

VII. Port Binding

“Export services via **port** binding”

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What is a port? What is a Unix socket?

- **IP sockets** (especially TCP/IP sockets) are a mechanism allowing communication between processes over the **network**. In some cases, you can use TCP/IP sockets to talk with processes running on the same computer (by using the loopback interface, a.k.a. 127.0.0.1).
- A **Unix socket** is an **inter-process** communication mechanism that allows bidirectional data exchange between processes running on the **same machine**.