

The exterior derivative on smooth forms induces

$$d: \mathcal{D}^q(\mathbb{R}^n) \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}^{q+1}(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

defined by

$$(dT)(\varphi) = (-1)^{q+1} T(d\varphi), \quad \varphi \in A_c^{n-q-1}(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

Then  $d^2=0$ .

$$\text{If } (ddT)(\varphi) = \pm dT(d\varphi) = \pm T(d^2\varphi) = 0. \Rightarrow d^2T=0 \quad \square$$

If  $T = T_\psi$  for some smooth form  $\psi \in A^q(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , by Stokes' theorem

$$\begin{aligned} dT_\psi(\varphi) &= (-1)^{q+1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi \wedge d\varphi \\ &= - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} d(\psi \wedge \varphi) + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} d\psi \wedge \varphi \\ &= T_{d\psi}(\varphi). \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{If } (dT_\psi)(\varphi) = (-1)^{q+1} T_\psi(d\varphi) = (-1)^{q+1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi \wedge d\varphi \quad (\text{by Example 1})$$

$$\Rightarrow d(\psi \wedge \varphi) = d\psi \wedge \varphi + (-1)^q \psi \wedge d\varphi$$

$$\Rightarrow (-1)^{q+1} \psi \wedge d\varphi = d\psi \wedge \varphi - d(\psi \wedge \varphi)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow (-1)^{q+1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi \wedge d\varphi &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} d\psi \wedge \varphi - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} d(\psi \wedge \varphi). \quad \text{by Stokes' theorem} \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} d\psi \wedge \varphi = T_{d\psi}(\varphi). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, for  $T_P$  as in the second example,

$$\begin{aligned} dT_P(\varphi) &= (-1)^{q+1} \int_P d\varphi \\ &= (-1)^{q+1} \int_{\partial P} \varphi \\ &= (-1)^{q+1} T_{\partial P}(\varphi). \end{aligned}$$