

the SEM and TEM pictures of ZnO nanobelts. The nanoparticles were chemically synthesized from SnCl₄ by inverse microemulsion using non-ionic surfactant, and have an average size of 10 nm and are highly agglomerated. Figure 4.7 shows SEM images of the synthesized ZnO nanobelt helical nanostructures, 20 Liu et al.²¹ synthesized SnO₂ nanorods by converting nanoparticles at elevated temperatures. 10 Kong and Wang²⁰ further demonstrated that by controlling growth kinetics, left-handed helical nanostructures and nano-rings can be formed by rolling up single crystal ZnO nanobelts. In (0001) facet-dominated single crystal nanobelts, positive and negative ionic charges are spontaneously established on the zinc- and oxygen-terminated $\pm(0001)$ surfaces, respectively. Various oxide nanowires, such as ZnO, Ga₂O₃ and MgO, and CuO were synthesized by such evaporation-condensation. Nanobelts of other oxides such as Ga₂O₃ with a crystal structure of monoclinic and PbO₂ (rutile) were also synthesized by the same technique. The growth of nanobelts cannot be attributed to either screw dislocation induced anisotropic growth, nor impurity inhibited growth.¹⁷ The typical thickness and width-to-thickness ratios of the ZnO nanobelts are in the range of 10 to 30 nm and ~5 to 10, respectively. No screw dislocation was found throughout the entire length of the nanobelt, except a single stacking fault parallel to the growth axis in the nanobelts grown along [0110] direction.