Abstract

Grand unification theories are natural without string theory but also fit elegantly in the context of string theory. In this talk we briefly review SU(5),SO(10) and E_6 GUT models in 4 dimensions. To continue the story, we consider developments involving supersymmetry and extra dimensions. Finally we will see how all these show up nicely in the context of phenomenologically interesting $E_8 \times E_8$ heterotic string theory.