

## Re: uid and gid values in the sftp protocol

**Source:** <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.security.ssh/2004-08/0231.html>

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Steve Turner <[bbqboyee@H2OlooWoodworks.com](mailto:bbqboyee@H2OlooWoodworks.com)> wrote:

> *The SFTP protocol can send the integer uid and gid values for a file  
> back to a requesting client in an SSH\_FXP\_ATTRS packet, but I can see no  
> way for the client to map those integers to the human-readable string  
> that makes sense for the file as it exists on the server. The uid/gid  
> values for user "foo" need not be the same on both the client and the  
> server, so I can't see how a generic SFTP client can properly display  
> those values as meaningful strings. Any plans to offer a protocol  
> extension that will allow the mapping of uid/gid values to the correct  
> names?*

I proposed one on the ietf-ssh mailing list in 2001:

<http://www.tartarus.org/~simon/ssh/draft-sftp-userdb-00.txt>

Nobody seemed terribly interested at the time, although there was some follow-up discussion on this list in November 2001 (check the archives at <ftp://ftp.ietf.org/ietf-mail-archive/secsh/>).

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Simon Tatham                    "Imagine what the world would be like if  
<[anakin@pobox.com](mailto:anakin@pobox.com)>            there were no hypothetical situations..."