Contents

Nomenclature **13**

Acronyms **19**

1. Introduction **21**
1.1. General Lighting and its Savings Potential 21
1.2. Current Issues in LED Research 23
1.3. The Nanowire Approach 25
1.4. Physics-Based Simulation 27
1.5. Contents 28

2. Outline of Semiconductor Physics **29**
2.1. Energy Bands and Carrier Statistics 29
2.2. Carrier Transport 34
2.3. Quantum Mechanics 39
2.4. QUATRA/CELS: a Multi-Physics Simulation Framework 43

3. Simulation Models for III-Nitride Devices **47**
3.1. Properties of Wurtzite Crystals 47
3.2. Orientation Dependency of Strain 49
3.3. Orientation Dependency of Polarization Effects 55
3.4. Strained Wurtzite 6x6-Hamiltonian for Arbitrary Crystal Orientations . . . 59
3.5. Alternative Auger-Models for Quantum Wells 65

4. Increasing Internal Efficiency: The Core-Shell Approach **71**
4.1. Physical Structure 71
4.2. Benchmark Geometry 73
4.3. Active Area Increase 74
4.4. Study of a Top-Contacted Core-Shell-Nanowire 75
4.5. Impact of Alternative Contact Arrangements 79
4.6. Optimisation Model 82
4.7. Optimisation of the Shell Thickness 83
4.8. Optimisation of the Aspect Ratio 86
4.9. Conclusion 90

5. Monolithic White LEDs without Phosphor Conversion 93
5.1. Overview of Nanowire Designs 94
5.2. Strain Relations of Nanowires with Thick Active Layers 95
5.3. Study of a White Nanowire Bulk LED 98
5.4. Optimisation of Nanowire Bulk LEDs 103
5.5. White Multi Quantum Disk Structures 109
5.6. Conclusion 116

6. Conclusions 119
6.1. Comparison between Different LED Designs 119
6.2. Major Achievements 120
6.3. Outlook and Future Work 121
6.4. A not too Scientific Epilogue 122

Bibliography 123

A. Simulation Parameters 131

Index 136