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(54) **LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY AND OPERATION METHOD THEREOF**

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G09G 3/36 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **345/93; 345/95**

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See application file for complete search history.

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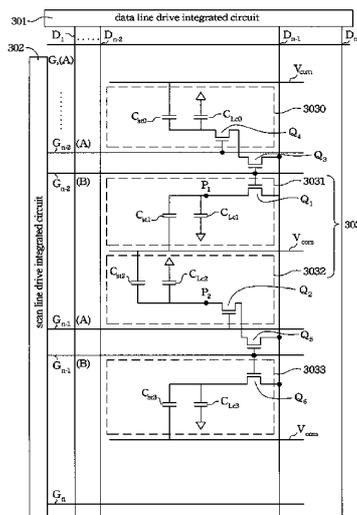
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A pixel unit in the present invention is divided into two sub-pixels. Each sub-pixel includes a thin film transistor, a liquid crystal capacitor and a storage capacitor. The two transistors respectively located in different sub-pixels are connected to different scan lines. One of the two transistors is connected to the data line through another transistor. Therefore, two different pixel voltages are formed in a pixel.

17 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets



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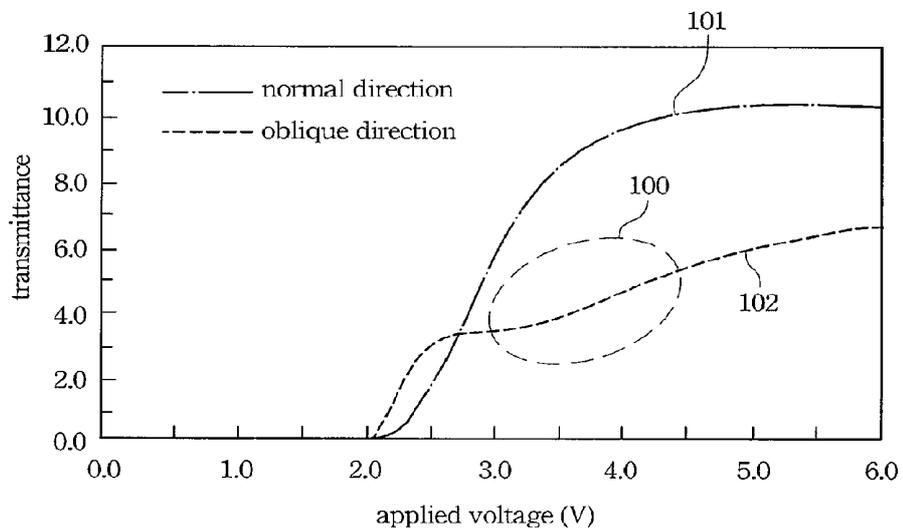


Fig. 1
(PRIOR ART)

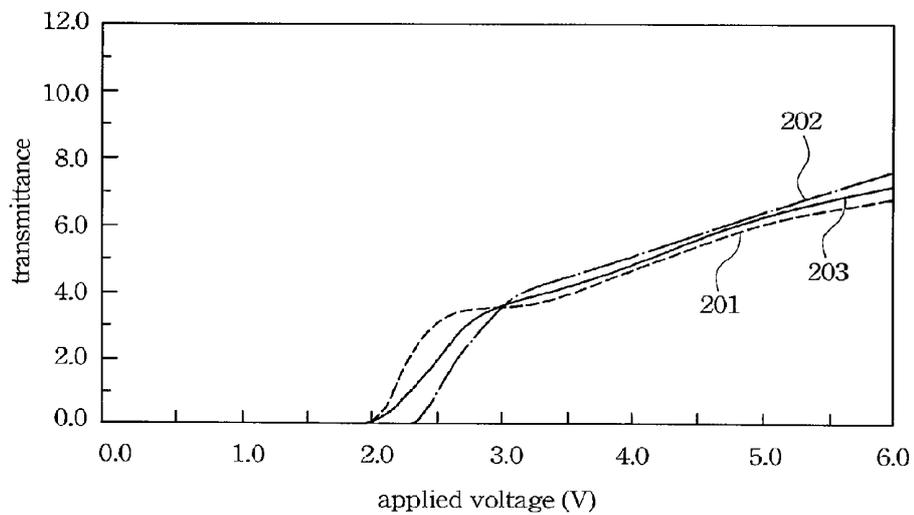


Fig. 2
(PRIOR ART)

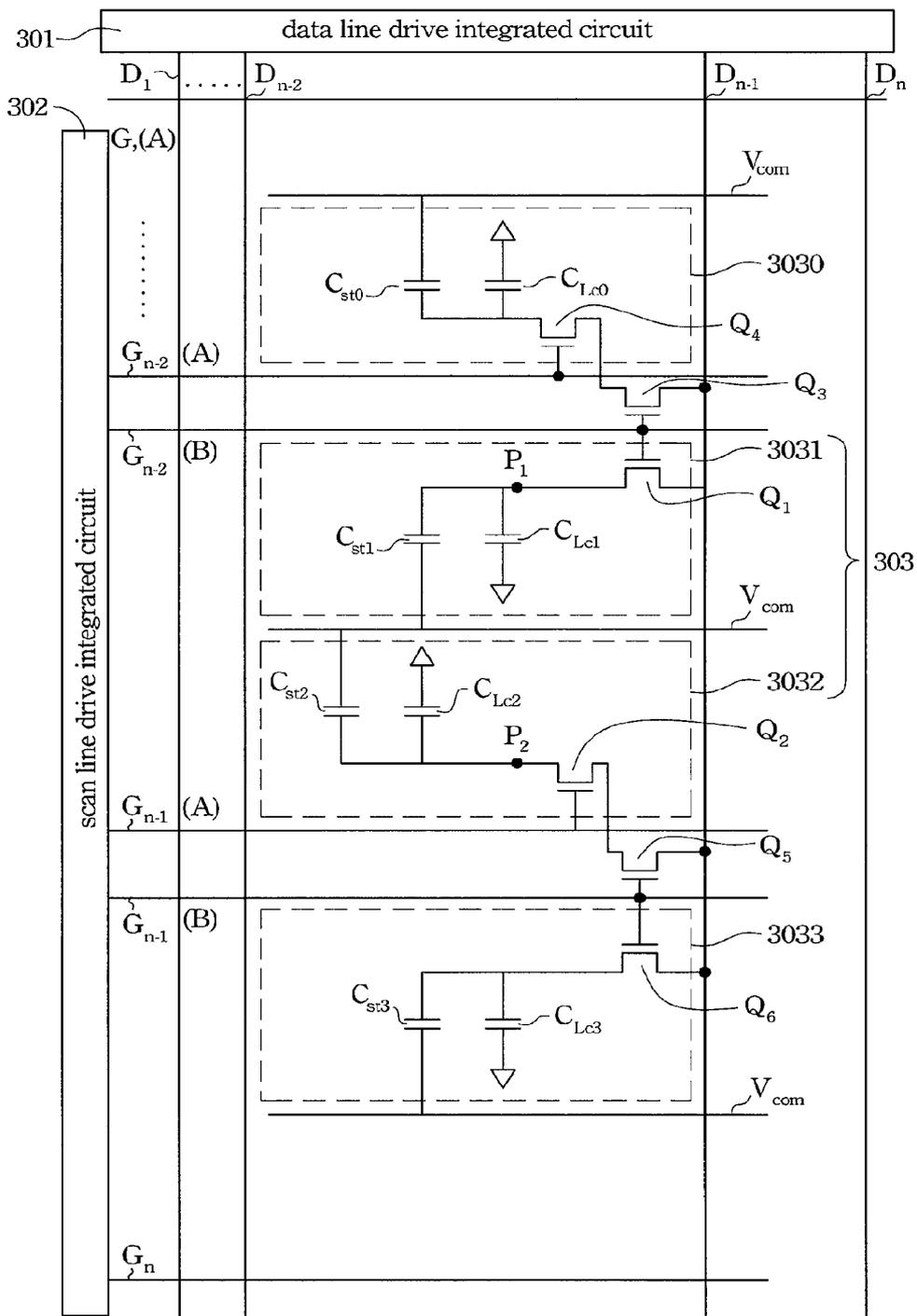


Fig. 3A

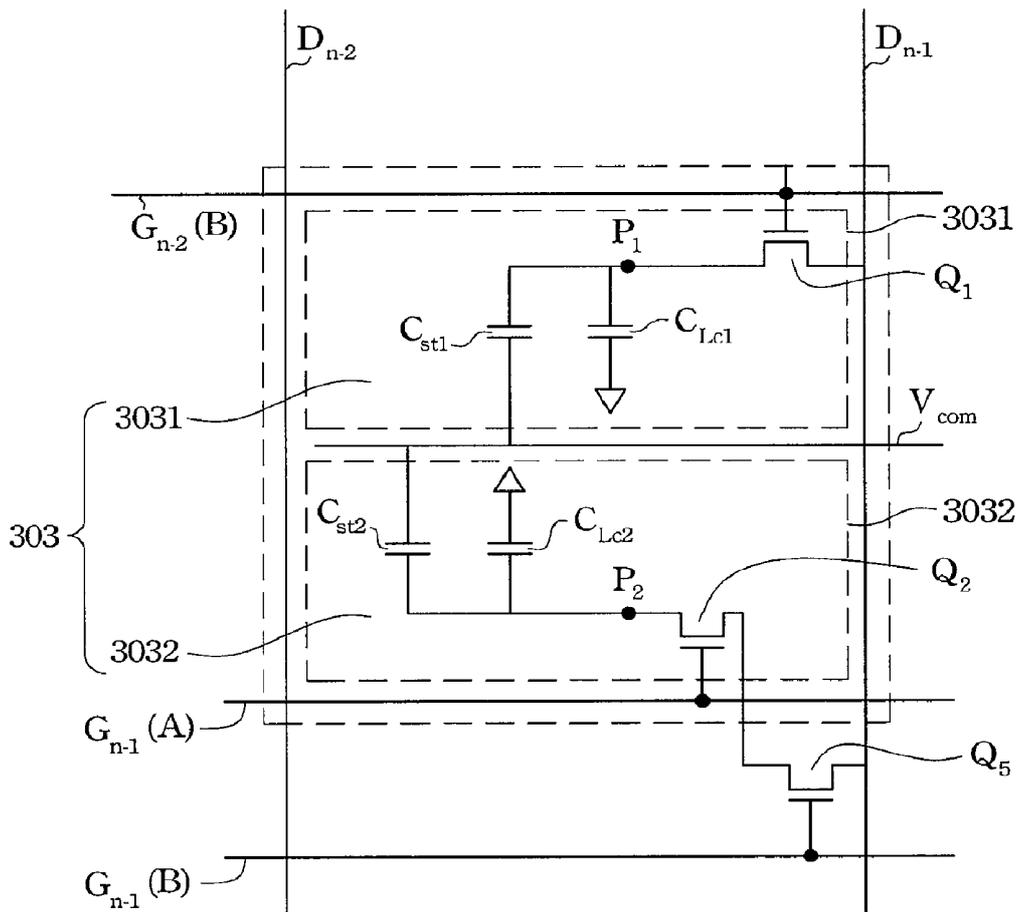


Fig. 3B

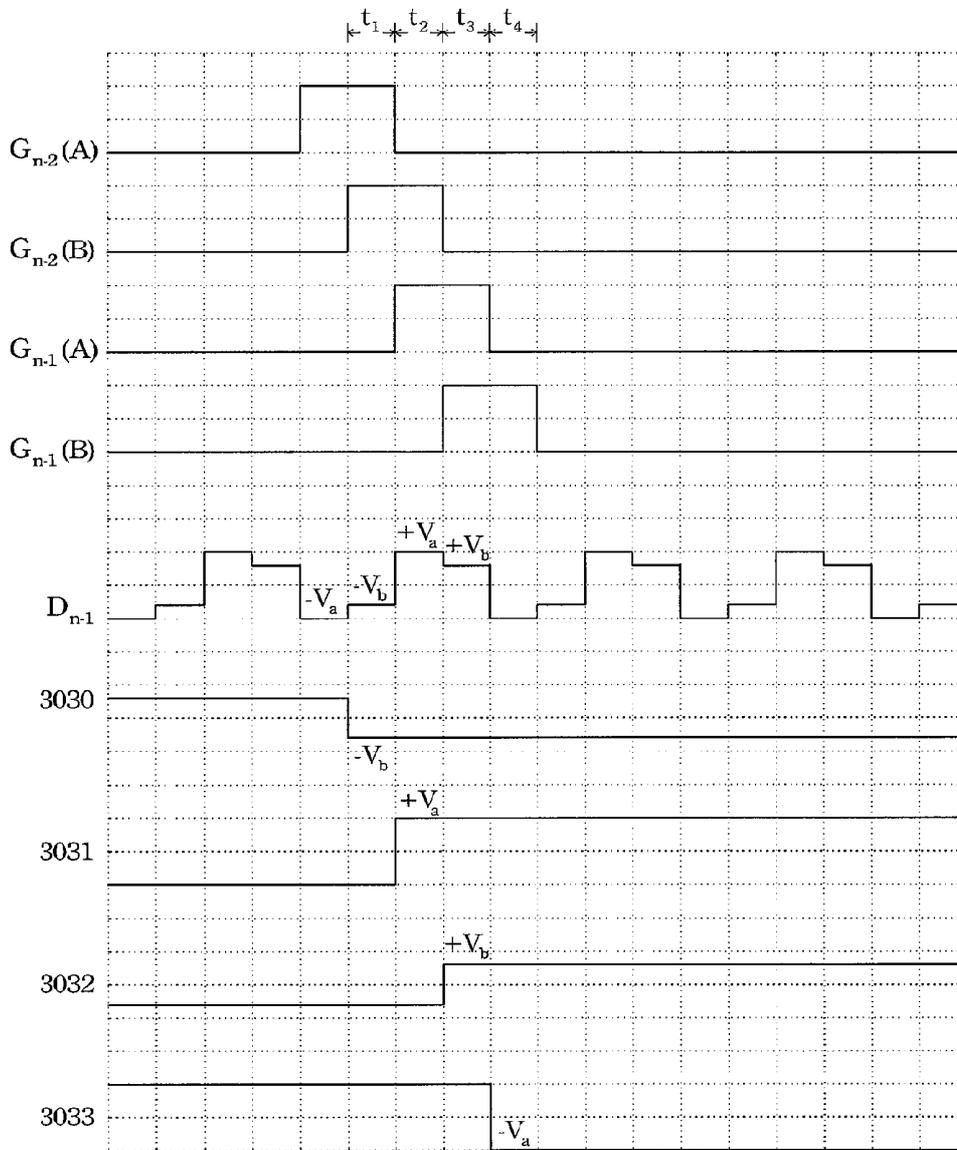


Fig. 4A

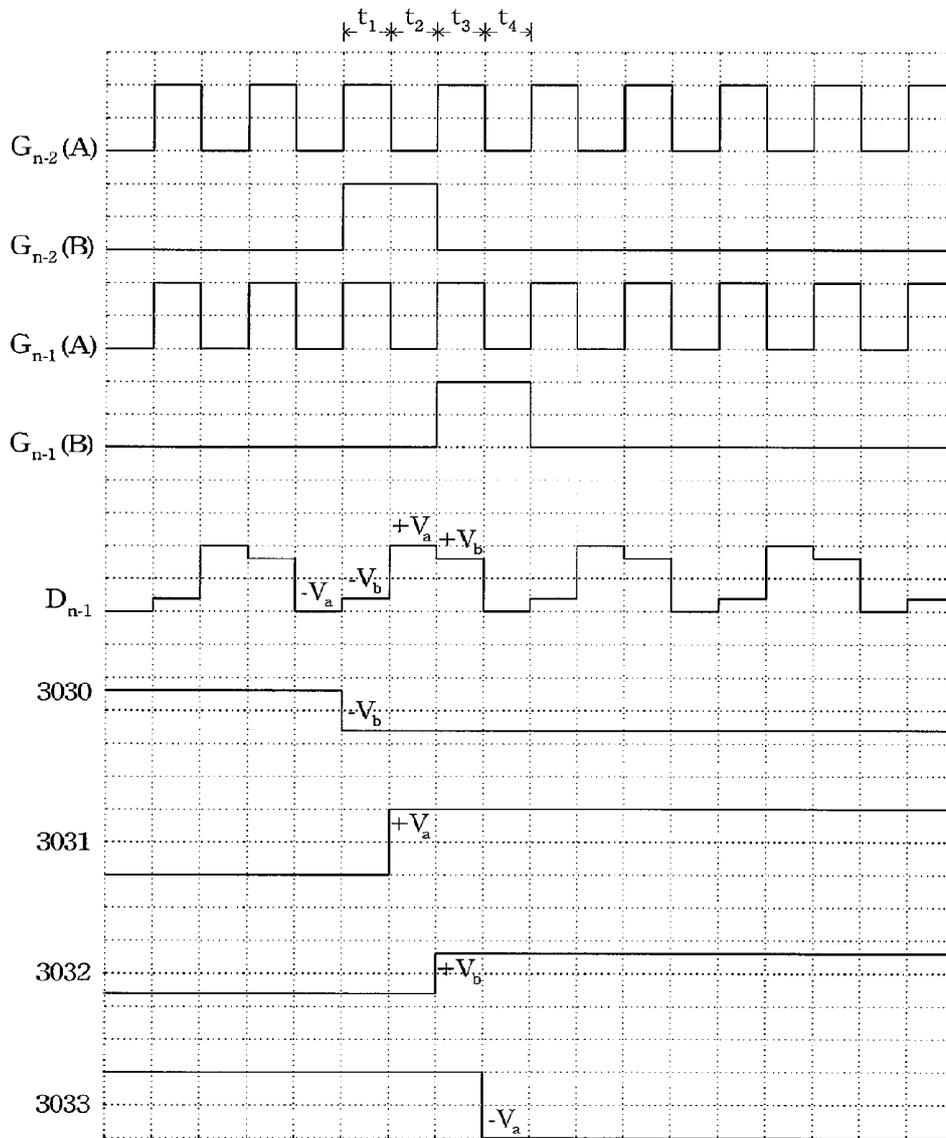


Fig. 4B

LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY AND OPERATION METHOD THEREOF

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present application is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 11/745,663, now U.S. Pat. No. 7,852,302, entitled "Liquid Crystal Display Having Pixel Units Each Having Two Sub-Pixels and Operation Method Thereof," filed on May 8, 2007, which claimed priority to Taiwan application No. 95131463, filed Aug. 25, 2006.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a liquid crystal display, and more particularly to a liquid crystal display with improved view angles.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Liquid crystal displays have been used in various electronic devices. A Multi-Domain Vertically Aligned Mode (MVA mode) liquid crystal display is developed by Fujitsu in 1997 to provide a wider viewing range. In the MVA mode, a 160 degree view angle and a high response speed may be realized. However, when a user looks at this LCD from the oblique direction, the skin color of Asian people (light orange or pink) appears bluish or whitish from an oblique viewing direction. Such a phenomenon is called color shift.

The transmittance-voltage (T-V) characteristic of the MVA mode liquid crystal display is shown in FIG. 1. The vertical axis is the transmittance rate. The horizontal axis is the applied voltage. When the applied voltage is increased, the transmittance rate curve **101** in the normal direction is also increased. The transmittance changes monotonically as the applied voltage increases. In the oblique direction, the transmittance rate curve **102** winds and the various gray scales become the same. However, in the region **100**, when the applied voltage is increased, the transmittance rate curve **102** is not increased. That is the reason to cause the color shift.

A method is provided to improve the foregoing problem. According to the method, a pixel unit is divided into two sub pixels. The two sub pixels may generate two different T-V characteristics. By combining the two different T-V characteristics, a monotonic T-V characteristic can be realized. The line **201** in FIG. 2 shows the T-V characteristic of a sub-pixel. The line **202** in FIG. 2 shows the T-V characteristic of another sub-pixel. By combining the two different T-V characteristics of line **201** and line **202**, a monotonic T-V characteristic can be realized, as shown by the line **203** in FIG. 2.

Therefore, a pixel unit with two sub pixels and drive method thereof are required.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

One object of the present invention is to provide a liquid crystal display with a wide view angle.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a pixel with two sub pixels.

One aspect of the present invention is directed to a liquid crystal display with a plurality of pixel unit that may be drove by a drive wave to form two different pixel electrode voltages in a pixel unit.

Another aspect of the present invention is directed to a method for driving a liquid crystal display with a plurality of pixel unit, wherein each pixel unit has two sub pixels.

Accordingly, the present invention provides a liquid crystal display, comprising: a plurality of data lines; a plurality of scan lines crossing said data lines, wherein said scan lines are grouped into a first group and a second group and are alternatively arranged, adjacent data lines and adjacent scan lines define a pixel; a plurality of common electrodes respectively located in corresponding pixels to divide pixels to first sub-pixels and second sub-pixels; a plurality of switching devices formed in the locations of the scan lines crossing the data lines, wherein part of the switching devices connected with the second group's scan line are connected to the first group's scan line and the other switching devices connected with the second group's scan line are located in corresponding first sub-pixels, and wherein the switching devices connected with the first group's scan line are located in corresponding second sub-pixels and are coupled to corresponding data line through the switching devices connected with the second group's scan line; and a plurality of pixel electrodes connected to the switching devices respectively.

According to an embodiment, the liquid crystal display further comprises a data line drive integrated circuit for driving said data lines.

According to an embodiment, the liquid crystal display further comprises a scan line drive integrated circuit for driving said scan lines.

Accordingly, the present invention provides a liquid crystal display, comprising: a plurality of data lines; a plurality of scan lines crossing the data lines, wherein adjacent first and second data lines and adjacent first and second scan lines define a pixel, wherein each pixel comprises: a first pixel electrode; a second pixel electrode; a common electrode, wherein the common electrode and the first pixel electrode define a first sub-pixel and the common electrode and the second pixel electrode define a second sub-pixel; a first transistor located in the first sub-pixel, a gate electrode of the first transistor is connected to the first scan line, a first source/drain electrode of the first transistor is connected to the first data line and a second source/drain electrode of the first transistor is connected to the first pixel electrode; a second transistor located in the second sub-pixel, a gate electrode and a first source/drain electrode of the first transistor is connected to the second scan line and a second source/drain electrode of the first transistor is connected to the second pixel electrode; and a third transistor located between two adjacent pixel, a gate electrode of the third transistor is connected to the first scan line, a second source/drain electrode of the third transistor is connected to the second scan line and a first source/drain electrode of the third transistor is connected to the first data line, wherein the second transistor is coupled to the first data line through the third transistor.

According to an embodiment, the common electrode and corresponding pixel electrode form storage capacitor.

According to an embodiment, the embodiment provides a drive method for driving a liquid crystal display disclosed in the above, the method comprises: providing a first signal to the first scan line; providing a second signal to the second scan line, wherein a time difference exists between the first signal and the second signal; and providing two-step signals to the data lines sequentially, the two-step signal includes a first voltage signal and a second voltage signal, wherein the first voltage signal is written to the first sub-pixel through the first transistor when the first scan line is driven by the first signal, and the second voltage signal is written to the second sub-pixel through the second transistor and the third transistor when the first scan line is not driven and the second scan line is driven by the second signal and adjacent pixel's first scan line is driven by the first signal.

According to an embodiment, the time difference is equal to half width of the first signal.

According to an embodiment, the first signal and the second signal are pulse signals.

According to an embodiment, the first signal is a pulse signal and the second signal is a clock signal.

According to an embodiment, further comprises the second scan line is driven by pulse signal when the first scan line is driven by pulse signal.

According to an embodiment, further comprises the second scan line is driven by clock signal when the first scan line is driven by pulse signal.

Accordingly, a pixel unit in the present invention is divided into two sub-pixels. Each sub-pixel includes a thin film transistor, a liquid crystal capacitor and a storage capacitor. The two transistors respectively located in different sub-pixels are connected to different scan lines. One of the two transistors is connected to the data line through another transistor. Therefore, two different pixel voltages are formed in a pixel.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The foregoing aspects and many of the attendant advantages of this invention are more readily appreciated and better understood by referencing the following detailed description, when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 and FIG. 2 illustrate the transmittance-voltage (T-V) characteristic of MVA mode liquid crystal display;

FIG. 3A illustrates a top view of a liquid crystal display according to the first embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 3B illustrates an enlarged schematic diagram of a pixel unit according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 4A illustrates a drive waveform and the corresponding electric voltage of four adjacent sub pixels according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 4B illustrates a drive waveform and the corresponding electric voltage of four adjacent sub pixels according to another embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

FIG. 3A illustrates a top view of a liquid crystal display according to the first embodiment of the present invention. The Liquid crystal display is composed of data lines $D_1, D_2, D_3, \dots, D_n$, the scan lines $G_1(A), G_2(A), G_3(A), \dots, G_n(A)$ of group A and the scan lines $G_2(B), G_3(B), \dots, G_{n-1}(B)$ of group B. These scan lines are arranged in parallel to each other. Moreover, the scan lines of group A and the scan lines of group B are alternatively formed over a substrate (not shown in this figure).

The data lines and the scan lines are perpendicular to each other. Adjacent two data lines and adjacent two scan lines respectively belong to the group A and group B define a pixel unit. Each pixel includes a common electrode V_{com} parallel to the scan line. According to the present invention, two transistors are connected to the scan line of group B located between adjacent two pixels to control the data of the data line to transfer to the corresponding pixel.

According to the present invention, a pixel includes two sub-pixels. Each sub-pixel includes a storage capacitor, a liquid crystal capacitor and a thin film transistor. The storage capacitor is composed of the pixel electrode and the common electrode. The liquid crystal capacitor is composed of the pixel electrode and the conductive electrode in the upper

substrate (not shown in figure). The thin film transistor is formed in the location that the data line crosses the scan line. According to the present invention, the transistors located in adjacent two sub-pixels are connected to adjacent two scan lines that belong to the group A and group B respectively. These two scan lines are connected together through a transistor that is controlled by this scan line of group B. A data line drive integrated circuit **301** is used to control the data lines $D_1, D_2, D_3, \dots, D_n$. A scan line drive integrated circuit **302** is used to control the scan lines $G_1(A), G_2(A), G_3(A), \dots, G_n(A)$ of group A and the scan lines $G_2(B), G_3(B), \dots, G_{n-1}(B)$ of group B.

The storage capacitors and the liquid crystal capacitors in the sub pixels described in the following are indicated by different symbols. These symbols are not related to their capacitance.

FIG. 3B illustrates an enlarged diagram of a pixel. The pixel **303** is defined by the data lines D_{n-2}, D_{n-1} and the scan lines $G_{n-2}(B), G_{n-1}(A)$. A common electrode V_{com} parallel to the scan line is arranged between the scan line $G_{n-2}(B)$ and the scan line $G_{n-1}(A)$. The pixel **303** is divided into two sub-pixels. The sub-pixel **3031** is located between the scan line $G_{n-2}(B)$ and the common electrode V_{com} . The sub pixel **3032** is located between the scan line $G_{n-1}(A)$ and the common electrode V_{com} .

The sub-pixel **3031** includes a transistor Q_1 . According to the transistor Q_1 , the gate electrode is connected to the scan line $G_{n-2}(B)$, the first source/drain electrode is connected to the data line D_{n-1} and the second source/drain electrode is connected to the pixel electrode P_1 . The storage capacitor C_{st1} is composed of the pixel electrode P_1 and the common electrode V_{com} . The liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC1} is composed of the pixel electrode P_1 and the conductive electrode in the upper substrate (not shown in figure).

The sub-pixel **3032** also includes a transistor Q_2 . According to the transistor Q_2 , the gate electrode is connected to the scan line $G_{n-1}(A)$, the first source/drain electrode is connected to the data line D_{n-1} through another transistor Q_5 and the second source/drain electrode is connected to the pixel electrode P_2 . The storage capacitor C_{st2} is composed of the pixel electrode P_2 and the common electrode V_{com} . The liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC2} is composed of the pixel electrode P_2 and the conductive electrode in the upper substrate (not shown in figure). In addition, according to the transistor Q_5 , the gate electrode is connected to the scan line $G_{n-1}(B)$, the first source/drain electrode is connected to the data line D_{n-1} . The adjacent two scan lines, such as the scan line $G_{n-1}(A)$ and $G_{n-1}(B)$, are connected together through the transistor Q_5 .

The transistors Q_1, Q_2 and Q_5 act as switches. When a scan voltage is applied to the gate electrode of a transistor, the data voltage in the data line is transferred to the second source/drain electrode and is written into the corresponding storage capacitor and the liquid crystal capacitor. In this invention, the transistor Q_2 is not directly connected to the data line D_{n-1} . This transistor Q_2 is connected to the data line D_{n-1} through the transistor Q_5 . In other words, the transistor Q_2 and the transistor Q_5 together control the sub-pixel **3032** whether or not to display the data in the data line. Therefore, when a data is written into the storage capacitor C_{st2} and the liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC2} , the transistor Q_2 and the transistor Q_5 have to be conducted together. Accordingly, in the present invention, a voltage waveform in the scan line is used to control the transistors Q_1, Q_2 and Q_5 to co-operates with the voltage waveform in the data line to make the two sub-pixels **3031** and **3032** have different pixel voltages.

FIG. 4A illustrates a drive waveform and the corresponding electric voltage of four adjacent sub pixels according to an

embodiment of the present invention. The drive signal of each scan line is pulse. When scanning, drive signal is sequentially transferred to these scan lines. The time difference between the two drive signals transferred to adjacent scan lines respectively is half period of the pulse. In other words, the two drive signals transferred to adjacent scan lines respectively partially overlap. Therefore, in the time period of the two drive signals overlapping, the transistors connected with the two scan lines are turned on together.

In this embodiment, the drive waveform of the data line is a two steps drive waveform. The positive part of this drive waveform includes two drive voltage Va and Vb. The negative part of this drive waveform also includes two drive voltage -Va and -Vb. The absolute value of the drive voltage Va is larger than the absolute value of the drive voltage Vb.

Please refer to the FIG. 3A and FIG. 4A. During the time segment t_1 , the voltage state of both the scan line $G_{n-2}(A)$ and $G_{n-2}(B)$ are in a high level state. The voltage state of both the scan line $G_{n-1}(A)$ and $G_{n-1}(B)$ are in a low level state. Therefore, the transistors Q_1 , Q_3 and Q_4 are turned on and the transistors Q_2 , Q_5 and Q_6 are turned off. In this case, the voltage -Vb in the data line D_{n-1} may charge the liquid crystal capacitors C_{LC0} and the storage capacitors C_{st0} through the transistors Q_3 and Q_4 . At this time, the sub-pixel 3030 may present the pixel voltage, -Vb. Moreover, the voltage -Vb in the data line D_{n-1} may charge the liquid crystal capacitors C_{LC1} and the storage capacitors C_{st1} through the transistor Q_1 . At this time, the sub-pixel 3031 may also present the pixel voltage, -Vb. The transistors Q_2 , Q_5 and Q_6 are turned off. Therefore, the pixel voltage of the sub-pixels 3032 and 3033 is not changed. In this embodiment, the sub-pixel 3032 presents the pixel voltage, -Vb. The sub-pixel 3033 presents the pixel voltage, -Vb.

During the time segment t_2 , the voltage state of both the scan line $G_{n-2}(B)$ and $G_{n-1}(A)$ are in a high level state. The voltage state of both the scan line $G_{n-2}(A)$ and $G_{n-1}(B)$ are in a low level state. Therefore, the transistors Q_1 , Q_2 and Q_3 are turned on and the transistors Q_4 , Q_5 and Q_6 are turned off. In this case, the voltage +Va in the data line D_{n-1} may charge the liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC1} and the storage capacitor C_{st1} through the transistor Q_1 . At this time, the sub-pixel 3031 may present the pixel voltage, +Va. The transistors Q_4 , Q_5 and Q_6 are turned off. Therefore, the liquid crystal capacitors C_{LC0} , C_{LC2} and C_{LC3} and the storage capacitors C_{st0} , C_{st2} and C_{st3} coupling with the transistors Q_4 , Q_5 and Q_6 respectively are not charged by the voltage +Va. At this time, the sub-pixel 3030, the sub-pixel 3032 and the sub-pixel 3033 still present the pixel voltage of the previous state. In other words, the sub-pixel 3030 presents the pixel voltage, -Vb. The sub-pixel 3032 presents the pixel voltage, -Vb. The sub-pixel 3033 presents the pixel voltage, +Va.

During the time segment t_3 , the voltage state of both the scan line $G_{n-1}(A)$ and $G_{n-1}(B)$ are in a high level state. The voltage state of both the scan line $G_{n-2}(A)$ and $G_{n-2}(B)$ are in a low level state. Therefore, the transistors Q_2 , Q_5 and Q_6 are turned on and the transistors Q_1 , Q_3 and Q_4 are turned off. In this case, the voltage +Vb in the data line D_{n-1} may charge the liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC2} and the storage capacitor C_{st2} through the transistors Q_2 and Q_5 . At this time, the sub-pixel 3032 may present the pixel voltage, +Vb. On the other hand, the voltage +Vb in the data line D_{n-1} may charge the liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC3} and the storage capacitor C_{st3} through the transistor Q_6 . At this time, the sub-pixel 3033 may present the pixel voltage, +Vb. Because the transistors Q_3 and Q_4 are turned off, the liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC0} and the storage capacitor C_{st0} are not charged by the voltage +Vb. At this time, the sub-pixel 3030 still presents the pixel voltage, -Vb.

On the other hand, because the transistor Q_1 is turned off, the liquid crystal capacitors C_{LC1} and the storage capacitors C_{st1} are not charged by the voltage +Vb. At this time, the sub-pixel 3031 still present the pixel voltage, +Va.

During the time segment t_4 , the voltage state of the scan line $G_{n-1}(B)$ is in a high level state. The voltage state of both the scan line $G_{n-1}(A)$, $G_{n-2}(A)$ and $G_{n-2}(B)$ are in a low level state. Therefore, the transistors Q_5 and Q_6 are turned on and the transistors Q_1 , Q_2 , Q_3 and Q_4 are turned off. In this case, the voltage -Vb in the data line D_{n-1} may charge the liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC3} and the storage capacitor C_{st3} through the transistor Q_6 . At this time, the sub-pixel 3033 may present the pixel voltage, -Vb. Because the transistors Q_3 and Q_4 are turned off, the liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC0} and the storage capacitor C_{st0} are not charged by the voltage -Vb. At this time, the sub-pixel 3030 still presents a pixel voltage, -Vb. Because the transistor Q_1 is turned off, the liquid crystal capacitors C_{LC1} and the storage capacitors C_{st1} are not charged by the voltage -Vb. At this time, the sub-pixel 3031 still presents the pixel voltage, +Va. Because the transistor Q_2 is turned off, the liquid crystal capacitors C_{LC2} and the storage capacitors C_{st2} are not charged by the voltage -Vb. At this time, the sub-pixel 3032 still presents the pixel voltage, +Vb. Accordingly, from the time segment t_1 to t_4 , at least two pixel voltages, Vb and +Va, are presented in the pixel 303 together. Different pixel voltage may present different optical characteristics. Therefore, the color shift phenomenon may be eased by combining the two pixel voltages in a pixel.

FIG. 4B illustrates a drive waveform and the corresponding electric voltage of four adjacent sub pixels according to another embodiment of the present invention. The drive signal transferred in the scan line of the group A is a clock signal. The drive signal transferred in the scan line of the group B is pulse signal. When scanning, pulse signal is sequentially transferred to these scan lines of the group B. The pulse width is equal to the period the clock signal. In other words, the two drive signals, the clock signal and the pulse signal, transferred to adjacent scan lines respectively partially overlap. Therefore, in the time period of the two drive signals overlapping, the transistors connected with the two scan lines are turned on together.

In this embodiment, the drive waveform of the data line is a two steps drive waveform. The positive part of this drive waveform includes two drive voltage Va and Vb. The negative part of this drive waveform also includes two drive voltage -Va and -Vb. The absolute value of the drive voltage Va is larger than the absolute value of the drive voltage Vb.

Please refer to the FIG. 3A and FIG. 4B. During the time segment t_1 , the voltage state of the scan line $G_{n-1}(A)$, $G_{n-2}(A)$ and $G_{n-2}(B)$ are in a high level state. The voltage state of the scan line $G_{n-1}(B)$ is in a low level state. Therefore, the transistors Q_1 , Q_2 , Q_3 and Q_4 are turned on and the transistors Q_5 and Q_6 are turned off. In this case, the voltage -Vb in the data line D_{n-1} may charge the liquid crystal capacitors C_{LC0} and the storage capacitors C_{st0} through the transistors Q_3 and Q_4 . At this time, the sub-pixel 3030 may present the pixel voltage, -Vb. Moreover, the voltage -Vb in the data line D_{n-1} may charge the liquid crystal capacitors C_{LC1} and the storage capacitors C_{st1} through the transistor Q_1 . At this time, the sub-pixel 3031 may also present the pixel voltage, -Vb. The transistors Q_5 and Q_6 are turned off. The transistor Q_2 is connected to the data line D_{n-1} through the transistors Q_5 . Therefore, the liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC2} and the storage capacitor C_{st2} are not charged by the voltage -Vb. On the other hand, because the transistor Q_6 is turned off, the liquid crystal capacitors C_{LC3} and the storage capacitors C_{st3} are not charged by the voltage -Vb. Therefore, the sub-pixel 3032

and the sub-pixel **3033** still present the pixel voltage of the previous state. In this embodiment, the sub-pixel **3032** presents the pixel voltage, $-V_b$. The sub-pixel **3033** presents the pixel voltage, V_a .

During the time segment t_2 , the voltage state of both the scan line $G_{n-2}(B)$ is in a high level state. The voltage state of the scan lines $G_{n-1}(A)$, $G_{n-2}(A)$ and $G_{n-1}(B)$ are in a low level state. Therefore, the transistors Q_1 and Q_3 are turned on and the transistors Q_2 , Q_4 , Q_5 and Q_6 are turned off. In this case, the voltage $+V_a$ in the data line D_{n-1} may charge the liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC1} and the storage capacitor C_{st1} through the transistor Q_1 . At this time, the sub-pixel **3031** may present the pixel voltage, $+V_a$. On the other hand, because the transistor Q_4 is turned off, the liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC0} and the storage capacitor C_{st0} are not charged by the voltage $+V_a$. At this time, the sub-pixel **3030** still presents the previous pixel voltage state, $-V_b$. Because the transistor Q_1 and Q_5 are turned off, the liquid crystal capacitors C_{LC2} and the storage capacitors C_{st2} are not charged by the voltage $+V_a$. At this time, the sub-pixel **3032** still present the previous pixel voltage state, $-V_b$. Because the transistor Q_6 is turned off, the liquid crystal capacitors C_{LC3} and the storage capacitors C_{st3} are not charged by the voltage $+V_a$. At this time, the sub-pixel **3033** still present the previous pixel voltage state, $+V_a$.

During the time segment t_3 , the voltage state of the scan line $G_{n-1}(A)$, $G_{n-2}(A)$ and $G_{n-1}(B)$ are in a high level state. The voltage state of the scan line $G_{n-2}(B)$ is in a low level state. Therefore, the transistors Q_2 , Q_4 , Q_5 and Q_6 are turned on and the transistors Q_1 , Q_3 and are turned off. In this case, the voltage $+V_b$ in the data line D_{n-1} may charge the liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC2} and the storage capacitor C_{st2} through the transistors Q_2 and Q_5 . At this time, the sub-pixel **3032** may present the pixel voltage, $+V_b$. On the other hand, the voltage $+V_b$ in the data line D_{n-1} may charge the liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC3} and the storage capacitor C_{st3} through the transistor Q_6 . At this time, the sub-pixel **3033** may present the pixel voltage, $+V_b$. Because the transistors Q_3 and Q_4 are turned off, the liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC0} and the storage capacitor C_{st0} are not charged by the voltage $+V_b$. At this time, the sub-pixel **3030** still presents the pixel voltage, $-V_b$. On the other hand, because the transistor Q_1 is turned off, the liquid crystal capacitors C_{LC1} and the storage capacitors C_{st1} are not charged by the voltage $+V_b$. At this time, the sub-pixel **3031** still present the pixel voltage, $+V_a$.

During the time segment t_4 , the voltage state of the scan line $G_{n-1}(B)$ is in a high level state. The voltage state of both the scan line $G_{n-1}(A)$, $G_{n-2}(A)$ and $G_{n-2}(B)$ are in a low level state. Therefore, the transistors Q_5 and Q_6 are turned on and the transistors Q_1 , Q_2 , Q_3 and Q_4 are turned off. In this case, the voltage $-V_b$ in the data line D_{n-1} may charge the liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC3} and the storage capacitor C_{st3} through the transistor Q_6 . At this time, the sub-pixel **3033** may present the pixel voltage, $-V_b$. Because the transistors Q_3 and Q_4 are turned off, the liquid crystal capacitor C_{LC0} and the storage capacitor C_{st0} are not charged by the voltage $-V_b$. At this time, the sub-pixel **3030** still presents the previous pixel voltage state, $-V_b$. Because the transistor Q_1 is turned off, the liquid crystal capacitors C_{LC1} and the storage capacitors C_{st1} are not charged by the voltage $-V_b$. At this time, the sub-pixel **3031** still presents the previous pixel voltage state, $+V_a$. Because the transistor Q_2 is turned off, the liquid crystal capacitors C_{LC2} and the storage capacitors C_{st2} are not charged by the voltage $-V_b$. At this time, the sub-pixel **3032** still presents the previous pixel voltage state, $+V_b$.

Accordingly, from the time segment t_1 to t_4 , at least two pixel voltages, V_b and $+V_a$, are presented in the pixel **303** together. Different pixel voltage may present different optical

characteristics. Therefore, the color shift phenomenon may be eased by combining the two pixel voltages in a pixel.

Accordingly, a pixel unit in the present invention is divided into two sub-pixels. Each sub-pixel includes a thin film transistor, a liquid crystal capacitor and a storage capacitor. The two transistors in a pixel are connected to different scan lines. One of the two transistors is connected to the data line through another transistor. Therefore, two different pixel voltages are formed in a pixel. The color shift phenomenon may be eased by combining the two pixel voltages in a pixel.

As is understood by a person skilled in the art, the foregoing descriptions of the preferred embodiment of the present invention are an illustration of the present invention rather than a limitation thereof. Various modifications and similar arrangements are included within the spirit and scope of the appended claims. The scope of the claims should be accorded to the broadest interpretation so as to encompass all such modifications and similar structures. While a preferred embodiment of the invention has been illustrated and described, it will be appreciated that various changes can be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A liquid crystal display, comprising:

- a plurality of data lines;
- a plurality of scan lines crossing said data lines, wherein said scan lines are grouped into a first group and a second group, and scan lines of the first group and scan lines of the second group are alternatively arranged;
- a plurality of pixels each defined by two neighboring data lines and two neighboring scan lines crossing the two neighboring data lines, the two neighboring scan lines comprising a first scan line in the first group and a second scan line in the second group;
- a plurality of common electrodes disposed in corresponding pixels to define said pixels into a plurality of first sub-pixels and a plurality of second sub-pixels;
- a plurality of switching devices respectively formed in the locations of said scan lines crossing said data lines, wherein each of the pixels includes a first switching device, a second switching device and a third switching device, wherein the first switching device and the second switching device are directly connected to a first data line and the third switching device is connected to the first data line through the first switching device, wherein the second switching device connected with the second group's scan line is located in corresponding first sub-pixel, and the third switching device connected with the first group's scan line is located in corresponding second sub-pixel; and
- a plurality of pixel electrodes electrically coupled to said switching devices respectively;
- wherein the data lines are configured to be provided with two-step signals sequentially, each of the two-step signals comprises a first voltage signal and a second voltage signal different from the first voltage signal, a gate of the second switching device and a gate of the third switching device are connected respectively to the second scan line and the first scan line both defining one of said pixels, and a gate of the first switching device is connected to the second scan line of the neighboring pixel in a same column;
- wherein the first voltage signal is written to the first sub-pixel in a first one of said pixels through the second switching device when only the second scan line defining the first one of said pixels is driven, and the second voltage signal is written to the second sub-pixel in the

first one of said pixels through the first switching device and the third switching device when the first scan line defining the first one of said pixels and the second scan line defining a second one of said pixels are both driven.

2. The liquid crystal display of claim 1, wherein said switching device is a transistor.

3. The liquid crystal display of claim 1, wherein said common electrodes and said pixel electrodes form storage capacitors.

4. The liquid crystal display of claim 1, wherein drive signals are sequentially transferred through adjacent two of the scan lines in which one is in the first group and the other is in the second group, to the second switching device and the third switching device, and a time difference between the drive signals is half period of each of the drive signals.

5. The liquid crystal display of claim 1, wherein drive signals are sequentially transferred through adjacent two of the scan lines in which one is in the first group and the other is in the second group, to the second switching device and the third switching device, and a width of the drive signal transferred to the second switching device is equal to a period of the drive signal transferred to the third switching device.

6. The liquid crystal display of claim 1, wherein the two-step signals comprise a first two-step signal and a second two-step signal, the first two-step signal has a first voltage and a second voltage, the second two-step signal has a third voltage and a fourth voltage, and the first voltage, the second voltage, the third voltage and the fourth voltage are different from one another.

7. A liquid crystal display, comprising:

a plurality of data lines;

a plurality of scan lines crossing said data lines, wherein said scan lines are grouped into a first group and a second group, and scan lines of the first group and scan lines of the second group are alternatively arranged;

a plurality of pixels each defined by two neighboring data lines and two neighboring scan lines crossing the two neighboring data lines, the two neighboring scan lines comprising a first scan line in the first group and a second scan line in the second group;

a plurality of first and second switching devices respectively formed in the locations of the second group's scan lines crossing said data lines, wherein the first switching devices and the second switching devices are directly connected to corresponding data lines, and the second switching devices are located in pixels that are defined by the second group's scan line;

a plurality of third switching devices respectively formed in the locations of the first group's scan lines crossing said data lines, and the third switching devices are located in pixels that are defined by the first group's scan line and the third switching devices are coupled to corresponding data lines through the first switching devices; and

a plurality of pixel electrodes electrically coupled to the second and third switching devices;

wherein the data lines are configured to be provided with two-step signals sequentially, each of the two-step signals comprising a first voltage signal and a second voltage signal different from the first voltage signal, a gate of the corresponding second switching device and a gate of the corresponding third switching device are connected respectively to the second scan line and the first scan line both defining one of said pixels, and a gate of the corresponding first switching device is connected to the second scan line of the neighboring pixel in a same column;

wherein the first voltage signal is written to a first sub-pixel in a first one of said pixels through the second switching device when only the second scan line defining the first one of said pixels is driven, and the second voltage signal is written to a second sub-pixel in the first one of said pixels through the first switching device and the third switching device when the first scan line defining the first one of said pixels and the second scan line defining a second one of said pixels are both driven.

8. The liquid crystal display of claim 7, wherein said switching device is a transistor.

9. The liquid crystal display of claim 7, wherein said common electrodes and said pixel electrodes form storage capacitors.

10. The liquid crystal display of claim 7, wherein drive signals are sequentially transferred through adjacent two of the scan lines in which one is in the first group and the other is in the second group, to the corresponding second switching device and the corresponding third switching device, and a time difference between the drive signals is half period of each of the drive signals.

11. The liquid crystal display of claim 7, wherein drive signals are sequentially transferred through adjacent two of the scan lines in which one is in the first group and the other is in the second group, to the corresponding second switching device and the corresponding third switching device, and a width of the drive signal transferred to the corresponding second switching device is equal to a period of the drive signal transferred to the corresponding third switching device.

12. The liquid crystal display of claim 7, wherein the two-step signals comprise a first two-step signal and a second two-step signal, the first two-step signal has a first voltage and a second voltage, the second two-step signal has a third voltage and a fourth voltage, and the first voltage, the second voltage, the third voltage and the fourth voltage are different from one another.

13. A liquid crystal display, comprising:

a plurality of data lines;

a plurality of scan lines crossing said data lines;

a plurality of pixels each defined by two neighboring data lines and two neighboring scan lines crossing the two neighboring data lines, the two neighboring scan lines comprising a first scan line in the first group and a second scan line in the second group, wherein each pixel comprises:

a first pixel electrode;

a second pixel electrode;

a common electrode, wherein said common electrode and said first pixel electrode define a first sub-pixel and said common electrode and said second pixel electrode define a second sub-pixel;

a first transistor located in said first sub-pixel, a gate electrode of said first transistor is connected to said first scan line, a first source/drain electrode of said first transistor is directly connected to said first data line and a second source/drain electrode of said first transistor is connected to said first pixel electrode, wherein the first pixel electrode receives a data signal from the first data line through the first transistor;

a second transistor located in said second sub-pixel, a gate electrode is connected to said second scan line and a second source/drain electrode of said second transistor is connected to said second pixel electrode; and

a third transistor located between two adjacent pixels, a gate electrode of said third transistor is connected to said first scan line, a second source/drain electrode of said third transistor is connected to a first source/drain elec-

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trode of said second transistor and a first source/drain electrode of said third transistor is directly connected to said first data line, wherein said second transistor is coupled to said first data line through said third transistor, wherein the second pixel electrode receives a data signal from the first data line through the second transistor and the third transistor;

wherein the data lines are configured to be provided with two-step signals sequentially, each of the two-step signals comprising a first voltage signal and a second voltage signal different from the first voltage signal;

wherein the first voltage signal is written to the first sub-pixel in a present pixel through said first transistor when only said second scan line defining the present pixel is driven, and the second voltage signal is written to the second sub-pixel in the present pixel through said second transistor and said third transistor when said first scan line defining the present pixel and said second scan line defining a next one pixel are both driven.

14. The liquid crystal display of claim 13, wherein said common electrode and corresponding pixel electrode form storage capacitor.

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15. The liquid crystal display of claim 13, wherein drive signals are transferred through said first scan line and said second scan line to said first transistor and said second transistor respectively, and a time difference between the drive signals is half period of each of the drive signals.

16. The liquid crystal display of claim 13, wherein drive signals are transferred through said first scan line and said second scan line to said first transistor and said second transistor respectively, and a width of the drive signal transferred to the said first transistor is equal to a period of the drive signal transferred to said second transistor.

17. The liquid crystal display of claim 13, wherein the two-step signals comprise a first two-step signal and a second two-step signal, the first two-step signal has a first voltage and a second voltage, the second two-step signal has a third voltage and a fourth voltage, and the first voltage, the second voltage, the third voltage and the fourth voltage are different from one another.

* * * * *

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[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	友达光电股份有限公司		
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摘要(译)

本发明中的像素单元分为两个子像素。每个子像素包括薄膜晶体管，液晶电容器和存储电容器。分别位于不同子像素中的两个晶体管连接到不同的扫描线。两个晶体管中的一个通过另一个晶体管连接到数据线。因此，在像素中形成两个不同的像素电压。

