

Prof. Abraham Nitzan CV – March 2026

Abraham Nitzan was born in Israel in 1944, received B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees from the Hebrew University, and Ph.D degree from Tel Aviv University (TAU) in 1972. Following post doctoral studies at MIT and the University of Chicago he has returned to Tel Aviv University in 1975 where he is a professor of Chemistry since 1982 (Emeritus since 2014). Since 2015 he is a professor of Chemistry and (since 2018) Donner Professor of Physical Science at the University of Pennsylvania, USA. At TAU he has served as Chairman of the School of Chemistry in 1984-7, Dean of the Faculty of Sciences in 1995-8 and director of the Institute of Advanced Studies 2003-15. His research focuses on the interaction of light with molecular systems, chemical reactions in condensed phases and interfaces and charge transfer processes in such environments. He has published over 400 papers, a comprehensive text ("Chemical Dynamics in Condensed Phases", Oxford U. Press, 2nd edition, 2024), was assigned one patent and has given invited talks in over 220 scientific meetings.

During 1992-2014 Nitzan was the incumbent of the Kodesh Chair of Chemical Dynamics at Tel Aviv University and since 2018 he holds the Donner Chair of Physical Sciences at UPenn. Among his main recognitions are the Humboldt Award, the Israel Chemical Society Prize (2004) and Medal (2015), the Emet Prize, the Hirschfelder Prize, the APS Plyler Prize, the ACS Theoretical Chemistry Prize and the Israel Prize in Chemistry. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a Foreign Honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a Foreign Associate of the US National Academy of Sciences and a member of the Israel Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 2010 he has received an honorary doctorate (Dr. Honoris Causa) from the University of Konstanz.