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(54) **LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY (LCD)**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **349/152**; 349/73; 349/149; 349/150;
349/151

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 349/79,
349/149–152

See application file for complete search history.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

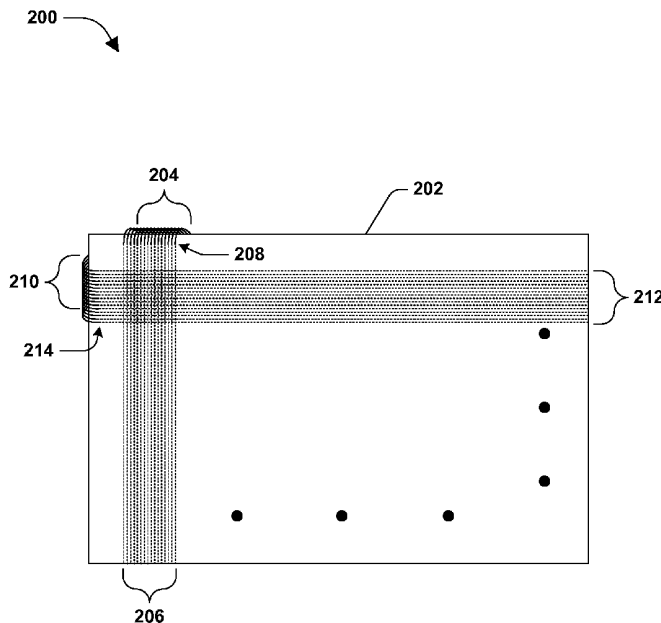
A liquid crystal display (LCD) is provided that comprises a rearward LCD substrate sheet that has an array of vias formed, where the vias provide electrical conduction between both sides of the rearward LCD substrate sheet. The number of vias in the array is substantially equal to or at least equivalent to a combination of a number of column drive lines and a number of row drive lines. The respective drive lines are connected to a corresponding via, such as on one side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet, and respective patterned conductors are connected to a corresponding via, such as on the other side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet. The patterned conductors provide a connection between respective drive lines and one or more corresponding drivers. In one example, this allows a "full bleed" display to be generated.

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20 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets



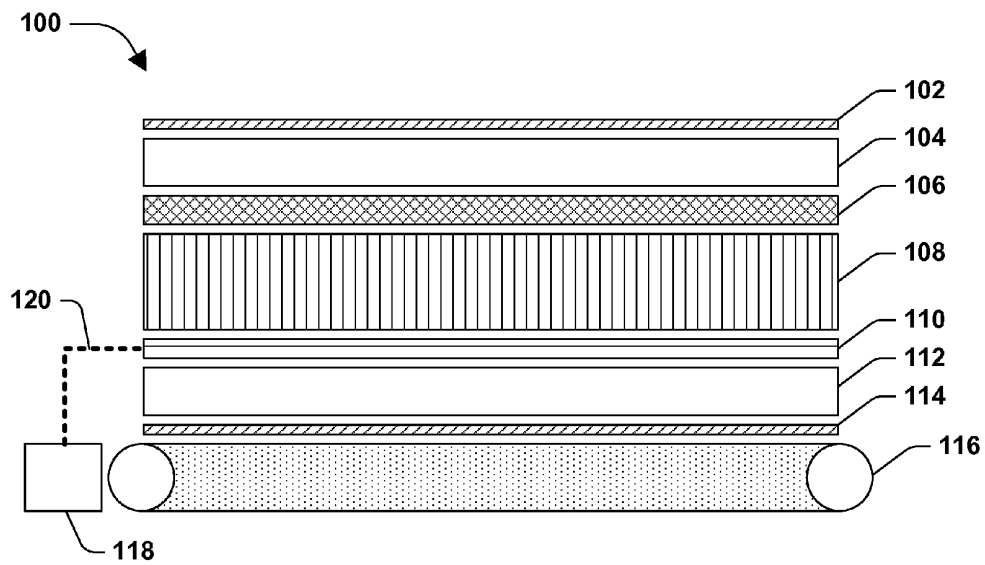


FIG. 1A

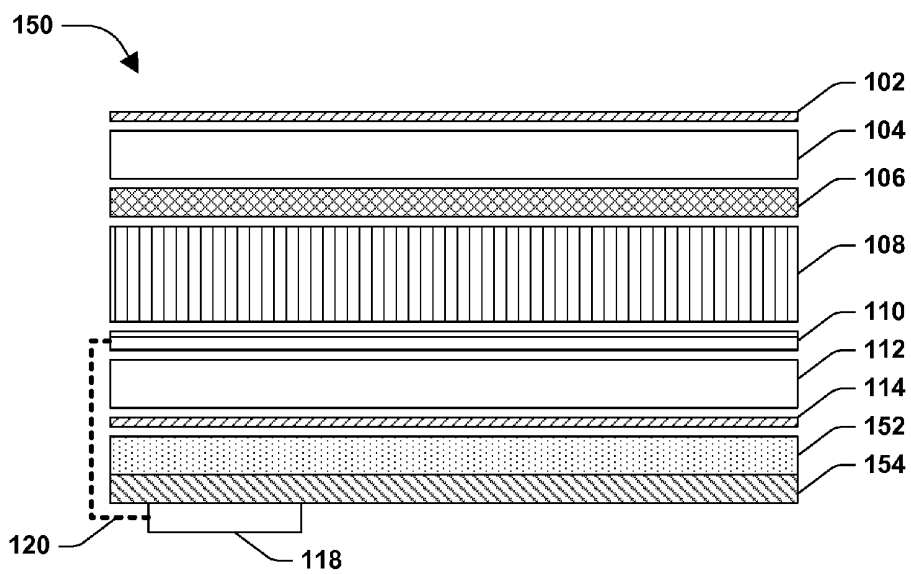


FIG. 1B

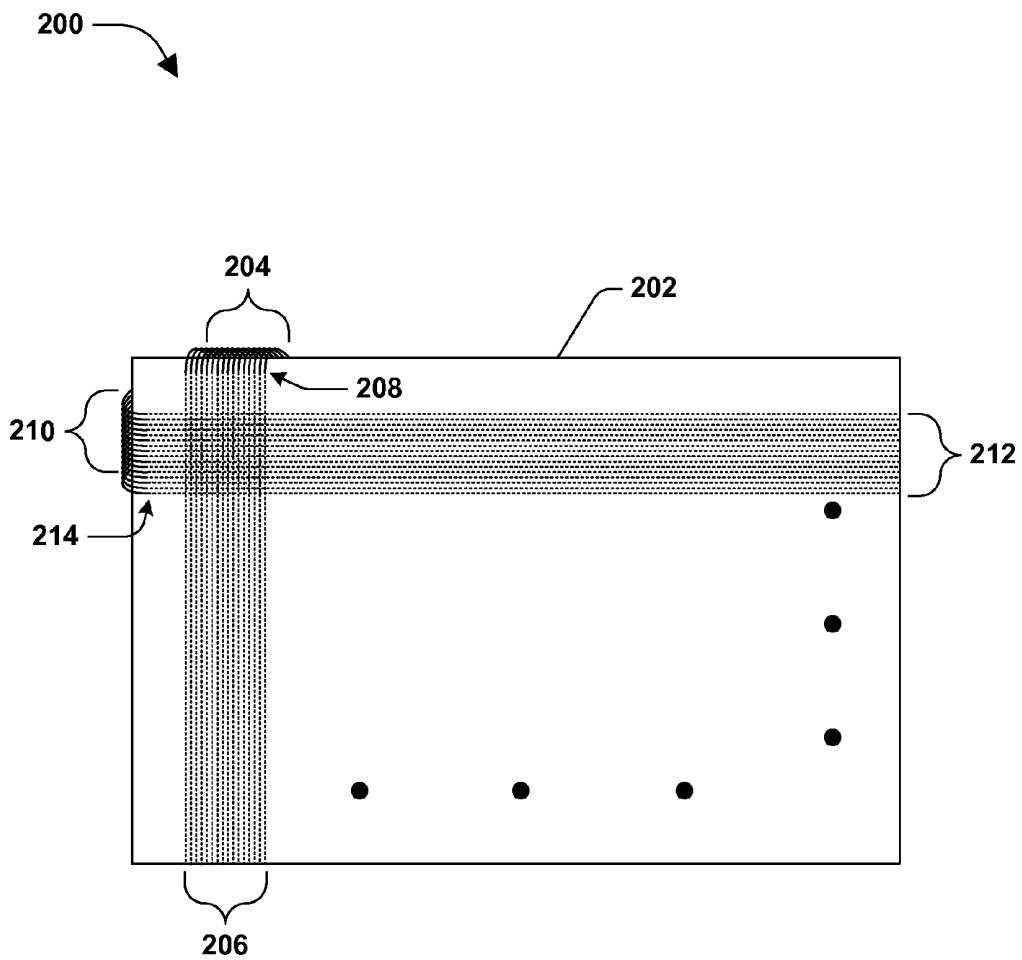


FIG. 2

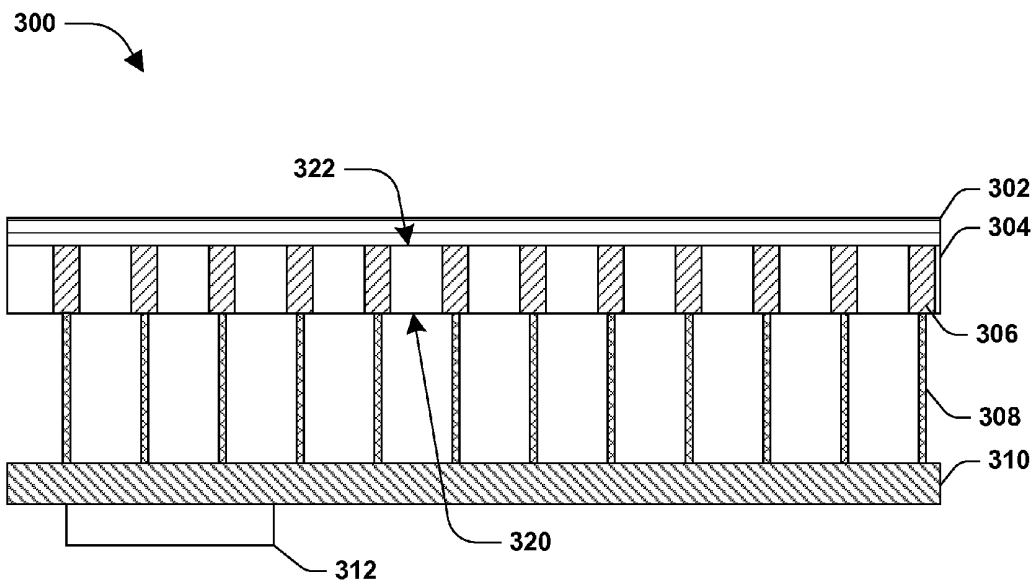


FIG. 3A

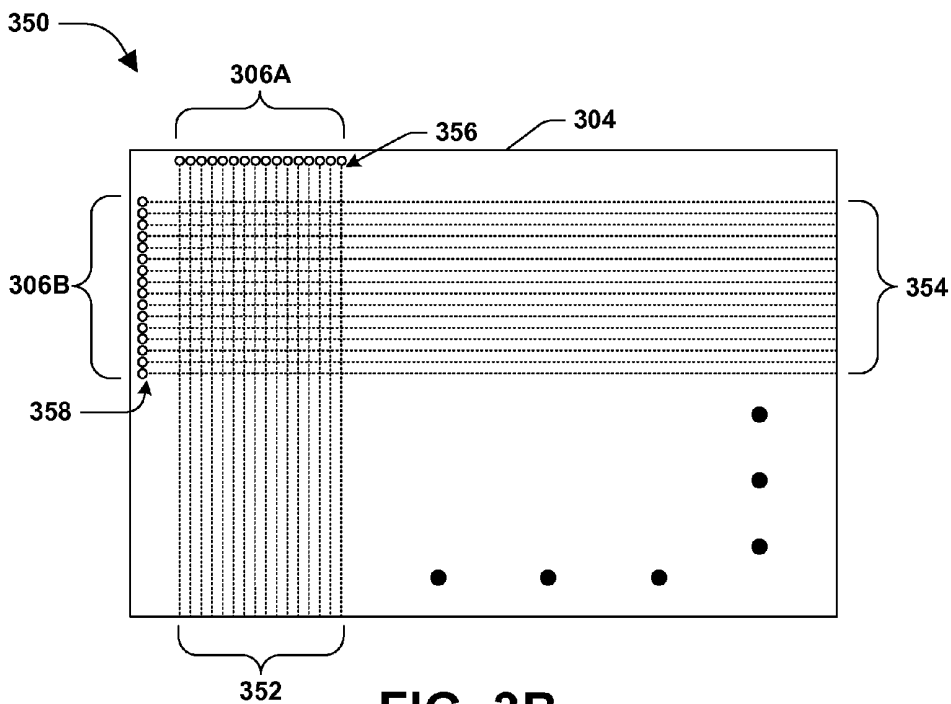


FIG. 3B

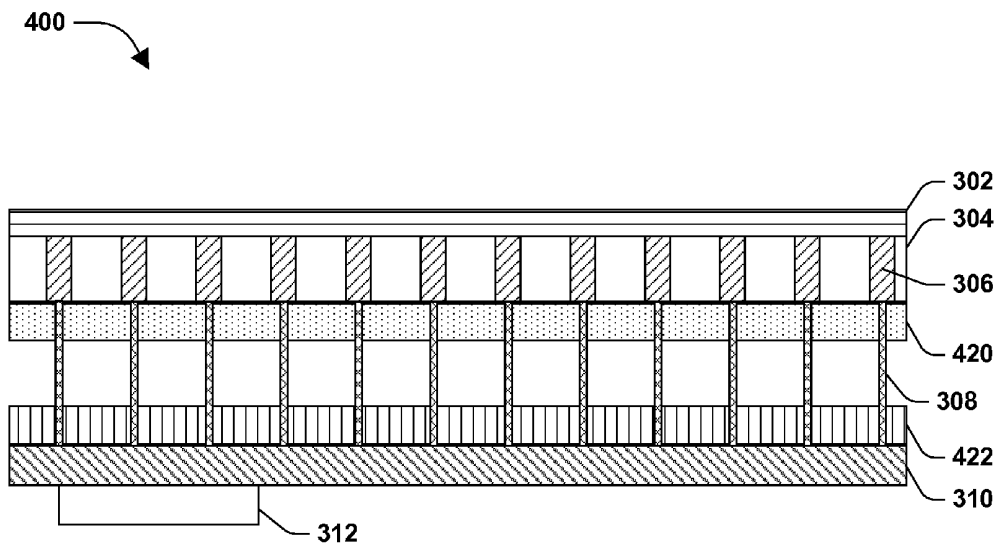


FIG. 4

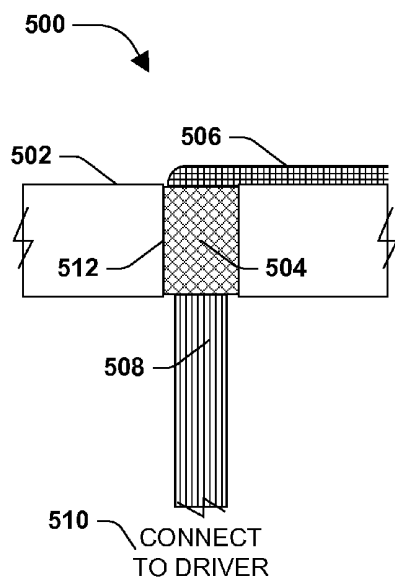


FIG. 5A

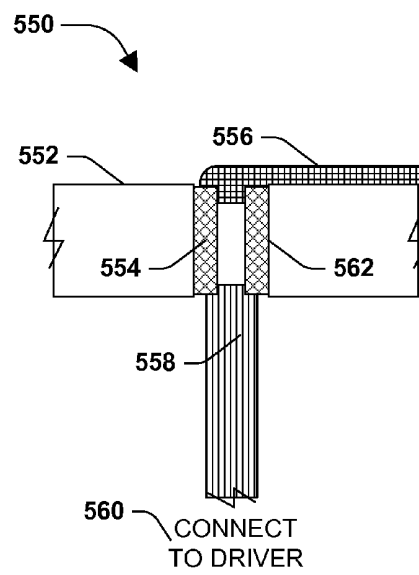


FIG. 5B

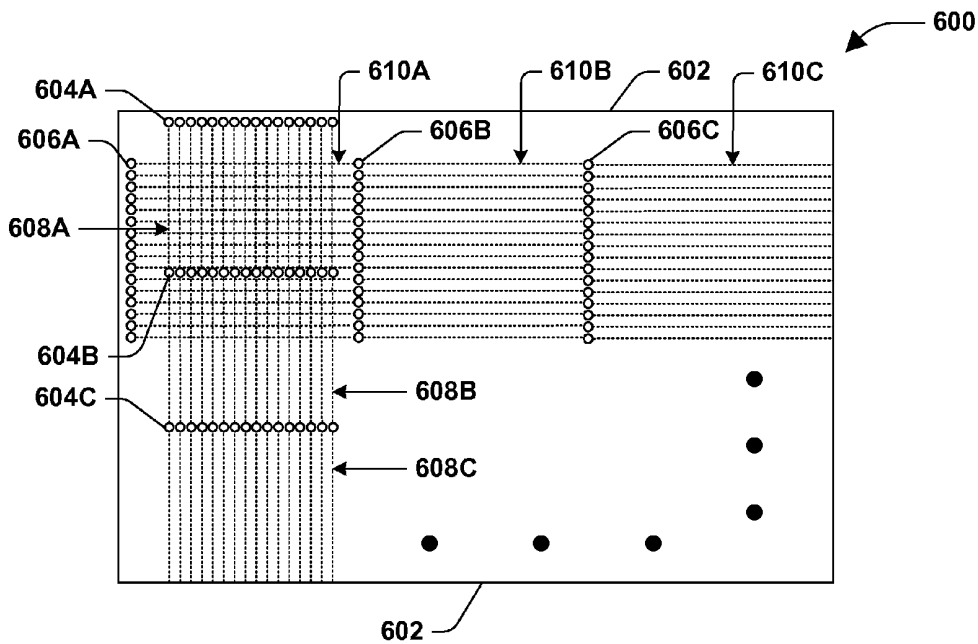


FIG. 6

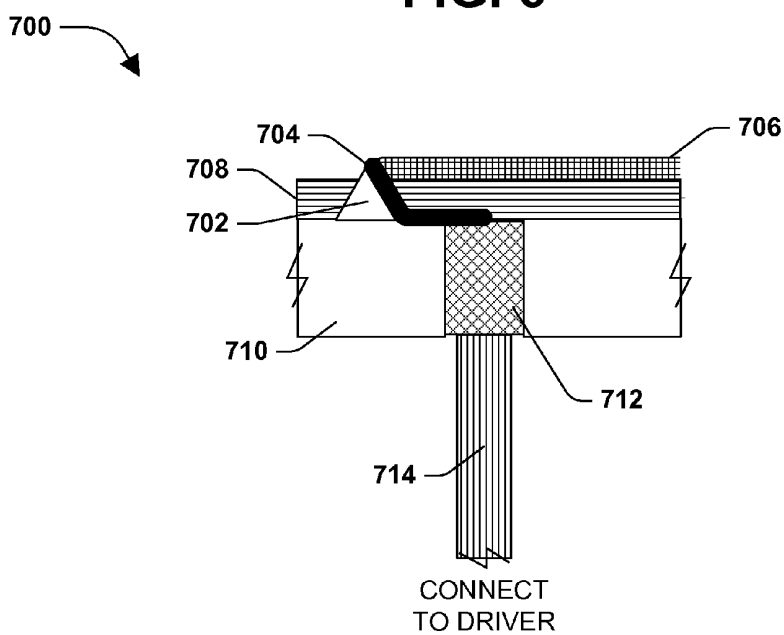


FIG. 7

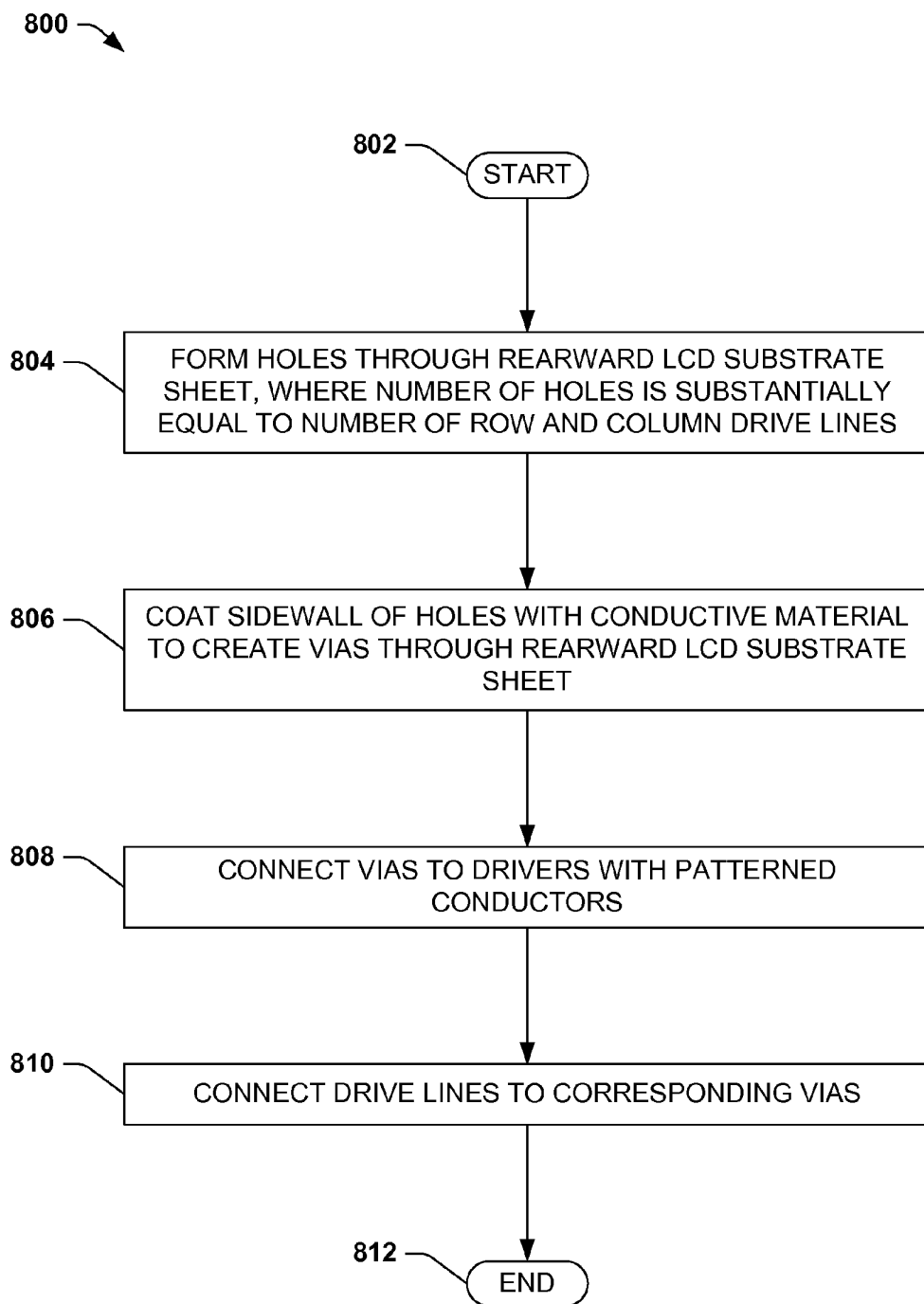
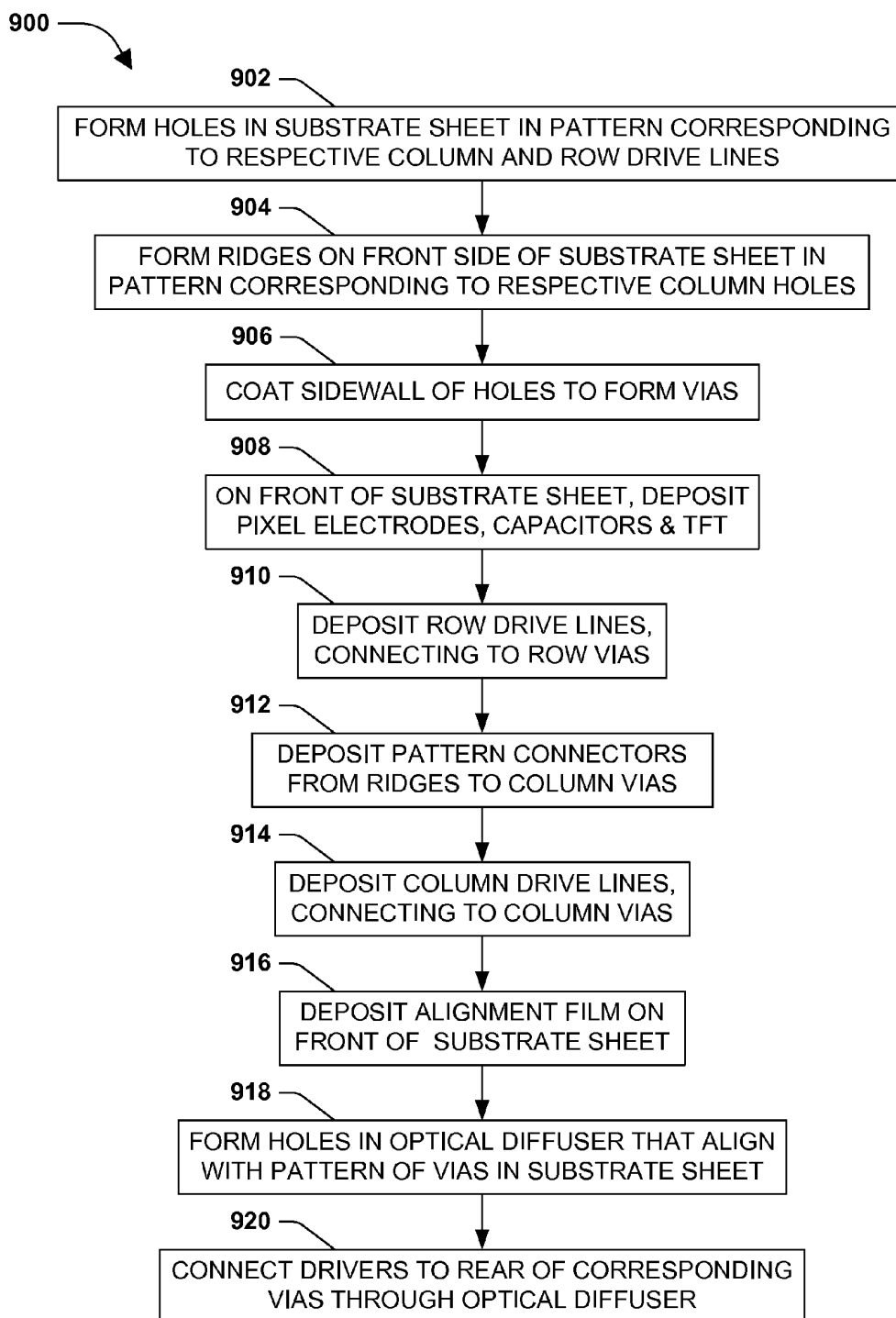


FIG. 8

**FIG. 9**

LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY (LCD)

BACKGROUND

A liquid crystal display (LCD) is a thin, flat dynamic display that uses liquid crystals (LCs) to modulate light emitted from a light source, typically from a backlighting component. LCDs are widely used in a variety of applications including: televisions, monitors (e.g., computer monitors), device instrument panels (e.g., clocks, games, calculators, and detectors), vehicle displays, telephones, portable media players, signage, etc. They are particularly useful in small consumer electronics, but have also found great commercial success in large display systems. LCDs have displaced cathode ray tube (CRT) displays in most applications, as they are usually more compact, lightweight, portable, and affordable.

To provide a general background, LCDs systems typically comprise a backlighting unit, comprising cold cathode fluorescent lights (CFLs) or light emitting diodes (LEDs), which provide the light for the LCD. The LCD itself often comprises layers of thin film transistors (TFTs), electrodes, capacitors, spacers and liquid crystals (LCs) sandwiched between layers of glass or some clear polymer. Further, the "sandwich" can be layered with alignment film that facilitates in modulating (e.g., aligning) the LCs during operation. Additionally, a matrix layer comprises RGB filters that provide color, and cross axis polarizing filters are added to the front and back of the LCD to either block or allow light to pass.

SUMMARY

This Summary is provided to introduce a selection of concepts in a simplified form that are further described below in the Detailed Description. This Summary is not intended to identify key factors or essential features of the claimed subject matter, nor is it intended to be used to limit the scope of the claimed subject matter.

Conventional LCD systems employ backlighting that uses one or more cold cathode fluorescent lights (CFLs) and one or more waveguide plates to distribute light along a back of the LCD. This type of back lighting design is disposed in a manner in the system such that it extends beyond the edges of the LCD, thereby necessitating a cover that extends beyond the edges of the LCD. Further, driver electronics that provide a signal to the interior surface of the LCD (e.g., to row and column electrodes that intersect at pixels) have conductors (e.g., wires) that are routed around the edge of the rear sheet (e.g., glass or polymer sheet layer) to connect with drive lines inside the LCD. Therefore, because these conductors are exposed around one or more edges of the LCD, a cover or bezel is needed for protection and aesthetics.

Among other things, one or more techniques and/or systems are disclosed that can be used to create a "full bleed" display, for example, where an entire front surface of an LCD system (e.g., monitor or television) comprises an active display surface, with no bezel or frame. A "full bleed" display can comprise a display surface that has an active display surface from edge to edge. Previously, systems have claimed to be "borderless," however, these systems merely provide a substantially seamless joint between a bezel and a display area. The techniques and systems, disclosed herein, can provide for seamless (e.g., without bezel or frame) integration of multiple displays, for example, to create a tiled display surface of a plurality of "full bleed" displays.

In one embodiment of an LCD, a rearward (e.g., where a front comprises a viewing front of the LCD) LCD substrate sheet comprises an array of vias, which are formed through

the rearward LCD substrate sheet, in order to provide electrical conduction (e.g., for a signal) between a driver side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet and a drive line side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet. A number of vias in the array of vias is substantially equal to or at least equivalent to a combined number of column drive lines and a number of row drive lines. Respective drive lines are connected to a corresponding via at the drive line side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet; and respective patterned conductors are connected to a corresponding via at the driver side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet. Here, in this example, the patterned conductors are configured to connect a drive line to a driver, where multiple drive lines may be connected to the same driver.

To the accomplishment of the foregoing and related ends, the following description and annexed drawings set forth certain illustrative aspects and implementations. These are indicative of but a few of the various ways in which one or more aspects may be employed. Other aspects, advantages, and novel features of the disclosure will become apparent from the following detailed description when considered in conjunction with the annexed drawings.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGS. 1A and 1B are component diagrams illustrating example embodiments of current liquid crystal display (LCD) system designs.

FIG. 2 is a component diagram illustrating another example embodiment of a current LCD system design.

FIGS. 3A and 3B are component diagrams of exemplary portions of a LCD.

FIG. 4 is a component diagram illustrating an exemplary embodiment of one or more portions of an LCD.

FIGS. 5A and 5B illustrate exemplary embodiments of one or more portions of an LCD.

FIG. 6 is a component diagram illustrating another exemplary embodiment of one or more portions of an LCD.

FIG. 7 is a component diagram illustrating another example embodiment of one or more portions of an LCD.

FIG. 8 is a flow diagram of an exemplary method for connecting drivers to drive lines in an LCD.

FIG. 9 is a flow diagram illustrating an exemplary embodiment of one or more portions of a method for connecting drivers to drive lines in a LCD.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The claimed subject matter is now described with reference to the drawings, wherein like reference numerals are used to refer to like elements throughout. In the following description, for purposes of explanation, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide a thorough understanding of the claimed subject matter. It may be evident, however, that the claimed subject matter may be practiced without these specific details. In other instances, structures and devices are shown in block diagram form in order to facilitate describing the claimed subject matter.

FIGS. 1A and 1B are component diagrams illustrating example embodiments **100** and **150** of current liquid crystal display (LCD) system designs. In the example embodiment **100** the LCD comprises front **102** and rear **114** polarizer film layers. LCDs typically use cross-axis polarized layers to block or pass light for creating images on the display. A front (facing a viewing front of the LCD) substrate sheet layer **104** and a rear substrate sheet layer **112** provide a substrate for internal components of the LCD and provide a seal on both

sides. Typically, the substrate sheet layers are comprised of glass or a clear polymer, depending on a size and use of the LCD.

A matrix layer **106** can comprise a black matrix film, a color filter pattern, and sometimes a protective film layer. The liquid crystal (LC) layer **108** comprises LCs arranged in a manner so that they align along alignment films on either side of the LCs. The LC layer **108** also comprises spacers, typically made of a clear polymer, that give the LC layer **108** its needed gap for changing an arrangement of the LCs. A drive line layer **110** comprises thin film transistors, horizontal (rows) and vertical (columns) drive lines, pixel capacitors and electrodes. This layer **110** is used to drive pixel activation and alignment of the LCs in the LCD.

The drive lines are connected to driver components **118** at the edge of the LCD, as the connection wires **120** are routed around the rear LCD substrate sheet layer **112**. Typically the driver connection wires **120** connect to column drive lines from a top or bottom and to the row drive lines from one side. The routing of the driver connection wires around the substrate sheet layer **112** creates a need for a bezel around LCD monitors (e.g., TVs, screens, computer monitors) to incorporate and protect the driver connection wires **120**. Recent designs have reduced an amount of space used for these connections; however, there is a limit to the reduction when using this configuration.

Further, a backlighting component **116** comprises one or more cold-cathode fluorescent lights (CFLs), which may be approximately one eighth of an inch thick in diameter, and run a full length and/or width of the display. The backlighting component **116** can comprise a waveguide plate that provides for light to be distributed along the length and/or width of the display; a prism sheet that orients the light in a parallel manner; and an optical diffuser to help create an even distribution for backlighting. The presence of the CFL lights in this configuration can also lead to a bezel around the edge of the display, for example, as the CFLs typically need to extend past the edges of the display (e.g., to avoid dark or inactive spots at the edges).

The exemplary embodiment **150** of FIG. 1B illustrates an alternate to the example **100**. In this embodiment **150**, instead of a CFL-based light backlighting component (e.g., **116** of **100**) the example display **150** utilizes an array of LEDs **152** to provide backlighting for the LCD. Further, a circuit board **154** (e.g., a printed circuit board (PCB)) provides control for the LED array **152**. In this example embodiment **150** the driver control components **118** are disposed at the back of the circuit board **154**. This design enables the bezel to be smaller than may be found in the example **100**; however, a bezel is still needed to cover the connection wires **120** from the drivers to the drive line layer **110**, and thus neither the embodiment **100** or **150** provide a “full bleed” display.

FIG. 2 is a component diagram illustrating another example embodiment **200** of a conventional LCD system design. A drive-line side face (the inside face) of a rear LCD substrate sheet **202** (e.g., comprising glass or a transparent polymer) is shown. In this embodiment **200**, column drive line **206** and row drive lines **212** are shown for illustrative purposes; however, typically these components continue across the drive-line face of the rear LCD substrate sheet **202**. Driver connections **204** and **210** are routed from behind the rear LCD substrate sheet **202**, around its edge, to the drive-line side face. The driver connections **204** and **210** connect at **208** and **214** to column drive lines **206** and row drive lines **212**, respectively. As described above, routing the driver connections around the edge of the rear LCD substrate sheet **202**

necessitates a bezel at the respective edges to cover the driver connectors **204** and **210**, thus preventing a “full bleed” display.

An LCD can be devised that mitigates a need for a bezel around its edges, for example, thereby providing a “full-bleed” display. A “full-bleed” display comprises a display where the front (viewing face) is an active display surface with no area taken up by a frame of bezel around the active display area. That is, for example, an entire front of the display comprises a viewing screen, such that “full bleed” displays can be abutted with no non-active viewing area components (e.g., seams comprising a bezel or frame) between the displays.

FIG. 3A is a component diagram of an exemplary portion of a liquid crystal display **300** (LCD). A rearward LCD substrate sheet **304** comprises an array of vias **306** that are formed to provide electrical conduction between a driver side **320** of the rearward LCD substrate sheet **304** and a drive line side **322** of the rearward LCD substrate sheet **304**. The array of vias **306** comprises a number of vias that is substantially equal to or at least equivalent to a combined number of column drive lines and a number of row drive lines.

For example, as illustrated in the example embodiment **350** of FIG. 3B, the number of vias in the array of vias **306A** and **306B** corresponds to the number of column drive lines **352** and row drive lines **354**. Further, in this embodiment **350**, the vias are formed through the rearward LCD substrate sheet **304**, thereby providing an electrical connection, at **356** and **358**, between the column drive lines **352** and row drive lines **354**, respectively, and the driver side **320** of the rearward LCD substrate sheet **304**.

The respective drive lines **352** and **354** are connected **356** and **358** to a corresponding via **306** at the drive line side **322** of the rearward LCD substrate sheet **304**. As an example, drive lines can be comprised in a drive-line layer **302**, where the drive lines comprise transparent electrodes deposited onto the front of the rearward LCD substrate sheet **304** in lines that are etched onto the sheet. The drive lines conduct a signal from the drivers **312** to respective pixels (not shown) at an intersection of a row drive line **354** and a column drive line **352**. In these embodiments **300**, **350** the drive lines **352**, **354** are connected, at **356** and **358**, to the vias **306** instead of driver connections coming around the rearward LCD substrate sheet **304** (e.g., as shown in FIGS. 1A, 1B and 2), thus providing an efficient LCD driver connection that allows for, among other things, a “full bleed” display.

Further, a patterned conductor **308** (e.g., a driver connection) is connected to a corresponding via **306** at the driver side **320** of the rearward LCD substrate sheet **304**, for the respective vias **306**. Respective patterned conductors **308** connect the drive lines **352** and **354** to a driver **312**, using the vias **306**, to provide signal conduction between the drive line side **322** and the driver side **320**. In one embodiment, a patterned conductor (e.g., **308**) comprises an electrode (e.g., wire) that is deposited in a pattern corresponding to a desired connection.

For example, a PCB (e.g., **310**) can comprise circuitry configured to control components and functions of the LCD, such as the drivers and backlighting. In this example, the patterned conductors can be deposited onto the PCB in an array corresponding to the array of vias. Further, as an example, the patterned conductors **308** can comprise any material that conducts signals, such as from the drivers **312** to the vias **306**, such as copper wire, or a transparent electrode (e.g., transparent conducting oxides, or carbon nanotube conductors). Additionally, respective patterned conductors **308** may be connected to one driver control, or several patterned

conductors may be connected to a driver control array, for example; and there may be a plurality of driver control arrays.

FIG. 4 is a component diagram illustrating an exemplary embodiment 400 of one or more portions of an LCD. In this embodiment 400, an optical diffuser 420 comprises an array of holes that align with the array of vias 306. The array of patterned conductors 308 can provide access for the vias 306. For example, the optical diffuser 420 can have a same arrangement of holes as is formed for the array of vias 306, such as shown in FIG. 3B, and/or is formed for the array of patterned conductors 308. In this way, the patterned conductors 308 will be able to connect to the vias 306 through the optical diffuser 420.

In this embodiment 400, a light source 422 (e.g., an array of LEDs) is disposed between the drivers 312 and the rearward LCD substrate sheet 304. Further, the light source 422 is disposed entirely within a footprint formed by the rearward LCD substrate sheet 304. For example, as described above, the light source can comprise an array of LEDs controlled by the circuit board 310. The light source 422 may comprise several components that provide for light from the LEDs to be directed toward the LCD and diffused appropriately across the LCD, for example. Additionally, in this embodiment, in order to mitigate a need for a bezel or frame around the LCD, the light source 422 fits entirely within the area of the LCD (e.g., does not extend beyond the edges of the LCD).

FIGS. 5A and 5B illustrate exemplary embodiments 500 and 550 of one or more portions of an LCD. In the exemplary embodiment 500 of FIG. 5A, the vias comprise a hole 512 formed through the rearward LCD substrate sheet 502, where the conductive material 504 is coating a sidewall of the hole 512 and filling the hole. In this embodiment, for example, a drive line 506 (e.g., column or row drive line) can be deposited on the rearward LCD substrate sheet 502 such that it contacts the conductive material 504 of the via. Further, the patterned conductor 508 can be connected to the conductive material 504 of the via, for example, to provide connection to the driver 510.

In another embodiment 550 of FIG. 5B, the vias comprise a hole 562 formed through the rearward LCD substrate sheet 552, and the conductive material 554 merely coats the sidewall of the hole 562 and does not fill the hole. In this embodiment, for example, the drive line 556 can be deposited on the rearward LCD substrate sheet 502 such that it contacts the conductive material 554 of the via. Further, the patterned conductor 558 can be connected to the conductive material 554 of the via, for example, to provide connection to the driver 560. In this way, in this example, the via provides for signal conduction between both sides of the rearward LCD substrate sheet 552, for example, and a seal is also maintained between both sides.

In one embodiment, the coating of the sidewall of the respective vias can comprise a transparent conducting film (TCF). For example, TCFs can include transparent conducting oxides, such as indium tin oxide (ITO), aluminum doped zinc oxide (AZO), and fluorine doped tin oxide (FTO); and can include conductive polymers. Further, in one embodiment, metallic conductive coatings may be used for the vias. For example, a copper (or some other conductive metal, or metal-based material) film may be applied (e.g., deposited) to the sidewalls of the holes to form the vias.

In one aspect, a length of a drive line (e.g., 352, 354 of FIG. 3B) can affect signal delay, particularly for large LCDs (e.g., large monitors or televisions using large LCDs). For example, the drive lines are typically less than desirable signal conductors, and a signal travelling from the driver connection (e.g., at

an edge) along a full length (e.g., across a width or length) of the drive line may experience signal delay. In this aspect, current LCDs can employ merely two drive lines per column or row (e.g., one drive line connected from each side), as the driver connections are routed around the rear LCD sheet layer, as described in FIGS. 1A, 1B and 2.

Given the configuration provided herein, however, in one embodiment, two or more column vias can be used per display column, with respective column vias connected to a column driver. Further, two or more row vias can be used per display row, with respective row vias connected to a row driver. Further, in one embodiment, the two or more vias per display column can be connected to two or more column drive lines per display column; and the two or more vias per display row can be connected to two or more column drive lines per display row.

FIG. 6 is a component diagram illustrating another exemplary embodiment 600 of one or more portions of an LCD. In this embodiment 600, the rearward LCD substrate sheet 602 comprises several sets of column vias 604A, 604B, 604C, for example, where the respective display columns comprise three vias (e.g., one of 604A, one of 604B and one of 604C per respective display column). The respective vias 604 are connected to column drive lines 608A, 608B, 608C, for example, where the respective display columns comprise three drive wires (e.g., of shorter length than a full length drive line).

Further, the rearward LCD substrate sheet 602 comprises several sets of row vias 606A, 606B, 606C, for example, where the respective display rows comprise three vias. The respective vias 606 are connected to row drive lines 610A, 610B, 610C, where the respective display rows comprise three drive wires. In this way, for example, each via can be connected to a driver (e.g., one per driver, one set of column or row vias to a driver, and/or a plurality of vias connected to a driver control array), and a signal delay can be mitigated as the respective drive lines are shorter.

Additionally, it will be appreciated that the example embodiment 600 is merely an illustrative example, and that a plurality of sets of vias may be employed. For example, respective display columns and/or display rows may comprise four or more vias and four or more corresponding drive lines per column/row. In this example, the additional vias per column/row can shorten the drive lines even more, thereby providing for improved signal delay (e.g., providing a quicker refresh rate for the LCD).

FIG. 7 is a component diagram illustrating another example embodiment 700 of one or more portions of an LCD. In this embodiment, the rearward LCD substrate sheet 710 can comprise an array of column ridges 702 that are formed on the drive line side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet 710. In one embodiment, the respective column ridges 702 are aligned with a corresponding column via 712. A column ridge 702 can provide a substrate location for a patterned connection 704 to pierce an alignment film 708 that is coated on the drive line side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet 710. In this embodiment, this arrangement can provide a connection between the column via 712 and a corresponding column drive line 706.

The patterned conducting connector 704 is disposed along respective column ridges 702, for the rearward LCD substrate sheet 710, connecting the column via 712 with the corresponding column drive line 706 through the alignment film 708. In this way, for example, there is a connection between the column drive line 706 and a patterned connection 714, which connects to the driver, through the alignment film 708.

A method may be devised for manufacturing an LCD, for example, which may provide for a "full bleed" display that

comprises a faster refresh rate. FIG. 8 is a flow diagram of an exemplary method 800 for connecting drivers to drive lines in a liquid crystal display (LCD). The exemplary method 800 begins at 802 and involves forming a number of holes through a rearward LCD substrate sheet, at 804, where the number of holes is substantially equal to or at least equal to a combined number of column drive lines and a number of row drive lines. For example, if a number of column drive lines comprises one thousand and eighty and a number of row drive lines comprises one thousand nine hundred and twenty, the number of holes formed in the rearward LCD substrate sheet can comprise three thousand. In one example, the holes can be formed utilizing femtosecond laser ablation and/or with a chemical milling process.

At 806, a sidewall of the respective holes is coated with a conductive material in order to create an array of vias through the rearward LCD substrate sheet. For example, a sidewall can be coated with a transparent conducting film, or a metallic conducting material to create a via that provides signal conduction between both sides of the rearward LCD substrate sheet. The techniques, described herein, are not limited to any particular coating method, and it is anticipated that those skilled in the art may devise various techniques for coating the sidewalls of the holes to create vias. For example, the coating material may be deposited on a surface of the rearward LCD substrate sheet and allowed to flow (or be forced) through the holes.

At 808, respective vias are connected to a driver using patterned conductors, and respective drive lines are connected to a corresponding via, at 810. For example, after the vias are formed, the drive lines (e.g., both for a display column and display row) can be deposited, such as by depositing a transparent electrode along grooves etched in a front of the rearward LCD substrate sheet. In this example, the drive lines can be deposited such that they contact the corresponding via, which can be aligned along a groove for the drive lines. Further, in one embodiment, the patterned conductors can have a first connection to the driver(s), such as through a circuit board, and a second connection can be made at corresponding vias.

Having connected the patterned conductors and drive lines to the vias, such as to provide a connection between the patterned conductors and drive lines, the exemplary method 800 ends at 812.

FIG. 9 is a flow diagram illustrating an exemplary embodiment 900 of one or more portions of a method for connecting drivers to drive lines in a LCD, such as to create a "full bleed" display that has improved refresh rates, for example. At 902, holes are formed in a rearward LCD substrate sheet, into a pattern that corresponds to respective column drive lines and row drive lines. That is, for example, the holes in the substrate sheet can comprise a pattern that aligns with the drive lines, such as in a path of the drive lines (e.g., as in FIGS. 3B and 6).

In one embodiment, a plurality of holes can be formed for respective display columns and/or for respective display rows. For example, in order to have more than one drive line per column and/or row, more than one hole is formed for each of the display columns and/or display rows. In this way, for example, respective drive lines can be shortened, such as to provide for a faster refresh rate, where each drive line in a row or column connects to a driver.

At 904, an array of column ridges are formed on the drive line side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet. In this embodiment, respective column ridges are formed so that they align with a corresponding column via. In this way, a bonding substrate can be provided for a patterned connection (e.g., along the ridge), in order to pierce an alignment film that is

coated on the drive line side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet. In this way, in this embodiment, a connection can be made between the corresponding column via and a corresponding column drive line (e.g., as in FIG. 7).

At 906, the sidewalls of the holes formed in the rearward LCD substrate sheet can be coated with a conductive material (e.g., TCF) to form vias, which provide for conducting a signal from one side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet to the other (e.g., instead of going around the rearward LCD sheet). In one embodiment, coating of the sidewall of a hole to form a via can comprise filling the hole. In another embodiment, the coating of the sidewall to form a via may not fill the hole.

At 908, appropriate pixel electrodes, capacitors, and/or thin film transistors (TFTs), for example, can be deposited on the front of the rearward LCD substrate sheet (e.g., to form pixels). At 910, row drive lines are deposited on the front of the rearward LCD substrate sheet, where respective row drive lines are connected to corresponding vias. As described above, in one embodiment, two or more vias can be connected to two or more row drive lines per display row.

At 912, a patterned conducting connection is connected to the column via using the corresponding column ridge. That is, for example, the patterned conducting connection can be deposited along the ridge for a column, where it contacts the corresponding column via. In this way, the patterned conducting connection can provide a connection to a corresponding column drive line. At 914, column drive lines are deposited on the front of the rearward LCD substrate sheet, where respective column drive lines are connected to corresponding vias using the patterned conducting connection deposited along the ridges. As described above, in one embodiment, two or more vias can be connected to two or more column drive lines per display column.

At 916, an alignment film can be deposited on the front of the rearward LCD substrate sheet. As described previously, the alignment film can be used to help in aligning the liquid crystals (LCs). Further, the column ridges are formed to pierce the alignment film in order to provide the connection between the column drive line and the corresponding via, through the patterned conducting connection deposited along the ridge.

At 918, an array of holes can be formed in an optical diffuser, where the array of holes align with the holes (vias) in the rearward LCD substrate sheet. The array of holes in the optical diffuser allow for the patterned conductors, which connect the drivers to the vias, to pass through the optical diffuser. In this way, for example, the optical diffuser can be disposed between a circuit board, comprising the patterned conductors, and the rearward LCD substrate sheet. As described above, the optical diffuser can be used to provide an even distribution of backlighting to the LCD from a backlighting component.

At 920, the drivers are connected to the rear (driver side) of the rearward LCD substrate sheet by connecting the patterned conductors to corresponding vias. For example, a driver control array (e.g., driver electronics) can be disposed on a rear side of a circuit board (e.g., PCB) and the patterned conductors can be connected to the front side circuit board. In one embodiment, as described above, two or more column vias per display column can be connected to a column driver; and two or more row vias per display row can be connected to a row driver, such as to provide multiple drive lines per row and/or column.

In this example, the patterned conductors can be attached to the vias, through a lighting component, through the optical diffuser, and attached to the rear of the rearward LCD sub-

strate sheet. In this way, for example, the LCD can be formed such that connections between the drivers and drive lines do not need to be routed around respective edges of the rearward LCD substrate sheet. Further, in one embodiment, this arrangement can provide for creating a “full bleed” display, where no framing or bezeling is needed around the sides of the LCD display.

Although the subject matter has been described in language specific to structural features and/or methodological acts, it is to be understood that the subject matter defined in the appended claims is not necessarily limited to the specific features or acts described above. Rather, the specific features and acts described above are disclosed as example forms of implementing the claims.

As used in this application, the terms “component,” “module,” “system,” “interface”, and the like are generally intended to refer to a computer-related entity, either hardware, a combination of hardware and software, software, or software in execution. For example, a component may be, but is not limited to being, a process running on a processor, a processor, an object, an executable, a thread of execution, a program, and/or a computer. By way of illustration, both an application running on a controller and the controller can be a component. One or more components may reside within a process and/or thread of execution and a component may be localized on one computer and/or distributed between two or more computers.

Furthermore, the claimed subject matter may be implemented as a method, apparatus, or article of manufacture using standard programming and/or engineering techniques to produce software, firmware, hardware, or any combination thereof to control a computer to implement the disclosed subject matter. The term “article of manufacture” as used herein is intended to encompass a computer program accessible from any computer-readable device, carrier, or media. Of course, those skilled in the art will recognize many modifications may be made to this configuration without departing from the scope or spirit of the claimed subject matter.

Various operations of embodiments are provided herein. In one embodiment, one or more of the operations described may constitute computer readable instructions stored on one or more computer readable media, which if executed by a computing device, will cause the computing device to perform the operations described. The order in which some or all of the operations are described should not be construed as to imply that these operations are necessarily order dependent. Alternative ordering will be appreciated by one skilled in the art having the benefit of this description. Further, it will be understood that not all operations are necessarily present in each embodiment provided herein.

Moreover, the word “exemplary” is used herein to mean serving as an example, instance, or illustration. Any aspect or design described herein as “exemplary” is not necessarily to be construed as advantageous over other aspects or designs. Rather, use of the word exemplary is intended to present concepts in a concrete fashion. As used in this application, the term “or” is intended to mean an inclusive “or” rather than an exclusive “or”. That is, unless specified otherwise, or clear from context, “X employs A or B” is intended to mean any of the natural inclusive permutations. That is, if X employs A; X employs B; or X employs both A and B, then “X employs A or B” is satisfied under any of the foregoing instances. In addition, the articles “a” and “an” as used in this application and the appended claims may generally be construed to mean “one or more” unless specified otherwise or clear from context to be directed to a singular form.

Also, although the disclosure has been shown and described with respect to one or more implementations, equivalent alterations and modifications will occur to others skilled in the art based upon a reading and understanding of this specification and the annexed drawings. The disclosure includes all such modifications and alterations and is limited only by the scope of the following claims. In particular regard to the various functions performed by the above described components (e.g., elements, resources, etc.), the terms used to describe such components are intended to correspond, unless otherwise indicated, to any component which performs the specified function of the described component (e.g., that is functionally equivalent), even though not structurally equivalent to the disclosed structure which performs the function in the herein illustrated exemplary implementations of the disclosure. In addition, while a particular feature of the disclosure may have been disclosed with respect to only one of several implementations, such feature may be combined with one or more other features of the other implementations as may be desired and advantageous for any given or particular application. Furthermore, to the extent that the terms “includes”, “having”, “has”, “with”, or variants thereof are used in either the detailed description or the claims, such terms are intended to be inclusive in a manner similar to the term “comprising.”

What is claimed is:

1. A liquid crystal display (LCD) comprising:

a rearward LCD substrate sheet comprising an array of vias formed to provide electrical conduction between a driver side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet and a drive line side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet, the array of vias comprising a number of vias substantially equivalent to a combination of a number of column drive lines and a number of row drive lines;

drive lines respectively connected to a corresponding via at the drive line side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet; and

patterned conductors respectively connected to a corresponding via at the driver side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet and configured to connect respective drive lines to a corresponding driver.

2. The LCD of claim 1, comprising an optical diffuser comprising an array of holes that align with the array of vias, the array of holes configured to provide access for the patterned conductors to connect to respective vias.

3. The LCD of claim 1, respective vias comprising a hole formed through the rearward LCD substrate sheet, and conductive material coating a sidewall of the hole and filling the hole.

4. The LCD of claim 1, respective vias comprising a hole formed through the rearward LCD substrate sheet, and conductive material merely coating a sidewall of the hole and not filling the hole.

5. The LCD of claim 1, a sidewall of respective vias coated with one of:

a transparent conducting film; and
a metallic conducting coating.

6. The LCD of claim 1, comprising:

two or more column vias per display column respectively connected to a column driver; and

two or more row vias per display row respectively connected to a row driver.

7. The LCD of claim 6, comprising:

the two or more vias per display column connected to two or more column drive lines per display column; and

the two or more vias per display row connected to two or more row drive lines per display row.

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8. The LCD of claim 1, the rearward LCD substrate sheet comprising an array of column ridges, formed on the drive line side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet, respective column ridges aligned with a corresponding column via and configured to provide for a patterned connection to pierce an alignment film coated on the drive line side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet in order to connect the corresponding column via with a corresponding column drive line.

9. The LCD of claim 8, comprising a patterned conducting connector disposed along respective column ridges connecting the column via with the corresponding column drive line through the alignment film.

10. The LCD of claim 1, comprising a light source disposed between the drivers and the rearward LCD substrate sheet, the light source disposed entirely within a footprint formed by the rearward LCD substrate sheet.

11. A method for connecting drivers to drive lines in a liquid crystal display (LCD), comprising:

- forming a number of holes substantially equal to a number of column drive lines and a number of row drive lines through a rearward LCD substrate sheet;
- coating a sidewall of respective holes with a conductive material to create an array of vias through the rearward LCD substrate sheet;
- connecting respective vias to a corresponding driver using patterned conductors; and
- connecting respective drive lines to a corresponding via.

12. The method of claim 11, comprising forming the holes in a pattern that corresponds to respective column drive lines and row drive lines.

13. The method of claim 11, comprising forming an array of holes in an optical diffuser that align with the holes in the rearward LCD substrate sheet and are configured to provide for the patterned conductors to pass through the optical diffuser.

14. The method of claim 11, coating the sidewall of respective holes with the conductive material comprising one of: coating the sidewall and filling the hole; and coating the sidewall and not filling the hole.

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15. The method of claim 11, comprising: respectively connecting two or more column vias per display column to a column driver; and respectively connecting two or more row vias per display row to a row driver.

16. The method of claim 15, comprising: connecting the two or more column vias per display column to two or more column drive lines per display column; and connecting the two or more row vias per display row to two or more row drive lines per display row.

17. The method of claim 11, comprising forming an array of column ridges on the drive line side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet, respective column ridges formed to align with a corresponding column via in order to provide for a patterned connection to pierce an alignment film coated on the drive line side of the rearward LCD substrate sheet to connect the corresponding column via with a corresponding column drive line.

18. The method of claim 17, comprising connecting a patterned conducting connection to the column via and the corresponding column drive line, using a corresponding column ridge.

19. The method of claim 11, comprising forming the LCD such that no connections between the drivers and drive lines are made around respective edges of the rearward LCD substrate sheet.

20. A non-signal tangible computer readable media comprising computer readable instructions which when executed by a computing device, perform a method for connecting drivers to drive lines in a liquid crystal display (LCD), comprising:

- forming a number of holes substantially equal to a number of column drive lines and a number of row drive lines through a rearward LCD substrate sheet;
- coating a sidewall of respective holes with a conductive material to create an array of vias through the rearward LCD substrate sheet;
- connecting respective vias to a corresponding driver using patterned conductors; and
- connecting respective drive lines to a corresponding via.

* * * * *

专利名称(译)	液晶显示器 (LCD)		
公开(公告)号	US8253914	公开(公告)日	2012-08-28
申请号	US12/821638	申请日	2010-06-23
[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	微软公司		
申请(专利权)人(译)	微软公司		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	微软公司		
[标]发明人	KAJIYA JAMES T WHITTED JOHN TURNER		
发明人	KAJIYA, JAMES T. WHITTED, JOHN TURNER		
IPC分类号	G02F1/1345		
CPC分类号	G02F1/13452 G02F1/13439 G02F1/133504 G02F1/133603 Y10T29/49165 G02F2201/42 G02F2001/13456 G02F2001/133567 G02F1/13454		
代理机构(译)	微软公司		
其他公开文献	US20110317120A1		
外部链接	Espacenet USPTO		

摘要(译)

提供一种液晶显示器 (LCD)，其包括向后的LCD基板片，该基板片具有形成的通孔阵列，其中通孔在向后的LCD基板片的两侧之间提供导电。阵列中的通孔的数量基本上等于或至少等于多个列驱动线和多个行驱动线的组合。各个驱动线连接到相应的通孔，例如在后LCD基板片的一侧，并且各个图案化的导体连接到相应的通孔，例如在后LCD基板片的另一侧。图案化导体提供相应驱动线与一个或多个相应驱动器之间的连接。在一个示例中，这允许生成“全出血”显示。

