Preheating after Multi-Field Inflation

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Abstract: We investigate the feasibility of explosive particle production via parametric resonance or tachyonic preheating in multi-field inflationary models by means of lattice simulations. We observe a strong suppression of resonances in the presence of four-leg interactions between the inflaton fields and a scalar matter field, leading to insufficient preheating when more than two inflatons couple to the same matter field. This suppression is caused by a dephasing of the inflatons that increases the effective mass of the matter field. Including three-leg interactions leads to tachyonic preheating, which is not suppressed by an increase in the number of fields. If four-leg interactions are sub-dominant, we observe a slight enhancement of tachyonic preheating. Thus, in order for preheating after multi-field inflation to be efficient, one needs to ensure that three-leg interactions are present. If no tachyonic contributions exist, we expect the old theory of reheating to be applicable.
Pre-heating after Multi Field Inflation

0904.2778 (follow up to 0803.0321)

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(P)re-heating:

Energy needs to be transferred from the inflationary sector to ordinary matter:

- Old Theory of \textit{reheating} (field decays once the decay rate $\sim H$)
  Abbot et. al (82), Dolgov and Linde (82), ...

Or \textit{Preheating} (subsequent phase of thermalization needed)

- Resonances (explosive particle production)
  Brandenberger and Traschen (90), Dolgov and Kirilova (90), Kofman, Linde, Starobinsky (98), ...

- Tachyonic Instabilities (i.e. in hybrid inflation)
  Dufaux, Felder, Kofman, Peloso and Podolsky (06), ...
Remarks on Preheating:

- High temperatures after preheating are common:
  good for GUT-baryogenesis, but problematic w.r.t. relics (gravitino problem).

- Unrelated (important) application:
  moduli trapping near loci of enhanced symmetry.

- Preheating models are phenomenological, since the couplings of the inflaton(s) to other fields are generally unknown.

- Preheating in multi-field inflationary models is largely unexplored (a brief review follows).
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Question:
Under what conditions does preheating take place if multiple inflatons contribute?
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Under what conditions does preheating take place if multiple inflatons contribute?
Why consider more inflatons?

“Natural” in string theory (presence of many moduli fields etc.)

Assisted inflation effect (Liddle, Mazumdar and Schunck 98):

- possible avoidance of super-Planckian field values
- increased Hubble friction, steeper potentials work, reduced fine tuning

Examples are

- Inflation from axions (N-flation), Dimopolus, Kachru, McGreevy, Wacker (05),
- Inflation from multiple M5-branes, Becker, Becker, Krause (06),
- Inflation from tachyons (D-branes), Majumdar, Davis (03),
- Inflation on the landscape (staggered inflation; inflation from random potentials), Battefeld, Battefeld, Davis (08); Tye, Xu, Zhang (09)

- ...
Outline

Setup

Review
- single inflaton, parametric resonance (PR)
- two inflatons, Cantor preheating (enhanced PR)
- hundreds of inflatons, suppressed PR due to dephasing

Lattice simulations (including backreaktion), N=1,2,3,4 and 5
- Case A: four-leg interactions (PR case)
- Case B: three- and four-leg interactions
- Case C: three-leg interactions (tachyonic instability)

Conclusions
Setup

\( N \) inflatons, one additional scalar field, canonical kinetic terms

\[
W = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( \frac{m_i^2}{2} \varphi_i^2 + \frac{\sigma}{2} \varphi_i \chi^2 + \frac{g}{2} \varphi_i^2 \chi^2 \right) + \frac{\lambda}{4} \chi^4
\]
Setup

$N$ inflatons, one additional scalar field, canonical kinetic terms:

$$W = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( \frac{m_i^2}{2} \phi_i^2 + \frac{\sigma}{2} \phi_i \chi^2 + \frac{g}{2} \phi_i^2 \chi^2 \right) + \frac{\lambda}{4} \chi^4$$

Inflaton potential, expanded around minimum.
Setup

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Three-leg interaction (Yukawa coupling), leads to a tachyonic instability/preheating in single field models.
Setup

\[ W = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( \frac{m_i^2}{2} \varphi_i^2 + \frac{\sigma}{2} \varphi_i \chi^2 + \frac{g}{2} \varphi_i^2 \chi^2 \right) + \frac{\lambda}{4} \chi^4 \]

four-leg interaction, leads to PR and stochastic preheating in single field models.
Setup

$N$ inflatons, one additional scalar field, canonical kinetic terms

$$W = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( \frac{m_i^2}{2} \varphi_i^2 + \frac{\sigma}{2} \varphi_i \chi^2 + \frac{g}{2} \varphi_i^2 \chi^2 \right) + \frac{\lambda}{4} \chi^4$$

Added for stability in our lattice simulations. (No effect on preheating)
Single Inflaton: $N=1$, $\sigma=0$, no backreaction
Kofman, Linde, Starobinsky (97)

$$\ddot{\chi}_k + 3H \dot{\chi}_k + \left( \frac{k^2}{a^2} + g \varphi^2 \right) \chi_k = 0$$

Oscillating effective mass $\rightarrow$ resonances, explosive particle production
**Single Inflaton:** \( N=1, \sigma=0, \) no backreaction

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Oscillating effective mass \( \rightarrow \) resonances, explosive particle production
Single Inflaton: N=1, sigma=0, no backreaction
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Analytic understanding: stability/instability bands; modes shift through bands as the universe expands: "stochastic resonance"

\[ q = \frac{g \Phi_0^2}{4m_{\phi}^2} \]
\[ A = \frac{k^2}{a^2m_{\phi}^2} + 2q \]
\[ a^{3/2} \chi_k \propto e^{\mu_k} \tau \]

Figure from Bassett, Tamburini (98)
Cantor Preheating: $N=2$, $\sigma=0$, no backreaction
Bassett, Tamburini (97,98)

- Analytic result (spectral theory): stability bands dissolve into a nowhere dense set if the oscillation frequency of the inflatons differ (quasi periodic modulation of chi's effective mass).

- Expectation: almost all modes should get amplified (no prediction for the magnitude).

- Numerical study: 2 inflatons, 1 matter field: dissolution of stability bands and amplification of almost all modes is observed, enhanced particle production
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dissolution of stability bands and amplification of almost all modes is observed, enhanced particle production

**Question:**
What happens if more than two inflatons contribute?
N=large, sigma=0, no back-reaction
D. Battefeld, S. Kawai (08)

Consider

\[ \mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{N}} \left( g^{\mu\nu} \nabla_\mu \varphi_i \nabla_\nu \varphi_i + m_i^2 \varphi_i^2 + g \varphi_i^2 \chi^2 \right) - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \nabla_\mu \chi \nabla_\nu \chi \]

Many fields \( \tilde{N} = 150 \) (arises i.e. in N-flation.)
$N=\text{large}$, $\sigma=0$, no back-reaction

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Many fields $\tilde{N} = 150$ (arises i.e. in N-flation.)

Equations of motion:

$$\ddot{\varphi}_i + 3H \dot{\varphi}_i + m_i^2 \varphi_i = 0,$$

$$\ddot{\chi}_k + 3H \dot{\chi}_k + \left( \frac{k^2}{a^2} + g \sum_i \varphi_i^2 \right) \chi_k = 0,$$

$$6H^2 = \sum_i \dot{\varphi}_i^2 + \sum_i m_i^2 \varphi_i^2$$
Equal masses

The fields’ collective behavior is **coherent**: indistinguishable from a single field model:

\[
\varphi = \sqrt{N} \varphi_i
\]

\[
\ddot{\chi}_k + 3H \dot{\chi}_k + \left(\frac{k^2}{a^2} + g \varphi^2\right) \chi_k = 0
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System exhibits resonances:

![Graph of \( \chi_k \) over time]
Particle number:

\[ n_k = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{|\dot{X}_k|^2}{\omega_k} + \omega_k |X_k|^2 \right) - \frac{1}{2} \]

Where \( X_k = a^{3/2} \chi_k \) and \( \omega_k = \sqrt{\frac{k^2}{a^2} + g \varphi^2} \)

The oscillating part of the mass term is unchanged; an increase in the number of inflatons does not change the resonance effect since it is equivalent to the single field model.

System exhibits explosive particle production:
Different masses

Use mass distribution of N-flation

The inflatons' collective behavior is not coherent due to de-phasing. Effective mass of chi is bigger (non-adiabaticity parameter remains small).

No resonances:

Note: Beats (and a some minor particle production) are possible if fields start out in phase and one waits long enough.
Conflicting Results

F. Tamburini and B. Basset (98), 2 inflatons – increased particle production

D. Battefeld and S. Kawai (08), 150 inflatons – strong suppression
(Also: J. Braden at COSMO08)

What is the dominant effect for a few field?

D. Battefeld, T. Battefeld and T. Giblin (09):

- incorporate backreaction (lattice simulation)

- simulate N=1,2,3,4 and 5.

- consider three- and four-leg interactions
Several fields, with back-reaction
D. Battefeld, T. Battefeld and T. Giblin (09):

- Using the LATTICEASY-code, we solve for \( N=1,2,3,4 \) and 5:

\[
\ddot{a} + \frac{2\ddot{a}^2}{a} - \frac{8\pi}{a} \left( \frac{1}{3} \sum_{i=1}^{N} |\nabla \varphi_i|^2 + \frac{1}{3} |\nabla \chi|^2 + aW \right) = 0
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\ddot{\varphi}_i + 3\frac{a}{\dot{a}} \dot{\varphi}_i - \frac{1}{a^2} \nabla^2 \varphi_i + \frac{\partial W}{\partial \varphi_i} = 0.
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\[
\ddot{\chi} + 3\frac{a}{\dot{a}} \dot{\chi} - \frac{1}{a^2} \nabla^2 \chi + \frac{\partial W}{\partial \chi} = 0
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- Mass distribution: \( m_i^2 = \frac{N + 2i - 3}{2(N - 1)} m^2 \equiv \beta_i m^2 \)

- Equal energy initial conditions (for zero mode):

\[
\varphi_i(0) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \beta_i} \varphi_0
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\]
- Initial inhomogeneities are specified natively by LATICEASY in momentum space.

- Use: \( n^3 = 128^3 \) lattice, box size: \( L = 5/m \); cover: \( 2\pi/L < k < 2\pi\sqrt{3}n/(2L) \)

- Investigate three cases:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case</th>
<th>( g \times (0.193)^2/m^2 )</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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Case A, four-leg interactions (Parametric resonance case)

After initial delay, similar fast increase, consistent with Bassett et. al.
Case A, four-leg interactions (Parametric resonance case)
Case A, four-leg interactions (Parametric resonance case)

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Case A, four-leg interactions (Parametric resonance case)

Slight suppression for N=2 (after backreaction became important) - each field carries about the same energy.
Case A, four-leg interactions (Parametric resonance case)

Strong suppression for $N>2$, Inefficient Preheating.
Once the Variance is of order one, fields are fragmented; Consequence: back-reaction is crucial.
The Variance remains small (N>2), resonances are suppressed, no field fragmentation, backreaction can be neglected.
Case B, three and four-leg interactions
Case B, three and four-leg interactions

Preheating is independent of \( N \).
Case B, three and four-leg interactions

Preheating is independent of N.
Case B, three and four-leg interactions
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$$W = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( \frac{m_i^2}{2} \varphi_i^2 + \frac{\sigma}{2} \varphi_i \chi^2 + \frac{g}{2} \varphi_i \chi^2 \right) + \frac{\lambda}{4} \chi^4$$
Case B, three and four-leg interactions
Case C, primarily three-leg interactions (tachyonic preheating)
Case C, primarily three-leg interactions (tachyonic preheating)

Preheating is complete after one burst of particle production for \( N > 2 \); no oscillations of the inflatons needed!
Summary of Results

Parametric resonance is suppressed for more than one inflaton (absent for $N>3$), opposite to expectation based on Cantor preheating. As a result, the old theory of preheating is applicable for large $N$.

Possible way to avoid suppression: couple each inflaton to its own matter field.

Tachyonic Preheating remains efficient (even slightly enhanced), if $N$ is increased, even in the presence of four-leg interactions.
Conclusions

Preheating after multi-field inflation should not be discussed within an effective single field model.

Couplings (type and magnitude) need to be known to assess whether or not preheating occurs.

If preheating occurs, the universe still needs to thermalize and the proper degrees of freedom need to be heated (ordinary matter and radiation), while preventing the overproduction of relics (challenging, but possible i.e. if a second phase of reheating or a few e-folds of thermal inflation follow before nucleosynthesis).

If preheating does not occur (i.e. if several inflatons couple to the same degrees of freedom and no tachyonic contributions exist), the old theory of reheating is applicable; this avoids the overproduction of relics and might be desirable.