

the SEM and TEM pictures of ZnO nanobelts. The nanoparticles were chemically synthesized from  $\text{SnCl}_4$  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.<sup>21</sup> synthesized  $\text{SnO}_2$  nanorods by converting nanoparticles at elevated temperatures. 10 Kong and Wang<sup>20</sup> 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,  $\text{Ga}_2\text{O}_3$  and MgO, and CuO were synthesized by such evaporation-condensation. Nanobelts of other oxides such as  $\text{Ga}_2\text{O}_3$  with a crystal structure of monoclinic and  $\text{PbO}_2$  (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.<sup>17</sup> The typical thickness and width-to-thickness ratios of the ZnO nanobelts are in the range of 10 to 30 nm and  $\sim 5$  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.