



Spack for SuperNEMO

WARWICK
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Ben Morgan

Homebrew to Spack

- Homebrew going full binary and fewer build/configure options
- Binaries are “full fat”, so can quickly bloat an install (particularly X11/GL)
- As experiment moves towards production with updates to core software, will need more than simple rolling release
- **Spack chosen as minimally invasive replacement**

The screenshot shows the GitHub repository page for SuperNEMO-DBD / brew. The repository has 18,991 commits, 2 branches, and 0 releases. The current branch is master. A pull request is open for 'Update docs for X11 on macOS or Windows' by drbenmorgan. The file list includes .circleci, .github, .snemo, Brewfiles, Docker, Library, bin, completions, docs, manpages, .dockerignore, and .editorconfig.

SuperNEMO-DBD / brew

<> Code Issues 3 Pull requests 0 Projects 0

Installation, management, and containers for the SuperNEMO Software

18,991 commits 2 branches 0 releases

Branch: master New pull request

drbenmorgan Update docs for X11 on macOS or Windows

.circleci	Revert "Use system unzip and subv
.github	Remove Homebrew-ish
.snemo	Update XDG/QT env vars in snemo
Brewfiles	Add bootstrapping command and f
Docker	Do not set USER in Docker ENV, us
Library	Update XDG/QT env vars in snemo
bin	Whitelist display env vars needed o
completions	bash completions: start auto-comp
docs	Regenerate docs/Manpage.md mar
manpages	Regenerate docs/Manpage.md mar
.dockerignore	Add Dockerfile(s) and support scrip
.editorconfig	also apply .editorconfig to Markdov

Spack Itself

- Follow what others have done and fork Spack
 - NB: all done on my own GitHub for now
- Test systems are CentOS7, Ubuntu 18.04, macOS Mojave
- Spack config by hand and confined to packages.yaml at Site Scope
 - Use system openssl, X11, GL, perl, etc on Linux

The screenshot shows the GitHub interface for the repository `drbenmorgan / spack`, which is a fork of `spack/spack`. The repository has 10,802 commits, 30 branches, and 8 releases. The current branch is `develop`. A recent commit by `drbenmorgan` and `alalazo` is titled "xerces-c: Add cxxstd variant (spack#10561)". The file list includes:

<code>.github/ISSUE_TEMPLATE</code>	bug report template: suggest --stac
<code>bin</code>	copyright: update license headers fo
<code>etc/spack/defaults</code>	Remove /nfs/tmp2 from default build
<code>lib/spack</code>	CudaPackage: fix wrong version ran
<code>share/spack</code>	work around an issue with docker/d
<code>var/spack</code>	xerces-c: Add cxxstd variant (spack
<code>.codecov.yml</code>	coverage: use kcov to get coverage
<code>.coveragerc</code>	coverage: use kcov to get coverage
<code>.dockerignore</code>	fix multiple issues with the docker in
<code>.flake8</code>	Typo fixes in .flake8 comments (spa

Package Repo

- Holds SuperNEMO specific stuff, plus ... reinventions of some core packages (e.g. ROOT, Geant4)
- **Only done this way to reproduce the recipes we have in Homebrew**
- Repo added manually, but...
 - Add package(s) in spack builtins (any advice?)
 - <https://github.com/spack/spack/issues/4934>

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for 'drbenmorgan / spack-supernemo'. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Code', 'Issues 0', 'Pull requests 0', and 'Projects 0'. Below the repository name, it says 'Spack Package Repository for SuperNEMO Software'. The repository statistics show '3 commits' and '1 branch'. There are buttons for 'Branch: master' and 'New pull request'. The commit history shows a commit by 'drbenmorgan' with the message 'Basic implementation of packages for SuperNEMO'. The file list includes 'packages', '.gitignore', 'LICENSE', 'README.md', and 'repo.yaml'. The 'README.md' file is expanded, showing the repository name 'spack-supernemo' and the description 'WIP Spack Package Repository for SuperNEMO Software'.

Installation Experience

- **It works!**
- Only teething issues were:
 - On macOS when full Xcode was needed (confined to Qt5)
 - Some cxxstd, install issues with specific packages but discussed on Slack, and submitted as PRs to Spack when appropriate

Use Experience

- Limited to “spack load -r falaise”
- Works fine on Linux, on macOS some issues with
 - DYLD_LIBRARY_PATH masking dependencies, but unsetting it fixes things
 - LIBRARY_PATH causing issues when building packages with CMake (changes RPath behaviour), again unsetting it fixes things
 - Needs further tests and checks
- **TODO: use of metapackages, views, and environments**

Install/Use in Docker/Singularity

- Currently in a very pre-alpha/hacked state, but very easy to create the image
 - Some, but very limited use of build caches here...
- Do end up with quite a large image, but likely several improvements possible:
 - Geant4 data shipped in Image (use CVMFS, or make the simulation component optional)
 - Use multistage builds and buildcache to remove build-only dependencies
- Certainly, Singularity+Homebrew is working very well for our users, so Singularity+Spack will be a priority

Upcoming Work

- Test driving views, environments, and more on CI/buildcaches
- Test driving spack-dev (apologies to Chris Green for lack of progress here)
 - Wearing HSF/DUNE/SuperNEMO hats at the same time!
- Spack chains and external commands
- Hosting for CVMFS (less packaging, more answering the question “where does a small experiment go for CVMFS hosting”?)