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Title: *Minimal Surfaces In $S^2 \times S^2$*

Abstract: We study minimal Lagrangian surfaces of the Einstein-Kähler surface $S^2 \times S^2$, studying local geometric properties and showing that they can be locally described as Gauss maps of minimal surfaces in $S^3 \subset R^4$. We also discuss the second variation of the area and characterize the most relevant examples by their stability behaviour.