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Spinodal Field and Surface Free Energy of the Ising Model on the {5,4} Tiling of the Hyperbolic Plane¹ HOWARD L. RICHARDS, Physics, Marshall University — Consider the ferromagnetic Ising model on a two-dimensional lattice, with all the spins initially up but with a weak down magnetic field, evolving under a single-spin-flip Metropolis dynamic. If the lattice lies in the Euclidean plane – for example, if it is the square lattice — a droplet of down spins (appearing as a thermal excitation) can decrease the free energy of the system by growing if it is larger than a finite critical size. In the hyperbolic plane, however, beneath a spinodal field H_{sp} it is impossible to nucleate a critical droplet. Monte Carlo simulations for finite regions of the {5,4} tiling with mean-field boundary conditions show that $H_{sp}^{2/3}$ is approximately a linear function of temperature, which should be expected at least in the neighborhood of the critical temperature. Assuming that the droplets are circular, a first estimate of the surface free energy can be made.

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