

Eli Stavitski

Eli Stavitski is a Lead Beamline Scientist for Inner Shell Spectroscopy (ISS) beamline, a premier instrument for hard X-ray spectroscopy at the National Synchrotron Light Source II located at Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island NY. He received his B.Sc. in Chemistry from the Novosibirsk State University in Russia in 1998. After graduation he moved to Israel, where, after 8 months of picking avocados in a kibbutz and learning Hebrew, he joined the graduate program at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem's Chemistry Department. Under supervision of Prof. Haim Levanon, Eli studied mechanisms of spin polarization in artificial photosynthetic and other systems using time resolved electron paramagnetic resonance. After receiving his PhD in physical Chemistry in 2006 he joined Inorganic Chemistry and Catalysis group at Utrecht University led by Prof. Bert Weckhuysen as a postdoctoral fellow. He led a team of graduate students which developed a novel approach to multimodal microspectroscopic characterization of heterogeneous catalysis. In 2008 he received a prestigious VENI award from the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research. Through his work at Utrecht, Eli was exposed to many synchrotron techniques, and in 2010 he moved to NSLS where he split his time between user support at the infrared micro-spectroscopy beamlines and his research in metal organic frameworks using X-ray scattering and spectroscopy. He then moved to the Canadian Light Source in Saskatoon, where he supported the industrial research program. In 2013 Eli returned to NSLS-II to join the team in charge of designing and building the ISS beamline. The beamline received the first light in Spring 2016 and began general user operations in early 2017. Eli's current research interests are in high throughput XAS experimentation, operando and in situ research focused on heterogeneous and electrocatalysis, design and applications of high energy resolution spectroscopy and application of novel data analytics and machine learning approaches for XAS data analysis. He has co-authored >120 peer-reviewed publications. When not tinkering with his beamline toys, Eli enjoys long hikes and travel.

