



Yoav Ben Dor - Curriculum Vitae

Short Biography

After graduating Misgav regional high-school, majoring in biology and Arabic, and completing my military service, I volunteered for two months as a counsellor in Cider Lake Camp, USA. I then travelled through South America for 10 months, where I was fascinated by its breathtaking landscapes, and decided to pursue a career in earth sciences. I began with a B.Sc. at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, which I graduated *cum laude* in 2013, and continued to M.Sc. studies (with a thesis), which I completed *magna cum laude* in 2015. In 2015, I started my Ph.D. studies in the interdisciplinary program of hydrology and water resources at the Hebrew University, where I have focused on the reconstruction of the hydrologic and climatic variability of the Dead Sea watershed during episodes of global climate changes. As part of my research, I have applied methods from various fields, including petrography, geochemistry, statistics, modelling and computer programming. In addition, I studied for a practical engineer diploma in landscape architecture, which I completed *cum laude* in 2017. I have taught classes in mineralogy, sedimentary petrography and hydrology as a teaching assistant and lecturer at the institute of earth sciences of the Hebrew University for several years. I volunteered as a tutor for students with learning disabilities for several years, and have also served as the captain of the Hebrew University orienteering club for seven years, which I founded with the students' union in 2013. Since 2018, I have also been guiding and counseling high-school students conducting research projects (Avodat Gemer) at the Hebrew University. In 2020 my wife and I established "The Earth for Toddlers" book series that conveys basic concepts in earth sciences to children in an approachable way, and our first book, "[The Rock Cycle for Toddlers](#)" is now available online in multiple languages.



Contact Information:

Yoav.Bendor1@mail.huji.ac.il

<http://en.earth.huji.ac.il/people/yoav-ben-dor>

Current address: The Fredy and Nadine Herrmann Institute of earth sciences, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Edmond J. Safra Campus, Givat Ram, 9190401, Jerusalem



Academic Education

2020–present Postdoc in Geology

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, under the supervision of Y. Erel with M. Stein

Research title: *Saharan dust & the Neolithic Agriculture Revolution in the Jordan Valley*

Abstract: This study focuses on the environmental and soil-related conditions in the Levant that could have provided prehistoric humans with the advantages required to initiate the Neolithic Agriculture Revolution (NAR) following the end of the last glacial period (~15th to 11th millennium BP). We investigate the properties and origins of soils and sedimentary sequences that accumulated prior, during and after the NAR with close context to renowned archaeological sites including Gilgal, Netiv Hagdud and Fazael, and analyze them within the broad climatological and hydrological framework. Through this inter-disciplinary study of the soils that served the earliest farmers of the Levant, we wish to see whether local conditions that followed the last glacial period provided an unplanned natural advantage to the people that inhabited the Jordan Valley. This research relies on establishing the chronology of the studied sections using OSL and ¹⁴C dating techniques, and further sedimentary and soil-related analyses, which include detailed field description and mapping, soil texture and grain-size measurements, and other fertility-related properties such as exchangeable cations composition, sodium and potassium adsorption, available sulfur and phosphorus, as well as chemical and multiple isotopic analyses.

2015-2020 Ph.D. in Hydrology and Environmental Science

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, under the supervision of Y. Enzel, E. Morin, Y. Erel

Dissertation title: *Seasonal to centennial hydro-meteorological variability during late Pleistocene climate changes in the Levant from deep Dead Sea sediments*

[Paper \(Scientific Reports\)](#) | [Paper \(Quaternary Science Reviews\)](#)

Abstract: During my Ph.D. I studied the high-resolution hydrological record of late Pleistocene Dead Sea sediments in order to improve our understanding of how local hydro-climatic processes are affected by global climatic changes. I studied changes in the frequency of extreme hydrometeorological events and climate variability during episodes of climate change by interpreting the sedimentary record of the ICDP-DSDDP cores through a unified synoptic hydroclimatological framework.

2013-2015 M.Sc. in Geology (magna cum laude with GPA 98)

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Geological Survey of Israel, under the supervision of D. Avigad and Y. Harlavan

Thesis subject: *The Provenance of the fine fraction of the Cambrian siliciclastic sequence of Israel*

[Paper \(Sedimentology\)](#) | [Thesis](#)

Abstract: The Cambrian siliciclastic sequence of north Gondwana is exposed in southern Israel, and throughout north Africa and Arabia. It is a dominant feature serving as a regional subsurface aquifer, and a source of mineral ores and hydrocarbons. Its pivotal stratigraphic location at the bottom of the Israeli-Levantine sedimentary column suggests that these sediments have further played a key role in following geological events and sedimentary units that took place throughout the Mediterranean. In this study mineralogical and multi-proxy isotopic analyses revealed the signature of remote sediment sources, thus clarifying paleogeographical and tectonic constraints during the deposition of this sequence.

I was on the Dean's List for academic accomplishments in 2014 and 2015, and was awarded the Rector's prize in 2015.

2010-2013 B.Sc. in Earth Sciences (cum laude with GPA 94.4)

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

I was on the Dean's List for academic accomplishments in the years 2011 and 2013.

Additional Education

2013-2016 Practical engineer diploma in landscape architecture (cum laude)

Ort Jerusalem college, 2013-2016.

Work Experience

2020 Lecturer | Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Sedimentary petrology for undergraduate and graduate students.



2019-present Lecturer | Licensed tour guides courses

Teaching geology, geomorphology, climate and hydrology to students of licensed tour guides courses in several institutes licensed by the Israeli ministry of tourism.

2018-present Group coordinator | Alpha research program in the sciences

As part of the Alpha research program in sciences (part of the Future Scientists Center) I am counseling a group of students conducting their research projects in the faculty of mathematics and science of the Hebrew University.

2013-2020 Teaching Assistant | Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Teaching the application of microscopy-based techniques for the analysis of minerals, rocks, sediments and sedimentary rocks in particular, as well as introduction to hydrology and modelling and analyses of environmental systems.

2010-2013 Research Assistant | Geological Survey of Israel

I worked at the geochemistry and environmental geology department, and conducted multiple analyses of sediment, rock and water samples. I also participated in fieldwork and operated the scanning electron microscope.

Scholarships and Awards

2020 (Ph.D.) – The [Peretz Grader award](#) of the Israeli Geological Society for an excellent publication.

2019 (Ph.D.) – The Menachem Shraga & Theodor Dicker award for excellent research students in earth sciences.

2018 (Ph.D.) – The Rieger Foundation Award for excellent Ph.D. students in the fields of environmental science.

2016, 2017 (Ph.D.) – The Advanced School of Environmental Studies award for excellent Ph.D. students.

2014, 2015 (M.Sc.) – Moscona Fellowship for excellent M.Sc. students. Dean's prize, Rector's prize.

2011, 2013 (B.Sc.) – Dean's prize for excellence in academic studies.

International Training

2018 - μ XRF data analysis workshop, the joint IPA-IAL meeting in Stockholm, Sweden.

2016 - visiting scientist to section Climate Dynamics and Landscape Evolution, GeoForschungZentrum (GFZ), Germany.

IAS 2016 international Summer School of Sedimentology, Italy.



2016 - International Continental Drilling Project (ICDP) annual training course, Germany.

2016 - PALEX Summer School (joint with Geoforschung Zentrum and Al-Quds University), Austria and Germany.

Volunteering

2018-today Research advisor, class coordinator | Alpha research program in the sciences

As part of the Alpha research program in sciences (part of the Future Scientists Center) I advise high-school students who conduct a research project at our laboratory towards majoring in physical sciences disciplines (Avodat Gemer).

2017-2020 Committee member | Israel Geological Society

I was on the organizing committee (board) of the Israel Geological Society. As a member I took part in planning, designing and organizing the activities carried out by the IGS, such as the annual scientific meeting. I was also responsible for planning, establishing and designing the IGS website.

2013-2020 Captain | The Hebrew University Orienteering Club

I established the Hebrew University orienteering club in 2013 in a joint effort with the students' union and the Cosell association for physical education. The Club provides HUJI students with the opportunity to participate in the amazing and challenging sport of orienteering with a communal atmosphere.

<http://nivuthuji.wixsite.com/nivuthuji>

2013-2016 Tutor | Perach Tutorial Project/Hebrew University

I tutored several students with learning disabilities in order to promote equality for students that begin their academic studies from a disadvantageous starting point, due to learning disabilities or deficient education.



Publications

Under review

Ben Dor Y., Marra F., Armon M., Enzel Y. and Morin, E. (under review). Hydroclimatic variability of opposing late Pleistocene climates in the Levant revealed by deep Dead Sea sediments.

Ben Dor Y., Flax T., Levitan I., Enzel Y., Brauer A., Erel Y. (under review). Experimental investigation of the paleohydrological implications of aragonite precipitation in the endorheic Dead Sea and its precursors.

Vainer S. & **Ben Dor Y.** (under review). Extending aeolian chronology by using data-based and process-oriented modelling reveals multiple phases of sand irruption in central Australia.

Peer reviewed

Ben Dor Y., Neugebauer I., Enzel Y., Schwab M.J., Tjallingii R., Erel Y. and Brauer A. (2019). [Reply to comment on Ben Dor Y. et al. "Varves of the Dead Sea sedimentary record."](#) *Quaternary Science Reviews* 215 (2019): 173–184. *Quaternary Science Reviews*.

Ben Dor Y., Neugebauer I., Enzel Y., Schwab M.J., Tjallingii R., Erel Y. and Brauer A. (2019). [Varves of the Dead Sea sedimentary record.](#) *Quaternary Science Reviews*.

Ben Dor Y., Armon M., Ahlborn M., Morin E., Erel Y., Brauer A., Schwab M.J., and Enzel Y. (2018). [Changing flood frequencies under opposing late Pleistocene eastern Mediterranean climates.](#) *Scientific reports*.

Quade J., Dente E., Armon M., **Ben Dor Y.**, Morin E., Adam O. and Enzel Y. (2018), [Megalakes in the Sahara? A Review.](#) *Quaternary Research*.

Vainer S., **Ben Dor Y.** and Matmon A. (2018), [Coupling cosmogenic nuclides and luminescence dating into a unified accumulation model of aeolian landforms age and dynamics: The case study of the Kalahari Erg.](#) *Quaternary Geochronology*.

Ben Dor Y. Harlavan, Y. and Avigad, D. (2018). [Provenance of the great Cambrian sandstone succession of northern Gondwana unravelled by strontium, neodymium and lead isotopes of feldspars and clays.](#) *Sedimentology*.



Ahlborn M., Armon M., **Ben Dor Y.**, Neugebauer I., Schwab M. J., Tjallingii R., J.S. Shoqeir, E. Morin, Enzel Y. and Brauer, A. (2018). [Increased frequency of torrential rainstorms during a regional late Holocene eastern Mediterranean drought](#). *Quaternary Research*.

Reports

Ben Dor Y. (2015). The Provenance of the Fine Fraction of the Cambrian Siliciclastic Sequence of Israel; an Isotope Geochemistry Study of Heavy Minerals, Clays and Feldspars (GSI/17/2015).

https://www.gov.il/BlobFolder/reports/bendor-report-2015/en/report_2015_Ben-Dor-Y-Cambrian-Siliciclastic-Sequence-Israel-Geochemistry-Heavy-Minerals-Clays-GSI-17-2015-Msc-Thesis-HUJI.pdf

Crouvi O., Enzel Y., **Ben Dor Y.**, & Amit R. (2015). Atmospheric Dust, Dust Deposits (Loess) and Soils in the Negev Desert; Fieldtrip Guidebook (GSI/22/2015).

https://www.gov.il/BlobFolder/reports/crouvi-et-al-report-2015/en/report_05_05_plio_GSI-22-2015.pdf

Conferences (partial)

Ben Dor Y., Armon M., Morin E., Brauer, A., Schwab M. J., Tjallingii, R., Erel Y., Enzel, Y., (2020). What can Dead Sea seasonal and sub-seasonal sediments teach us on the association of mean climates with flood frequency and hydroclimatic variability in the Levant? Poster presentation at Geological Society of America connects online 2020 meeting. Held online.

Schwab M. J., Müller D., Neugebauer, I., Tjallingii, R., **Ben Dor, Y.**, Enzel, Y., Brauer, A., (2020). Changes in hydroclimate during last deglaciation lake-level fall in the Dead Sea sediment record. Oral presentation at the 22nd European geoscience union general assembly. Held online.

Ben Dor Y., Flax T., Levitan I., Enzel Y., Brauer A., Erel Y. (2020). A laboratory investigation of the paleohydrological implications of aragonite precipitation in the endorheic Dead Sea and its precursors. Oral presentation at the Israel Geological Society Annual Meeting. Maale Hahamisha, Israel.

Flax T., **Ben Dor Y.**, Levitan I., Erel Y. (2020). The effect of extracellular substances on aragonite precipitation in Lake Lisan, the Pleistocene predecessor of the Dead Sea. Poster presentation at the Israel Geological Society Annual Meeting. Maale Hahamisha, Israel.



- Levitan I., **Ben Dor Y.**, Flax T., Erel Y. (2020). Laboratory investigation of the hydrological implications of aragonite precipitation in the Dead Sea. Poster presentation at the Israel Geological Society Annual Meeting. Maale Hahamisha, Israel.
- Quade J., Dente E., Armon M., **Ben Dor Y.**, Morin E., Adam O. and Enzel Y. (2019). How blue was the green Sahara? Reviewing Saharan megalakes evidence for wetter environments. Oral presentation at the International Union for quaternary Research. Dublin, Ireland
- Vainer S., **Ben Dor Y.**, and Matmon A. (2019). Unraveling the residence and migration of aeolian deposits by combining cosmogenic nuclides and luminescence data into a unified model. Oral presentation at the International Union for Quaternary Research. Dublin, Ireland.
- Müller D., Neugebauer I., Tjallingii R., Schwab M. J., **Ben Dor Y.**, Enzel Y. and Brauer A. (2019). A lake sediment record of the last deglaciation derived from the ICDP Dead Sea Deep Drilling Project (DSDDP). Poster presentation at the International Union for quaternary Research. Dublin, Ireland
- Ben Dor Y.**, Armon M., Morin E., Erel Y., and Enzel Y. (2019). What can Dead Sea sediments teach us on the impact of climate change on flood frequencies? A lesson from the Last Glacial Lake Lisan. Poster presentation at the Research Day of the Faculty of Mathematics and Science. Jerusalem, Israel. Jerusalem, Israel.
- Ben Dor Y.**, Armon M., Morin E., Erel Y., Brauer A. and Enzel, Y. (2019). Seasonal to decadal scale hydroclimatic response in the eastern Mediterranean to climate change during the last glacial. Oral presentation at the Israel Geological Society Annual Meeting. Kfar Blum, Israel.
- Morag N., Bodzin R. and **Ben Dor, Y.** (2019). New method for heavy mineral assemblage analysis in the Geological Survey of Israel using SEM-EDS phase mapping. Poster presentation at the Israel Geological Society Annual Meeting. Kfar Blum, Israel.
- Sirota I., Armon M., **Ben Dor Y.**, Morin E., Lensky, N.G. and Enzel, Y. (2019). Modelling hydroclimatic control on accreting sedimentary halite-mud sequence. Oral presentation at the Israel Geological Society Annual Meeting. Kfar Blum, Israel.
- Ben Dor Y.**, Armon M., Ahlborn M., Morin E., Erel Y., Brauer, A., Schwab, M. J., Tjallingii, R., and Enzel, Y. (2018). The DSDDP core: from microfacies to hydroclimatology. Oral presentation given at the international ICDP meeting. Jerusalem, Israel.



- Ben Dor, Y., and Neugebauer I., (2018).** Insights from high resolution archives: from microfacies to microclimate. Oral presentation given at the festive colloquium in honor of Prof. J. Negendank. Potsdam, Germany.
- Ben Dor Y., Armon M., Ahlborn M., Morin E., Erel Y., Brauer A., Schwab M. J., Tjallingii R., and Enzel Y., (2018).** Changing flood frequencies under opposing late Pleistocene eastern Mediterranean climates. Oral presentation at the joint IPA-IAL meeting. Stockholm, Sweden.
- Ben Dor Y., Armon M., Ahlborn M., Morin E., Erel Y., Brauer A., Schwab M. J., Tjallingii R., and Enzel Y., (2018).** Changing flood frequencies under opposing late Pleistocene eastern Mediterranean climates. Poster presented the Israel Association of Water Resources annual meeting. Neve Ilan, Israel.
- Schwab M. J., Ahlborn M., Armon M., **Ben Dor Y.**, Neugebauer I., Tjallingii R., Hasan S. J., Morin E., Enzel Y. and Brauer A. (2018) Frequency of torrential rainstorms during a regional late Holocene. Poster presented at the EGU General Assembly Conference Abstracts. Vienna, Austria.
- Ahlborn M., **Ben Dor Y.**, Enzel Y., Neugebauer I., Schwab M. J., Tjallingii R., Brauer A. (2017) Latest Pleistocene flash flood deposits in the Dead Sea basin inferred from the ICDP core. Poster presented at the EGU General Assembly Conference Abstracts. Vienna, Austria.
- Ahlborn M., Armon M., **Ben Dor Y.**, Enzel Y., Morin E., Neugebauer I., Schwab M. J. and Brauer, A. (2017) Increased frequency of debris flows during a regional late Holocene drought inferred from a Dead Sea sediment record. Poster presentation at the EGU General Assembly Conference Abstracts. Vienna, Austria.
- Ben Dor Y., Ahlborn M., Brauer A., Tjallingii R., Armon M., Morin E., Schwab M. J., Torfstein A., Erel Y., Enzel Y. (2017)** High-Resolution Hydrological Record of the Last Glacial Dead Sea recovered from the ICDP Cores. Poster presented at the EGU General Assembly Conference Abstracts. Vienna, Austria.
- Ben Dor Y. (2016).** The Last Glacial Maximum Record of the Dead Sea Deep Drilling International Continental Drilling Project cores and its Climatological Implications. Orally presented at the International Association of Sedimentologists Summer School of Sedimentology. Alghero, Sicily.
- Ahlborn M., **Ben Dor Y.**, Schwab M. J., Neugebauer I., Plessen B., Tjallingii R., Enzel Y. and Brauer, A. (2016). Extreme flood events in the Dead Sea basin. Poster presented at the EGU General Assembly Conference Abstracts. Vienna, Austria.



- Ben Dor Y., Harlavan Y. and Avigad D. (2016).** The Provenance of the Fine Fraction of the Cambrian Siliciclastic Sequence of Eilat; an Isotope Geochemistry Study of Heavy Minerals, Clays and Feldspars. Poster presented at the Israel Geological Society Annual Meeting. Eilat, Israel.
- Ben Dor Y., Harlavan Y. and Avigad D. (2015).** The origins of Feldspars and Clays in the Cambrian Siliciclastic Sequence of Israel; Insights from Pb and Nd Isotopes. Orally presented at the Israel Geological Society Annual Meeting. Kinar, Israel.
- Ben Dor Y., Harlavan Y. and Avigad D. (2014).** The Isotope-Geochemistry of the Clays (<math><2\mu\text{m}</math>) from the Cambrian Amudei Shelomo and Shehoret Formations: A Provenance Study. Poster presented at the Israel Geological Society Annual Meeting. En Bokek, Israel.
- Ben Dor Y., Elazar, O. Harlavan Y. and Avigad D. (2013).** Characterizing Provenance Sources of the Siliciclastic Cambrian Formations using Isotope Geochemistry of Heavy Minerals – preliminary results. Poster presented at the Israel Geological Society Annual Meeting. Acco, Israel.