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**THE STOCHASTIC ANALYSIS OF PATTERNS AND DETERMINANTS
OF INTERNAL MIGRATION IN THAILAND**

by

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ABSTRACT

The Stochastic Analysis of Patterns and Determinants of Internal Migration in Thailand

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The first part of this study applies a Markov chain model to investigate the pattern of interregional migration. The pattern of migration or probability of persons living in a region migrating to another region within a period of 5 years is considered, and the ability of each region to attract migrants or retain those already residing is analyzed, from a stochastic point of view. In addition, economic, social and population factors are analyzed to discover their effect on the pattern of interregional migration over the period 1975-1980. The second part of the study investigates economic, social and population factors at three levels, that is, at the individual, household and village levels, with the help of data obtained from a survey of 600 households, comprising 3,326 members in all, to observe how those factors correlate with the probability of out-migration from Nakhon Ratchasima province.

The results of the analysis indicates that the pattern of migration for the period 1955-1960 and 1965-1970 show, for many regions, a more or less clear-cut change, and also that the tendency to change is more than that the period 1965-1970 and 1975-1980. Economic, social and population changes in each region render some regions more able to attract migrants than others. In particular period from the 1965-1970 to 1975-1980, the Sub-central, Eastern, Western, Middle Northeastern, Middle Northern and Upper Southern regions are more able to attract migrants than others and to retain

residents, who are less likely to migrate to other regions. At the same time, the results indicate that the economic, social and population factors of distance, past migration patterns, unemployment, gross regional product per head, population density, living conditions of households in each province, and educational level of population can predict the pattern of migration for the period 1975-1980 which is close to the Census. There is a difference of only 0.278 percentage points. A detailed analysis for a particular area using data from the survey indicates that age, educational level, marital status, working conditions, main and secondary occupations are more closely correlated with the probability of out-migration than with the level of household and village of residence. The economic factor is found to be highly relevant to the probability of out-migration.

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