

JogFeelingVI: @remote-ssh diagnose my last connection error

Remote - SSH: Summary

- SSH connection to 127.0.0.1:2222 succeeded and you authenticated with a password.
- The Remote-SSH client then timed out waiting for the VS Code handshake/startup and closed the connection: "Connecting with SSH timed out".
- Likely causes: VS Code Server did not start or the install/handshake was blocked (shell startup output, noexec /tmp, missing internet, firewall / forwarding disabled, or exec-server/local-server interaction issues).

What to try (in this order)

1. Reproduce the exact ssh command the extension used (run in a terminal) to see where it hangs:

```
ssh -v -T -D 39401 -o ConnectTimeout=15 127.0.0.1
```

2. Confirm you can run a remote non-interactive script (this tests the mechanism VS Code uses to install/start the server):

```
echo "echo hello" | ssh -T 127.0.0.1  
# expected output: hello
```

3. Check for unexpected output from remote shell startup (non-interactive shells must not print extra text):

```
ssh -T 127.0.0.1 'printf "BEGIN\n"; env | sed -n "1,20p"; printf "\nEND\r'
```

If you see any login banners or custom echo/printf from .bashrc/.profile when non-interactive, remove or guard them with `if [-t 1]; then ... fi`.

4. Try the recommended Remote-SSH fallbacks:

- Enable login terminal and use terminal mode:

```
"remote.SSH.showLoginTerminal": true,  
"remote.SSH.useLocalServer": false
```

- If `useExecServer` is true, try disabling it temporarily.

5. Clean up any partial server installs and retry:

```
# on remote
rm -rf ~/.vscode-server* ~/.vscode-remote*      # kills/cleans server file
# then retry connection from VS Code
```

6. Inspect remote VS Code server logs (if present) after a failed attempt:

- If `useExecServer = true`: `~/.vscode-server/cli/servers/*/log.txt`
- If `false`: `~/.vscode-server/..log`

Other checks

- Ensure the remote host can download files from the Internet (if the server needs to be fetched).
- Ensure `/tmp` is not mounted `noexec` (VS Code writes install script to temp).
- Ensure `AllowTcpForwarding` is enabled on the SSH server if you see "open failed: administratively prohibited" in the log (not present here, but good to verify).

If these steps don't show the cause, run the two commands from step 1 and 2 and paste their full outputs (including `ssh -v`) and the first ~50 lines of any remote server log file; will diagnose further.