Prof. M. Salmeron obtained his PhD in 1975 from the University Autonoma de Madrid, under the supervision of Prof. Juan Rojo in the group of Prof. Nicolas Cabrera. He moved to the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in 1984, where he is a Senior Staff Scientist in the Materials Science Division, He is also an Adjunct Professor in the Materials Science and Engineering Department at the University of California, Berkeley. His research focuses on fundamental studies of surface properties, in vacuum, under gases and under liquids, including structure, chemical, electronic and mechanical properties. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and of the American Vacuum Society. In 2004 he received the Klaus Halbach Award for innovative instrumentation, in 2008 he received the Medard Welch Award of the American Vacuum Society and the Langmuir Lectureship Award of the American Chemical Society. In 2012 he received the MRS Medal and in 2015 the Davisson-Germer Prize of the American Physical Society.