

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank my PhD supervisors Prof. Eric Larkins and Dr. Slawomir Sujecki for their support, input and guidance throughout the course of this work. I am greatly indebted to Dr. Jun Jun Lim for his constant support and guidance. He provided the numerical foundations on which much of this work is based. I wish to extend my deepest gratitude to Dr. Steve Bull for many helpful discussions and providing cool logical analysis of many problems - not to mention many an evening spent in his front room editing papers and drinking wine. With out his input and support much of the work would not have been possible. Thanks must be given to our collaborators Dr. M. Sadeghi, Dr. S.M. Wang, and Prof. A. Larsson at Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden for growing the devices which were measured in this work. P. Melanen, P. Sipilä, and Dr. P. Uusimaa of Modulight Inc., Tampere, Finland must also be thanked for processing the devices. I would also like to thank Prof. Anthony Kent for many useful discussions on the topic of phonons in semiconductors. I am grateful for the support of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), which provided funding for my PhD and the loan of the Thermal Camera. Thanks must be given to Rod Dykeman for introducing me to the clean room and his patient assistance with the wire bonder. I also gratefully acknowledge the support of the European Commission through the IST projects FAST ACCESS (IST-004772) and WWW.BRIGHTER.EU (IST-035266). Finally, I wish to extend my deepest gratitude to my friends and family who have supported me throughout this work.