Supersymmetric SO(10) Inflation

QAISAR SHAFI, University of Delaware, GEORGE LEONTARIS, University of Ioannina, NOBUCHIKA OKADA, University of Alabama — We describe how $\lambda \phi^4$ inflation with non-minimal coupling to gravity is realized in realistic supersymmetric SO(10) models. In a well-motivated example the $16 - \overline{16}$ Higgs multiplets, which break SO(10) to SU(5) and yield masses for the right handed neutrinos, provide the inflaton field $\phi$. Thus, leptogenesis is a natural outcome in this class of SO(10) models. Moreover, the adjoint (45-plet) Higgs also acquires a GUT scale value during inflation so that the monopole problem is evaded. The scalar spectral index $n_s$ is in good agreement with the observations and $r$, the tensor to scalar ratio, is predicted for realistic values of GUT parameters to lie close to 0.003.