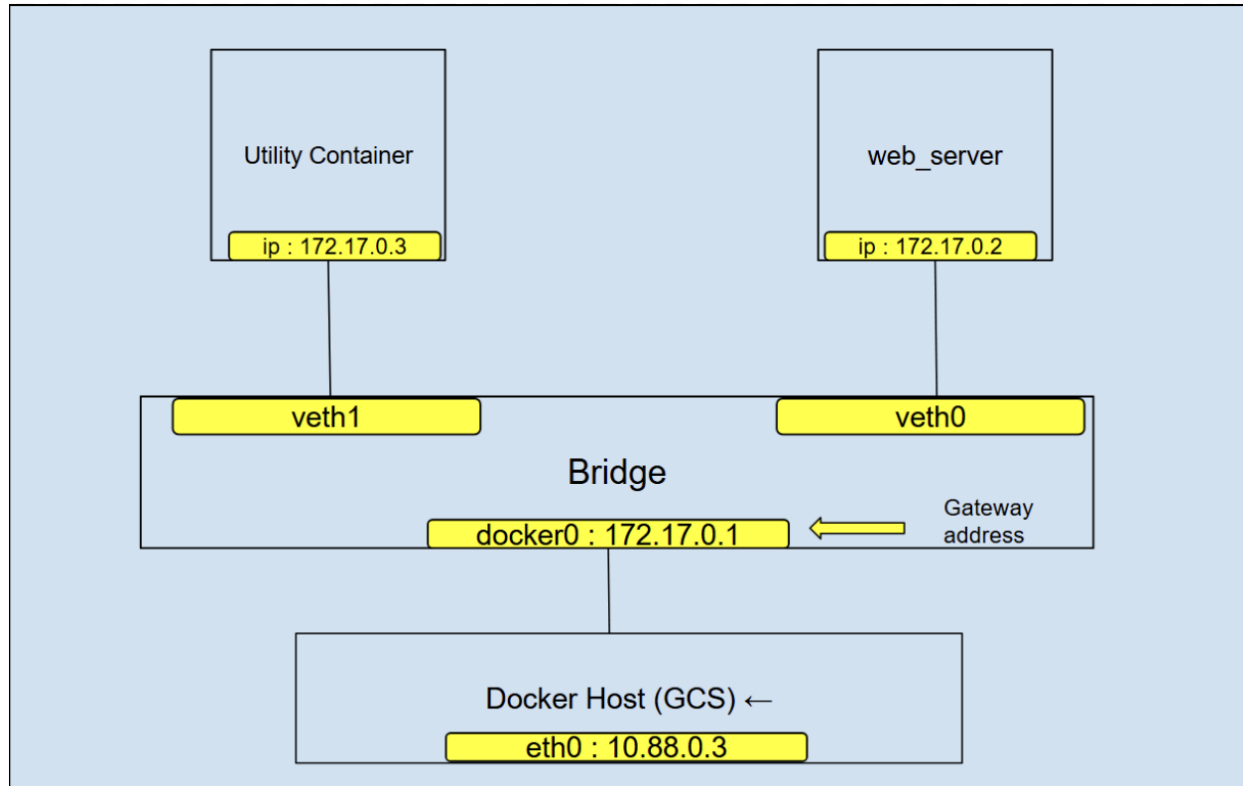


PART 1



The bridge network in Docker acts like a virtual switch that connects containers to each other and to the host. Each container gets its own private IP address within the bridge subnet, while the bridge gateway (usually 172.17.0.1) serves as the router that links containers back to the host and beyond to external networks. When a container sends traffic, it goes through the bridge to the gateway, which then forwards it to the right destination. In my tests, both the NGINX and Ubuntu containers were able to communicate with each other using their internal IPs, showing that the bridge handles container-to-container traffic seamlessly. The setup also confirmed that without port mapping, services like NGINX remain reachable only from within the bridge network, not from the outside world.

```
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ ip -4 addr show
1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 65536 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN group default qlen 1000
    inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
2: eth0@if7: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1460 qdisc noqueue state UP group default qlen 1000 link-netnsid 0
    inet 10.88.0.3/16 brd 10.88.255.255 scope global eth0
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
3: docker0: <NO-CARRIER,BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP> mtu 1460 qdisc noqueue state DOWN group default
    inet 172.17.0.1/16 brd 172.17.255.255 scope global docker0
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
```

Here in this screenshot we see all of the IPv4 addresses configured on the host's network interfaces. You also see the host ip address along with the subnet mask.

```
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker network inspect bridge
[
  {
    "Name": "bridge",
    "Id": "f31163eebe3ebc72efc0ec33ff62b8c27432ae973465f2dc8ce907415f3c4c01",
    "Created": "2025-09-06T17:38:54.437028228Z",
    "Scope": "local",
    "Driver": "bridge",
    "EnableIPv4": true,
    "EnableIPv6": false,
    "IPAM": {
      "Driver": "default",
      "Options": null,
      "Config": [
        {
          "Subnet": "172.17.0.0/16",
          "Gateway": "172.17.0.1"
        }
      ]
    },
    "Internal": false,
    "Attachable": false,
    "Ingress": false,
    "ConfigFrom": {
      "Network": ""
    },
    "ConfigOnly": false,
    "Containers": {},
    "Options": {
      "com.docker.network.bridge.default_bridge": "true",
      "com.docker.network.bridge.enable_icc": "true",
      "com.docker.network.bridge.enable_ip_masquerade": "true",
      "com.docker.network.bridge.host_binding_ipv4": "0.0.0.0",
      "com.docker.network.bridge.name": "docker0",
      "com.docker.network.driver.mtu": "1460"
    },
    "Labels": {}
  }
]
```

The bridge network is the default network Docker creates for containers. It gives each container a private IP address from its subnet and uses the gateway address (172.17.0.1) to let containers talk to the host system and reach the internet.

```
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker run -d --name web_server nginx
Unable to find image 'nginx:latest' locally
latest: Pulling from library/nginx
b1badc6e5066: Pull complete
a2da0c0f2353: Pull complete
e5d9bb0b85cc: Pull complete
14a859b5ba24: Pull complete
716cdf61af59: Pull complete
14e422fd20a0: Pull complete
c3741b707ce6: Pull complete
Digest: sha256:33e0bbc7ca9ecf108140af6288c7c9d1ecc77548cbfd3952fd8466a75edefe57
Status: Downloaded newer image for nginx:latest
e30cc0e4429893f177980fe087fd4b725f0e2710073c4e4bd92b4dbacb00ad22
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker ps
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STATUS	PORTS	NAMES
e30cc0e44298	nginx	"/docker-entrypoint..."	About a minute ago	Up About a minute	80/tcp	web_server

This is me just running the nginx container and the docker ps command is further confirmation it is up and running.

```
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker inspect web_server | grep "IPAddress"
    "SecondaryIPAddresses": null,
    "IPAddress": "172.17.0.2",
    "IPAddress": "172.17.0.2",
```

This command shows the IP address assigned to the NGINX container on the Docker bridge network. This is the address other containers use to communicate with it, and it confirms the container is connected to the network.

```
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker run --name utility_container -it ubuntu:latest
Unable to find image 'ubuntu:latest' locally
latest: Pulling from library/ubuntu
76249c7cd503: Pull complete
Digest: sha256:9cbcd754112939e914291337b5e554b07ad7c392491dba6daf25eef1332a22e8
Status: Downloaded newer image for ubuntu:latest
root@c1b5631980ed:/#
```

Me running the ubuntu container.

```

root@e88fb029415b:/# ip addr
1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 65536 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN group default qlen 1000
    link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
    inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 ::1/128 scope host
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
2: eth0@if6: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1460 qdisc noqueue state UP group default
    link/ether fa:6c:02:78:e9:43 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff link-netnsid 0
    inet 172.17.0.2/16 brd 172.17.255.255 scope global eth0
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever

```

This shows the network interfaces in the ubuntu container and their respective assigned ip addresses.

```

root@e88fb029415b:/# ip route
default via 172.17.0.1 dev eth0
172.17.0.0/16 dev eth0 proto kernel scope link src 172.17.0.2

```

ip route displays the ubuntu container's routing table, showing where network traffic goes; the important part is the default route pointing to the bridge gateway (usually 172.17.0.1), which lets the container reach the host and outside networks.

PART 2

1. What is port exposing versus port mapping?

Port exposing (--expose) makes a container's port available only to other containers inside the

Docker network. Port mapping (-p hostPort:containerPort) connects a container's port to a port on the host machine, allowing external access.

2. Based on your experiments, what does port mapping achieve that just exposing a port does not?

Using docker ps, the exposed container shows PORTS as 80/tcp, meaning it's internal only. The mapped container shows 0.0.0.0:8080->80/tcp, which proves that port mapping allows access from the host, something exposing alone does not.

3. How does this affect external access to container services?

Port mapping forwards traffic from the host's port (8080) to the container's port (80), making the service accessible from the host machine. Exposing a port without mapping keeps the service unreachable from the host or any external system.

```
tul38268@cloudshell:~ (1ab-2422)$ docker run -d --name nginx_mapped -p 8080:80 nginx
Unable to find image 'nginx:latest' locally
latest: Pulling from library/nginx
b1badc6e5066: Pull complete
a2da0c0f2353: Pull complete
e5d9bb0b85cc: Pull complete
14a859b5ba24: Pull complete
716cdf61af59: Pull complete
14e422fd20a0: Pull complete
c3741b707ce6: Pull complete
Digest: sha256:33e0bbc7ca9ecf108140af6288c7c9d1ecc77548cbfd3952fd8466a75edefe57
Status: Downloaded newer image for nginx:latest
b35944de95df64abc40a5d0420b75c9922397cadd48085951df96e74c2b7f0bc
```

docker run tells Docker to start a new container.

-d runs it in detached mode, which means it runs in the background instead of taking over your terminal.

--name nginx_mapped gives the container a readable name (nginx_mapped) instead of you having to use the long container ID.

-p 8080:80 creates a port mapping:

The first number (8080) is the port on your computer (the host).

The second number (80) represents the port inside the container that NGINX is running on and handling requests.

The purpose of this command is to start an NGINX web server inside a container, run it in the background, give it the name nginx_mapped, and map the host machine's port 8080 to the container's port 80 so the server can be accessed externally through localhost:8080.

```
tul38268@cloudshell:~ (lab-2422) $ docker ps
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STATUS	PORTS	NAMES
b35944de95df	nginx	"/docker-entrypoint..."	4 minutes ago	Up 4 minutes	0.0.0.0:8080->80/tcp	nginx_mapped

The command `docker ps` lists all active containers along with their IDs, names, status, and port mappings. For `nginx_mapped`, you should see something like `0.0.0.0:8080->80/tcp`, which confirms that the container's port 80 is bound to the host's port 8080.

```
tul38268@cloudshell:~ (lab-2422) $ docker run -d --name nginx_exposed --expose 80 nginx
Unable to find image 'nginx:latest' locally
latest: Pulling from library/nginx
b1badc6e5066: Pull complete
a2da0c0f2353: Pull complete
e5d9bb0b85cc: Pull complete
14a859b5ba24: Pull complete
716cdf61af59: Pull complete
14e422fd20a0: Pull complete
c3741b707ce6: Pull complete
Digest: sha256:33e0bbc7ca9ecf108140af6288c7c9d1ecc77548cbfd3952fd8466a75edefe57
Status: Downloaded newer image for nginx:latest
60ad7249ae4471c6f63390dee309e2f313c414ef27379af91c55c129be3da319
```

`docker run` → starts a new container.

`-d` → runs it in the background (detached mode).

`--name nginx_exposed` → gives the container the name `nginx_exposed`.

`--expose 80` → marks port 80 inside the container as available to Docker's internal network, but it does not connect it to your computer's ports. This means other containers in the same Docker network can talk to it, but you can't reach it directly from the host.

`nginx` → runs the official NGINX image.

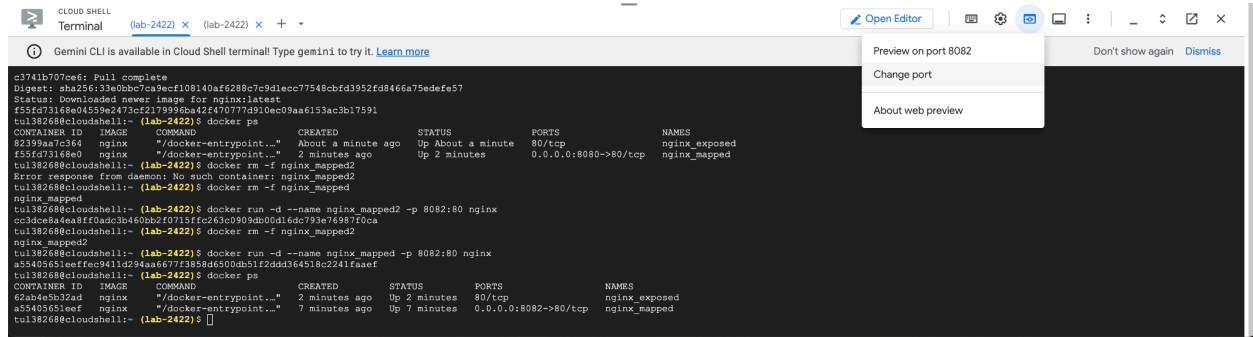
The purpose of this command is to start an NGINX web server inside a container, run it in the background, give it the name `nginx_exposed`, and expose port 80 so it can be accessed by other containers on the same Docker network, but not from the host machine or external systems.

```
tul38268@cloudshell:~ (lab-2422) $ docker ps
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STATUS	PORTS	NAMES
60ad7249ae44	nginx	"/docker-entrypoint..."	14 seconds ago	Up 12 seconds	80/tcp	nginx_exposed

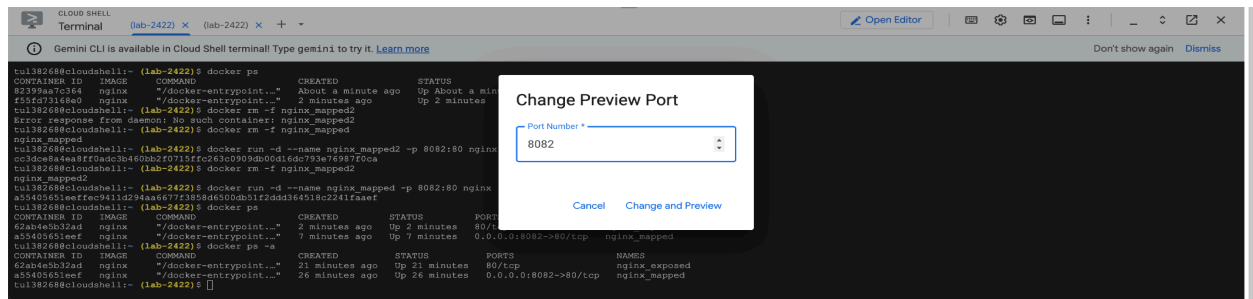
Notice: only 80/tcp is listed, meaning the port is visible inside Docker but not mapped to the host machine.

Proof that port mapping allows for external access:



```
c3741b707ce6f: Pull complete
Digest: sha256:33e0b0c7ca9ecf108140ef0288c7c9d1ecc77548cbfd3952fd8466a75edefe57
Status: Downloaded newer image for nginx:latest
f55fd73168e04559e2473cf2179996ba42f470777d910ec09aa6153ac3b17591
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker ps
CONTAINER ID        IMAGE               COMMAND                  CREATED        STATUS        PORTS                NAMES
82399aa7c364        nginx              "/docker-entrypoint..." About a minute ago Up About a minute 80/tcp              nginx_exposed
f55fd73168e0        nginx              "/docker-entrypoint..." 2 minutes ago Up 2 minutes      0.0.0.0:8080->80/tcp nginx_mapped

Error response from daemon: No such container: nginx_mapped2
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker rm -f nginx_mapped
nginx_mapped
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker run -d --name nginx_mapped2 -p 8082:80 nginx
cc3dceba4aa8ff0adc3b460bb2f0715ffc263c090db00d16dc793e76987f0ca
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker rm -f nginx_mapped2
nginx_mapped2
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker run -d --name nginx_mapped -p 8082:80 nginx
a540c651eeefec9411d294aa677f38584630db01f2dd364518c2241faae
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker ps
CONTAINER ID        IMAGE               COMMAND                  CREATED        STATUS        PORTS                NAMES
62ab4e3b32ad        nginx              "/docker-entrypoint..." 2 minutes ago Up 2 minutes      80/tcp              nginx_exposed
a540c651eeef        nginx              "/docker-entrypoint..." 7 minutes ago Up 7 minutes      0.0.0.0:8082->80/tcp nginx_mapped
tul38268@cloudshell:~$
```



```
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker ps
CONTAINER ID        IMAGE               COMMAND                  CREATED        STATUS        PORTS                NAMES
82399aa7c364        nginx              "/docker-entrypoint..." About a minute ago Up About a minute 80/tcp              nginx_exposed
f55fd73168e0        nginx              "/docker-entrypoint..." 2 minutes ago Up 2 minutes      0.0.0.0:8080->80/tcp nginx_mapped

Error response from daemon: No such container: nginx_mapped2
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker rm -f nginx_mapped
nginx_mapped
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker run -d --name nginx_mapped2 -p 8082:80 nginx
cc3dceba4aa8ff0adc3b460bb2f0715ffc263c090db00d16dc793e76987f0ca
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker rm -f nginx_mapped2
nginx_mapped2
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker run -d --name nginx_mapped -p 8082:80 nginx
a540c651eeefec9411d294aa677f38584630db01f2dd364518c2241faae
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker ps
CONTAINER ID        IMAGE               COMMAND                  CREATED        STATUS        PORTS                NAMES
62ab4e3b32ad        nginx              "/docker-entrypoint..." 2 minutes ago Up 2 minutes      80/tcp              nginx_exposed
a540c651eeef        nginx              "/docker-entrypoint..." 7 minutes ago Up 7 minutes      0.0.0.0:8082->80/tcp nginx_mapped
tul38268@cloudshell:~$
```

Welcome to nginx!

If you see this page, the nginx web server is successfully installed and working. Further configuration is required.

For online documentation and support please refer to nginx.org.
Commercial support is available at nginx.com.

Thank you for using nginx.

Part 3

```
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker run -it --rm --name ubuntu_hostnet --network host ubuntu:latest
```

This command starts an interactive Ubuntu container that shares the host's network interfaces instead of being isolated.

```
root@cs-492637132371-default:/# ifconfig -a
docker0: flags=4099<UP,BROADCAST,MULTICAST> mtu 1460
    inet 172.17.0.1 netmask 255.255.0.0 broadcast 172.17.255.255
    ether 46:94:7d:d8:52:d0 txqueuelen 0 (Ethernet)
    RX packets 2036 bytes 110158 (110.1 KB)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 2218 bytes 33363195 (33.3 MB)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

eth0: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1460
    inet 10.88.0.3 netmask 255.255.0.0 broadcast 10.88.255.255
    ether 6a:d6:db:c2:bf:ec txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
    RX packets 26958 bytes 100962406 (100.9 MB)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 21094 bytes 4153187 (4.1 MB)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536
    inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
    loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
    RX packets 5419 bytes 1510737 (1.5 MB)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 5419 bytes 1510737 (1.5 MB)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
```

The command `ifconfig -a` inside the container started with `docker run -it --rm --name ubuntu_hostnet --network host ubuntu:latest` lists all network interfaces that the container sees, which are exactly the host's interfaces, showing that `--network host` makes the container use the host's network stack directly.

Problem: Sharing the host network with the container removes network isolation, which means the container can see, use, or interfere with all of the host's network interfaces and traffic, creating a serious security risk.

```
tul38268@cloudshell:~$ docker run -it --rm --name ubuntu_pid_host --pid host ubuntu:latest
```

The command starts an Ubuntu container that shares the host's process table, runs interactively, and removes itself on exit.

```
root@72854cbe0d4e:/# ps -elf
F S UID        PID        PPID        C PRI  NI ADDR SZ WCHAN  STIME TTY          TIME CMD
4 S root         1            0      0  80   0 - 1081 -    13:15 ?    00:00:00 /bin/bash /google/scripts/onrun.sh sleep infinity
5 S 101         9            1      0  80   0 - 55535 -   13:15 ?    00:00:00 /usr/sbin/rsyslogd
4 S root       25           1      0  80   0 - 10020 -   13:15 ?    00:00:00 /usr/bin/python /usr/bin/supervisord -n -c /google/devshell/supervisord.conf --pidfile=/var/run/supervisor.pid --logfile=/var/log/supe
0 S root       26           1      0  80   0 - 1549 -    13:15 ?    00:00:00 logger -t supervisord
5 S root       70           1      0  70 -10 - 3005 -    13:15 ?    00:00:00 sshd: /usr/sbin/sshd -p 22 -o AuthorizedKeysFile=/etc/ssh/keys/authorized_keys [listener] 0 of 10-60 startups
4 S root      221           1      0  80   0 - 585520 -   13:15 ?    00:00:04 /usr/bin/dockerd -p /var/run/docker.pid --mtu=1460
4 S root      257      221    0  80   0 - 469068 -   13:15 ?    00:00:03 containerd --config /var/run/docker/containerd/containerd.toml
0 S root      258      25    0  80   0 - 307653 -   13:15 ?    00:00:00 /google/devshell/editor/proxy/editor-proxy -static-content-dir=/google/devshell/editor/code-oss-for-cloud-shell/static-content -etag-f
4 S root      260      25    0  80   0 - 4080 -    13:15 ?    00:00:00 sudo /google/devshell/tmux-agent
0 S root      281      260    0  80   0 - 306525 -   13:15 ?    00:00:00 /google/devshell/tmux-agent
4 S root      287       70    70 -10 - 3498 -    13:15 ?    00:00:00 sshd: tul38268 [priv]
4 S root      293       70    70 -10 - 3498 -    13:15 ?    00:00:00 sshd: tul38268 [priv]
5 S ubuntu    412      287    70 -10 - 3595 -    13:15 ?    00:00:00 sshd: tul38268@pts/0
5 S ubuntu    460      293    70 -10 - 3563 -    13:15 ?    00:00:00 sshd: tul38268@pts/1
0 S ubuntu    461      412    70 -10 - 1835 -   13:15 pts/0    00:00:00 bash -s (sudo touch /var/run/google/devshell/46549 s)
4 S ubuntu    464      461    70 -10 - 1901 -   13:15 pts/0    00:00:00 /bin/bash --norc --noprofile
4 S root      494       1      0  80   0 - 674 -    13:15 ?    00:00:00 sleep infinity
4 S ubuntu    511      460    70 -10 - 1835 -   13:15 ?    00:00:00 bash -c echo -en "\033]0;Gemini CLI\a"; echo "Starting Gemini CLI"; tmux has-session -t geminikli 2> /dev/null; if [[ $? -eq 1 ]]; the
5 S ubuntu    515       1      0  70 -10 - 1910 -   13:15 ?    00:00:00 tmux new-session -A -D -d -n cloudshell -s geminikli
4 S ubuntu    516      515    70 -10 - 2198 -   13:15 ?    00:00:00 -bash
4 S ubuntu    565      515    70 -10 - 2198 -   13:15 ?    00:00:00 -bash
4 S ubuntu   1207      516    70 -10 - 5590792 -   13:15 ?    00:00:09 node /usr/local/nvm/versions/node/v22.19.0/bin/gemini
4 S ubuntu   1214      511    70 -10 - 1720 -    13:15 ?    00:00:00 tmux attach -t geminikli
4 S ubuntu   1695      515    70 -10 - 2198 -   13:53 ?    00:00:00 -bash
4 S root     2356       70    70 -10 - 3498 -   14:09 ?    00:00:00 sshd: tul38268 [priv]
5 S ubuntu   2358      2356    70 -10 - 3563 -   14:09 ?    00:00:00 sshd: tul38268@pts/3
0 S ubuntu   2359      2358    70 -10 - 1835 -   14:09 ?    00:00:00 bash -c if [ -f /google/devshell/start-shell.sh ]; then /google/devshell/start-shell.sh '' '' '' '612571623' false else bash -
0 S ubuntu   2360      2359    70 -10 - 1835 -   14:09 ?    00:00:00 /bin/bash /google/devshell/start-shell.sh 612571623 false
4 S ubuntu   2361      2360    70 -10 - 1720 -   14:09 ?    00:00:00 tmux new-session -A -D -n cloudshell -s 612571623
4 S ubuntu   2362      515    70 -10 - 2198 -   14:09 ?    00:00:00 -bash
0 S ubuntu   2777      2362    70 -10 - 462351 -   14:10 ?    00:00:00 docker run -it --rm --name ubuntu_pid_host --pid host ubuntu:latest
0 S root     2794       1      0  80   0 - 309526 -   14:10 ?    00:00:00 /usr/bin/containerd-shim-runc-v2 -namespace moby -id 72854cbe0d4e74440bd0e4e0fb5e60d97148683616f46bcfe14a7db668217a26 -address /var/ru
4 S root     2816      2794    80   0 - 1147 do_wai 14:10 pts/0    00:00:00 /bin/bash
4 R root     2836      2816    0  80   0 - 1984 -    14:11 pts/0    00:00:00 ps -elf
```

Inside the container, `ps -elf` lists all processes in long format; it shows every process running on the host, not just container processes.

Problem: This also lowers security. A compromised container could spy on or even tamper with host processes, which breaks the isolation Docker is supposed to provide.

When the Ubuntu container uses `--network host`, it shares the host's network interfaces, so `ifconfig -a` shows the same IPs as the host. This is useful for debugging but removes network isolation, letting the container access or interfere with host traffic. With `--pid host`, the container shares the host's process table, so `ps -elf` shows all host processes. This allows process monitoring but breaks process isolation, letting the container view or manipulate host processes. Both options are powerful for testing but reduce security.