

## Fermi-LAT: A Retrospective on Design, Construction, and Operation and a Look Towards the Future

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GLAST (now Fermi-LAT) was conceived in 1992 and first presented at the 3rd Hiroshima Conference in 1993. The LAT was launched in 2008 and is now beginning its 4th year on orbit. The silicon strip technology was immediately identified as the technology of choice for a space-based detector: stability, no consumables, radiation hard, and high precision. What was not immediately realized were the numerous other benefits derived from efficiencies near 100% and fine segmentation. The process of optimizing the design, how construction challenges were met, and the now 3+ years of operational experience will be summarized.

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