

Let $V = V_1 dx^1 + c.p.$

Here 'c.p.' means 'cyclic permutations', i.e., the terms generated from what is explicitly there already by the substitutions $1 \rightarrow 2$.

explicitly written $\begin{matrix} \uparrow & & \downarrow \\ & 3 & \\ \downarrow & & \uparrow \end{matrix}$. Thus each term implies 3 terms in all. Then we compute

$$dV = \frac{dV_1}{dx^2} dx^2 dx^1 + \frac{dV_1}{dx^3} dx^3 dx^1 + c.p.$$

$$*dV = \frac{dV_1}{dx^2} dx^3 - \frac{dV_1}{dx^3} dx^2 + c.p. = \left(\frac{dV_1}{dx^2} - \frac{dV_2}{dx^1} \right) dx^3 + c.p.$$

$$d*dV = \frac{d}{dx^1} \left(\frac{dV_1}{dx^2} - \frac{dV_2}{dx^1} \right) dx^1 dx^3 + \frac{d}{dx^2} \left(\frac{dV_1}{dx^2} - \frac{dV_2}{dx^1} \right) dx^2 dx^3 + c.p.$$

$$*d*dV = \frac{d}{dx^1} \left(\frac{dV_1}{dx^2} - \frac{dV_2}{dx^1} \right) dx^2 - \frac{d}{dx^2} \left(\frac{dV_1}{dx^2} - \frac{dV_2}{dx^1} \right) dx^1 + c.p.$$

$$= \left[\frac{d}{dx^3} \left(\frac{dV_3}{dx^1} - \frac{dV_1}{dx^3} \right) - \frac{d}{dx^2} \left(\frac{dV_1}{dx^2} - \frac{dV_2}{dx^1} \right) \right] dx^1 + c.p.$$

Also $*V = V_1 dx^2 dx^3 + c.p.$

$$d*V = \frac{dV_1}{dx^1} dx^1 dx^2 dx^3 + c.p.$$

$$*d*V = -\frac{dV_1}{dx^1} + c.p.$$

$$d*d*V = -\frac{d^2 V_1}{(dx^1)^2} dx^1 - \frac{d^2 V_1}{dx^2 dx^1} dx^2 - \frac{d^2 V_1}{dx^3 dx^1} dx^3 + c.p.$$

Thus $-*d*dV - d*d*V = \left[\frac{d^2 V_1}{(dx^1)^2} + \frac{d^2 V_1}{(dx^2)^2} + \frac{d^2 V_1}{(dx^3)^2} + \frac{d^2 V_2}{dx^2 dx^1} + \frac{d^2 V_2}{dx^3 dx^1} - \frac{d^2 V_2}{dx^1 dx^3} - \frac{d^2 V_2}{dx^1 dx^2} \right] dx^1 + c.p.$
 $= (\nabla^2 V_1) dx^1 + c.p.$

Note equivalence under c.p.!

$-\frac{d^2 V_3}{dx^1 dx^3} dx^1$ $-\frac{d^2 V_2}{dx^1 dx^2} dx^1$