Docker IPvlan L3 Mode (Layer 3)

In L3 mode, containers are placed on a Layer 3 network, which means they need to be routed to communicate with the host or other containers. In this mode, containers communicate by routing traffic through a router rather than simply switching traffic at Layer 2.

Features:

Containers are placed in different Layer 3 networks (subnets), so communication between them requires routing.

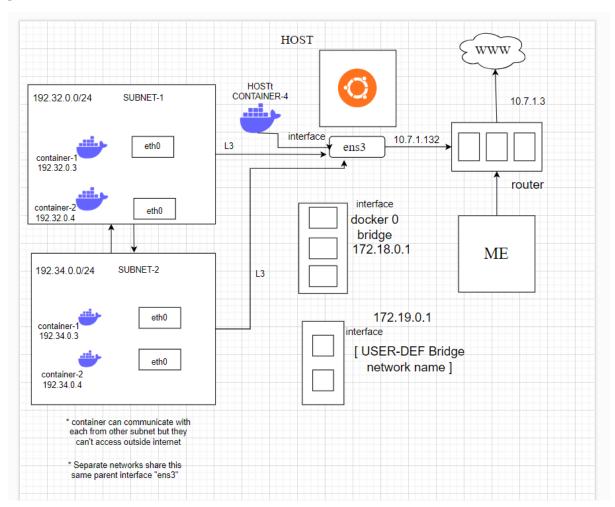
There is no Layer 2 broadcast domain between containers; they are isolated at Layer 3 and need routing for inter-container communication.

Suitable when you want containers to operate in different IP subnets or when you need more granular control over routing between containers.

Use Case:

Ideal when you need to implement routing between containers and host interfaces.

Useful in larger-scale, routed network environments, where multiple subnets or complex routing policies are needed.



Create an IPvlan L3 network:

```
root@manoj:-#
```

Run a container in the IPvlan L3 network:

```
root@manoj:~# docker network ls
NETWORK ID NAME DRIVER
b16d63c bridge bridge
b2462bc host host
17b04c5 newipvlan_l3 ipvlan
                                                                    local
local
local
 ad31/55
root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:~# # lets run the containes in there subnet with there own ip address
root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:~#
 container 1 running inside subnet 1
 361e77a11aabooca

oot@manoj:~# docker ps

ONTAINER ID IMAGE

361e7 ) busybox
                                         COMMAND CREATED 4 second
                                                                                                                                                                   container 2 running inside subnet 2
                                                                                      STATUS
                                                                                                               PORTS
                                                           4 seconds ago
                                                                                     Up 3 seconds
                                                                                                                                container_1_l3
roct@manoj:~#
roct@manoj:~# docker run -itd --rm --network newipvlan_l3 --ip :
856666a027d54f6169d8edc456f47d37e5692c2ac7862490ac89l
                                                                                                                .32.0.11 --name container_2_l3 nginx
ascobodad2/d3416169d8edd
roct@manoj:~# docker ps
CONTAINFR TD IMAGE
8566666 nginx
661e77; busybox
                                                                                                                                                            NAMES
container_2_l3
container_1_l3
                                         COMMAND
"/docker-entrypoint..."
"sh"
                                                                                                                 STATUS
Up 4 seconds
Up 48 seconds
                                                                                    CREATED
                                                                                                                                            PORTS
                                                                                    5 seconds ago
49 seconds ago
 roct@manoj:~#
```

```
root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:~# docker inspect newipvlan_l3
          "Name": "newipvlan l3",
"Id": "d7b04c599b28cc7c496189e7bb06a8
"Created": "2024-09-10T14:58:51.94887
"Scope": "local",
"Driver": "ipvlan",
                                                                                                          з",
            EnableIPv6": false,
           Endote:

'IPAM": {

    "Driver": "default",

    "Ontions": {}
                "Config": [
                                                                                                we can see here i have two
                          "Subnet": " !.31.0.0/20"
                                                                                                subnet that i have created
                                                                                                to run the container
                          "Subnet": " 1.32.0.0/20"
                                                                                                inside those subnets
         },
"Internal": false,
"Attachable": false,
"Ingress": false,
"ConfigFrom": {
    "Network": ""
                                                              two container running inside two different
                                                             subnets with there own ip address
          },
"ConfigOnly": false.
            "Name": "container 1 l3",
"EndpointID": "6d98f5afd29c9d7b9fe5e0e1c78d5df6f329497'
"MacAddress": ""
"IPv4Address": ""
"IPv4Address": ""
"IPv6Address": ""
                },
"8566b66a027d54f6169d8edc456f47d37e5692c2ac7862490ac89b8c3
                     "Name": "Container 2 13",
"EndpointID": "d54005a7d5d9466efa70cfdc8ab312fe74e1cee
"MacAddress": "".
"IPv4Address": "32.0.11/20"
                     "IPv6Address":
            Options": {
    "ipvlan_mode": "l3",
                                                                           container running with docker
                                                                           network ipvlan 13
          },
"Labels": {}
root@manoj:~#
```

We can see container are isolated from the outside network. But we can communicate with in the same network.



Docker IPvlan L2 Mode (Layer 2)

In L2 mode, the containers operate like traditional Ethernet devices on the same network as the parent interface. Each container gets its own IP address and behaves like it's directly connected to the same physical or virtual network as the host.

Features:

Containers appear as devices on the same Layer 2 broadcast domain (same VLAN or subnet).

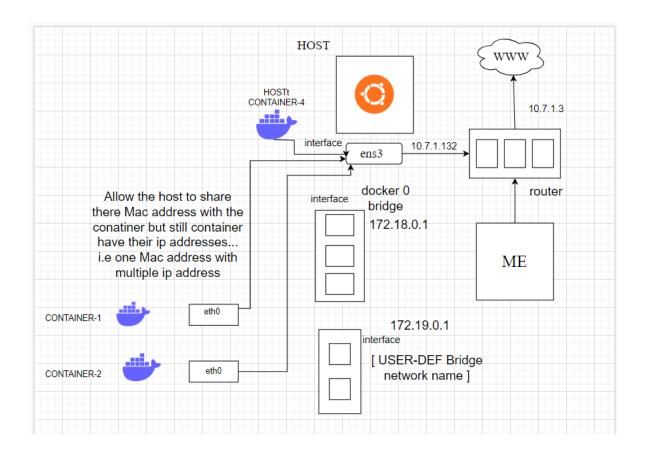
Containers share the MAC address of the host's parent network interface.

Suitable when you want containers to operate on the same LAN or VLAN as the host, without needing to deal with routing.

Use Case:

Ideal when you want containers to be part of the same local network (same subnet) as the host.

Good for environments where you want minimal network overhead and direct connectivity.



Create an IPvlan L2 network:

```
root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:~# # now lets create ipvlan network and run the container in those network
root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:~# docker network create -d ipvlan --subnet .0.0/20 --gateway .0.3 -o parent=enX0 newipvlan
0b9f7bbc7deed10ecf35e31a56c0e742b692c658d2d429489cbc
root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:~# docker network ls
NETWORK ID
b16d63d0dc5b
                                DRIVER
                                           SCOPE
local
                NAME
                bridge
                                 bridge
b2462bdb6c98
                newipvlanl2
                                                            Ⅵ.
0b9f7bbc7dee
                                            local
                                                                         we can see here ip vlan l2
network got created
                                 ipvlan
ad3T/595C655
root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:~# ■
```

Run a container in the IPvlan L2 network:

```
root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:~# docker network ls
NETWORK ID NAME DRIVER
b16d63d9dc5b bridge bridge
b2462bdb6c98 host host
                                                               SC0PE
                                                               local
local
0b9f7bbc7dee newipvlanl2 ipvlan
                                                               local
root@manoj:~# docker ps
CONTAINER ID IMAGE COMMAND CREATED
5e602d11883d busybox "sh" 5 second
                                                                                  STATUS
                                                                                                           PORTS
                                                                                                                           NAMES
                                                        5 seconds ago Up 4 seconds
                                                                                                                           docker_container_1_l2
root@manoj:~#root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:~# docker run -itd --rm --network newipvlanl2 --ip
d176cf1f1eecda037f373c1df142e14b4b67874a35f88f6cec
docker: Error response from daemon: Address already in use
root@manoj:~# docker run -itd --rm --network newipvlanl2 --ip
53f8e28b24bcd8c73ce67ab77c94eb9a52e568480eb106172d
                                                                                                                         --name docker_container_2_l2 nginx
                                                                                                                0.11 --name docker_container_2_l2 nginx
53f8e28b24bcdac73ce37ab
root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:~# docker ps
(ONTAINER ID IMAGE
                                        COMMAND
                                                                                                             STATUS
                                                                                                                                      PORTS
                                                                                 CREATED
                                                                                 6 seconds ago
54 seconds ago
53f8e
5e602
                       nginx
busybox
                                        "/docker-entrypoint..."
"sh"
                                                                                                            Up 5 seconds
Up 53 seconds
                                                                                                                                                       docker_container_2_l2
docker container 1 l2
  oot@manoj:~# 🛮
```

```
root@manoj:~#
root@manoj:#
root
```

Key Differences Between IPvlan L2 and L3:

Feature	IPvlan L2 (Layer 2)	IPvlan L3 (Layer 3)
Communication	•	Works on Layer 3, requires routing between containers
MAC Address	IUSES THE HOST'S MIAU ADDRESS	Does not require MAC addresses for containers
Network	Containers operate in the same subnet	Containers can be in different subnets
Use Case	Simple, direct access to the same LAN	More control over routing between containers
Complexity	Easier to set up, fewer routing concerns	Requires routing configuration

When to Use Each Mode:

- ❖ Use IPvlan L2 mode when you want containers to be on the same Layer 2 network (like a local LAN or VLAN) and you need them to have minimal routing overhead.
- ❖ Use IPvlan L3 mode when you want to isolate containers at Layer 3 and implement routing between subnets or across different network zones.