

Daniel Mamuza

Executive Summary - scottyab/rootbeer

Repository URL: <https://github.com/scottyab/rootbeer>

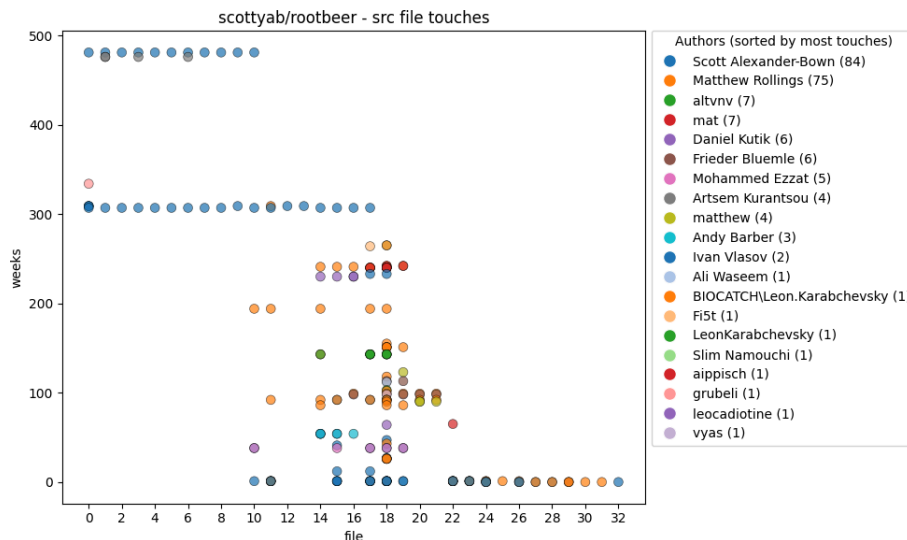
Fork URL: <https://github.com/mamuzad/group-2>

Overview

RootBeer is an Android root-detection library, maintained for 9+ years, paused since 2024. The project historically showed strong maintenance, but currently has continuity and security-maintenance risk.

Risk (Ownership + Maintenance Gap)

Two developers account for 78% of all work: Scott Alexander-Bown and Matthew Rollings.



Departure/continuity risk: Matthew Rollings' activity drops off after roughly week ~250, suggesting a likely departure or reduced involvement. This concentrates ownership in key areas, especially native/security-related components, increasing bus-factor risk.

Maintenance gap risk: Because the codebase has not been actively updated recently, the library risks becoming stale against evolving rooting techniques and Android platform changes.

Recommendation

Because development has been inactive for ~2 years, move the project to **maintenance mode** (or *archive* if no roadmap exists) and document support expectations. In parallel, initiate a replacement/deprecation evaluation to avoid relying long-term on an unmaintained security library.

Technical Notes (Methods)

For this report and the plot, source files were defined as code/build artifacts under `app/` and `rootbeerlib/` with coding extensions such as `.java`, `.kt`, `.cpp`, `.c`, `.h` (excluding resources/assets). More info [here](#).

Analysis was performed using the GitHub REST API with custom repository-mining scripts linked above. Additionally, useful git commands:

- `git log --all --full-history -- <file>` - trace file history across renames and long timelines. (Useful when files were moved and renamed given the 9 year length)