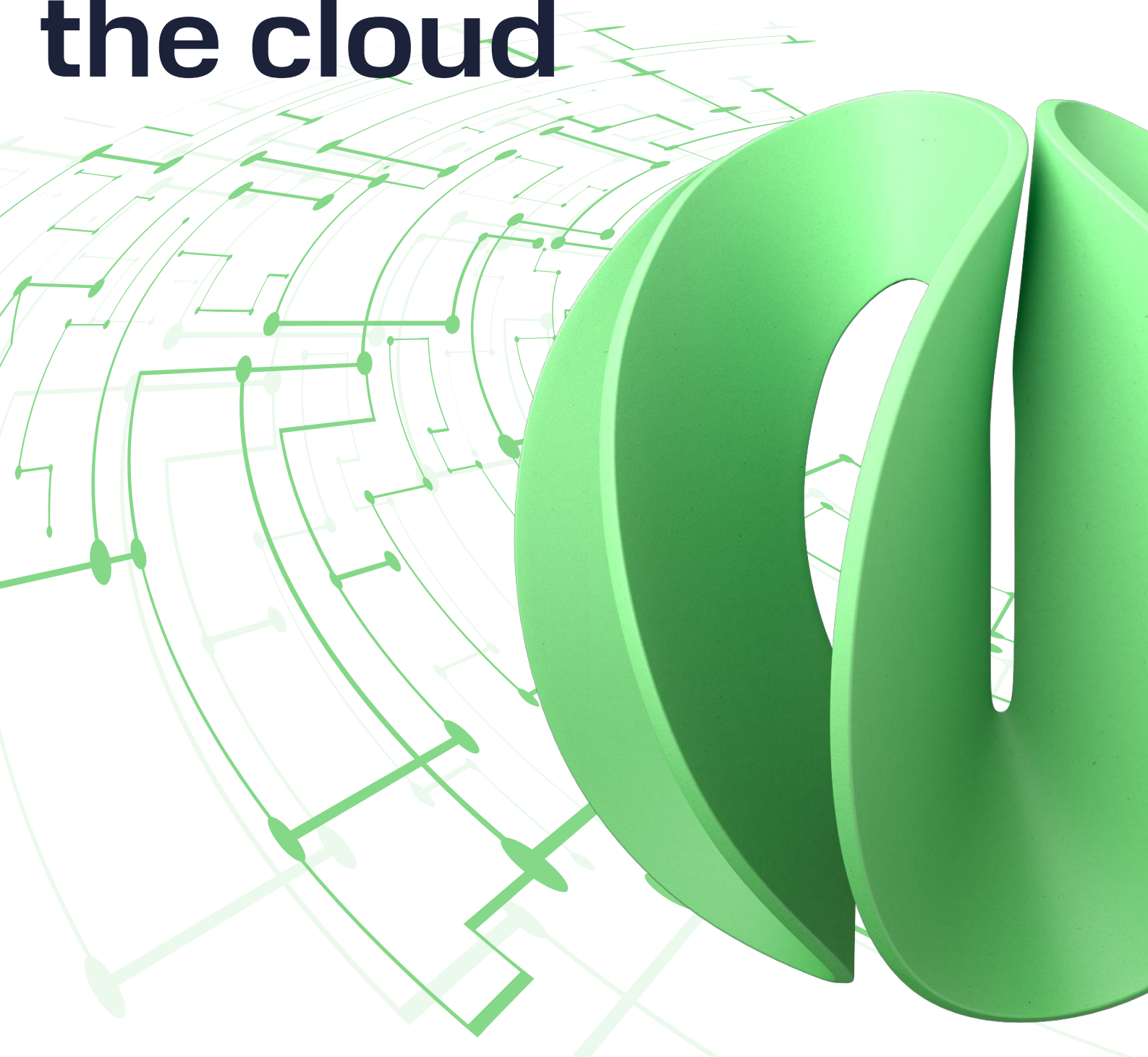


Comparison of popular Linux distributions for the cloud




































bell//soft



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FEATURE	 ALPAQUITA	 ALPINE	 RHEL	 UBUNTU	 DEBIAN
Commercial support					
Free community support					
Open source			 Sources available for customers only		
Free for commercial use			 The UBI base image is freely redistributable		
Base image size (as of October 2024)	3.56 MB	3.46 MB	11.3 (Distroless UBI Micro 8)	28.17 MB	28.78 MB
LTS support period	4 years	N/A	5 years	5 years	N/A
Stable releases					
Rolling releases	Alpaquita Stream, stable releases	Alpine Edge, releases for testing	CentOS Stream, continuously delivered upstream version of RHEL	Interim releases every six months	Unstable and Testing releases
 glibc support					
 musl support	 musl def / musl perf*				
GraalVM support					
Production-ready Java containers					
Containers with JRE					
Containers with CRaC**					
License	EULA	GPL2 mostly, MIT for musl, various licenses for software components	EULA	IPRights Policy plus various licenses for OS packages	Various licenses for software components

*musl perf is an optimized musl libc with performance superior to the default musl in some cases.

**CRaC (Coordinated Restore at Checkpoint) is a Java API that helps to slash startup and warmup times of Java apps from seconds to milliseconds.