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The beginning of space gamma-ray astronomy with silicon detectors: From GILDA to AGILE and Fermi and future projects

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During the design of the silicon plane calorimeter of the TS93 balloon experiment, we realized that a detector consisting of silicon planes interspersed with converter planes would be an excellent gamma ray detector. We therefore designed the GILDA experiment which would be the starting point for the AGILE and Fermi experiments. During the talk, I will therefore describe the birth of gamma astronomy with silicon detectors and possible future developments.

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