

University of Southampton Research Repository ePrints Soton

Copyright © and Moral Rights for this thesis are retained by the author and/or other copyright owners. A copy can be downloaded for personal non-commercial research or study, without prior permission or charge. This thesis cannot be reproduced or quoted extensively from without first obtaining permission in writing from the copyright holder/s. The content must not be changed in any way or sold commercially in any format or medium without the formal permission of the copyright holders.

When referring to this work, full bibliographic details including the author, title, awarding institution and date of the thesis must be given e.g.

AUTHOR (year of submission) "Full thesis title", University of Southampton, name of the University School or Department, PhD Thesis, pagination

Acknowledgements

This work was partially funded by an EPSRC studentship award (#99308907) and by a Research Studentship from the School of Electronics and Computer Science, University of Southampton.

First and foremost I would like to thank my supervisor Leslie Carr, and my secondary supervisor Wendy Hall, for their guidance and support. I am also glad to acknowledge the kindness of both Leslie Carr and Steve Hitchcock in helping weed the text of errors, omissions, and ambiguities. If any remain, they are all my own work.

I am indebted to Ian Heath for his kindness in sharing his wisdom and understanding of the intricate (and often mystical) inner workings of the Win32 API, and to Deveril for sharing my vision for AWF.

Many thanks also to Robert Nemiroff, co-producer of the *Astronomy Picture of the Day* Web site, and to the Web team at Scientific American, for providing insights into their editorial processes and linking policies.

Last but by no means least, I would like to thank my family and friends for all their support and encouragement, and my colleagues and friends on `#iam_here` for ensuring that there was never a dull moment.

To Amy ♡