

Exercise 1. 1. It follows by a direct algebraic computation.

2. By the properties of the cross product, we have $\langle \partial_{x_i} \vec{\Phi}, \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} \times \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} \rangle = 0$ for all $i = 1, 2$, which implies that $\langle \partial_{x_i} \vec{\Phi}, \vec{n} \rangle = 0$ for all $i = 1, 2$. This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Delta_g \vec{\Phi}, \vec{n} \rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(g)}} \sum_{i,j=1}^n g^{i,j} \left\langle \partial_{x_i} \left(\sqrt{\det(g)} \partial_{x_j} \vec{\Phi} \right), \vec{n} \right\rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(g)}} \sum_{i,j=1}^2 g^{i,j} \left(\partial_{x_j} \left(\sqrt{\det(g)} \right) \left\langle \partial_{x_j} \vec{\Phi}, \vec{n} \right\rangle + \sqrt{\det(g)} \left\langle \partial_{x_i, x_j}^2 \vec{\Phi}, \vec{n} \right\rangle \right) \\ &= \sum_{i,j=1}^2 g^{i,j} \left\langle \partial_{x_i, x_j}^2 \vec{\Phi}, \vec{n} \right\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

The formula now follows from the fact that

$$\begin{pmatrix} g_{1,1} & g_{1,2} \\ g_{1,2} & g_{2,2} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{g_{1,1}g_{2,2} - g_{1,2}^2} \begin{pmatrix} g_{2,2} & -g_{1,2} \\ -g_{1,2} & g_{1,1} \end{pmatrix}.$$

3. We have

$$\partial_{x_i} \vec{\Phi}_t = \partial_{x_i} \vec{\Phi} + t \partial_{x_i} v \vec{n} + t v \partial_{x_i} \vec{n},$$

and since $|\vec{n}| = 1$, we have $\partial_{x_i} \vec{n} = 0$, which shows that $\partial_{x_i} \vec{n} = \lambda_1^i \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} + \lambda_2^i \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi}$, and we have

$$\begin{aligned} -\mathbb{I}_{i,1} &= \langle \partial_{x_i} \vec{n}, \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} \rangle = g_{1,1} \lambda_1^i + g_{1,2} \lambda_2^i \\ -\mathbb{I}_{i,2} &= \langle \partial_{x_i} \vec{n}, \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} \rangle = g_{1,2} \lambda_1^i + g_{2,2} \lambda_2^i, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^i \\ \lambda_2^i \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{1}{g_{1,1}g_{2,2} - g_{1,2}^2} \begin{pmatrix} g_{2,2} & -g_{1,2} \\ -g_{1,2} & g_{1,1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{I}_{1,i} \\ \mathbb{I}_{2,i} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -g^{1,1} \mathbb{I}_{1,i} - g^{1,2} \mathbb{I}_{2,i} \\ -g^{1,2} \mathbb{I}_{1,i} - g^{2,2} \mathbb{I}_{2,i} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Notice however that this step is not necessary. Therefore, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi}_t \times \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi}_t &= \left(\partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} + t \partial_{x_1} v \vec{n} + t v \partial_{x_1} \vec{n} \right) \times \left(\partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} + t \partial_{x_2} v \vec{n} + t v \partial_{x_2} \vec{n} \right) \\ &= \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} \times \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} + t \left(\partial_{x_1} v \frac{1}{\det(g)} \left(-g_{2,2} \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} + g_{1,2} \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} \right) + \partial_{x_2} v \frac{1}{\det(g)} \left(-g_{1,1} \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} + g_{1,2} \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} \right) \right) \\ &\quad - t v \det(g) (g^{1,1} \mathbb{I}_{1,1} + 2g^{1,2} \mathbb{I}_{1,2} + g^{2,2} \mathbb{I}_{2,2}) \vec{n} + O(t^2) \\ &= \sqrt{\det(g)} (1 - 2t H v) \vec{n} + t \mu_1 \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} + t \mu_2 \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} + O(t^2) \end{aligned}$$

where we used that

$$\begin{aligned} (\partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} \times \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi}) \times \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} &= \langle \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi}, \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} \rangle \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} - \langle \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi}, \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} \rangle \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} \\ &= g_{1,1} \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} - g_{1,2} \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} \\ (\partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} \times \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi}) \times \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} &= \langle \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi}, \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} \rangle \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} - \langle \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi}, \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} \rangle \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} \\ &= g_{1,2} \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} - g_{2,2} \partial_{x_1} \vec{\Phi} \\ \partial_{x_1} \vec{n} \times \partial_{x_2} \vec{\Phi} &= -\sqrt{\det(g)} (g^{1,1} \mathbb{I}_{1,1} + g^{1,2} \mathbb{I}_{1,2}) \vec{n} \\ \partial_{x_1} \vec{n} \times \partial_{x_2} \vec{n} &= -\sqrt{\det(g)} (g^{1,2} \mathbb{I}_{1,2} + g^{2,2} \mathbb{I}_{2,2}) \vec{n}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we deduce that

$$\text{Area}(\vec{\Phi}_t) = \text{Area}(\vec{\Phi}) - 2t \int_{\Omega} H v \sqrt{\det(g)} dx + O(t^2),$$

which shows that $\vec{\Phi}$ is critical for the area if and only if $H = 0$ identically.

Exercise 3. A direct computation shows that

$$\begin{aligned} E &= 1 + (f'(z))^2, & F &= 0, & G &= |f(z)|^2 \\ L &= \frac{f}{|f|} \frac{-f''(z)}{\sqrt{1 + |f'(z)|^2}}, & M &= 0, & N &= \frac{|f(z)|}{\sqrt{1 + |f'(z)|^2}}, \end{aligned}$$

which shows that $H = 0$ if and only if

$$f(z)f''(z) = 1 + |f'(z)|^2.$$

We rewrite the ODE as

$$\frac{f'(z)f''(z)}{1 + |f'(z)|^2} = \frac{f'(z)}{f(z)}.$$

Integrating, we get

$$\frac{1}{2} \log(1 + |f'(z)|^2) = \log(f(z)) + \log(C),$$

or

$$-\log(C) = \log \left(\frac{f(z)}{\sqrt{1 + |f'(z)|^2}} \right),$$

so the function $\frac{f(z)}{\sqrt{1 + |f'(z)|^2}}$ is constant. Recalling that $\frac{d}{dt} \text{arccosh}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{t^2 - 1}}$, we easily conclude the proof of the theorem.