

## Re: fetchmail problem

**Source:** <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Debian/2005-02/1575.html>

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**From:** Andreas Rippl (*a.rippel\_at\_gmx.net*)

**Date:** 02/11/05

Date: Fri, 11 Feb 2005 20:06:58 +0100

To: debian-user@lists.debian.org

On Fri, Feb 11, 2005 at 08:21:48AM -0600, Eduard Breuer wrote:

> *Andreas Rippl wrote:*

>

> > *On Wed, Feb 09, 2005 at 07:36:30PM -0600, Eduard Breuer wrote:*

> >

> >

> > > *Here are few things that got me maybe little further please read bellow*

> > > *with my comments and help if you can.*

> > > *thanx*

> > >

> > > *I changes the .fetchmailrc file by recomendations from you guys and it*

> > > *seems that it got me little further, but got into new error messages.*

> > >

> > > *poll austrialpinusa.com*

> > > *user "pedro@austrialpinusa.com" there is pedro here*

> > >

> > > *I put the whole email address, I remembered that I did it on webmail I*

> > > *have to use my whole email address as My login. deleted the password*

> > > *part and it requested my logging.. good*

> > >

> > > *# user linux there is pedro here*

> > > *less users less pain..*

> > >

> > > *# user baka there is localbaka here;*

> > >

> > > *executed the fetchmail...*

> > >

> > > *pedro@sajo:~\$ fetchmail -L fetchmail.log*

> > > *Enter password for pedro@austrialpinusa.com@austrialpinusa.com:*

> > >

> > > *the log*

> > > *pedro@sajo:~\$ cat fetchmail.log*

> > > *fetchmail: starting fetchmail 5.9.11 daemon*

> > > *fetchmail: 4 messages for pedro@austrialpinusa.com at austrialpinusa.com.*

> > > *fetchmail: reading message pedro@austrialpinusa.com@austrialpinusa.com:1*

> > > *of 4 (1527 header octets) fetchmail: SMTP connect to localhost failed*

> > > *fetchmail: SMTP transaction error while fetching from austrialpinusa.com*

Debian-User: Re: fetchmail problem

> >>fetchmail: Query status=10 (SMTP)  
> >>pedro@sajo:~\$  
> >>  
> >>here I am lost  
> >>help please....  
> >>  
> >>  
> >  
> >Hi Eduard,  
> >  
> >the 'SMTP connect to localhost failed' indicates that you are connecting  
> >to your mail provider correctly as you can see that you are already  
> >reading message one of four. But as the message is about to be passed to  
> >your local mail transfer agent (MTA), you see that there is no  
> >connection possible. That means that a) you don't have one installed, or  
> >b) it is not configured correctly. Try  
> >  
> >telnet localhost 25  
> >  
> >For my configuration I get a response  
> >  
> >Trying 127.0.0.1...  
> >Connected to localhost.  
> >Escape character is '^]'.  
> >220 cypoly2 MasqMail 0.2.20 ESMTP  
> >  
> >>From the above error message, you should not get a connection at all.  
> >>Then you can do 'man sendmail', to see which, if any MTA you have  
> >>installed. If there is none, you can choose one of (amongst others)  
> >>exim4, sendmail, postfix, masqmail...  
> >>  
> >>I personally have come to like postfix and masqmail recently.  
> >>  
> >>Good luck,  
> >>  
> >>Andreas  
> >>  
> >>  
> >>  
> >>  
> >Thanx for the typ. I did telnet localhost 25  
> >got :  
> >  
> >pedro@sajo:~\$ telnet localhost 25  
> >Trying 127.0.0.1...  
> >Connected to sajo.  
> >Escape character is '^]'.  
> >2005-02-12 01:16:49 Failed to open configuration file /etc/exim/exim.conf  
> >Connection closed by foreign host.  
> >  
> >Here is what I am confused about. I read on some page that I should use

Re: fetchmail problem

## Debian-User: Re: fetchmail problem

> *procmail*. Than somewhere I read that *Exim*, somewhere else *sendmail*. It  
> seems that *procmail* is most likely the easiest to set up. Is that right?  
> Please advise me on which to choose and how to set it up please. Thank  
> you so much for all the usefull help and hints.

>  
> *ed*.

>  
If you watch the man page for *procmail*, you will find that *procmail* is no replacement for a proper mail transfer agent, even if it is not too clearly explained. the man page speaks of a 'mail processor' and that's what I use it for. Basically, I put a lot of rules (see 'man *procmailrc*' and 'man *procmailex*') into `~/procmailrc` which filter my incoming mail into the appropriate mailboxes, e.g.:

```
:0:  
* ^To.*debian-user@lists.debian.org  
|gzip >> debian/debian-user.gz
```

to pipe everything addressed to `debian-user@lists.debian.org` through `gzip` and append it to `debian-user.gz`.

Your output shows that you have indeed *exim* installed, but that the configuration file can't be read for some reason. Which version of Debian do you have – do you run stable, testing, unstable? Do a `'dpkg -l|grep exim'` to find out your *exim* version.

My first suggestion would be to do `'dpkg-reconfigure exim(4)-config'`, depending on your Debian version (or install it if it isn't there) as I think (not too sure however) that the configuration is done via this package. You should also be able to find an example `exim.conf` somewhere under `/usr/share/exim*`. Anyways, I don't like *exim* as I mentioned, I used to use *postfix*, and now *masqmail*, so I am not the best help in that respect. So to sum up, you are just left with properly configuring your MTA of choice: *exim*, *postfix*, *masqmail*, *sendmail*, *courier* (all which come to mind, there surely are others); that in itself can be a bit daunting as I found out for myself, but you don't have too much work left.

Hth,

Andreas

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