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Dr. Al-Jassim was hired at NREL (then SERI) in October 1983. Before joining NREL he was a graduate student and a research assistant at the University of Oxford, England, where he worked on the VPE growth and characterization of GaInAs and GaInAsP for optoelectronic applications. He joined the Solar Energy Research Institute (now the National Renewable Energy Laboratory) in Colorado, USA, as a post-doc in 1983, and then as a staff scientist in 1984. As a member of the High Efficiency Group, his main responsibility was the characterization of III-V tandem solar cells. In 1985 he assumed the responsibility of a senior scientist and a group leader of the Materials Characterization Group. Since then, his work has involved the structural, electrical, luminescent, and chemical characterization of a wide variety of photovoltaic materials and devices by various electron microscopy techniques. The latter includes TEM, SEM, AFM, EPMA and XRD. His current research interests include nanostructures, mismatched epitaxial growth, polycrystalline thin films, interfaces, the generation of crystallographic defects, and the electrical and optical properties of defects. Dr. Al-Jassim has over 250 publications.