

# 1 Abstract

## 1.1 The purpose of this document

This document tries to be a good starting point for people new to *wmii-3*. People who have used *wmi*, *wmii-2.5* or even *ion* will get to know what is new and different in *wmii-3*, and people who have never used a tiling window manager before will fall in love with the new concept.

## 1.2 Wmii—the second generation of window manager improved

*Wmii-3* is a new kind of window manager. It is designed to have a small memory footprint, be extremely modularised and have as little code as possible, thus ensuring as few bugs as possible. In fact, one of our official goals is to not exceed 10k lines of code <sup>1</sup>.

*Wmii* tries to be very portable and to give the user as much freedom as possible.

*Wmii-3* is the third major release of the second generation of the window manager improved <sup>2</sup>. *Wmii* first introduced a new paradigm in version 2.5, namely dynamic window management, that overcomes the limitations imposed by the WIMP paradigm (see also the companion *wmii.tex*).

## 1.3 Target audience

I presume the reader already has experience with Unix, knows all the basic terminology and concepts like files and editors.

I hope you are open minded towards new ideas, and willing to spend some time learning *wmii-3* <sup>3</sup>.

If you only want to know how to operate *wmii-3* and are not interested in the inner workings or in scripting, you may read sections 2, 3 and subsection 4.1 and skip the rest.

However, to get the most out of *wmii-3* you should probably read the whole document “sequentially”, i.e. from beginning to end. Another possibility is to read/consume the guide “on demand” as you notice you need more information or details to understand better some concept. We recommend you to read the introductory chapters first, use some time to get settled in the *wmii*-world and read the scripting chapters later on.

# 2 Configuration and install

## 2.1 Obtaining wmii

*Wmii* is licensed under the MIT/X Consortium License, which basically means it is free software, and you are free to download it from <http://wmii.de> free of charge <sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> benefit of the 10k SLOC restriction is that it's easier to read/understand, thus it's easier to use and get used to it

<sup>2</sup> the ii is actually the roman numeral for 2.

<sup>3</sup> remember the refrain: “nobody can teach you what you don't want to know”.

<sup>4</sup> please have a look at <http://wmii.de/repos/wmii/LICENSE> for details