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## **Overview and History of TeV Gamma Ray Astronomy**

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More than fifty years ago simple experiments aimed at the detection of TeV gamma rays were attempted in the hope of finding the origin os the cosmic radiation. These efforts were partially motivated by the hope that they might prove to be also sources of neutrinos which would establish the progenitor particles as hadrons. The detection of more than 150 sources of TeV gamma-ray sources has been established in the last decade as the relatively simple early experiments have been replaced by sophisticated telescopes. A wide variety of sources categories have been established including supernovae remnants, pulsar wind nebulae, pulsars, binaries, blazars, starburst galaxies and radio galaxies. The nature of the progenitors in many of these sources is ambiguous and many of them can be explained with simple Compton-synchrotron models.

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