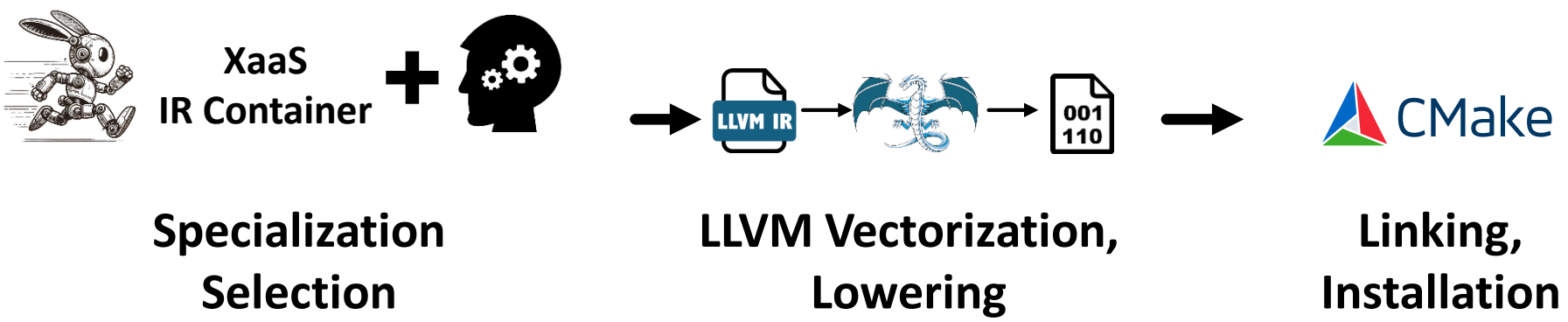


# XaaS IR Containers: Build & Deploy

## Container Build

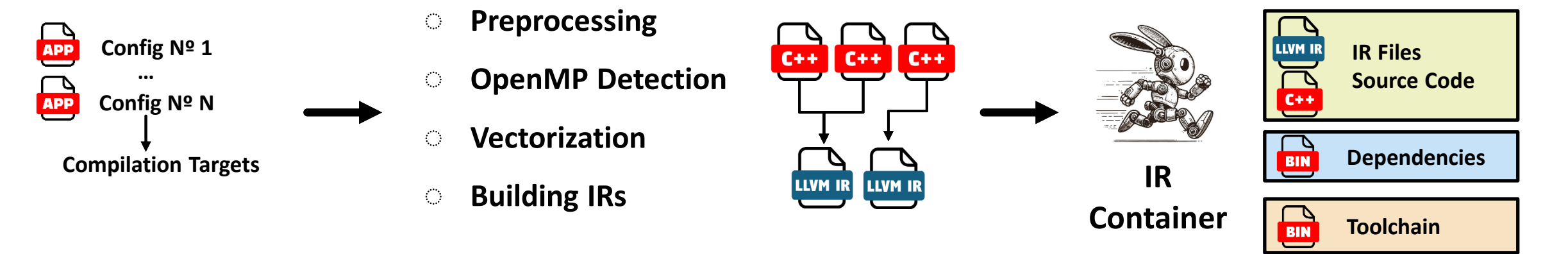


## Container Deployment

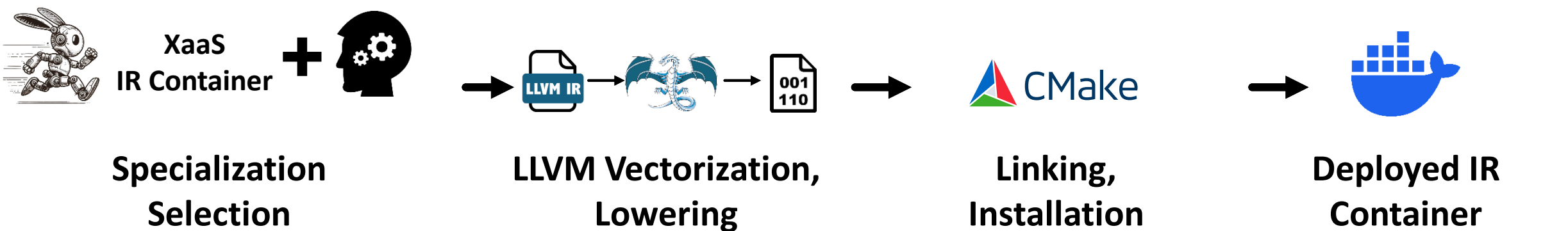


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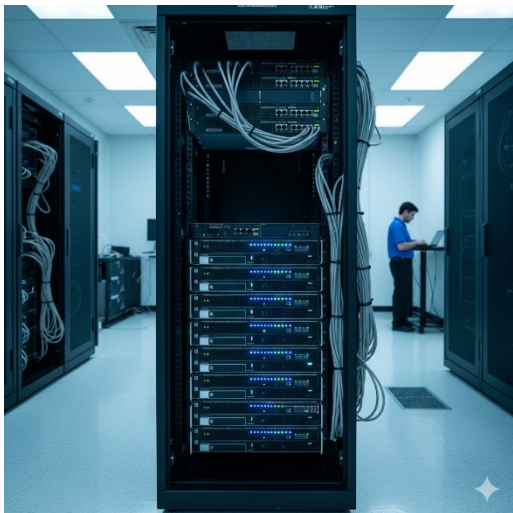
## Container Build



## Container Deployment



## CSCS Ault



Intel/AMD CPU,  
NVIDIA GPU

## CSCS Alps



ARM CPU, NVIDIA GPU

## ALCF Aurora



Intel CPU, Intel GPU

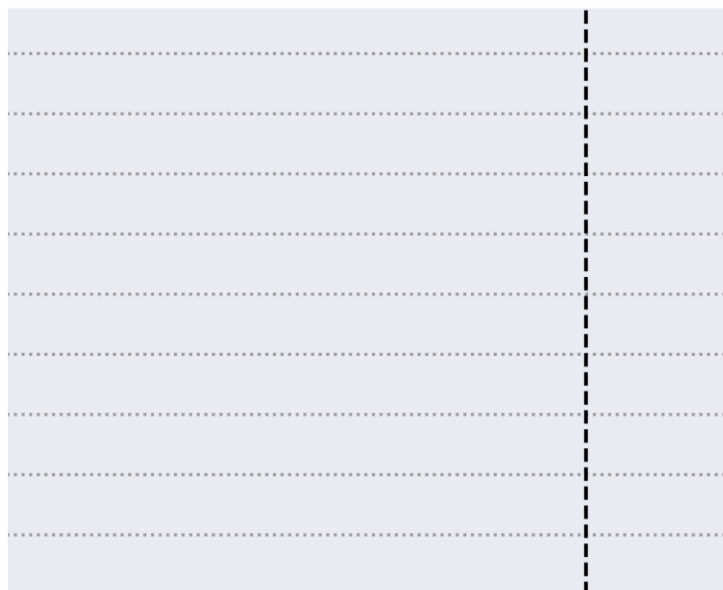
**Can XaaS Source and IR Containers provide  
performance portability?**

# Evaluation – GROMACS in XaaS Source Containers

Alps.Clariden (GH200)

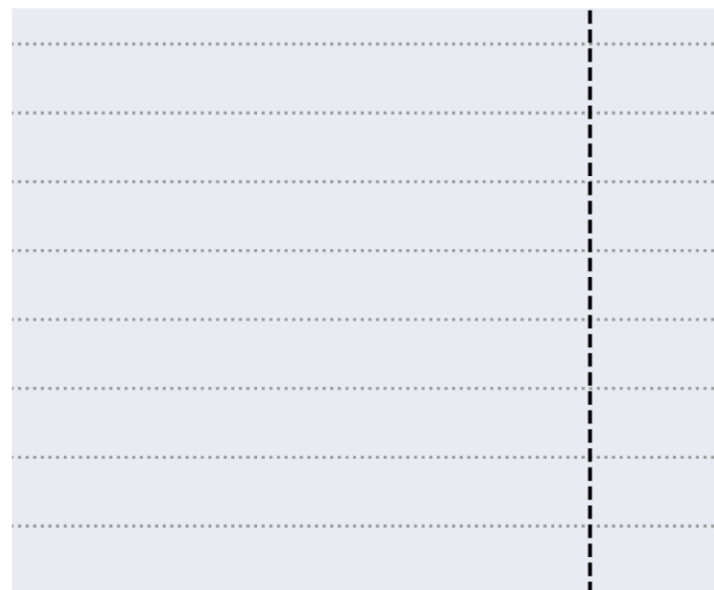
Execution Time (s)

180  
160  
140  
120  
100  
80  
60  
40  
20



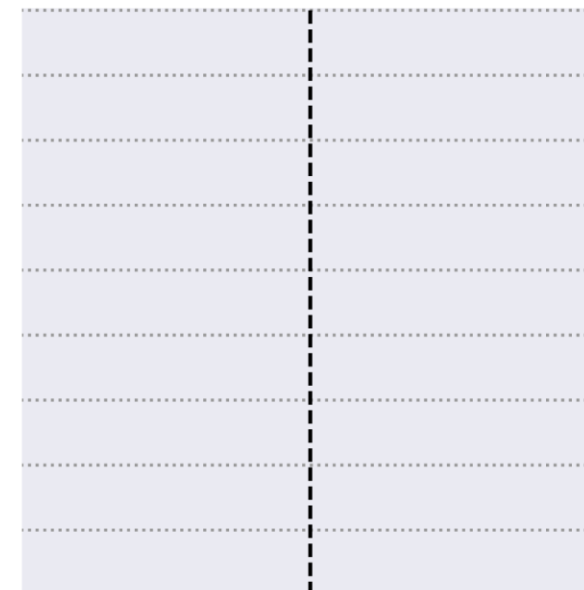
Ault23 (Intel CPU, V100)

240  
210  
180  
150  
120  
90  
60  
30

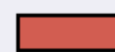


Aurora (Intel CPU + GPU)

54  
48  
42  
36  
30  
24  
18  
12  
6



UEABS Problem A



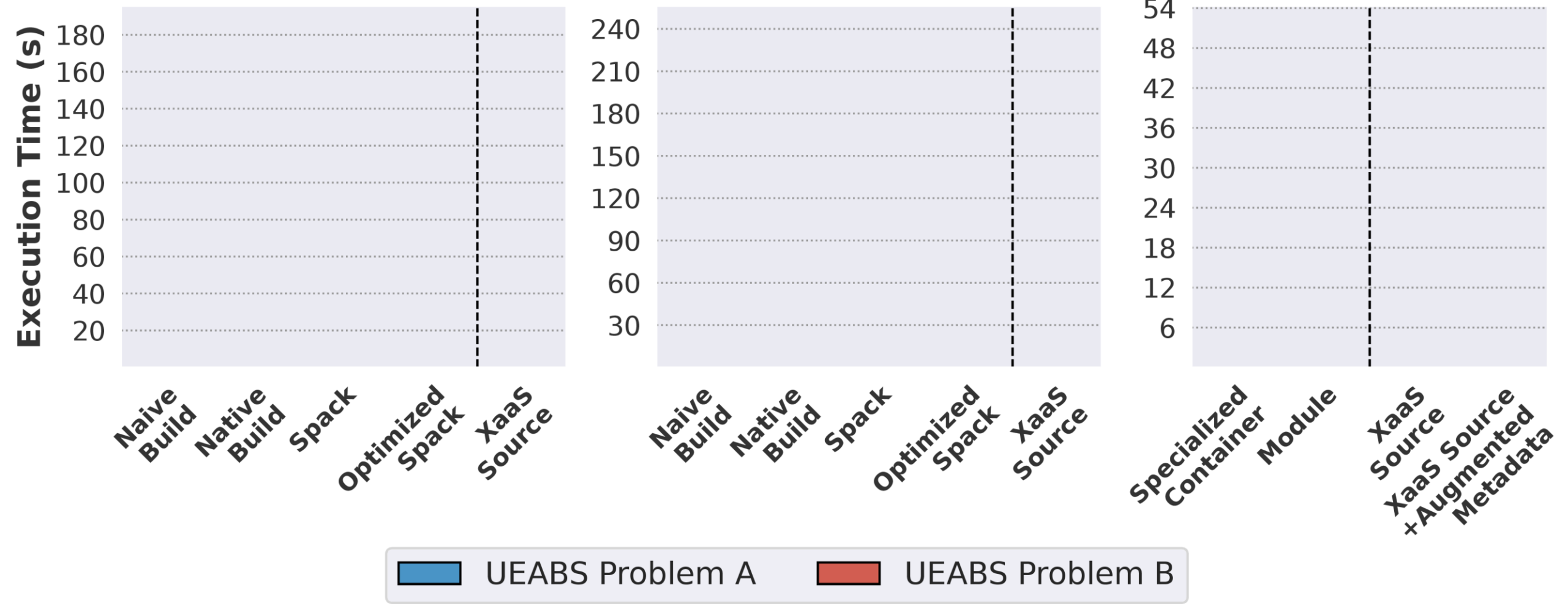
UEABS Problem B

# Evaluation – GROMACS in XaaS Source Containers

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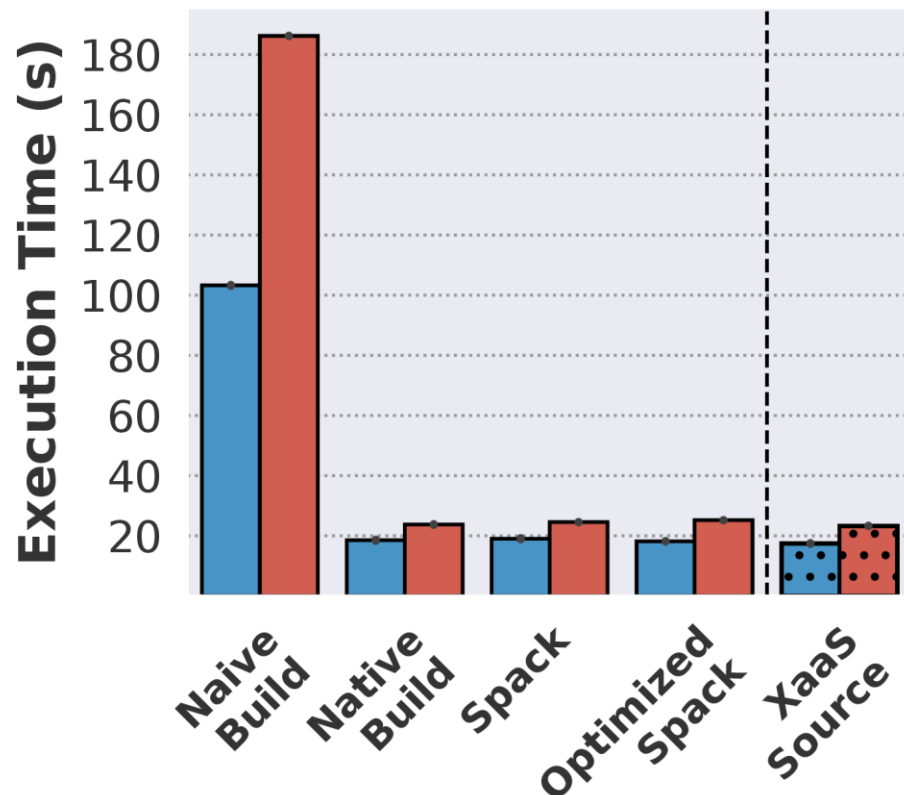
Aurora (Intel CPU + GPU)



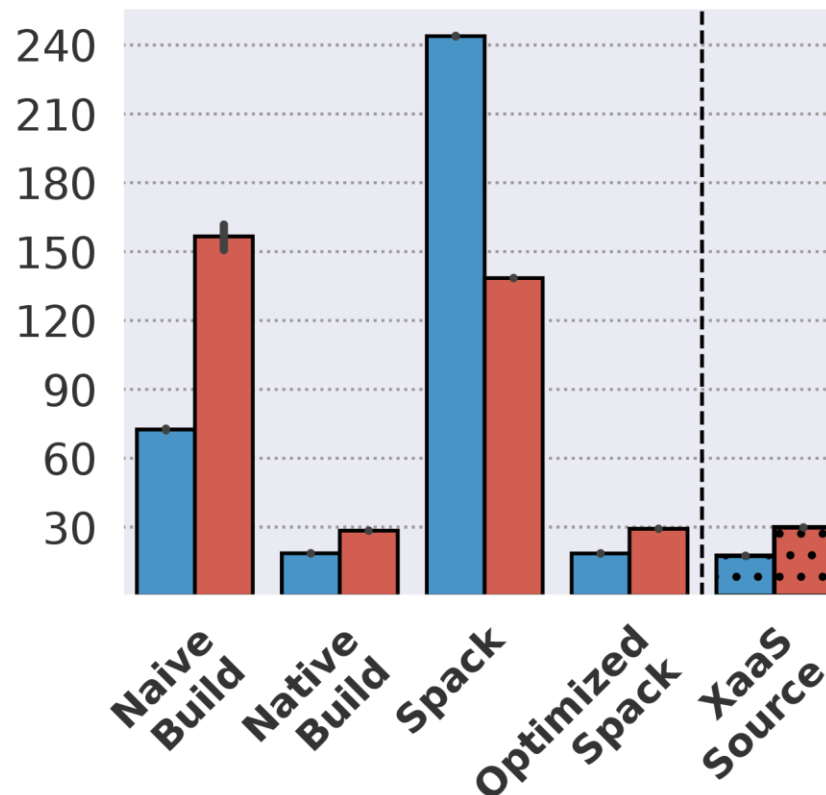
**Baselines (depending on availability):** “naïve” build, specialized native builds, specialized containers, system modules, Spack.

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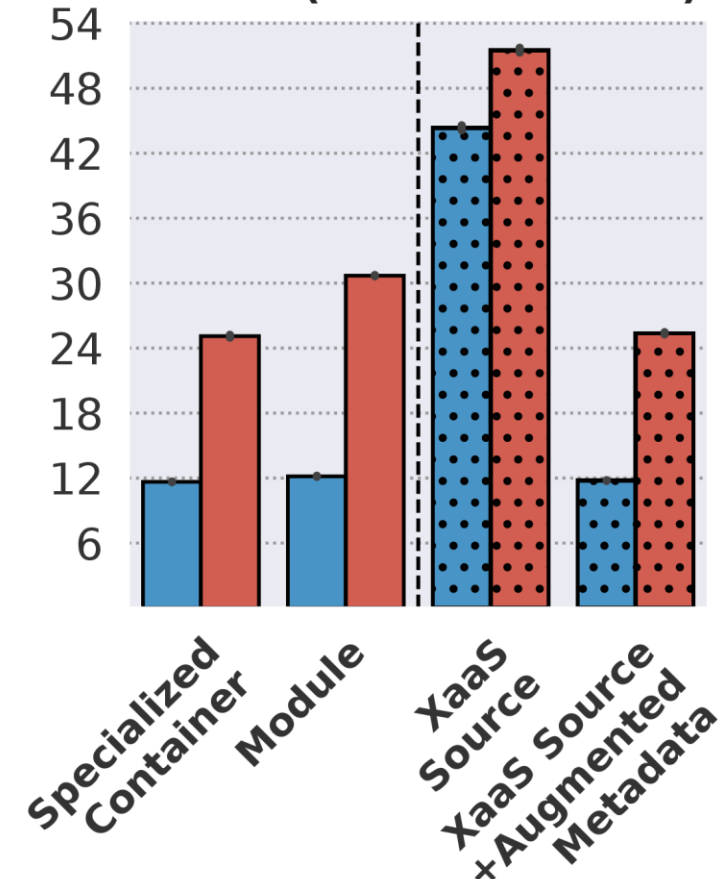
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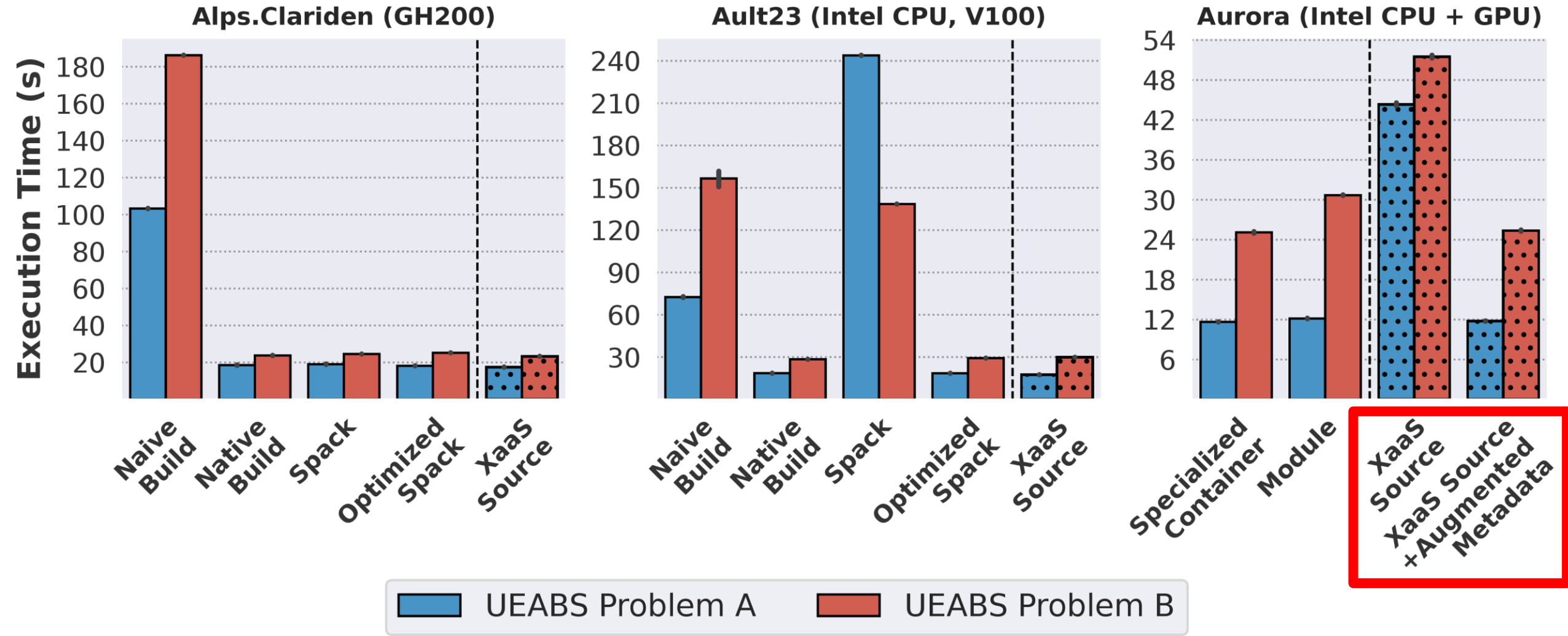
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 UEABS Problem A
  UEABS Problem B

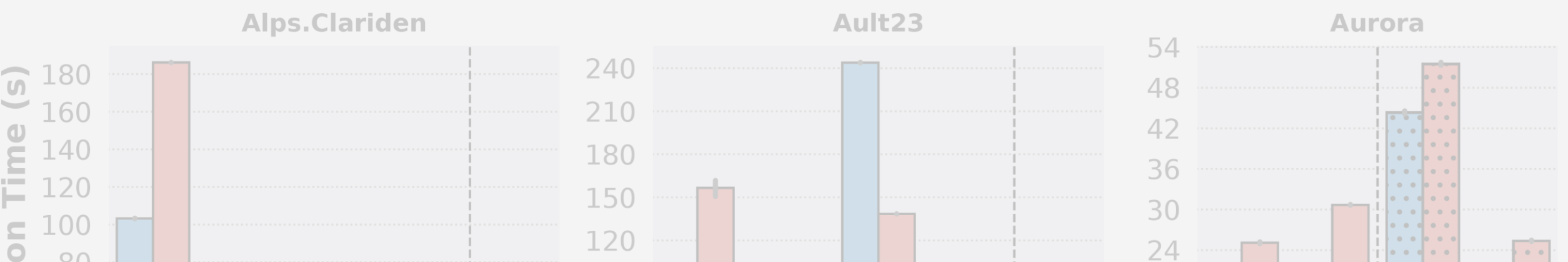
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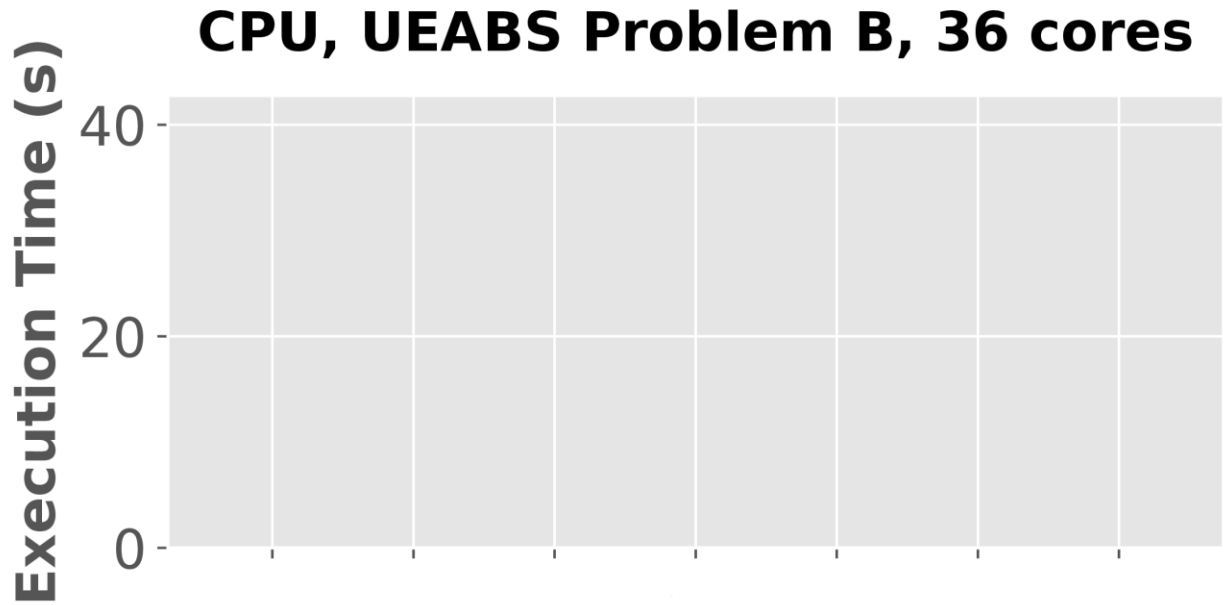
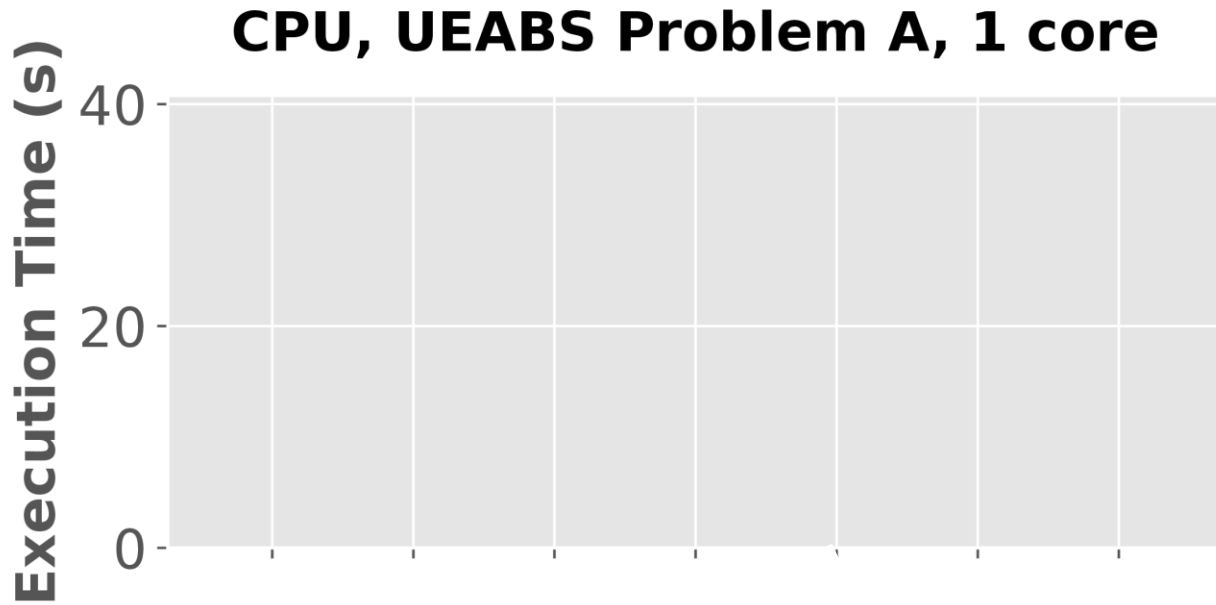
# Evaluation – GROMACS in XaaS Source Containers



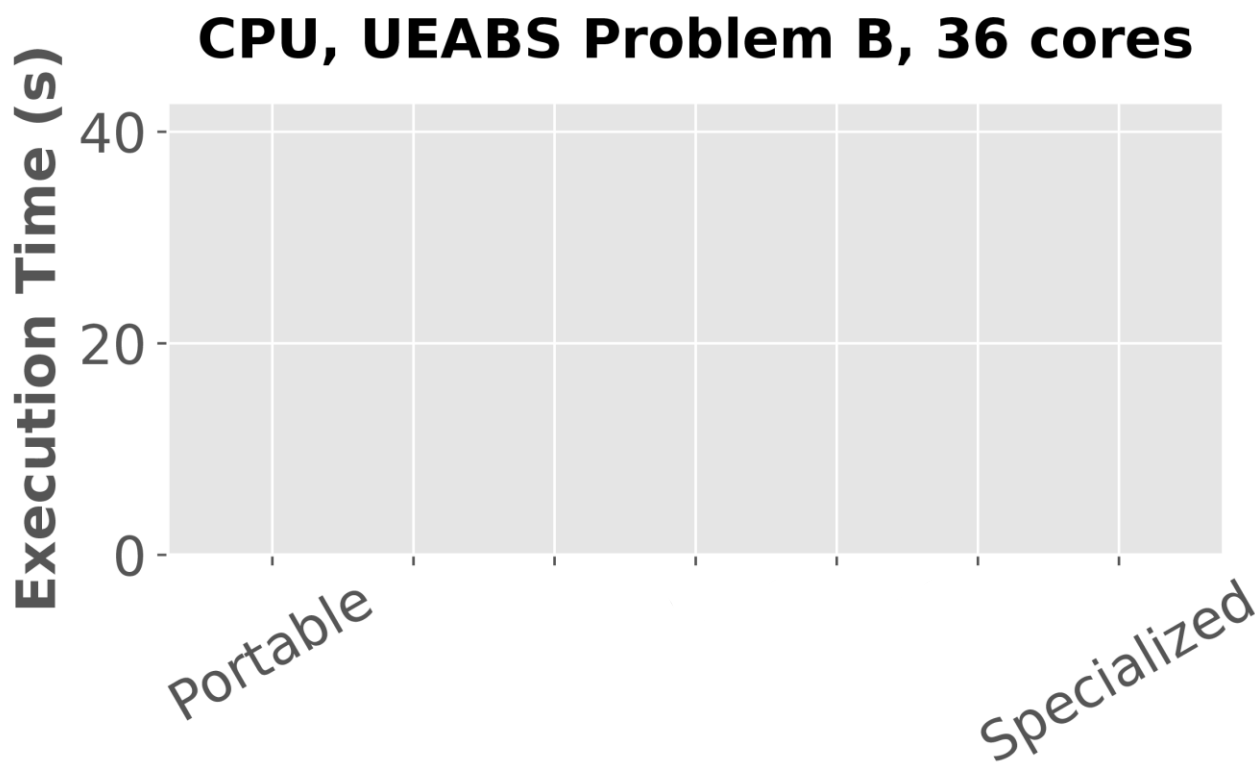
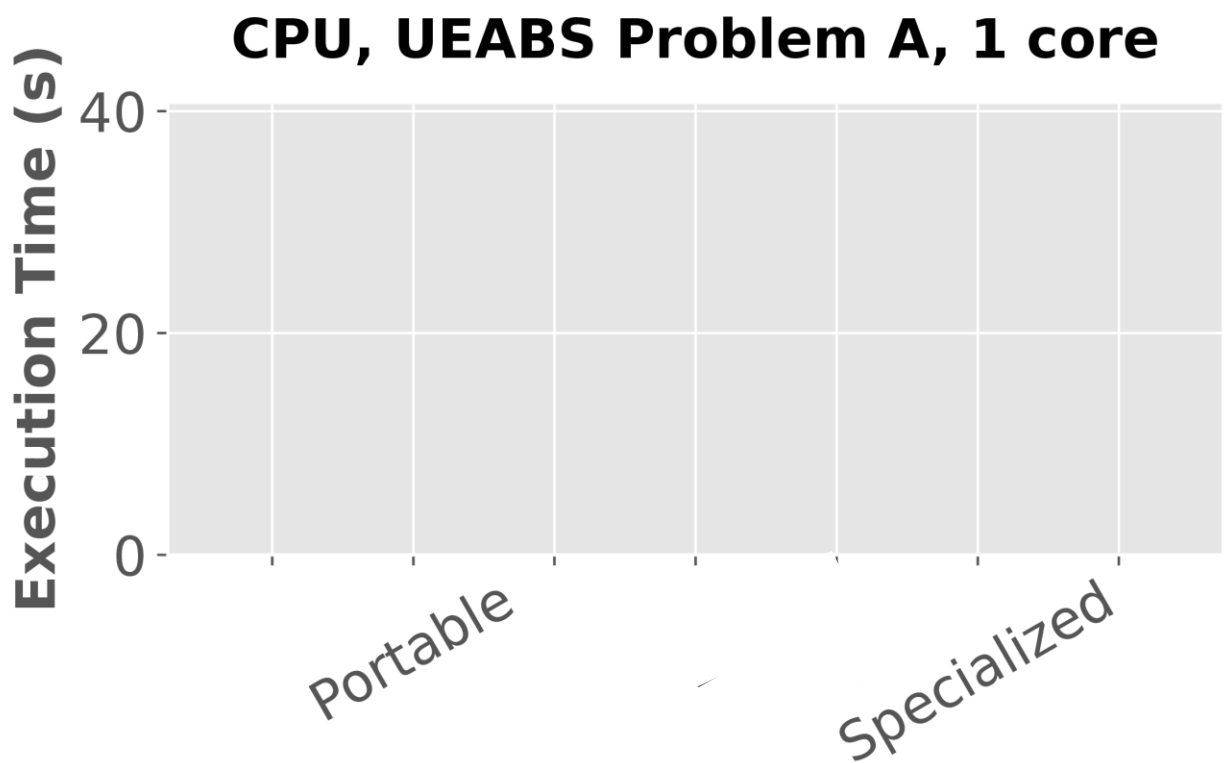
XaaS Source Containers match performance of builds specialized to the underlying system.

**Baselines (depending on availability):** “naïve” build, specialized native builds, specialized containers, system modules, Spack.

# Evaluation – XaaS IR Containers with CPU Vectorization

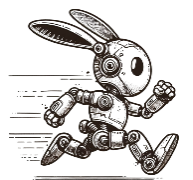
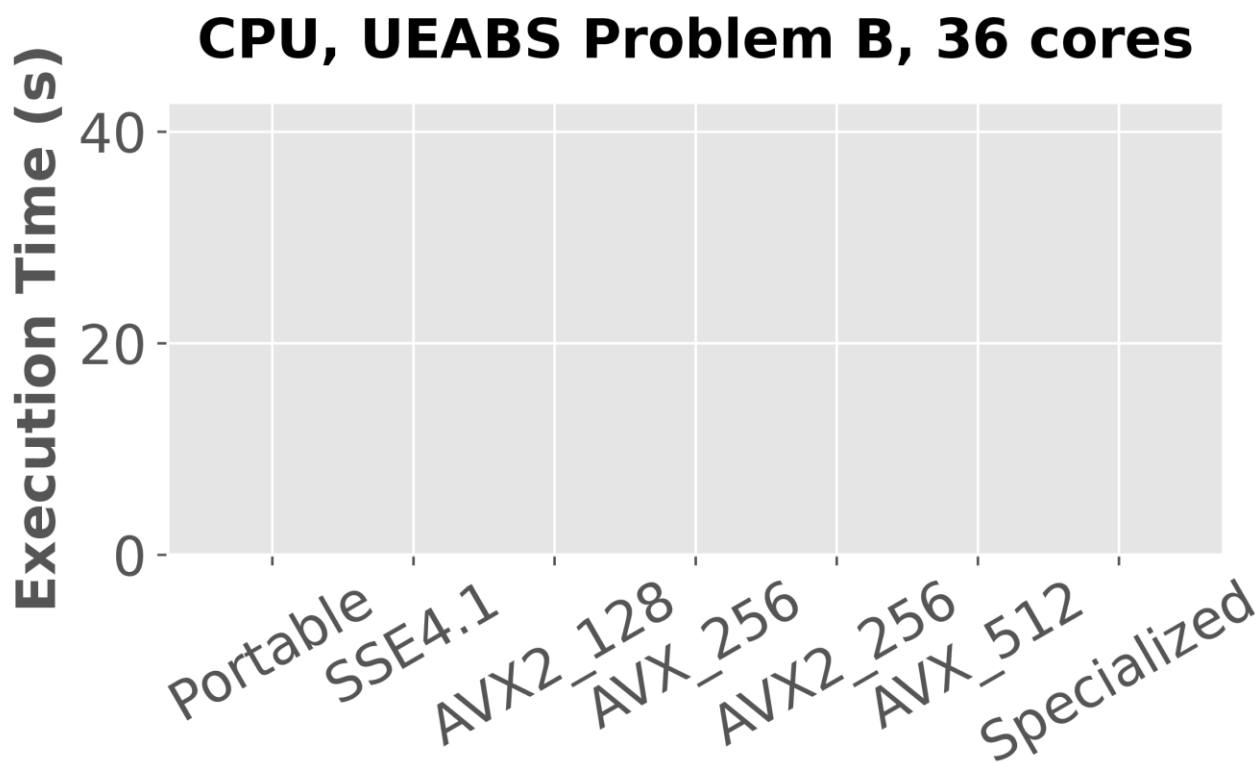
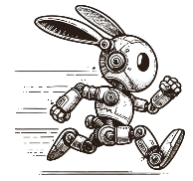
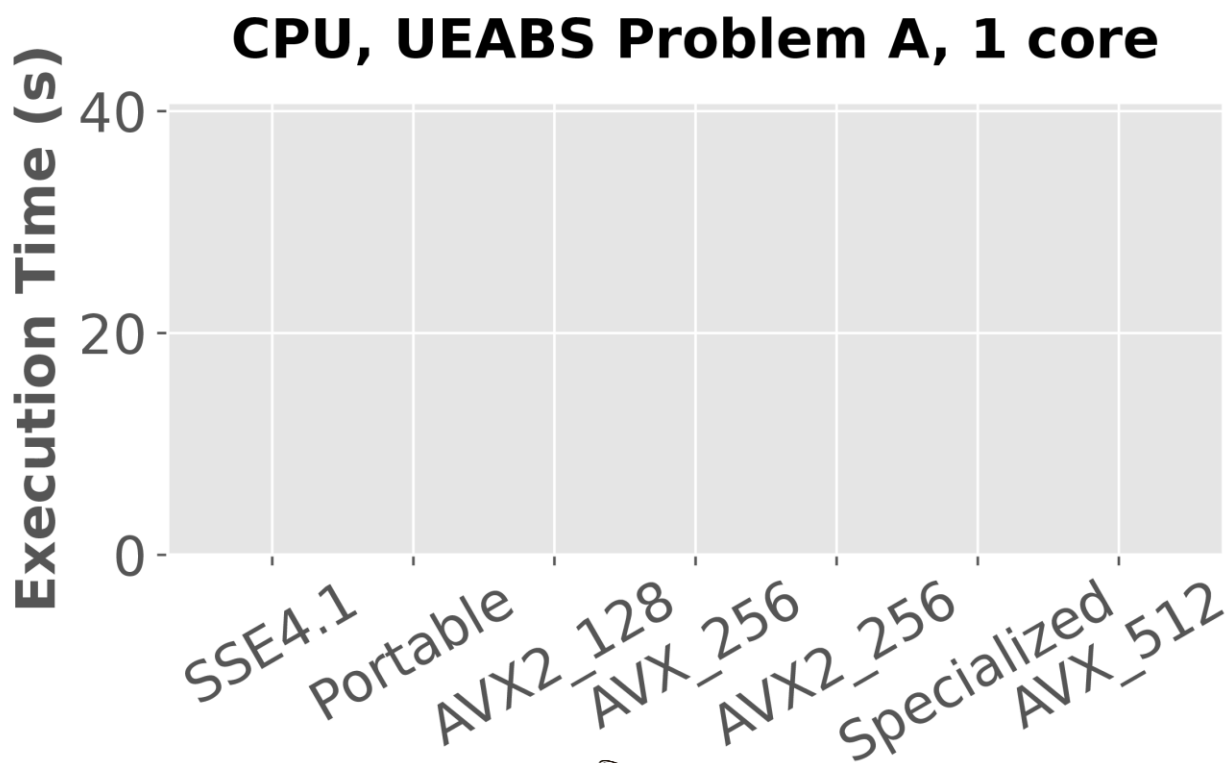


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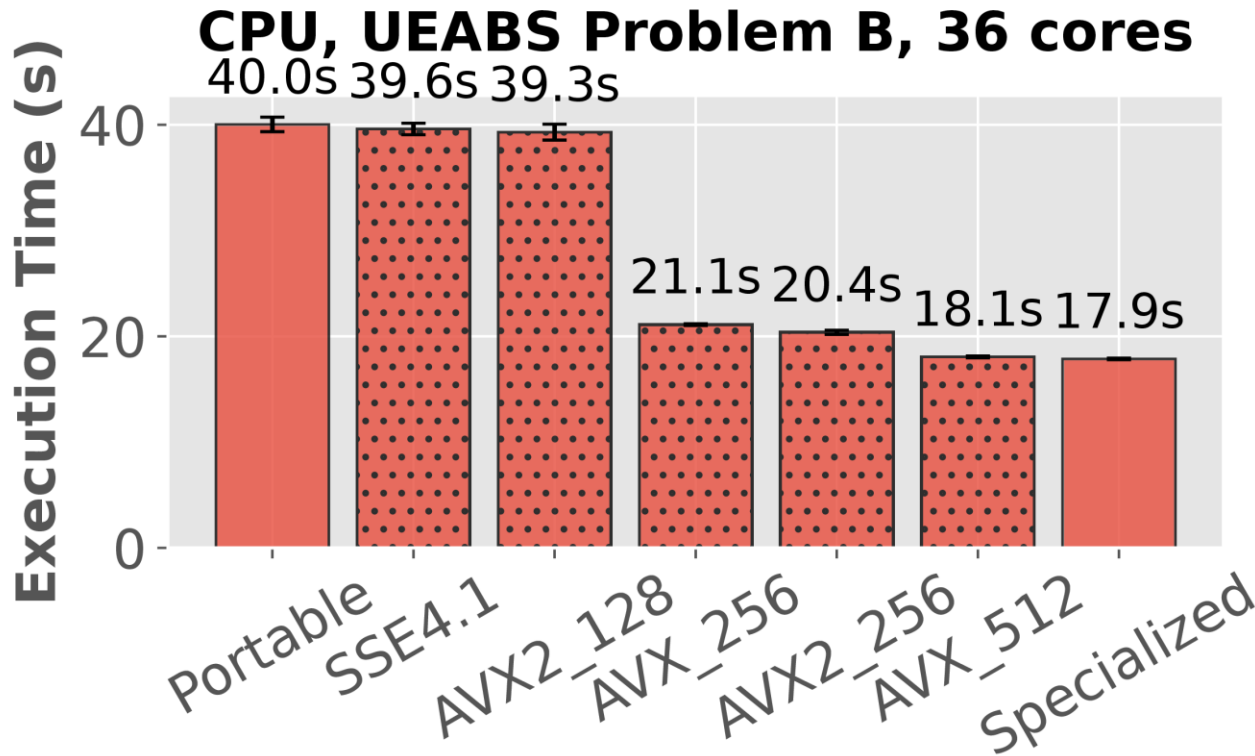
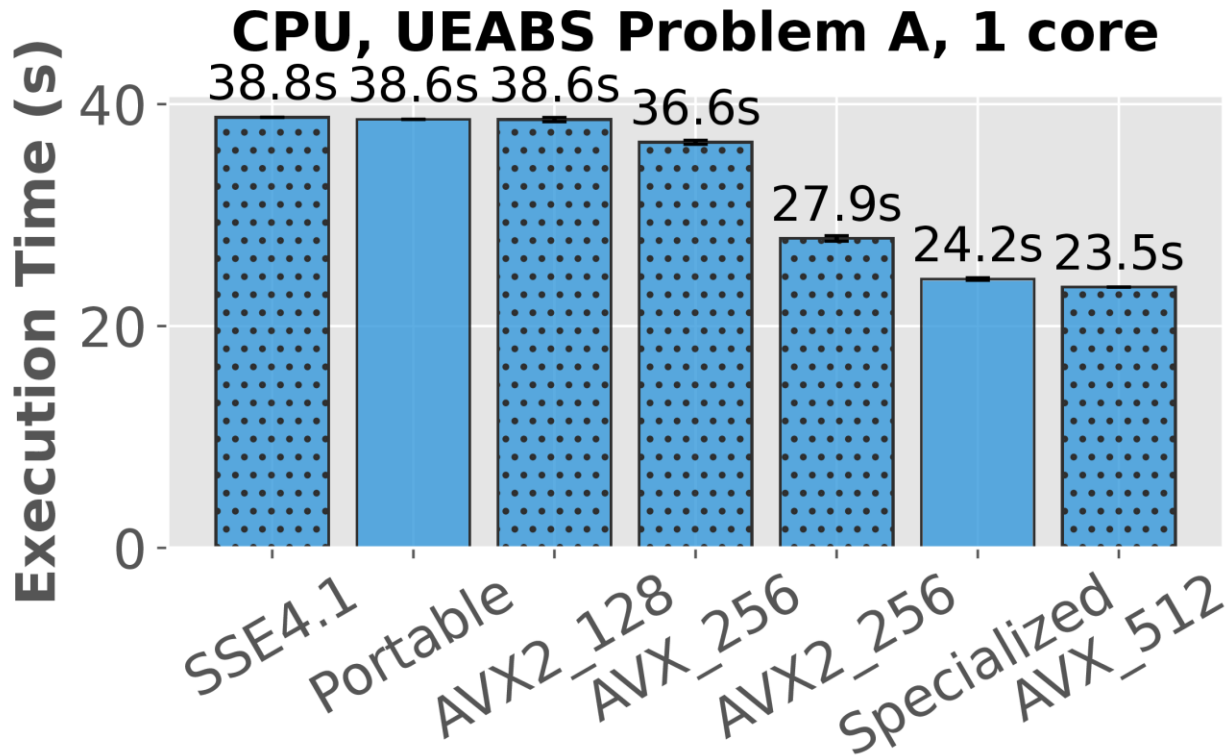
**Baselines:** portable (SSE4.1) and specialized (AVX-512) Docker containers.

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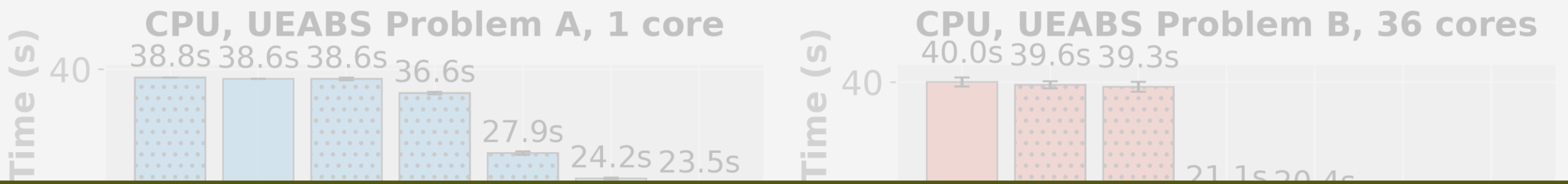
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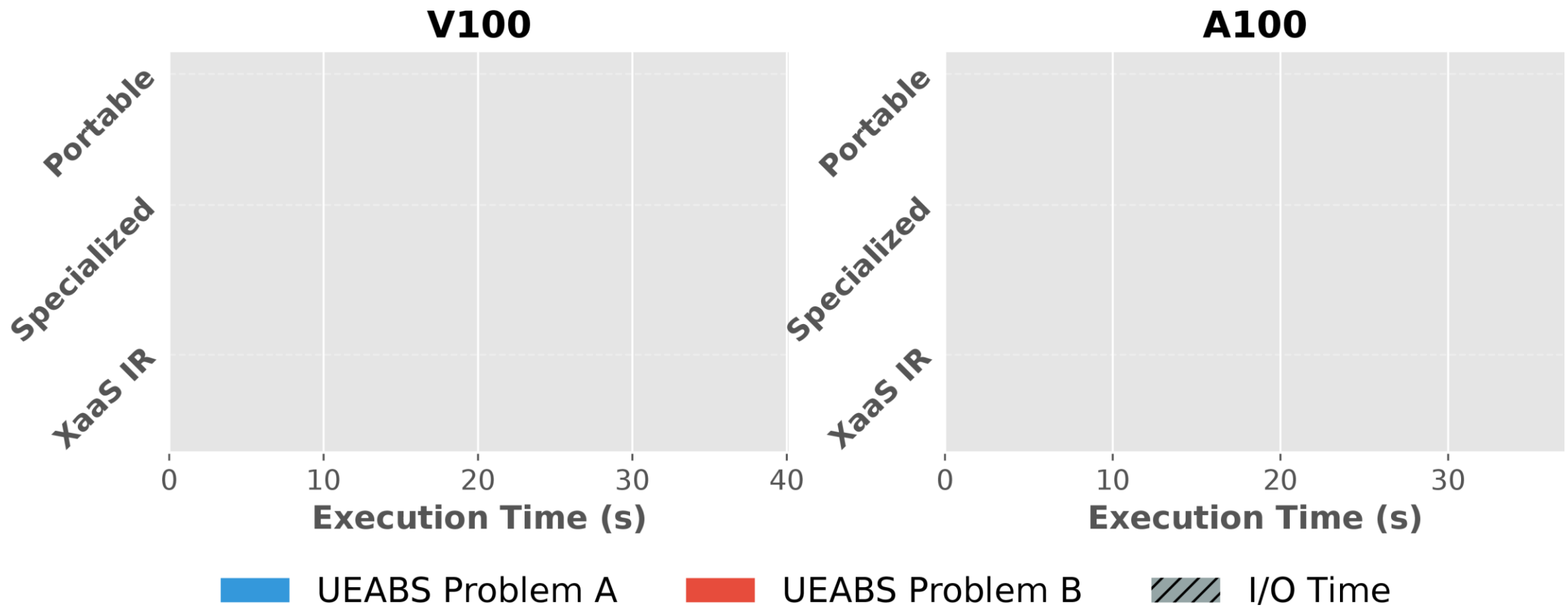
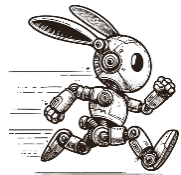
# Evaluation – XaaS IR Containers with CPU Vectorization



XaaS IR Containers specialize to CPU microarchitecture by delaying vectorization until deployment time.

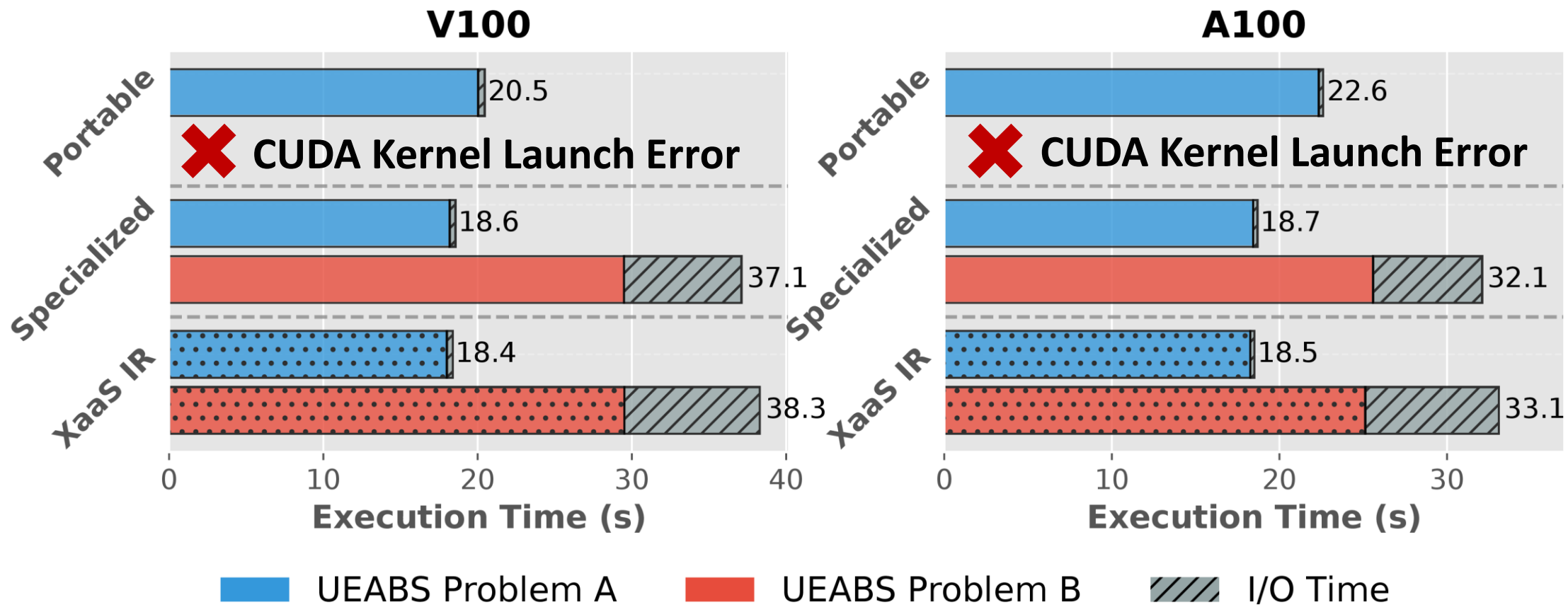
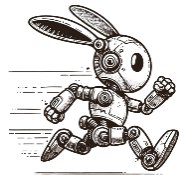
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# Evaluation – XaaS IR Containers with CUDA Support



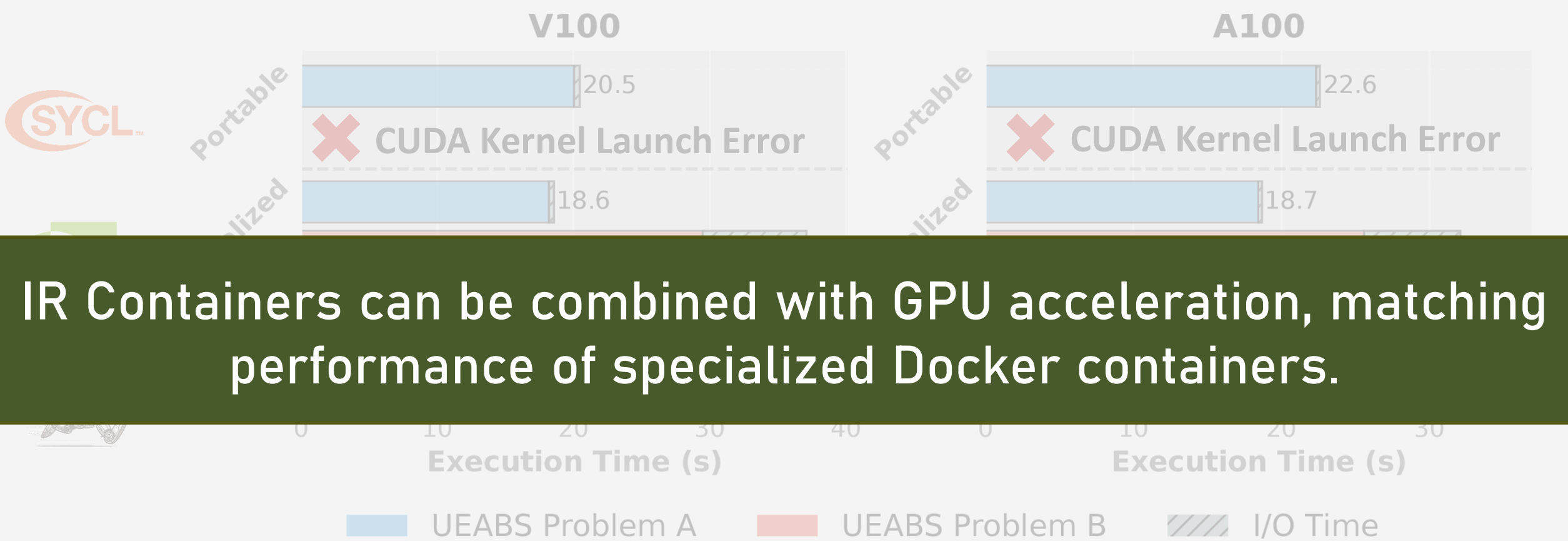
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Portable containers with SYCL + CUDA, compiled with Intel's icpx compiler.

# Evaluation – XaaS IR Containers with CUDA Support



**Baselines:** specialized Docker containers with CUDA, AVX-512 (V100) or AVX-256 (A100).  
Portable containers with SYCL + CUDA, compiled with Intel’s icpx compiler.

# Evaluation – XaaS IR Containers with CUDA Support



IR Containers can be combined with GPU acceleration, matching performance of specialized Docker containers.

**Baselines:** specialized Docker containers with CUDA, AVX-512 (V100) or AVX-256 (A100).  
Portable containers with SYCL + CUDA, compiled with Intel’s icpx compiler.

# Conclusions

## More of SPCL's research:

 [youtube.com/@spcl](https://youtube.com/@spcl) **240+ Talks**

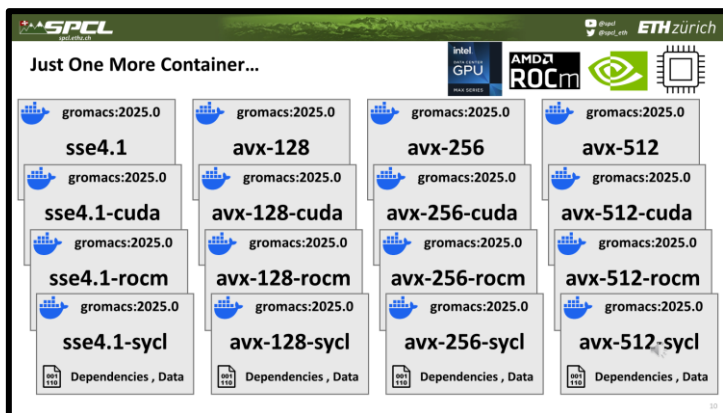
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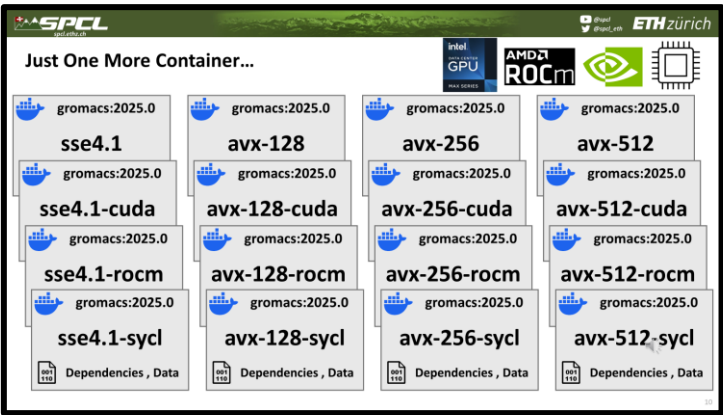
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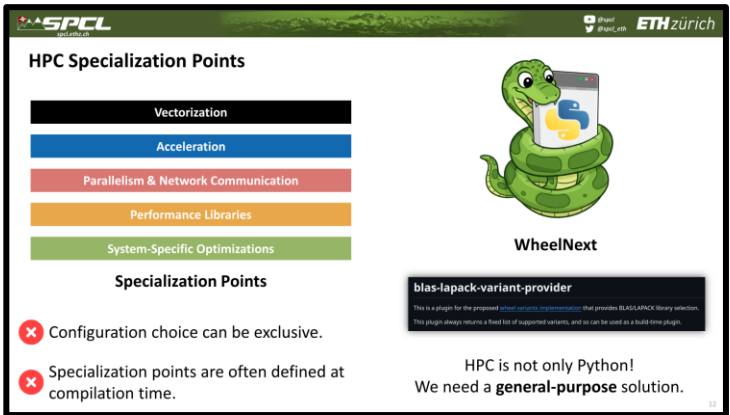
# Conclusions



Just One More Container...

| GPU   | AVX     | Container Name               |
|-------|---------|------------------------------|
| Intel | sse4.1  | gromacs:2025.0 sse4.1        |
| Intel | avx-128 | gromacs:2025.0 avx-128       |
| Intel | avx-256 | gromacs:2025.0 avx-256       |
| Intel | avx-512 | gromacs:2025.0 avx-512       |
| AMD   | sse4.1  | gromacs:2025.0 sse4.1-rocml  |
| AMD   | avx-128 | gromacs:2025.0 avx-128-rocml |
| AMD   | avx-256 | gromacs:2025.0 avx-256-rocml |
| AMD   | avx-512 | gromacs:2025.0 avx-512-rocml |
| AMD   | sse4.1  | gromacs:2025.0 sse4.1-sycl   |
| AMD   | avx-128 | gromacs:2025.0 avx-128-sycl  |
| AMD   | avx-256 | gromacs:2025.0 avx-256-sycl  |
| AMD   | avx-512 | gromacs:2025.0 avx-512-sycl  |

Dependencies, Data



### HPC Specialization Points

- Vectorization
- Acceleration
- Parallelism & Network Communication
- Performance Libraries
- System-Specific Optimizations

### Specialization Points

- Configuration choice can be exclusive.
- Specialization points are often defined at compilation time.



WheelNext

blas-lapack-variant-provider

This is a plugin for the proposed `blas-lapack-variant-provider` that provides BLAS/LAPACK library selection. This plugin always returns a fixed list of supported variants, and so can be used as a build-time plugin.

HPC is not only Python!  
We need a **general-purpose** solution.

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# Conclusions

**Just One More Container...**

| gromacs:2025.0     | gromacs:2025.0     | gromacs:2025.0     | gromacs:2025.0     |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| sse4.1             | avx-128            | avx-256            | avx-512            |
| sse4.1-cuda        | avx-128-cuda       | avx-256-cuda       | avx-512-cuda       |
| sse4.1-rocm        | avx-128-rocm       | avx-256-rocm       | avx-512-rocm       |
| sse4.1-sycl        | avx-128-sycl       | avx-256-sycl       | avx-512-sycl       |
| Dependencies, Data | Dependencies, Data | Dependencies, Data | Dependencies, Data |

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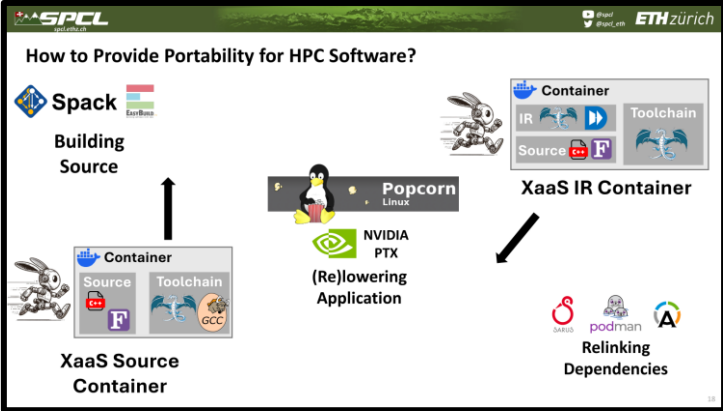
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| Container 1                   | Container 2                    | Container 3                    | Container 4                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| gromacs:2025.0<br>sse4.1      | gromacs:2025.0<br>avx-128      | gromacs:2025.0<br>avx-256      | gromacs:2025.0<br>avx-512      |
| gromacs:2025.0<br>sse4.1-cuda | gromacs:2025.0<br>avx-128-cuda | gromacs:2025.0<br>avx-256-cuda | gromacs:2025.0<br>avx-512-cuda |
| gromacs:2025.0<br>sse4.1-rocm | gromacs:2025.0<br>avx-128-rocm | gromacs:2025.0<br>avx-256-rocm | gromacs:2025.0<br>avx-512-rocm |
| gromacs:2025.0<br>sse4.1-sycl | gromacs:2025.0<br>avx-128-sycl | gromacs:2025.0<br>avx-256-sycl | gromacs:2025.0<br>avx-512-sycl |
| Dependencies, Data            | Dependencies, Data             | Dependencies, Data             | Dependencies, Data             |



SPCL  
Swiss Parallel Computing Laboratory



ETH zürich

## HPC Specialization Points



### Specialization Points



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This is a plugin for the proposed [wheel-variant-providers](#) implementation that provides BLAS/LAPACK library selection. This plugin always returns a fixed list of supported variants, and so can be used as a build time plugin.

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We need a **general-purpose** solution.

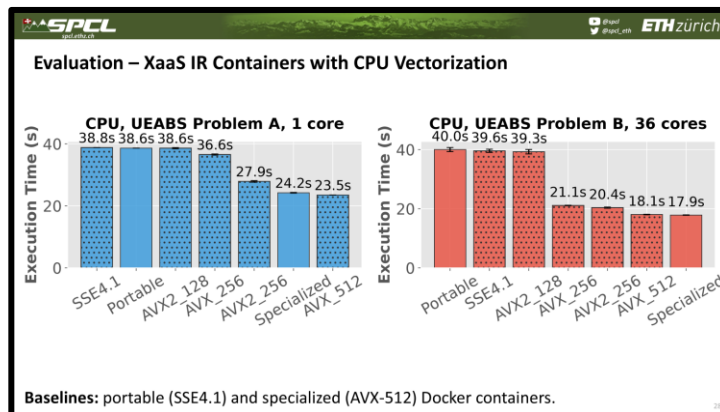
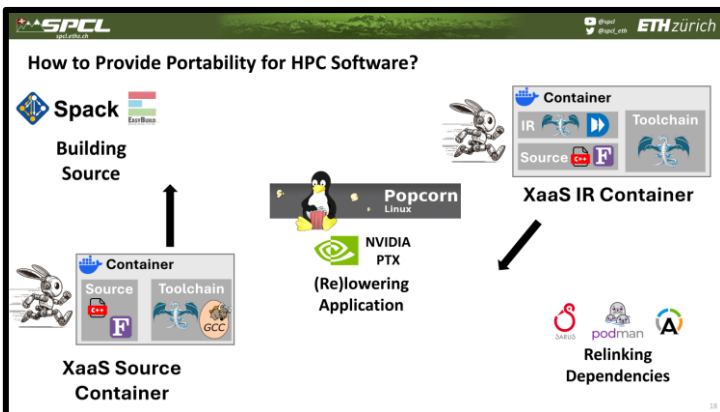
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| sse4.1-cuda    | avx-128-cuda   | avx-256-cuda   | avx-512-cuda   |
| sse4.1-rocm    | avx-128-rocm   | avx-256-rocm   | avx-512-rocm   |
| sse4.1-sycl    | avx-128-sycl   | avx-256-sycl   | avx-512-sycl   |

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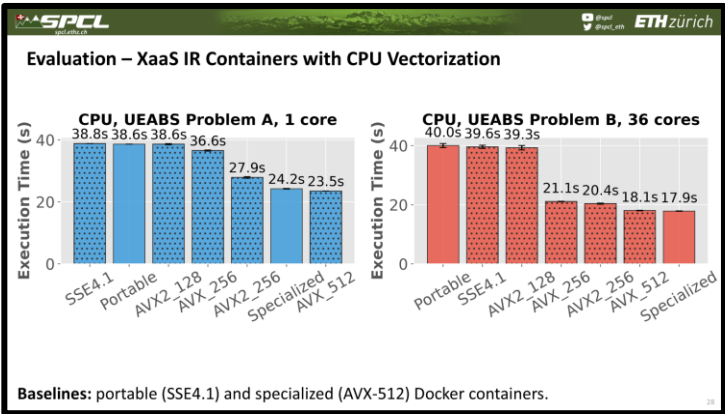
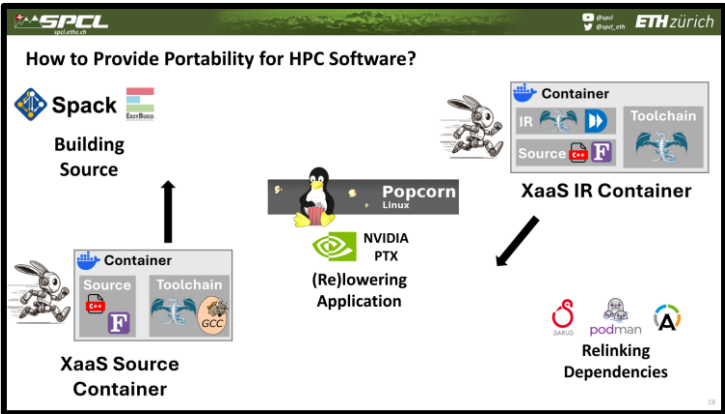
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**spcl/XaaS-Containers**

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|                               |                                |                                |                                |
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| gromacs:2025.0<br>sse4.1-cuda | gromacs:2025.0<br>avx-128-cuda | gromacs:2025.0<br>avx-256-cuda | gromacs:2025.0<br>avx-512-cuda |
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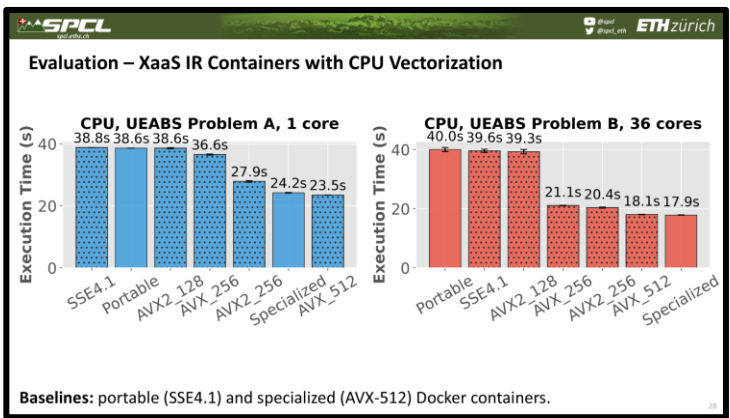
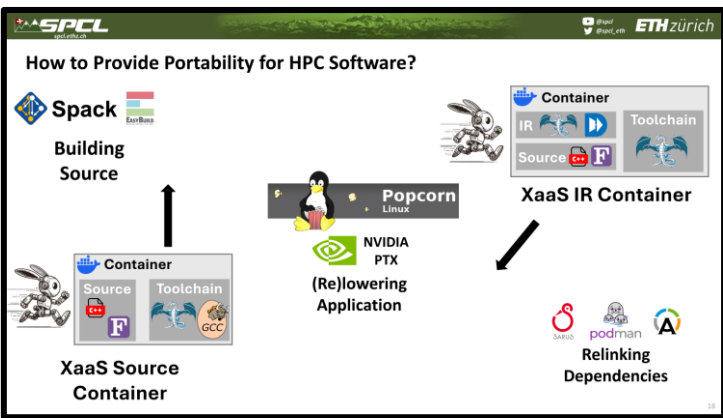
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**GitHub**



  
**Artifact**



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