

(Sample Cover Page)

RICE UNIVERSITY

**Stochastic Models and Linkage Disequilibrium:
Estimating the Recombination Coefficient**

by

Vernon Shane Pankratz

A THESIS SUBMITTED
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE

Doctor of Philosophy

APPROVED, THESIS COMMITTEE:

Marek Kimmel, Professor, Chair
Statistics

David W. Scott, Noah Harding
Professor Statistics

Ranjit Chakrobory, Allen King
Professor, Center for Human
Genetics, UT-Houston

Kathleen S. Matthews, Stewart
Professor Biochemistry and Cell
Biology

HOUSTON, TEXAS
MAY 2006