



US006917401B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Goang et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,917,401 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jul. 12, 2005**

(54) **LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY STRUCTURES**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 73 days.

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(21) Appl. No.: **10/767,584**

(22) Filed: **Jan. 29, 2004**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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US 2004/0183990 A1 Sep. 23, 2004

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 09/695,411, filed on Oct. 25, 2000, now Pat. No. 6,731,366.

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(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **G02F 1/1335**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **349/106; 349/44; 349/155; 438/30**

Liquid crystal display (LCD) structures and methods for forming the same. The black matrix and the color filter layer of the LCD are moved from color filter substrate to TFT substrate to form a color filter on TFT (COT) structure. Besides, the spacers are composed of photoresist or color photoresist can be located on portions of areas covered by the black matrix to maximize the aperture ratio.

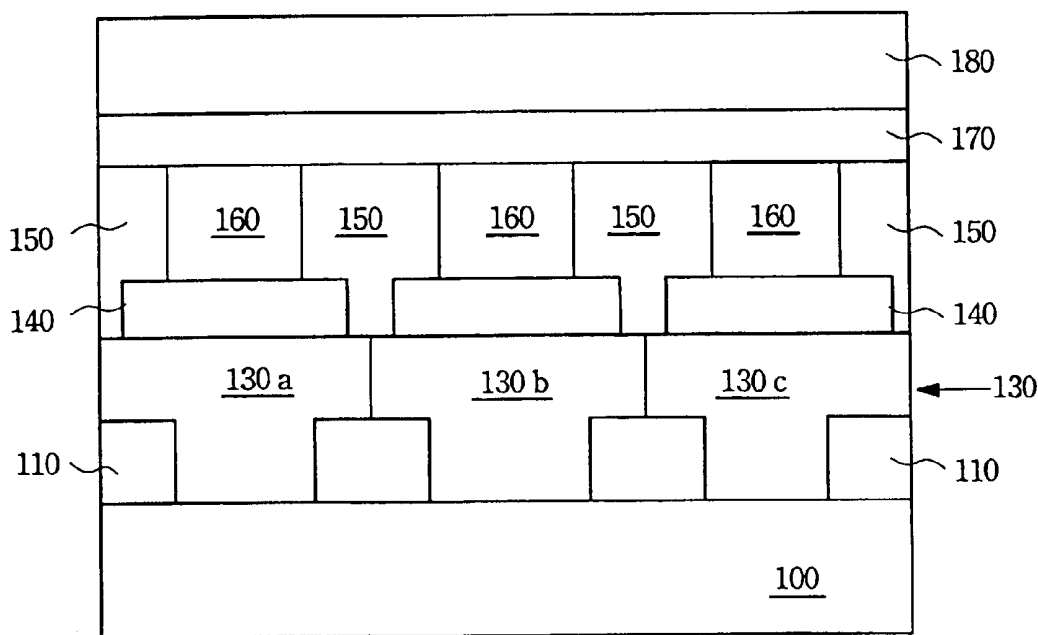
(58) **Field of Search** 349/155, 106, 349/44; 438/30

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27 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets



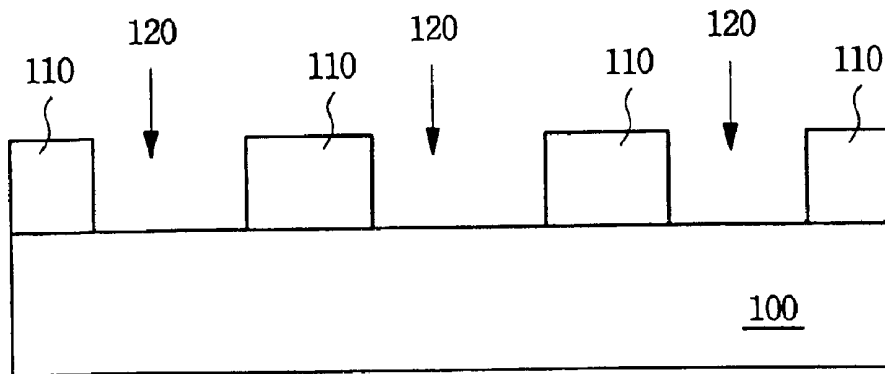


FIG. 1 A

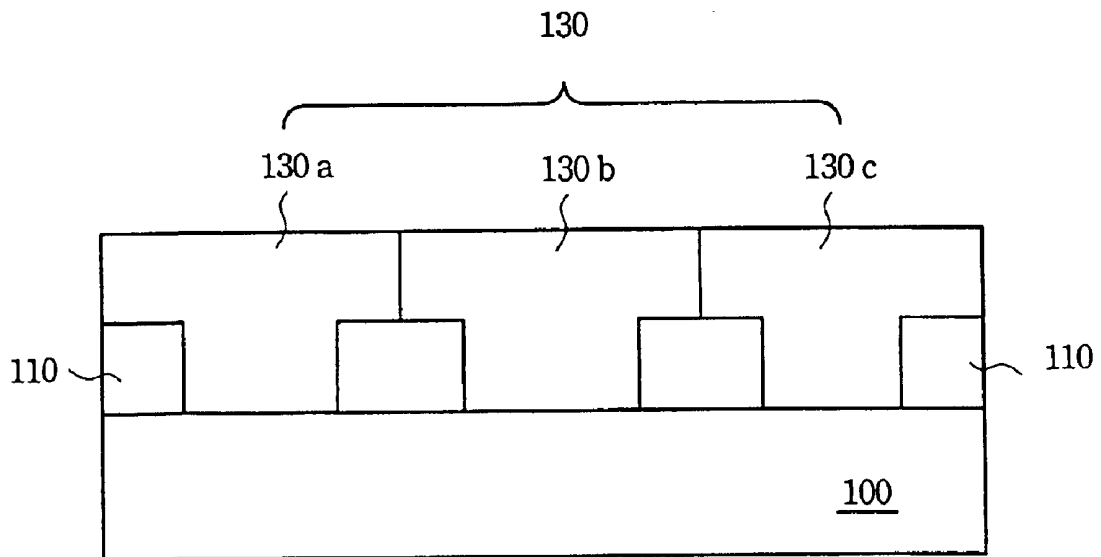


FIG. 1 B

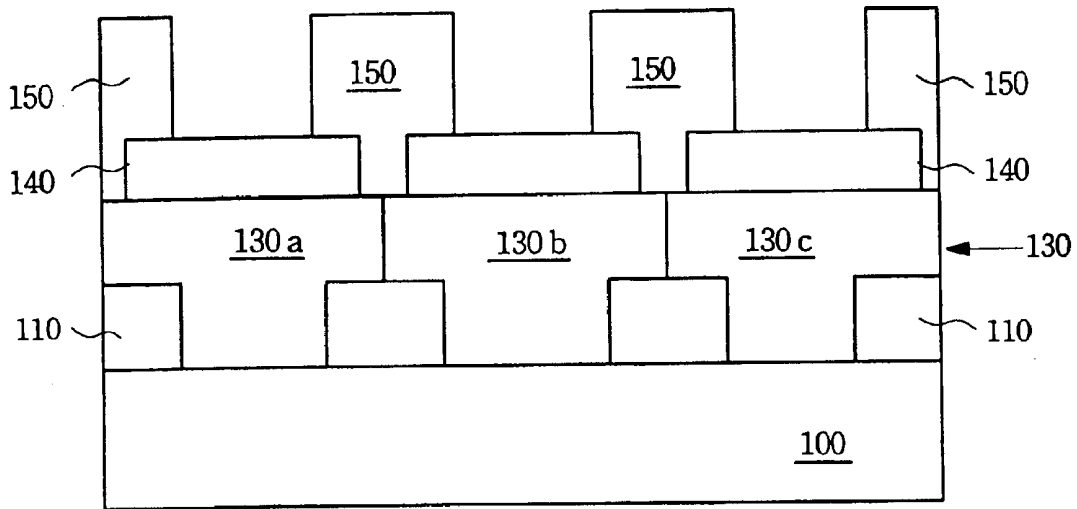


FIG. 1 C

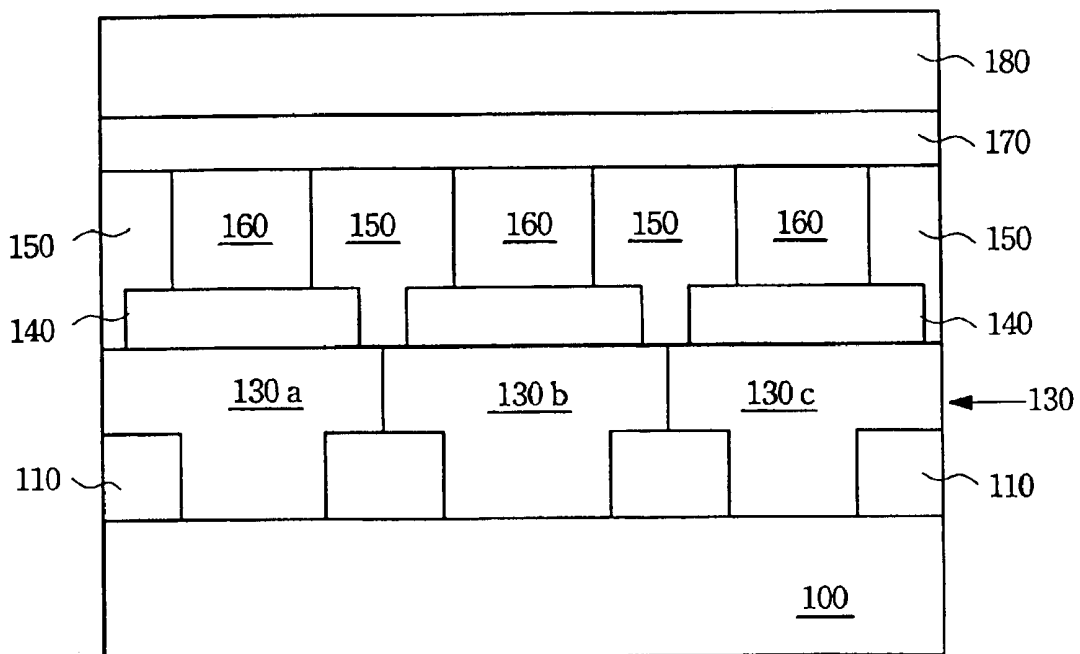


FIG. 1 D

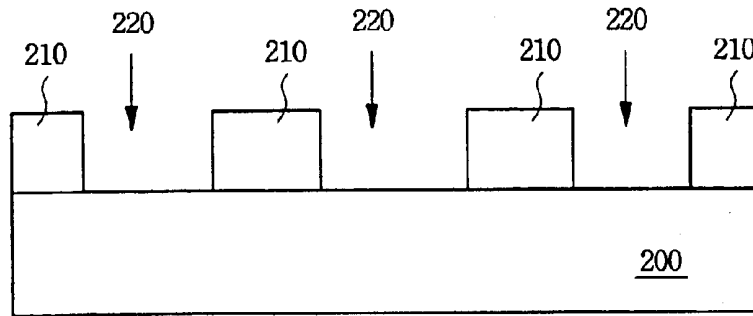


FIG. 2 A

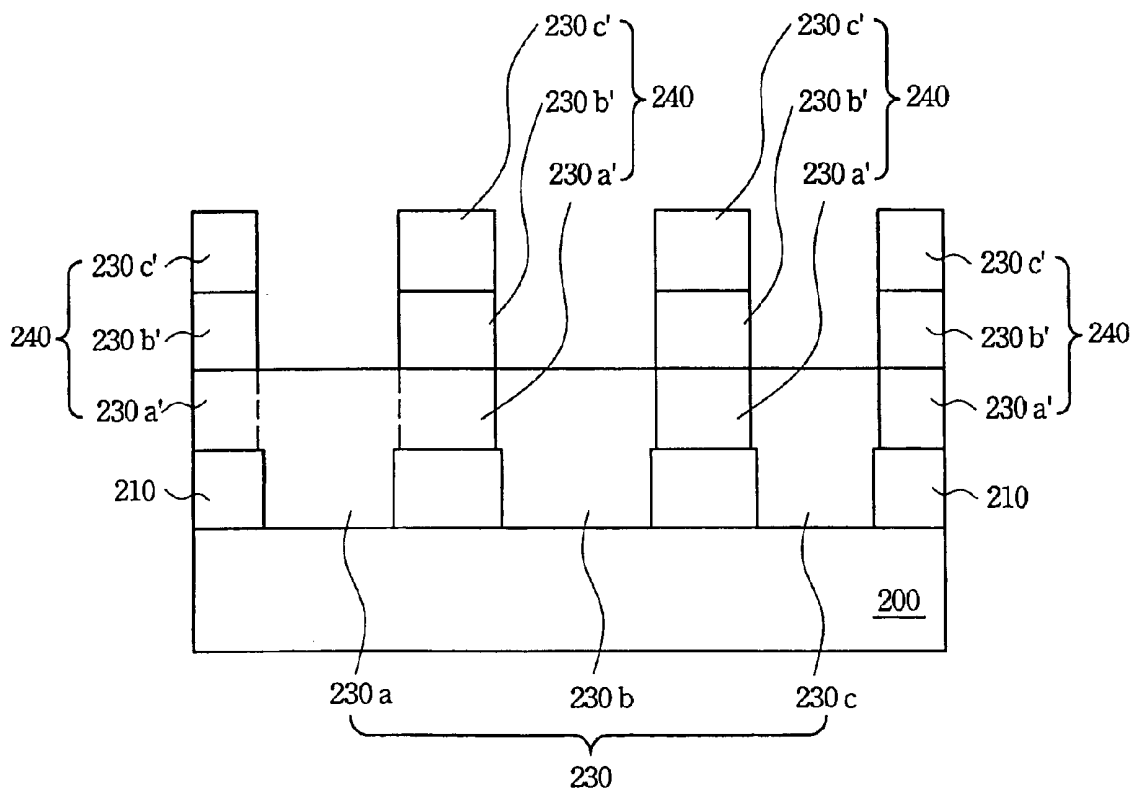


FIG. 2 B

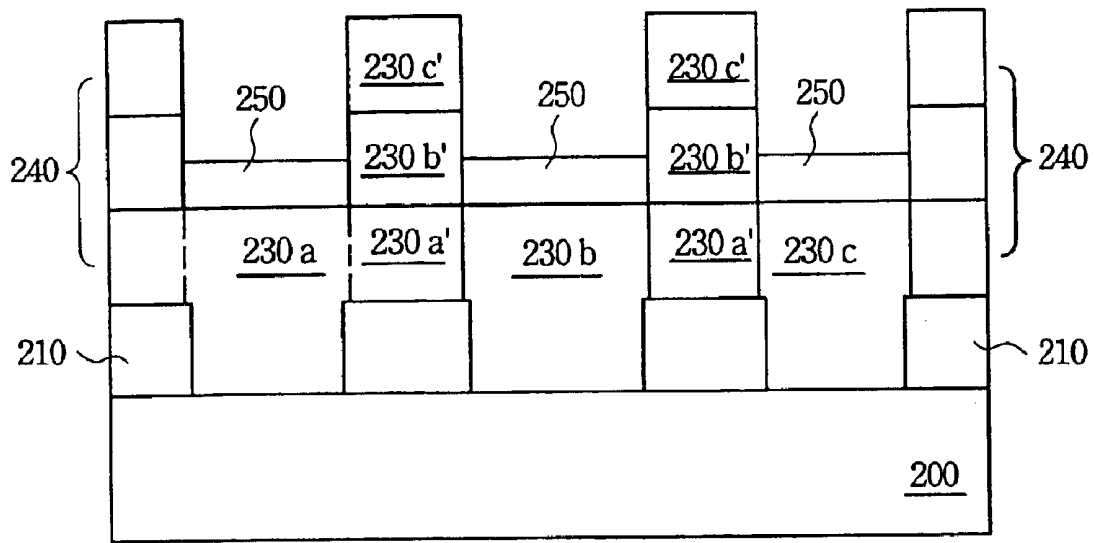


FIG. 2 C

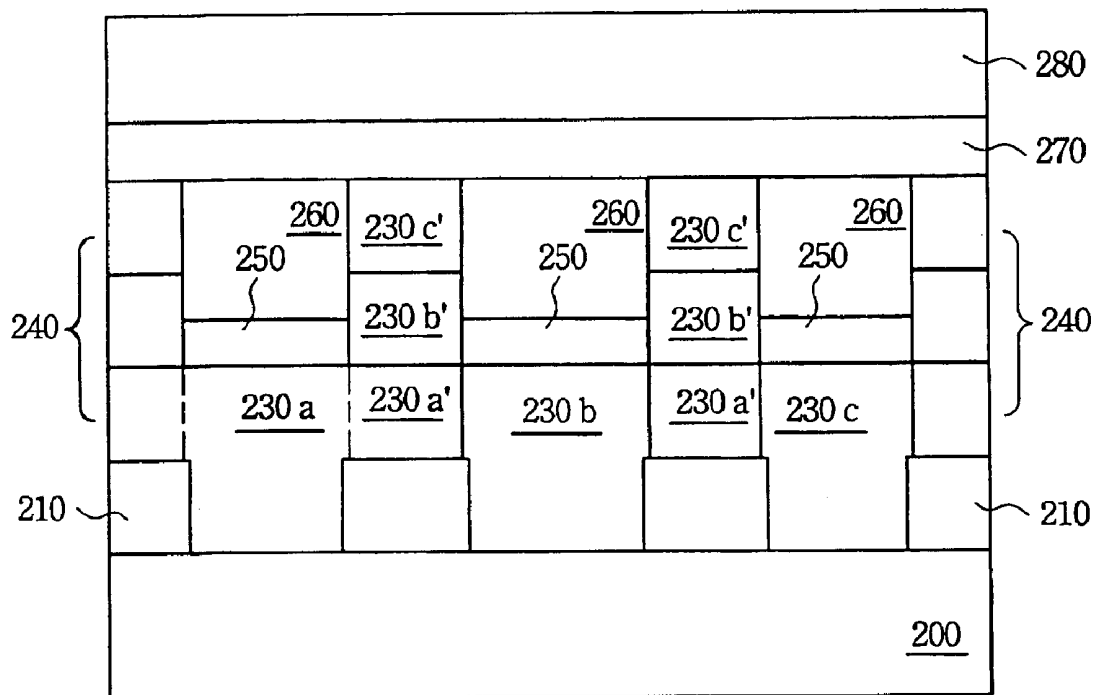


FIG. 2 D

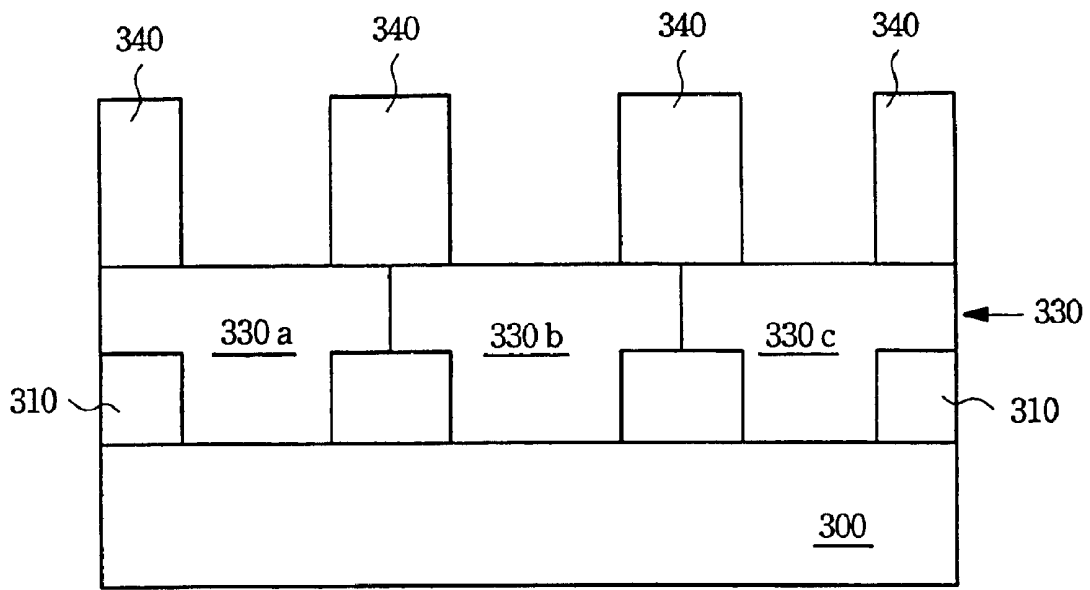


FIG. 3 A

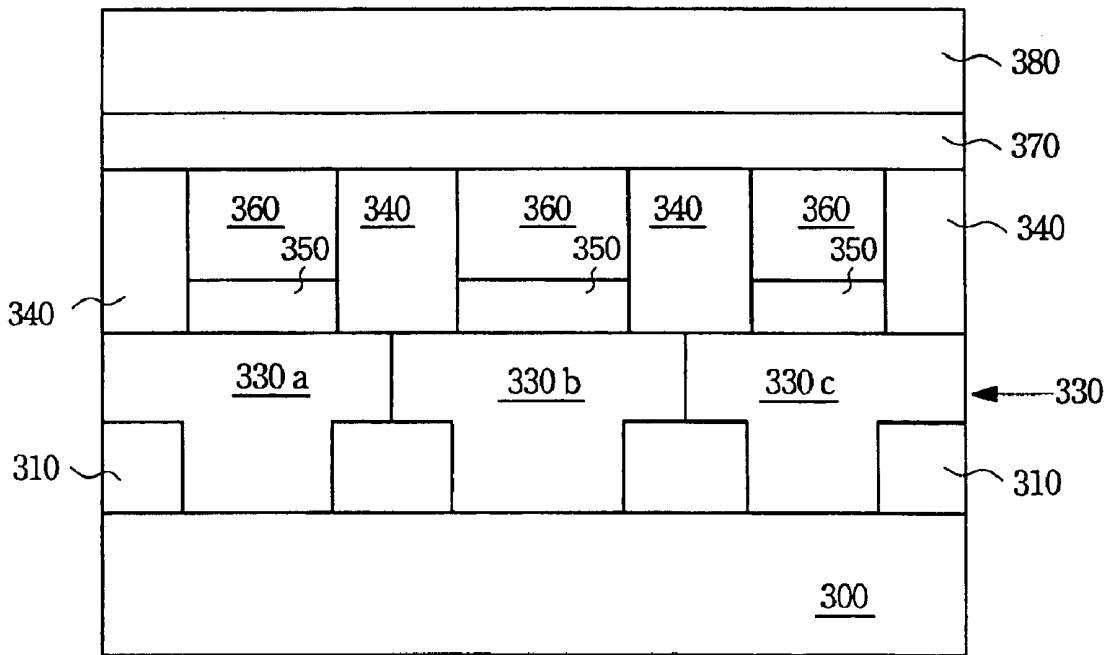


FIG. 3 B

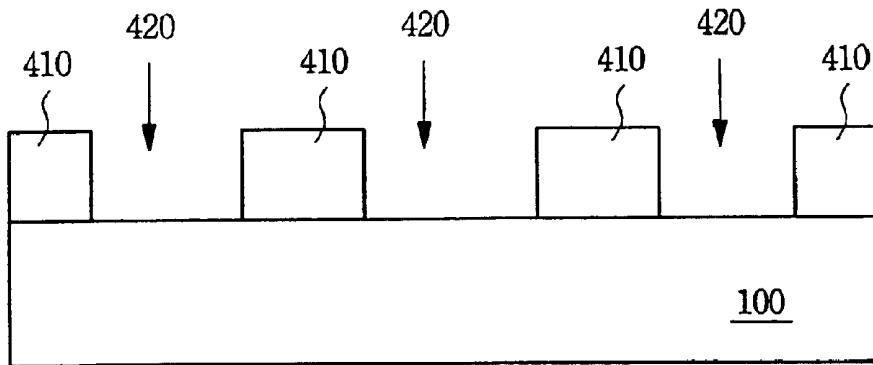


FIG. 4 A

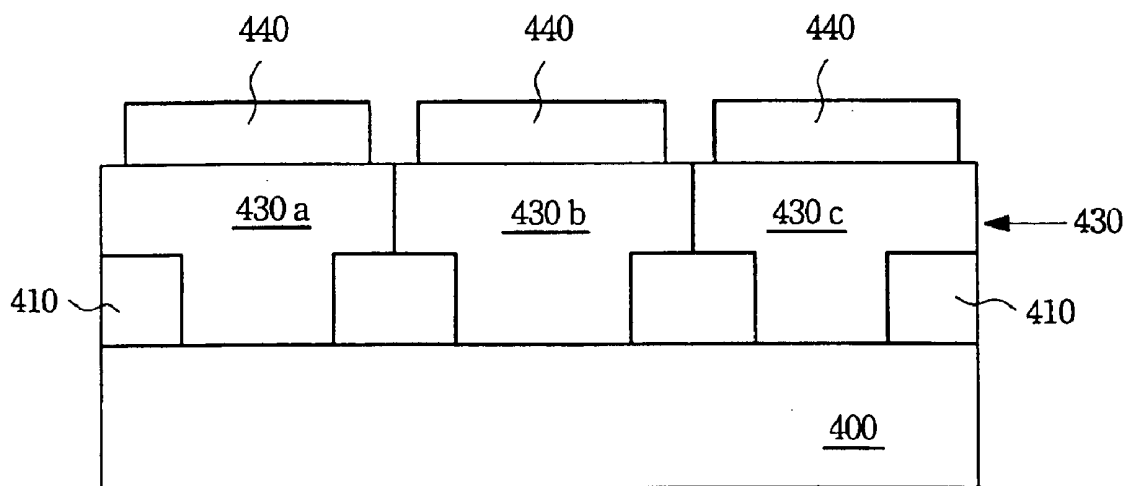


FIG. 4 B

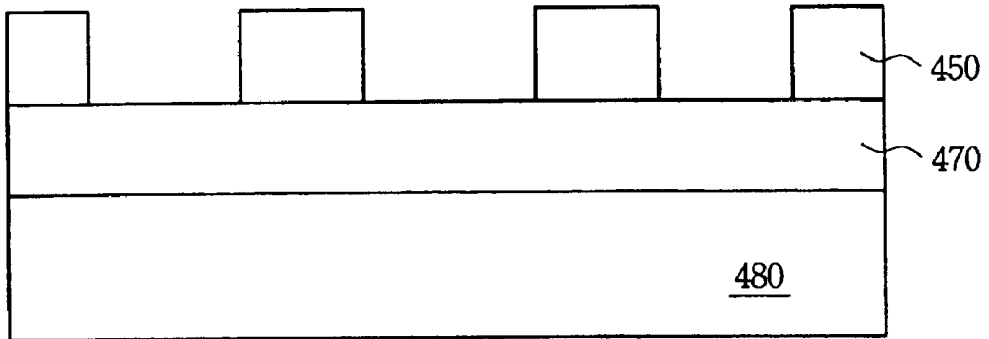


FIG. 4 C

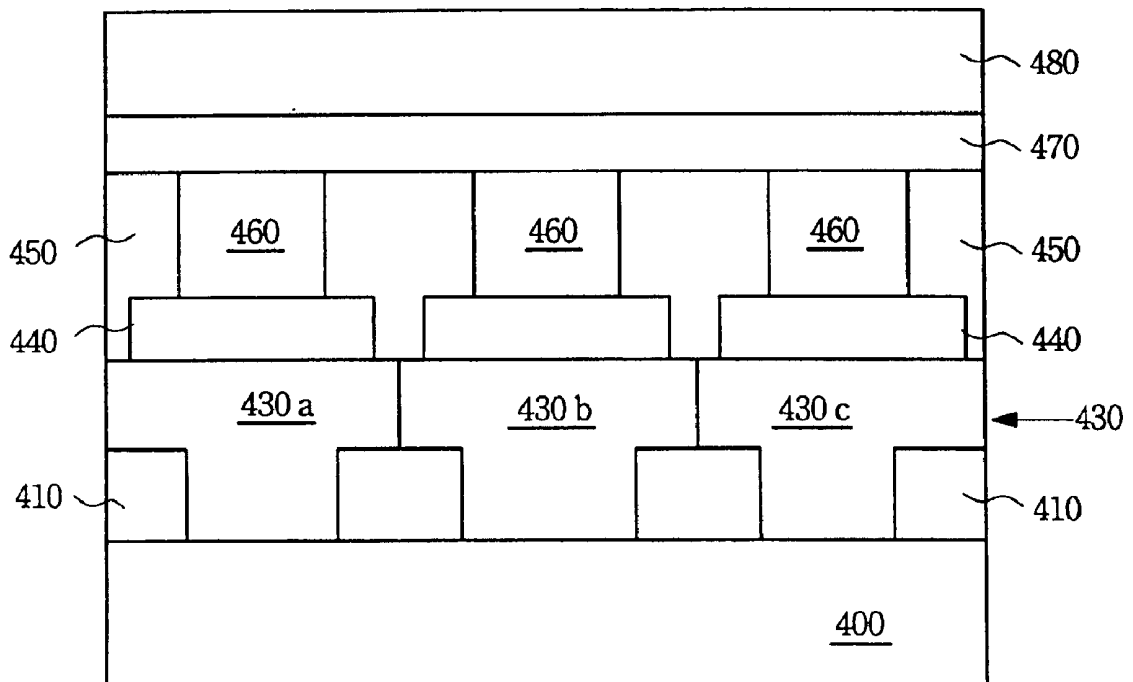


FIG. 4 D

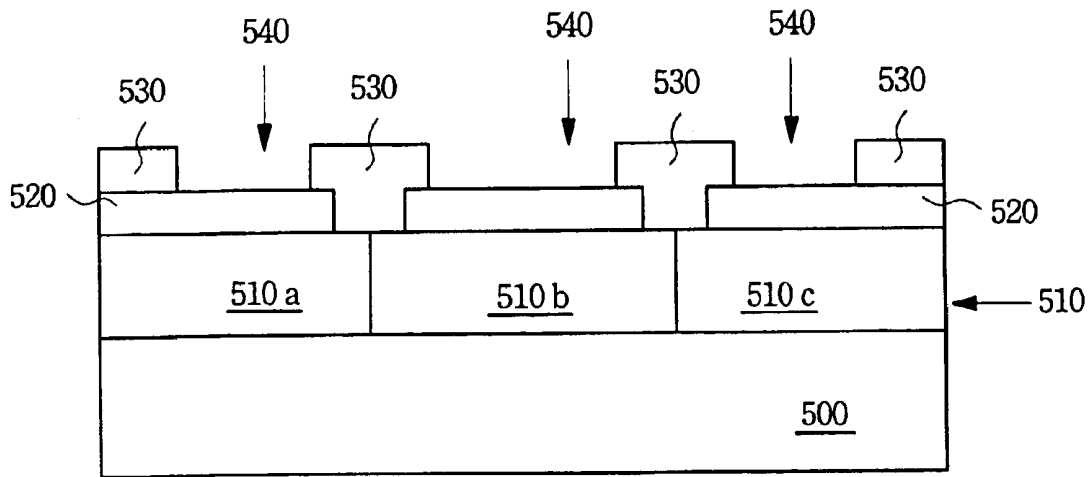


FIG. 5 A

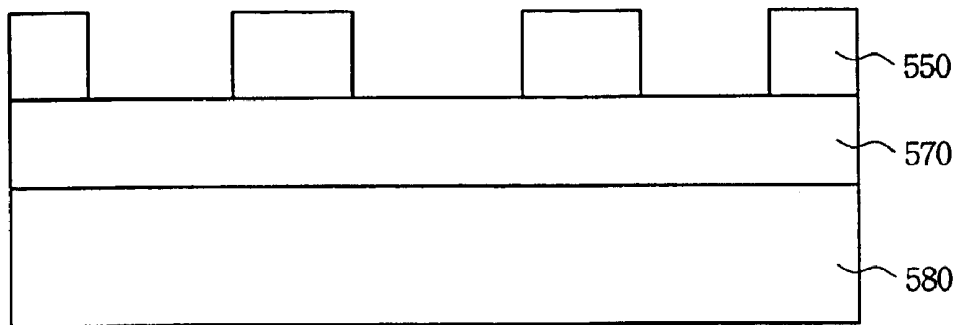


FIG. 5 B

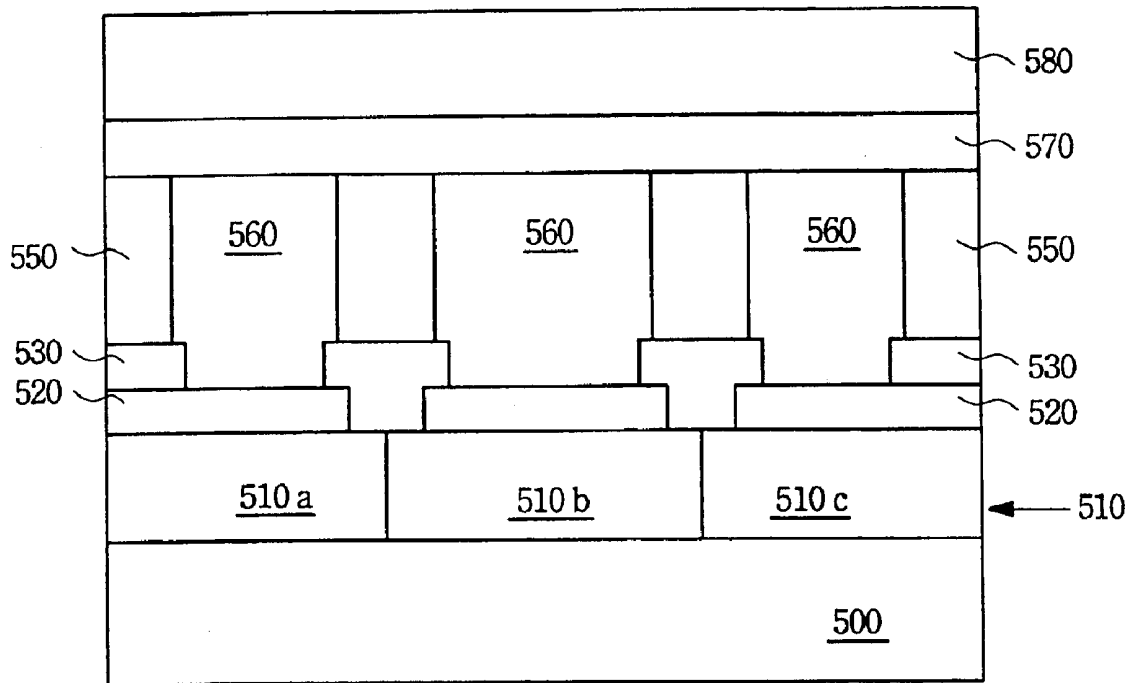


FIG. 5 C

LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY STRUCTURES**CROSS-REFERENCE TO OTHER APPLICATIONS**

The present application is a continuation application of 5 co-pending nonprovisional application Ser. No. 09/695,411 filed Oct. 25, 2000, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,731,366, entitled "Liquid Crystal Display Structures and Methods of Forming the Same," which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**1. Field of Invention**

The present invention relates to liquid crystal display (LCD) structures and methods of forming them. More particularly, the present invention relates to LCD structures of integrating a black matrix and a color filter into a substrate having a control circuit thereon and methods of forming the same.

2. Description of Related Art

Liquid crystal display (LCD) has many advantages over other conventional types of displays including high picture quality, small volume occupation, lightweight, low voltage driven and low power consumption. Hence, LCD is widely used in small portable televisions, mobile telephones, video recording units, notebook computers, desktop monitors, projector televisions and so on. LCD gradually replaces conventional cathode ray tube (CRT) as a mainstream display unit.

The main part of LCD is liquid crystal (LC) unit composed of two parallel transparent substrates and LC sealed therein. The mainstream of the LCD is thin film transistor (TFT) LCD. The fabrication processes of a TFT-LCD can be divided into four parts: TFT array process, color filter (CF) process, LC cell assembly process, liquid crystal module (LCM) process.

The TFT array process is used to fabricate a TFT substrate. Each TFT respectively aligns with one pixel electrode. The CF process is used to fabricate color filter substrate. A color filter layer composed of different color filter sheet is on the color filter substrate, and a black matrix layer surrounds each color filter sheet.

The LC cell assembly process is used to parallel assemble TFT substrate and CF substrate, and bead spacers spread between them to maintain a fixed distance, i.e. cell gap, between TFT substrate and CF substrate. LC is injected into the cell gap then the injection opening is sealed. Basically, each pixel electrode is respectively corresponding to one color filter sheet, and the black matrix layer covers on TFTs and metal lines that connect different TFT.

The LCM process is used to attach a polarizer to a panel, and electrically connect driver IC and panel circuit. Then a reflector and a back-light are assembled on the panel. After a burn-in step, the LCM process is finished.

Generally speaking, the direction of liquid crystal molecule axes, which are controlled by TFT, determines whether each pixel is pervious to light or not. The color of each pixel is determined by the color of color filter sheet. For example, when light passes through a red color filter sheet, a red spot is shown on the panel. Mixing red, green and blue colors can show full-color images.

Since the molecular axes of liquid crystal molecules, which are between pixel electrodes and color filter sheets, have to be controlled precisely, the color filter and the TFT substrate must be aligned precisely. The tolerable error of alignment is only within several micron meters.

The heat coefficients of color filter substrate and TFT substrate are different, hence the precise alignment of pixel electrodes and color filter sheets is hard to achieve. Decreasing the product yield and increasing the production cost are caused by this problem. With growing size of substrates, the problem is getting serious. Therefore, light leakage and coin mura on panel is produced. But for increasing the size of black matrix to increase the alignment precision, the color contrast and brightness of LCD is decreased.

Another problem is the random distribution of bead spacers. The bead spacers may block some of the pixel area. Hence the aperture ratio of LCD is decreased. For smaller pixel area or for high-resolution panel, the problem is more serious.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An object of the invention is to provide a liquid crystal display structure, wherein a black matrix and a color filter layer both are on a control circuit substrate and pixel electrodes are on the color filter layer to increase the alignment preciseness of the color filter layer and the pixel electrodes. Besides, photoresist spacers are used to replace the conventional bead spacers to increase the brightness and color contrast of a liquid crystal display.

The liquid crystal display structure comprises a first substrate having a control circuit on it, and a black matrix layer, a color filter layer, a pixel electrode layer, a plurality of photoresist spacers, a liquid crystal layer, a common electrode and a second substrate are in turn on it.

A plurality of openings are in the black matrix layer to expose the first substrate. The color filter layer is composed of a plurality of color filter sheets aligning with each opening. Each pixel electrode aligns with each color filter sheet. The photoresist spacers are located on portions of areas covered by the black matrix, and their hardness is preferred to be about 2H to about 4H and their height is preferred to be about 1 to about 10 μm . The photoresist spacers also can be composed of multi-layered color photoresist.

Another object of the invention is to provide methods of forming a liquid crystal display to increase alignment preciseness between color filter sheets and pixel electrodes, and photoresist spacers are used to replace conventional bead spacers.

Accordingly, in an embodiment, a black matrix layer is formed on a first substrate having a control circuit thereon. A plurality of openings are formed in the black matrix layer to expose the first substrate. A color filter layer is formed on the black matrix layer. A plurality of pixel electrodes are formed on the color filter to align with each of the openings. A plurality of photoresist spacers are formed on the first substrate to be located on portions of areas covered by the black matrix. The first substrate and a second substrate having a common electrode thereon are parallel assembled, wherein the photoresist spacers and the common electrode are between the first substrate and the second substrate. A liquid crystal layer is formed between the first substrate and the second substrate. The order of the step of forming the photoresist spacers and the step of the pixel electrodes can be exchanged.

In another embodiment, a black matrix layer is formed on a first substrate having a control circuit thereon. A plurality of openings are formed in the black matrix layer to expose the first substrate. A color filter layer is formed on the black matrix layer. A plurality of pixel electrodes are formed on the color filter layer to align with each of the openings. A

plurality of photoresist spacers are formed on a second substrate having a common electrode thereon the first substrate and the second substrate are parallel assembled, wherein the photoresist spacers and the pixel electrodes are between the first substrate and the second substrate. A liquid crystal layer is formed between the first substrate and the second substrate.

A further object of this invention is to provide a method of forming a liquid crystal display, wherein multi-layered color photoresist are stacked to form photoresist spacers.

In this embodiment, a black matrix layer is formed on a first substrate having a control circuit thereon. A plurality of first, second and third openings are formed in the black matrix layer to expose the first substrate. A first color photoresist is formed on the first substrate. The first color photoresist is patterned to form a plurality of first filter sheets aligning with each of the first openings and a plurality of first spacers located on portions of areas covered by the black matrix. A second color photoresist is formed on the first substrate. The second color photoresist is patterned to form a plurality of second filter sheets aligning with each of the second openings and a plurality of second spacers overlapping with the first spacers. A third color photoresist is formed on the first substrate. The third color photoresist is patterned to form a plurality of third filter sheets aligning with each of the third openings and a plurality of third spacers overlapping with the second spacers. A plurality of pixel electrodes are respectively formed on the first, second and third filter sheets. The first substrate and a second substrate having a common electrode thereon are parallel assembled, wherein the photoresist spacers and the common electrode are between the first substrate and the second substrate. A liquid crystal layer is formed between the first substrate and the second substrate.

As embodied and broadly described herein, the invention provides liquid crystal structures and methods of forming the same, wherein the black matrix and the color filter are moved from the color substrate to the control circuit substrate. Since the alignment preciseness is mostly controlled by photolithography, the alignment error can be greatly reduced to below micron meter. Moreover, the photoresist spacers are located on portions of areas covered by the black matrix, the brightness and the color contrast of the liquid crystal display can be highly raised. Beside, the color photoresist is also used to form spacers, the production cost can be largely reduced and the production yield can be largely promoted.

It is to be understood that both the foregoing general description and the following detailed description are exemplary, and are intended to provide further explanation of the invention as claimed.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying drawings are included to provide a further understanding of the invention, and are incorporated in and constitute a part of this specification. The drawings illustrate embodiments of the invention and, together with the description, serve to explain the principles of the invention. In the drawings,

FIGS. 1A–1D are cross-sectional views schematically illustrating a fabrication process for forming a thin film transistor liquid crystal display according to a first preferred embodiment of this invention;

FIGS. 2A–2D are cross-sectional views schematically illustrating a fabrication process for forming a thin film transistor liquid crystal display according to a second preferred embodiment of this invention;

FIGS. 3A–3B are cross-sectional views schematically illustrating a fabrication process for forming a thin film transistor liquid crystal display according to a third preferred embodiment of this invention;

FIGS. 4A–4D are cross-sectional views schematically illustrating a fabrication process for forming a thin film transistor liquid crystal display according to a fourth preferred embodiment of this invention; and

FIGS. 5A–5C are cross-sectional views schematically illustrating a fabrication process for forming a thin film transistor liquid crystal display according to a fifth preferred embodiment of this invention.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Embodiment 1

FIGS. 1A–1D are cross-sectional views schematically illustrating a fabrication process for forming a thin film transistor liquid crystal display according to a first preferred embodiment of this invention.

In FIG. 1A, a black matrix layer **110** is formed on a first substrate **100** having a TFT circuit thereon. The black matrix layer **110** is patterned to cover TFTs and metal lines of the TFT circuit and openings **120** are formed therein. Each opening **120** is corresponding to a pixel. The black matrix layer **110** is a material such as chromium/chromium oxide, oxy-resin or black resin. The black matrix layer **110** is formed by a method such as physical vapor deposition or coating followed by patterning.

In FIG. 1B, a color filter layer **130** is formed on the black matrix layer **110**. The color filter layer **130** is composed of color filter sheets **130a**, **130b** and **130c** of various colors. Each color filter sheet **130a**, **130b** and **130c** aligns with each opening **120** to increase the color contrast between adjacent pixels.

In FIG. 1C, pixel electrodes **140** are formed to respectively align with each opening **120**. Pixel electrodes **140** are transparent. For example, a material of pixel electrodes **140** is indium tin oxide (ITO). For example, sputtering a transparent conductive layer then followed by photolithography forms the pixel electrodes **140**.

A photoresist layer is formed to cover pixel electrodes **140**. The photoresist layer is patterned to form spacers **150** on portions of black matrix **110** to maximize the aperture ratio. The height of spacers **150** is preferred to be 1–10 μm , and the hardness of spacers **150** is preferred to be 2H–4H to maintain a constant value of the cell gap. A material of the photoresist layer is, for example, acrylic resin or epoxyresin such as OPTMER NN 500 or OPTMER NN700 sold by JSR Company. For example, the patterning method comprises photolithography or exposure followed by etching.

In FIG. 1D, a common electrode **170** is formed on a second substrate **180**. A material of the second substrate **180** is, for example, glass or quartz. The common electrode **170** is transparent, and a material of the common electrode **170** is, for example, indium tin oxide. The formation method of the common electrode **170** is, for example, sputtering followed by etching.

The first substrate **100** and the second substrate **180** are parallel assembled together, and the common electrode **170** and the spacers **150** are located between them. The lateral side of the cell gap between the first substrate **100** and the second substrate **180** is sealed except reserving an opening (not shown in the FIG. 1D) for liquid crystal injecting.

Liquid crystal is injected into the cell gap from the lateral opening to form a liquid crystal layer **160**. The opening is sealed. The process of manufacturing TFT-LCD is completed.

From embodiment 1 described above, the black matrix and the color filter layer are moved to TFT substrate to form a color filter on TFT (COT) structure. Because all precise alignments are done on the TFT substrate, no alignment considerations are needed when the first substrate and the second substrate are assembled. Hence the COT structure can largely increase the production yield; moreover, it can be applied on the production techniques of fourth generation or above.

Besides, the spacers are composed of photoresist, hence the position of spacers can be defined on black matrix to increase the aperture ratio of LCD and thus the brightness and color contrast of LCD.

Embodiment 2

FIGS. 2A–2D are cross-sectional views schematically illustrating a fabrication process for forming a thin film transistor liquid crystal display according to a second preferred embodiment of this invention.

In FIG. 2A, a black matrix layer **210** is formed on a first substrate **200** having a TFT circuit thereon. The black matrix layer **210** is patterned to cover TFTs and metal lines of the TFT circuit and openings **220** are formed therein. Each opening **220** is corresponding to a pixel. The black matrix layer **210** is a material such as chromium/chromium oxide, oxy-resin or black resin. The black matrix layer **210** is formed by a method such as physical vapor deposition or coating then followed by patterning.

In FIG. 2B, a color filter layer **230** is formed on the black matrix layer **210**. The color filter layer **230** is composed of color filter sheets **230a**, **230b** and **230c** of various colors such as red, green and blue for full-colors LCD. Each color filter sheet **230a**, **230b** and **230c** aligns with each opening **220** to increase the color contrast between adjacent pixel. First color spacers **230a'**, second color spacers **230b'** and third color spacers **230c'** are stacked on portions of black matrix **210** to form color spacers **240**. The process is described as below.

A first color photoresist layer is formed on the first substrate **200**. The first color photoresist layer is patterned to simultaneously form first color filter sheets **230a** located on portions of openings **220** and first color spacers **230a'** on portions of the black matrix **210**. Similarly, a second color filter layer is formed on the first substrate **200**. The second color photoresist layer is patterned to simultaneously form second color filter sheets **230b** located on another portions of openings **220** and second color spacers **230b'** on first color spacers **230a'**. Finally, a third color filter layer is formed on the first substrate **200**. The third color photoresist layer is patterned to simultaneously form third color filter sheets **230c** located on rest of openings **220** and third color spacers **230c'** on second color spacers **230b'**. Hence the first color spacers **230a'**, the second color spacers **230b'** and the third color spacers **230c'** are stacked to form the color spacers **240** on portions of black matrix **210**.

In FIG. 2C, pixel electrodes **250** are respectively formed on color filter sheets **230a**, **230b** and **230c**. A material of pixel electrodes **250** is, for example, indium tin oxide. A formation method of pixel electrodes **250** comprises steps as follow. A conformal transparent conductive layer is deposited on the color filter layer **320** and color spacers **240**. A patterned photoresist layer is formed on the conductive layer to cover portions of conductive layer on color filter sheets **230a**, **230b** and **230c**. The exposed portions of the conductive layer are removed to form pixel electrodes **250**. The patterned photoresist layer is subsequently removed. A removal method of the conductive layer is, for example, wet etching.

In FIG. 2D, a common electrode **270** is formed on a second substrate **280**. A material of the second substrate **280** is, for example, glass or quartz. The common electrode **270** is transparent, and a material of the common electrode **270** is, for example, indium tin oxide. The formation method of the common electrode **270** is, for example, sputtering.

The first substrate **200** and the second substrate **280** are parallel assembled together, and the common electrode **270** and the spacers **250** are located between them. The lateral side of the cell gap between the first substrate **200** and the second substrate **280** is sealed except reserving an opening (not shown in the FIG. 2D) for liquid crystal injecting.

Liquid crystal is injected into the cell gap between the first substrate **200** and the second substrate **280** from the lateral opening to form a liquid crystal layer **260**. The opening is sealed. The process of manufacturing TFT-LCD is completed.

From embodiment 2 described above, the black matrix and the color filter layer are moved to TFT substrate to form a color filter on TFT (COT) structure. Because all precise alignments are done on the TFT substrate, no alignment considerations are needed when the first substrate and the second substrate are assembled. Hence the COT structure can largely increase the production yield; moreover, it can be applied on the production techniques of fourth generation or above.

In Embodiment 2, the color filter layer and color spacers are simultaneously formed, hence the step of forming spacers can be omitted to reduce production cost and increase production yield. Besides, the color spacers are located on black matrix to maximize the aperture ratio. Therefore, the brightness and contrast of LCD can be largely increased.

Embodiment 3

FIGS. 3A–3B are cross-sectional views schematically illustrating a fabrication process for forming a thin film transistor liquid crystal display according to a third preferred embodiment of this invention. Photoresist spacers here replace the color spacers in embodiment 2.

In FIG. 3A, the process of forming a black matrix layer **310** is as same as Embodiment 2 (Please refer to the illustration of FIG. 2A). Without forming color spacers **240** on portions of the black matrix layer **210** in FIG. 2B, the process of forming a color filter layer **330** is basically similar to the process of forming the color filter layer **230** in Embodiment 2. Hence only color filter sheets **330a**, **330b** and **330c** are formed in FIG. 3A.

A photoresist layer is formed to cover the color filter layer **330**. The photoresist layer is patterned to form spacers **340**. Spacers **340** are located on portions of black matrix **310** to maximize the aperture ratio of LCD. The preferred height of spacers **340** is 1–10 μm , and a preferred hardness of spacers **340** is 2H–4H in pencil hardness to maintain a constant value of cell gap. A material of the photoresist is, for example, acrylic resin or epoxy resin such as OPTMER NN 500 or OPTMER NN700 sold by JSR Company. For example, the patterning method comprises photolithography or exposure followed by etching.

In FIG. 3B, the subsequent process is as same as Embodiment 2. Pixel electrodes **350** are formed on the color filter layer **330**. A common electrode **370** is formed on a second substrate **380**. The first substrate **300** and the second substrate **380** are parallel bound together, and the common electrode **370** and the spacers **340** are located between them. The lateral side of the cell gap between the first substrate **300** and the second substrate **380** is sealed except reserving an opening (not shown in the FIG. 3B) for liquid crystal injecting.

Liquid crystal is injected into the cell gap between the first substrate **300** and the second substrate **380** from the lateral opening to form a liquid crystal layer **360**. The opening is sealed. The process of manufacturing TFT-LCD is completed.

From embodiment 3 described above, the black matrix layer and the color filter layer are moved to TFT substrate to form a color filter on TFT (COT) structure. Because all precise alignments are done on the TFT substrate, no alignment considerations are needed when the first substrate and the second substrate are assembled. Hence the COT structure can largely increase the product yield; moreover, it can be applied on the production techniques of fourth generation or above.

Besides, the spacers are composed of photoresist, hence the position of spacers can be defined on the black matrix layer to increase the aperture ratio of LCD and thus the brightness and color contrast of LCD.

Embodiment 4

FIGS. 4A–4D are cross-sectional views schematically illustrating a fabrication process for forming a thin film transistor liquid crystal display according to a fourth preferred embodiment of this invention.

In FIG. 4A, a black matrix layer **410** is formed on a first substrate **400** having a TFT circuit thereon. The black matrix layer **410** is patterned to cover TFTs and metal lines of the TFT circuit and openings **420** are formed therein. Each opening **420** is corresponding to a pixel. The black matrix layer **410** is a material such as chromium/chromium oxide, oxy-resin or black resin. The black matrix layer **410** is formed by a method such as physical vapor deposition or coating then followed by patterning.

In FIG. 4B, a color filter layer **430** is formed on the black matrix layer **410**. The color filter layer **430** is composed of color filter sheets **430a**, **430b** and **430c** of various colors. Each color filter sheet **430a**, **430b** and **430c** aligns with each opening **420** to increase the color contrast between adjacent pixels.

Pixel electrodes **440** are formed to align with each opening **420** respectively. Pixel electrodes **440** are transparent. For example, a material of pixel electrodes **440** is indium tin oxide (ITO). For example, sputtering a transparent conductive layer then followed by photolithography forms the pixel electrodes **440**.

In FIG. 4C, a common electrode **470** is formed on a second substrate **480**. A material of the second substrate **480** is, for example, glass or quartz. The common electrode **470** is transparent, and a material of the common electrode **470** is, for example, indium tin oxide. The formation method of the common electrode **470** is, for example, sputtering.

A photoresist layer is formed to cover common electrode **470**. The photoresist layer is patterned to form spacers **450**. The height of spacers **450** is preferred to be 1–10 μm , and the hardness of spacers **450** is preferred to be 2H–4H (pencil hardness) to maintain a constant value of the cell gap. A material of the photoresist is, for example, acrylic resin or epoxy resin such as OPTMER NN 500 or OPTMER NN700 sold by JSR Company. For example, the patterning method comprises photolithography or exposure followed by etching.

In FIG. 4D, the first substrate **400** and the second substrate **480** are parallel bound together, and the pixel electrodes **440** and the spacers **450** are located between them. The lateral side of the cell gap between the first substrate **400** and the second substrate **480** is sealed except reserving an opening (not shown in the FIG. 4D) for liquid crystal injecting.

Liquid crystal is injected into the cell gap between the first substrate **400** and the second substrate **480** from the lateral

opening to form a liquid crystal layer **460**. The opening is sealed. The process of manufacturing TFT-LCD is completed.

From embodiment 4 described above, the black matrix layer and the color filter layer are moved to TFT substrate to form a color filter on TFT (COT) structure. Because all precise alignments are done on the TFT substrate, no alignment considerations are needed when the first substrate and the second substrate are assembled. Hence the COT structure can largely increase the production yield; moreover, it can be applied on the production techniques of fourth generation or above.

In Embodiment 1, The fabrication steps number on the second substrate is less than the fabrication steps number on the first substrate. Hence the locations of spacers are moved from the first substrate in Embodiment 1 to the second substrate in this Embodiment, and the fabrication steps number on the first substrate is thus decreased. Also, the burden of production yield is transferred from the first substrate to the second substrate to increase the production yield of the first substrate. Besides, the process window of the assembly step in FIG. 4D is looser. The process window of the assembly step is about 10–20 μm . However, the process window of the 3.5th generation of LCD is only about 4–5 μm . Therefore the final production yield is still remained or even increased.

Embodiment 5

FIGS. 5A–5C are cross-sectional views schematically illustrating a fabrication process for forming a thin film transistor liquid crystal display according to a fifth preferred embodiment of this invention

In FIG. 5A, a black matrix layer **510** is formed on a first substrate **500** having a TFT circuit thereon. The black matrix layer **510** is patterned to cover TFTs and metal lines of the TFT circuit and openings **520** are formed therein. Each opening **520** is corresponding to a pixel. The black matrix layer **510** is a material such as black resin, and its thickness is about 0.1–6 μm .

In FIG. 5B, a common electrode **570** is formed on a second substrate **580**. A material of the second substrate **580** is preferred to be, for example, glass or quartz. The common electrode **570** is transparent, and a material of the common electrode **570** is, for example, indium tin oxide. The formation method of the common electrode **570** is, for example, sputtering.

A photoresist layer is formed to cover the common electrode **570**. The photoresist layer is patterned to form spacers **550**. The height of spacers **550** is preferred to be 1–10 μm , and the hardness of spacers **550** is preferred to be 2H–4H (pencil hardness) to maintain a constant value of the cell gap. A material of the photoresist is, for example, acrylic resin or epoxy resin such as OPTMER NN 500 or OPTMER NN700 sold by JSR Company. For example, the patterning method comprises photolithography or exposure followed by etching.

In FIG. 5C, the first substrate **500** and the second substrate **580** are parallel assembled together, and the pixel electrodes **540** and the spacers **550** are located between them. The lateral side of the cell gap between the first substrate **500** and the second substrate **580** is sealed except reserving an opening (not shown in the FIG. 5C) for liquid crystal injecting.

Liquid crystal is injected into the cell gap between the first substrate **500** and the second substrate **580** from the lateral opening to form a liquid crystal layer **560**. The opening is sealed. The process of manufacturing TFT-LCD is completed.

From embodiment 5 described above, the black matrix and the color filter layer are moved to TFT substrate to form a color filter on TFT (COT) structure. Because all precise alignments are done on the TFT substrate, no alignment considerations are needed when the first substrate and the second substrate are assembled. Hence the COT structure can largely increase the production yield; moreover, it can be applied on the production techniques of fourth generation or above.

Besides, the locations of photoresist spacers are also moved from the first substrate to the second substrate as Embodiment 4 to reduce the production yield burden of the first substrate. The process window of the assembly step is about 10–20 μm . However, the process window of the 3.5th generation of LCD is only about 4–5 μm . Therefore the final production yield is still remained or even increased.

It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various modifications and variations can be made to the structure of the present invention without departing from the scope or spirit of the invention. In view of the foregoing, it is intended that the present invention cover modifications and variations of this invention provided they fall within the scope of the following claims and their equivalents.

What is claimed is:

1. A liquid crystal display, comprising:
 - a black matrix layer on a first substrate having a control circuit thereon, and a plurality of openings in the black matrix layer to expose the first substrate;
 - a color filter layer on the black matrix layer, which is composed of a plurality of color filter sheets respectively aligning with each opening;
 - a pixel electrode layer on the color filter sheets, which is composed of a plurality of pixel electrodes respectively aligning with and directly on each color filter sheet;
 - a plurality of photoresist spacers on the pixel electrode layer, which are located on portions of areas covered by the black matrix layer;
 - a liquid crystal layer on the pixel electrode layer, which fill space among the photoresist spacers;
 - a common electrode on the liquid crystal layer and the photoresist spacers; and
 - a second substrate on the common electrode.
2. The liquid crystal display of claim 1, wherein a color of the color filter sheets is red, green or blue.
3. The liquid crystal display of claim 1, wherein a material of the pixel electrodes comprises indium tin oxide.
4. The liquid crystal display of claim 1, wherein a material of the common electrode comprises indium tin oxide.
5. The liquid crystal display of claim 1, wherein a hardness of the photoresist spacers is about 2H to about 4H.
6. The liquid crystal display of claim 1, wherein a height of the photoresist spacers is about 1 to about 10 μm .
7. The liquid crystal display of claim 1, wherein a material of the photoresist spacer comprises acrylic resin.
8. The liquid crystal display of claim 1, wherein a material of the photoresist spacer comprises epoxy-resin.
9. A liquid crystal display, comprising:
 - a first substrate having a control circuit thereon;
 - a black matrix layer on the first substrate, and a plurality of openings located therein;
 - a color filter layer on the black matrix layer, which is composed of a plurality of color filter sheets respectively aligning with each opening;
 - a plurality of photoresist spacers on the color filter, which are located on portions of areas covered by the black matrix;

- a plurality of pixel electrodes respectively and directly on each of the color filter sheets, of which a height is lower than a height of the photoresist spacers;
 - a liquid crystal layer on the pixel electrodes, which fill space among the photoresist spacers;
 - a common electrode on the liquid crystal layer and the photoresist spacers; and
 - a second substrate on the common electrode.
10. The liquid crystal display of claim 9, wherein a color of the color filter sheets is red, green or blue.
 11. The liquid crystal display of claim 9, wherein a material of the pixel electrodes comprises indium tin oxide.
 12. The liquid crystal display of claim 9, wherein a material of the common electrode comprises indium tin oxide.
 13. The liquid crystal display of claim 9, wherein a hardness of the photoresist spacers is about 2H to about 4H.
 14. The liquid crystal display of claim 9, wherein a height of the photoresist spacers is about 1 to about 10 μm .
 15. The liquid crystal display of claim 9, wherein a material of the photoresist spacers comprises acrylic resin.
 16. The liquid crystal display of claim 9, wherein a material of the photoresist spacers comprises epoxy-resin.
 17. The liquid crystal display of claim 9, wherein the photoresist spacers comprise color photoresist spacers.
 18. The liquid crystal display of claim 9, wherein the photoresist spacers are composed of a plurality of stacked color photoresist.
 19. A liquid crystal display, comprising:
 - a first substrate having a control circuit thereon;
 - a color filter layers on the first substrate, which are composed of a plurality of color filter sheets;
 - a plurality of pixel electrodes directly on and respectively aligning with each of the color filter sheets;
 - a black matrix layer on the pixel electrodes, which are located around the pixel electrodes;
 - a plurality of photoresist spacers on portions of the black matrix layer;
 - a liquid crystal layer on the pixel electrodes and the black matrix layer, which fill space among the photoresist spacers;
 - a common electrode on the liquid crystal layer and the photoresist spacers; and
 - a second substrate on the common electrode.
 20. The liquid crystal display of claim 19, wherein a color of the color filter sheets is red, green or blue.
 21. The liquid crystal display of claim 19, wherein a material of the pixel electrodes comprises indium tin oxide.
 22. The liquid crystal display of claim 19, wherein a material of the common electrode comprises indium tin oxide.
 23. The liquid crystal display of claim 19, wherein a hardness of the photoresist spacers is about 2H to about 4H.
 24. The liquid crystal display of claim 19, wherein a height of the photoresist spacers is about 1 to about 10 μm .
 25. The liquid crystal display of claim 19, wherein a material of the photoresist spacer comprises acrylic resin.
 26. The liquid crystal display of claim 19, wherein a material of the photoresist spacer comprises epoxy-resin.
 27. The liquid crystal display of claim 19, wherein a height of the black matrix is about 0.1 to 6 μm .

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| 专利名称(译) | 液晶显示器结构 | | |
| 公开(公告)号 | US6917401 | 公开(公告)日 | 2005-07-12 |
| 申请号 | US10/767584 | 申请日 | 2004-01-29 |
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| IPC分类号 | G02F1/13 G02F1/1339 G02F1/1335 G02B5/20 G09F9/30 | | |
| CPC分类号 | G02F1/13394 G02F1/133512 | | |
| 优先权 | 089115544 2000-08-02 TW | | |
| 其他公开文献 | US20040183990A1 | | |
| 外部链接 | Espacenet USPTO | | |

摘要(译)

液晶显示器 (LCD) 结构及其形成方法。LCD的黑色矩阵和滤色器层从滤色器基板移动到TFT基板，以在TFT (COT) 结构上形成滤色器。此外，间隔物由光致抗蚀剂或彩色光致抗蚀剂组成，可位于由黑色矩阵覆盖的区域的部分上，以使孔径比最大化。

