# Professor Nadav Berman
1942–2012

Nadav Berman was born in Haifa, Israel in December 1942. He received the B.Sc. degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the Technion in 1971 and the M.Sc. degree, in the Technion's Department of Aeronautical Engineering, in 1974. From 1975 he studied at the University of Michigan where he obtained his Ph.D. degree in 1980 at the department of Computer Information and Control Engineering. His Ph.D. thesis, which was supervised by Prof. W. L. Root, was on "Stochastic Integration in Banach Spaces and Applications".
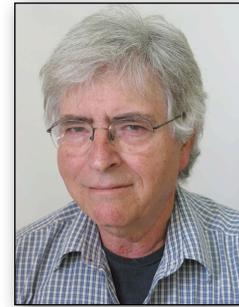
During 1978–1981 he was a research scientist in the Environmental Research Institute of Michigan (ERIM) at the radar division, and during 1981–1982 he was a member of the technical staff at Bell Laboratories in NJ, USA.

In 1982 Professor Berman joined the Department of Aeronautical Engineering at the Technion. He moved to the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Ben-Gurion University in 1988. Professor Berman established and developed, from scratch, both the undergraduate and the graduate programs in Control in the department. He also established, single handed, an advanced control laboratory for the benefit of both students and researches, he was the central figure in the team that developed the Mechatronic program in the department and headed the graduate program in Mechatronic. He retired from Ben-Gurion University in 2011 at the rank of full professor.

During his sabbatical years he was a research scientist at the Computer Science Corporation in MD, USA in 1988 and a senior Research Resident at NASA Goddard in 1992.

Professor Berman has made significant contributions to the theory of H_∞ control and estimation of nonlinear systems. By introducing the concept of stochastic dissipativity he developed a comprehensive theory for stochastic nonlinear systems that is used in control design, parameter estimation and identification. Professor Berman has also made important contributions in the field of robotics and autonomous vehicle control. He developed trajectory control schemes for robotic systems with partial state information and model uncertainty.

Nadav was a real scholar. His expertise in stochastic systems has been recognized worldwide and his deep knowledge of many areas in mathematics and system theory made him a unique scientist and engineer that perfectly combines theory with practice. He was much appreciated by his colleagues and students and loved by many friends. He passed away in April 2012 leaving a wife, two children and a grandchild. May his memory be blessed.