

## Quiz 3: MCMC and Variational Inference

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**EXERCISE 1** Let  $\tilde{\pi}$  be a distribution on a measurable space  $(X, \mathcal{X})$ . Let  $P(x, dy) = \alpha(x)\tilde{\pi}(dy) + \bar{\alpha}(x)\delta_x(dy)$  where  $\alpha : X \rightarrow (0, 1)$  and  $\bar{\alpha} = 1 - \alpha$ . We assume that there exists a probability measure  $\pi$  such that  $\pi P = \pi$ . Which of the following statements is true?

- a ✓ If  $h$  is a bounded measurable function on  $X$  such that  $Ph(x) = h(x)$ , then  $h$  is constant.
- b ✓  $P$  is irreducible with respect to  $\tilde{\pi}$ .
- c  $\pi$  is not the unique invariant distribution for  $P$ .
- d ✓ for any measurable function  $h : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\pi(|h|) < \infty$ , we have,  $\mathbb{P}_\pi - a.s.$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} h(X_k) = \pi(h)$ .
- e ✓ Assume that  $d\tilde{\pi} = \tilde{\pi}d\nu$  and  $d\pi = \pi d\nu$  where the densities  $\pi$  and  $\tilde{\pi}$  are strictly positive. Then, there exists a constant  $M$  such that  $\alpha(x) = M \frac{\tilde{\pi}(x)}{\pi(x)}$ .