

Stat 8931, Fall 2005
Homework 5 Hint

Homework Problem 5 Hint A much more complicated problem from which some techniques for this problem can be stolen was solved by

Hobert, J. P. and Geyer, C. J. (1998).
Geometric ergodicity of Gibbs and block Gibbs samplers for a
hierarchical random effects model.
Journal of Multivariate Analysis **67** 414–430.

The only simple functions for which expectations w. r. t. a gamma distribution exist are powers and exponentials. The simplest functions for which expectations w. r. t. a normal distribution exist are quadratics. This suggests a drift function of the form

$$V(\lambda, \mu) = \lambda^{-1} + e^{c\lambda} + k(\hat{\mu}_n - \mu)^2$$

(replacing λ^{-1} with $\lambda^{-1/2}$ would perhaps allow the proof to work even for $n = 1$, but this would complicate the math, so we won't bother).

The scan order update μ then λ makes the proof work best.