

How to reroute SFTP traffic via NGINX

Asked 9 years, 1 month ago Modified 3 years, 6 months ago Viewed 26k times



I'm trying to setup an FTP subdomain, such that all incoming SFTP requests to (say) ftp.myname.com, get routed to a particular internal server, (say) 10.123.456 via port 22.

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How do I use nginx to route this traffic?



I've already setup the SFTP server, and can SFTP directly to the server, say:



sftp username@123.456.7890, which works fine.



The problem is that when I setup nginx to route all traffic to ftp.myname.com, it connects, but the passwords get rejected. I have no problems routing web traffic to my other subdomains, say dev.myname.com (with passwords), but it doesn't work for the SFTP traffic:

```
server {  
    listen 22;  
    server_name ftp.myname.com;  
    return .....  
}
```

How do I define the return sting to route the traffic with the passwords?

The connection is SFTP (via port 22).

Thanks

nginx

ftp

sftp

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edited Feb 18, 2016 at 3:56

asked Feb 18, 2016 at 3:37



vgoklani

11.8k

19

69

107

- 1 just a note: sftp uses ssh-server to connect to. If you define nginx to listen to port 22, it expects a http / https connection to this port. In my personal opinion you cannot forward a sftp request send to nginx to ssh-server. check what ports your services listen to, so ssh-server (for sftp connections) might already listen on port22 to accept connections. you might restrict connections to port 22 via ufw. To get a special subdomain to listen only to port 22, someone else might help out. – [semm0](#) Feb 18, 2016 at 8:41

2 Answers

Sorted by: Highest score (default)





1

Aswering to @peixotorms: yes, you can. nginx can proxy/load balance http as well as tcp and udp traffic, see nginx stream modules documentation (at the [nginx main documentation page](#)), and specifically the [stream core module's documentation](#).



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edited Oct 13, 2021 at 23:07

answered Jun 22, 2018 at 7:42



Uncle Iroh

6,085 ● 6 ● 54 ● 64



Maxim Kononov

11 ● 1



3 (This post does not seem to provide a [quality answer](#) to the question. Please either edit your answer, or just post it as a comment to the question). – [seunicjeqep](#) Jun 22, 2018 at 7:59



-1

You cannot do this on nginx (http only), you must use something like HaProxy and a simple dns record for your subdomain pointing to the server ip.

Some info: <http://jpmorris-iso.blogspot.pt/2013/01/load-balancing-openssh-sftp-with-haproxy.html>



Edit:



Since nginx version 1.15.2 it's now possible to do that using the variable `$ssl_preread_protocol`. The official blog added post about how to use this variable for multiplexing HTTPS and SSH on the same port. <https://www.nginx.com/blog/running-non-ssl-protocols-over-ssl-port-nginx-1-15-2/>

Example of configuring SSH on an upstream block:

```
stream {
    upstream ssh {
        server 192.0.2.1:22;
    }

    upstream sslweb {
        server 192.0.2.2:443;
    }

    map $ssl_preread_protocol $upstream {
        default ssh;
        "TLSv1.2" sslweb;
    }

    # SSH and SSL on the same port
    server {
        listen 443;
        proxy_pass $upstream;
        ssl_preread on;
    }
}
```

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edited Apr 30, 2020 at 9:57

answered Feb 18, 2016 at 15:16



peixotorms

1,283 ● 1 ● 11 ● 21

-
- 1 is there a way to have a combination SSH, HTTPS and HTTP ? can i achieve with ssl_preread all three?
– [Lonko](#) Sep 19, 2021 at 11:27
-

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