

**NAME**

pam\_rootok - Gain only root access

**SYNOPSIS**

**pam\_rootok.so** [debug]

**DESCRIPTION**

pam\_rootok is a PAM module that authenticates the user if their *UID* is 0. Applications that are created setuid-root generally retain the *UID* of the user but run with the authority of an enhanced effective-UID. It is the real *UID* that is checked.

**OPTIONS****debug**

Print debug information.

**MODULE TYPES PROVIDED**

The **auth**, **acct** and **password** module types are provided.

**RETURN VALUES**

PAM\_SUCCESS

The *UID* is 0.

PAM\_AUTH\_ERR

The *UID* is **not**0.

**EXAMPLES**

In the case of the [su\(1\)](#) application the historical usage is to permit the superuser to adopt the identity of a lesser user without the use of a password. To obtain this behavior with PAM the following pair of lines are needed for the corresponding entry in the `/etc/pam.d/su` configuration file:

```
# su authentication. Root is granted access by default.
auth sufficient pam_rootok.so
auth required pam_unix.so
```

**SEE ALSO**

[su\(1\)](#), [pam.conf\(5\)](#), [pam.d\(5\)](#), [pam\(7\)](#)

**AUTHOR**

pam\_rootok was written by Andrew G. Morgan, <morgan@kernel.org>.