

Prof. Hagai Binyamin Perets
Physics faculty
Technion – Israel Institute of Technology

Hagai Perets main focus is on the understanding of astrophysical phenomena and stellar/planetary systems on a wide range of scales: planet-formation, Solar system dynamics and the origins of the Earth and the Moon, evolution of stellar cluster and nuclear stellar clusters around massive black holes, binary evolution and supernova explosions and gravitational-wave sources. He also works on non-astrophysical research involving bio-markers and neural networks as well as quantum optics.

Hagai received his first degree in science and math with honors from the open-university during his army service, finished an Msc in physics in parallel with his studies in the “Amirim-Ruah” honors program in the Hebrew university, and received his PhD in physics from the Weizmann Institute of science in 2009. During his studies he received the Racah award for research excellence (highest research award for Msc/PhD physics students in the Hebrew university), Ilan-Ramon prize and Dan-David prize for graduate students.

Hagai did his post-doc in the the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA) as an independent CfA prize fellow (together with the Rothschild, Fullbright, BIKURA and Ilan-ramon post-doc prize fellowships).

After his post-doc Hagai joined the Technion as an assistant professor in the physics department where he established his research group. He received the Deloro young science leader chair and the Marie Curie award fellowship for his research. Hagai published over 90 scientific papers in the leading astrophysical and multi-disciplinary journals (e.g. Nature), receiving thousands of citations. Hagai initiated and were among the founders of the Minerva center for “Life under extreme planetary conditions”, and he is a member of the national I-CORE excellence center for astrophysics. Hagai also chaired and developed the physics honors program in the Technion.

Hagai is married to Ruth Perets (MD/PhD) and have three kids, Galya, Yuval and Ariel.