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Expanding the Gamma-ray Universe: High Redshift Fermi-LAT Blazars ROOPESH OJHA, NASA/GSFC/UMBC, VAIDEHI PALIYA, Clemson University, DARIO GASPARRINI, INFN, ASI Science Data Center, MARCO AJELLO, Clemson University, SARA CUTINI, INFN, ASI Science Data Center, FERMI-LAT COLLABORATION — High-redshift blazars detected by the Fermi Large Area Telescope (LAT) are of great astrophysical import as they are extreme objects whose energetics remain a mystery. Such blazars are intrinsically interesting since they inform us about the evolution of gamma-ray blazars and are, by definition, some of the more luminous blazars in the Fermi-LAT sample. These blazars appear to host very massive black holes and could shed light on the origin and growth of black holes in the early Universe. We present the latest high redshift blazar detections in the LAT and discuss some of their implications.

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