

VITA

Scott Steinbrink graduated from William Jackson Palmer High School, Colorado Springs, Colorado in June of 1980. Following this, he entered the US Military service, serving for six years in the Navy as a shipboard nuclear power plant operator. He was honorably discharged in July, 1986 and entered into studies at the University of Colorado, graduating from the Boulder campus with a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering Sciences in December, 1990. This was followed by an M.S. in Aerospace Engineering from Auburn University, July 1993, and then by Ph.D. studies at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, the results of which are reported in this work. He was born in Rota, Spain on April 26, 1962, and is currently employed as Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Gannon University, Erie, PA.