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(54) **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DRIVING LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY DEVICE**

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G09G 3/36 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **345/100**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An apparatus and method for driving a liquid crystal display device are disclosed in which the response speed of the liquid crystal can be increased without using a digital memory. The driving apparatus includes a liquid crystal panel with gate lines and data lines arranged perpendicularly to each other, a gate driver that supplies a gate pulse to the gate lines, and a data driver. The data driver samples an input N-bit digital data signal to generate an analog data voltage, generates a modulated data voltage for acceleration of a response speed of the liquid crystal according to an M-bit data value of the sampled digital data signal, mixes the modulated data voltage with the analog data voltage, and supplies the mixed data voltage to the data lines.

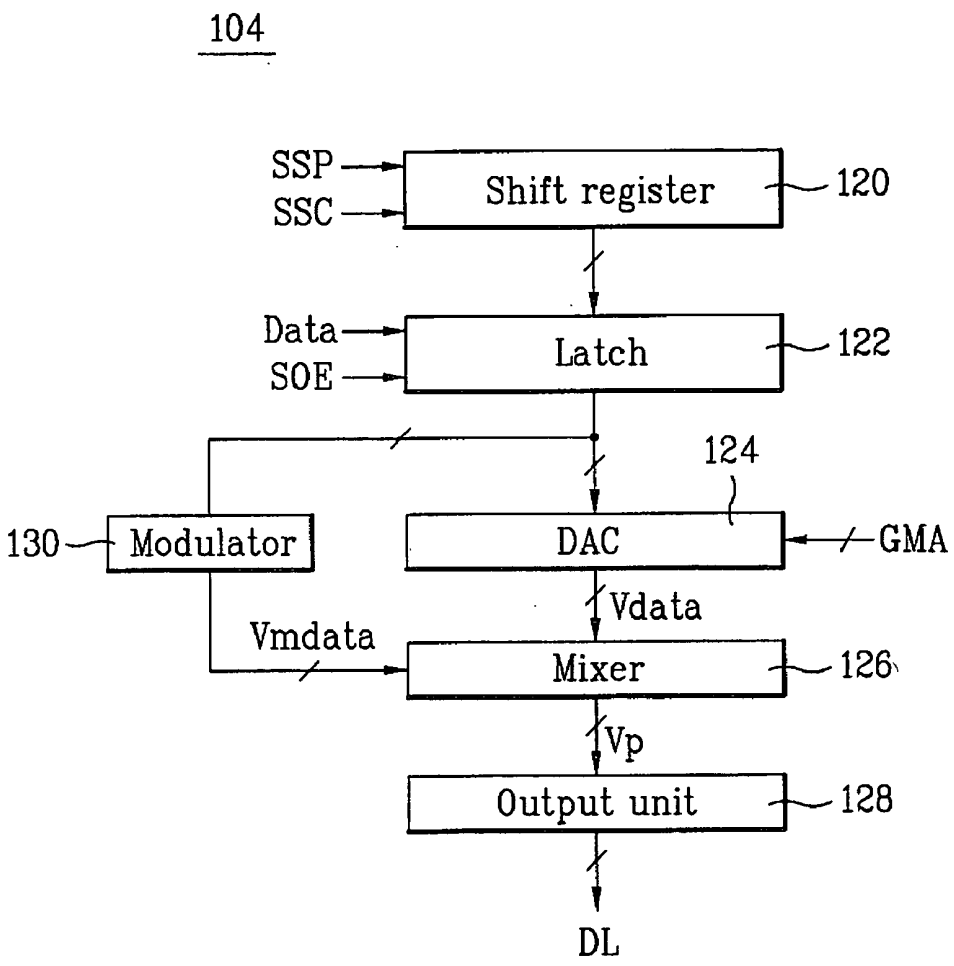


FIG. 1
Related Art

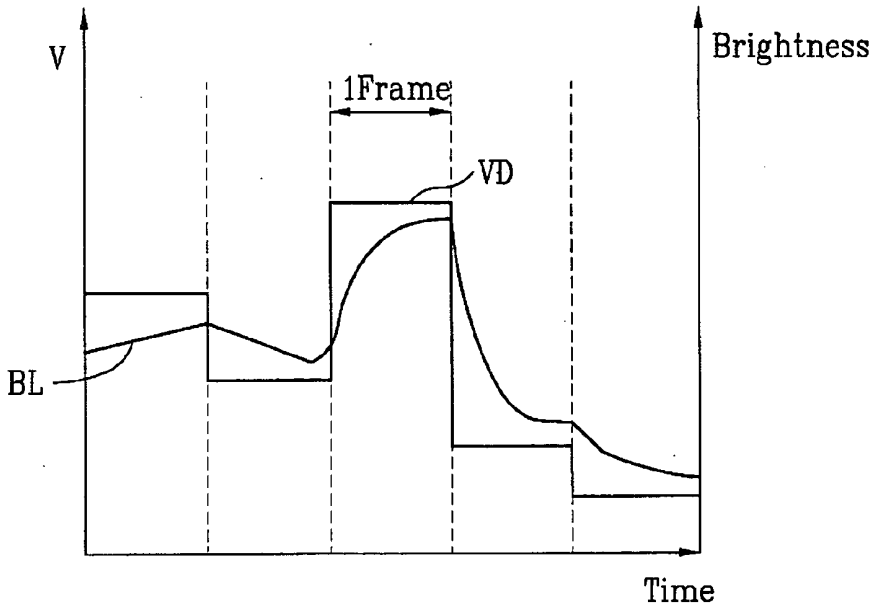


FIG. 2
Related Art

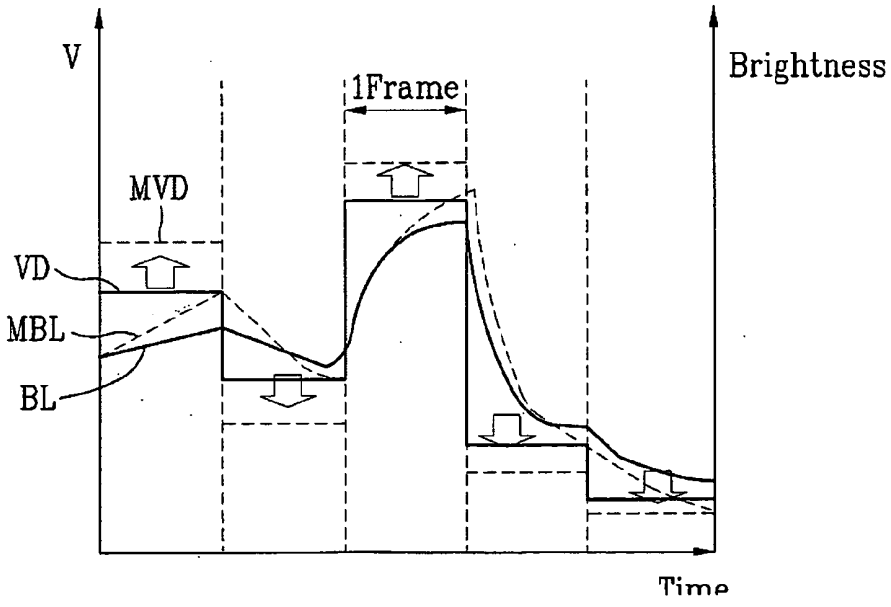


FIG. 3
Related Art

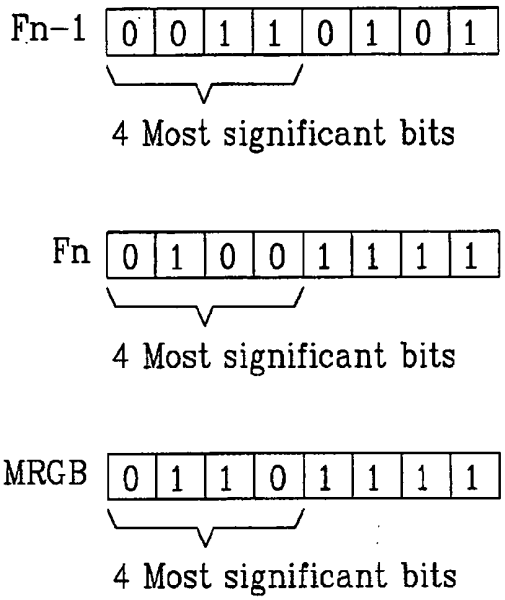


FIG. 4
Related Art

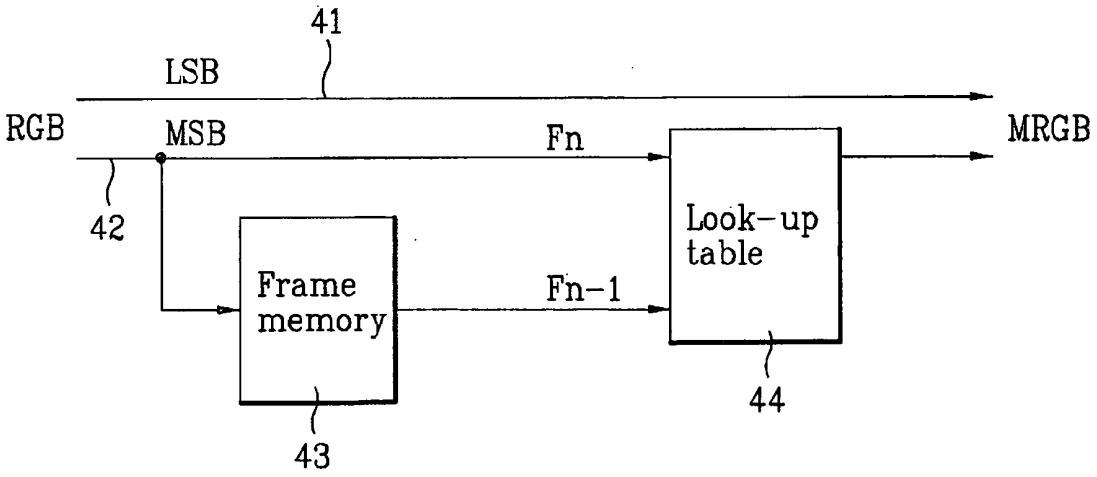


FIG. 5

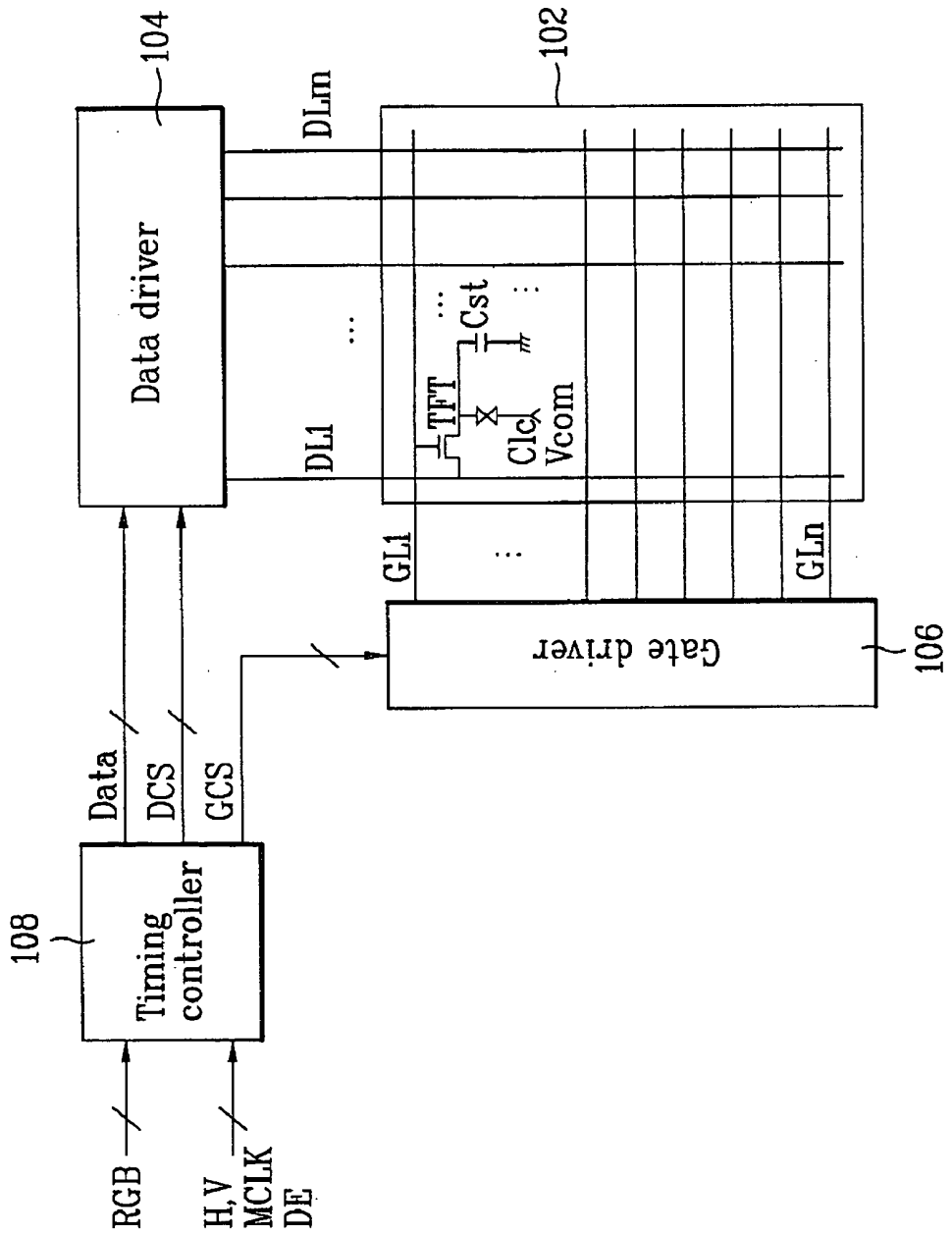

104
Data driver
DLm
DL1
102
TFT
Cst
Clc
Vcom
GL1
GLn
Gate driver
106
Data
DCS
GCS
108
Timing controller
RGB
H,V
MCLK
DE

FIG. 6

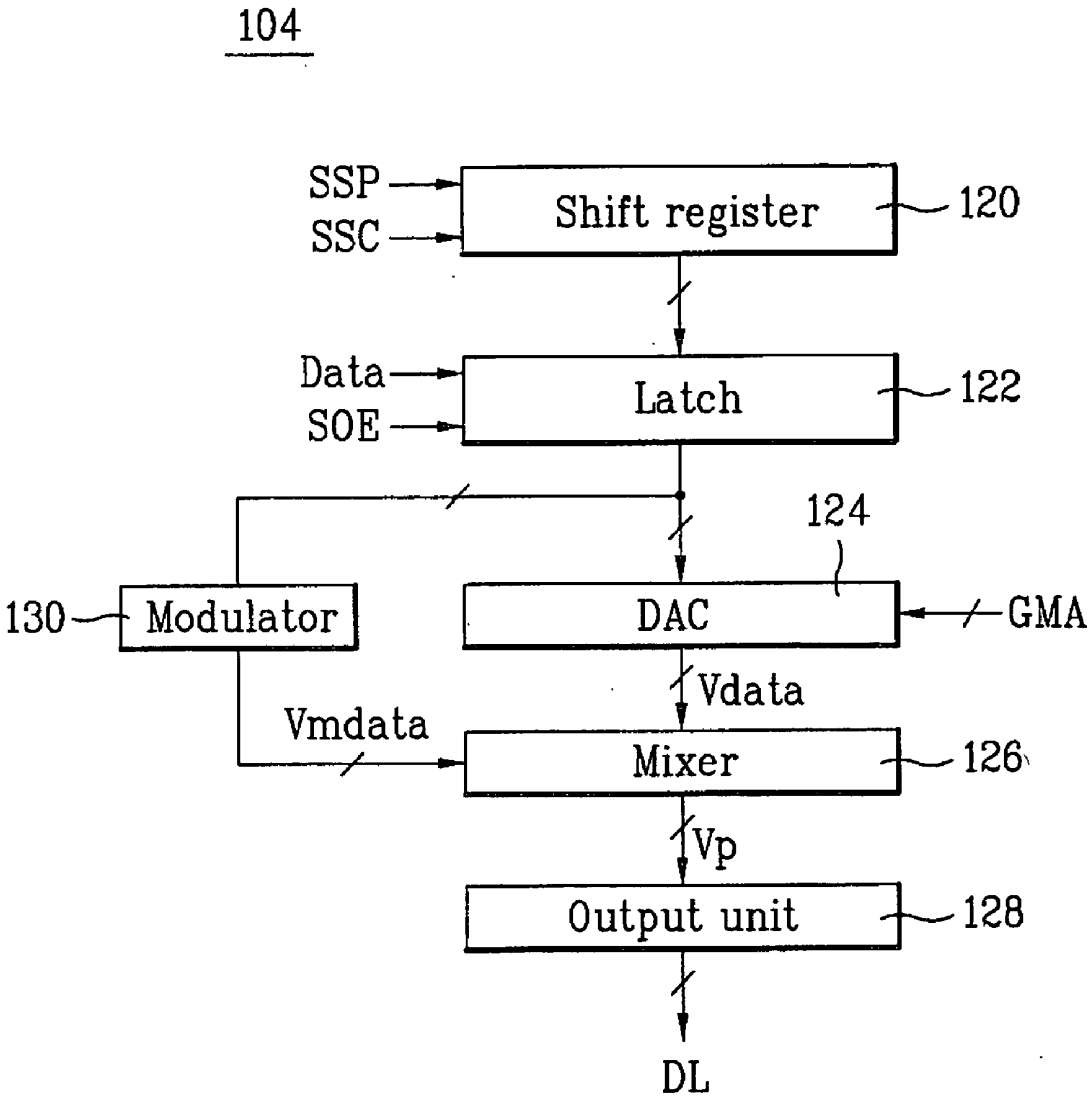

104
SSP
SSC
Shift register
120
Data
SOE
Latch
122
124
130
Modulator
DAC
GMA
Vdata
Vmdata
Mixer
126
Vp
Output unit
128
DL

FIG. 7A

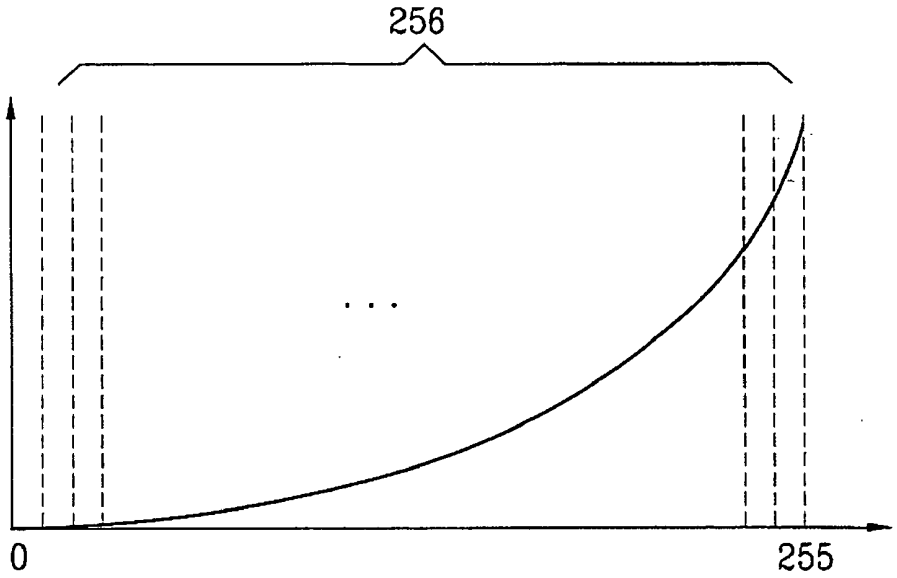


FIG. 7B

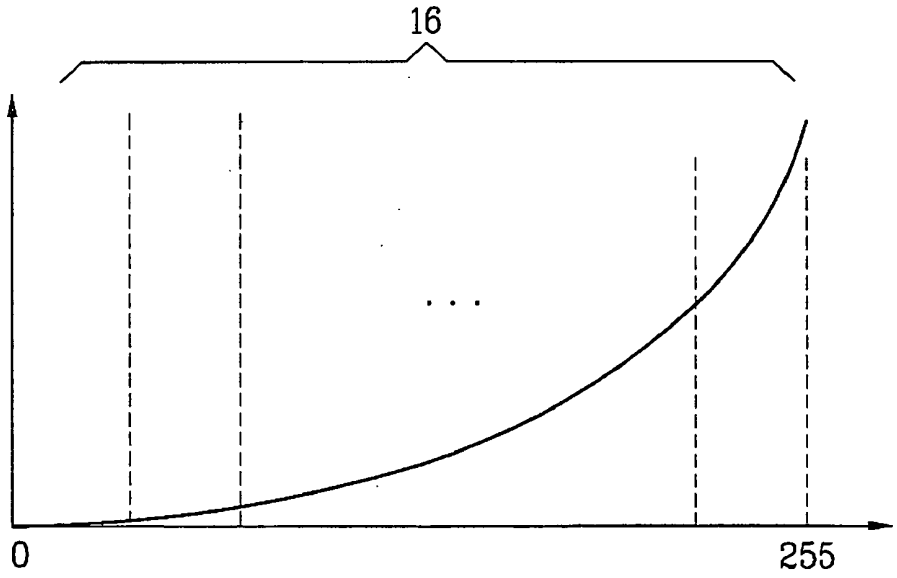


FIG. 8

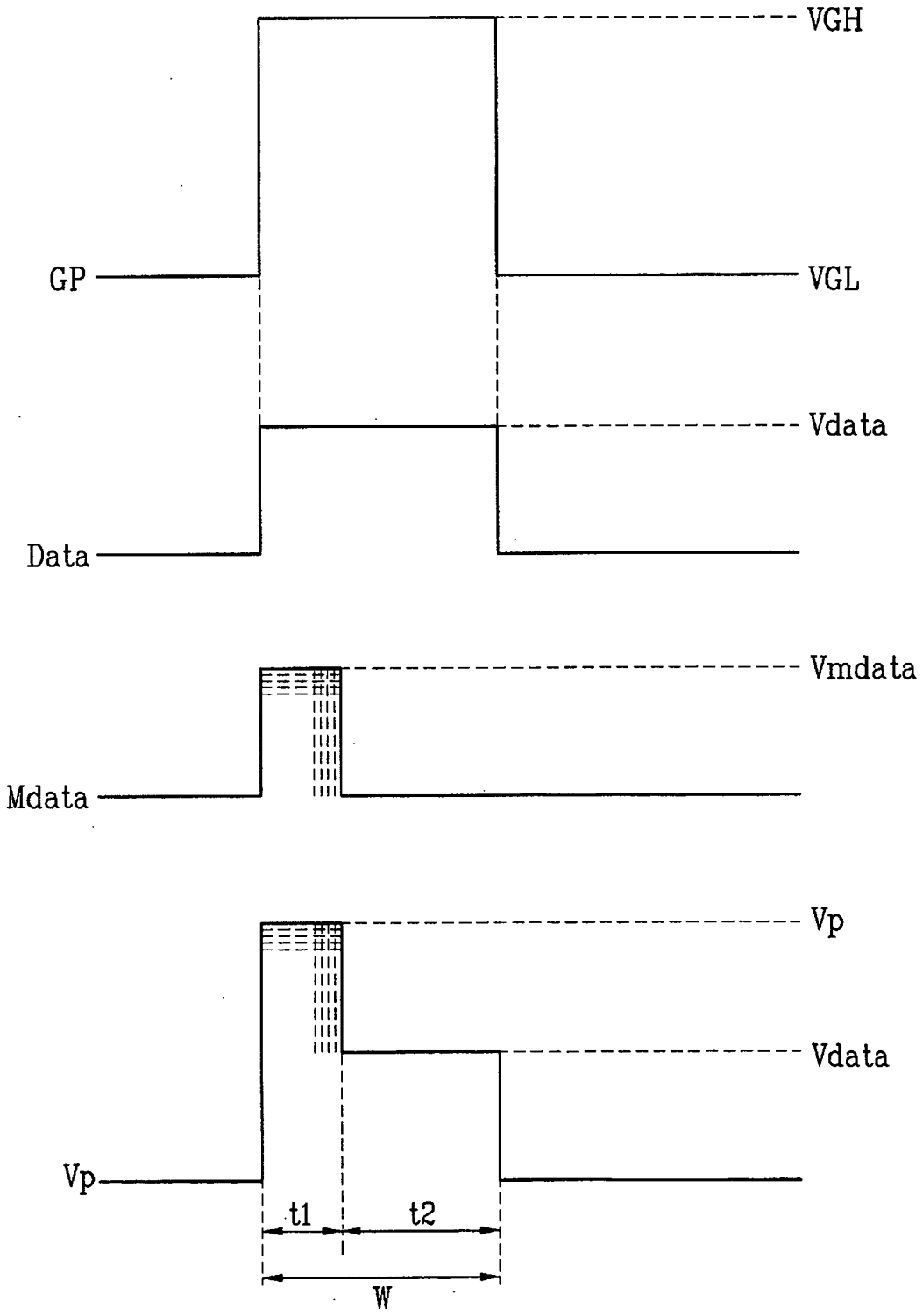


FIG. 9

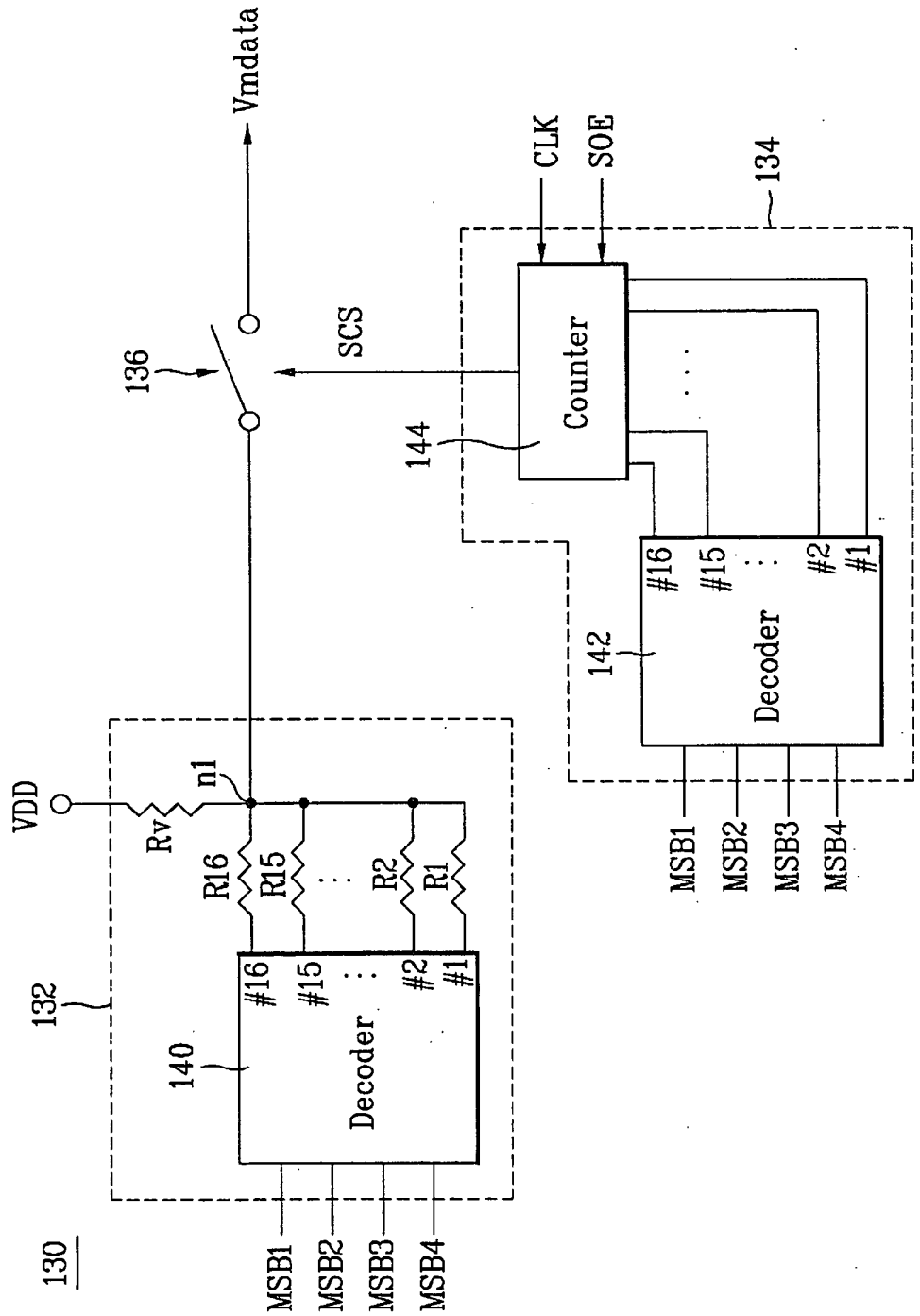

Vmdata
CLK
SOE
134
SCS
136
Counter
144
#16
#15
#2
#1
Decoder
142
MSB1
MSB2
MSB3
MSB4
VDD
n1
Rv
R16
R15
R2
R1
132
140
Decoder
130

FIG. 10

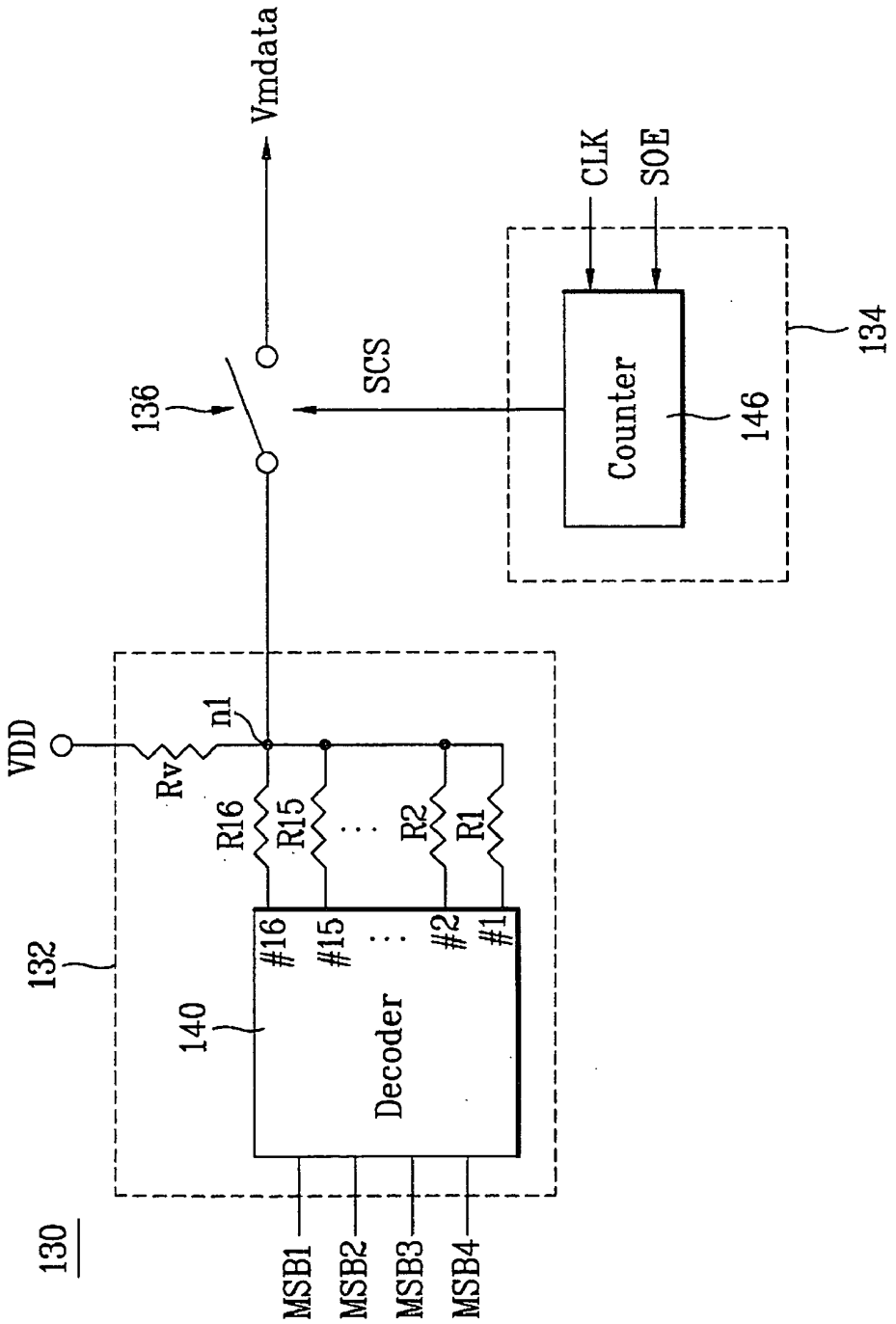

Vmdata
CLK
SOE
SCS
136
Counter
146
134
VDD
Rv
n1
R16
R15
R2
R1
#16
#15
#2
#1
132
140
Decoder
130
MSB1
MSB2
MSB3
MSB4

FIG. 11

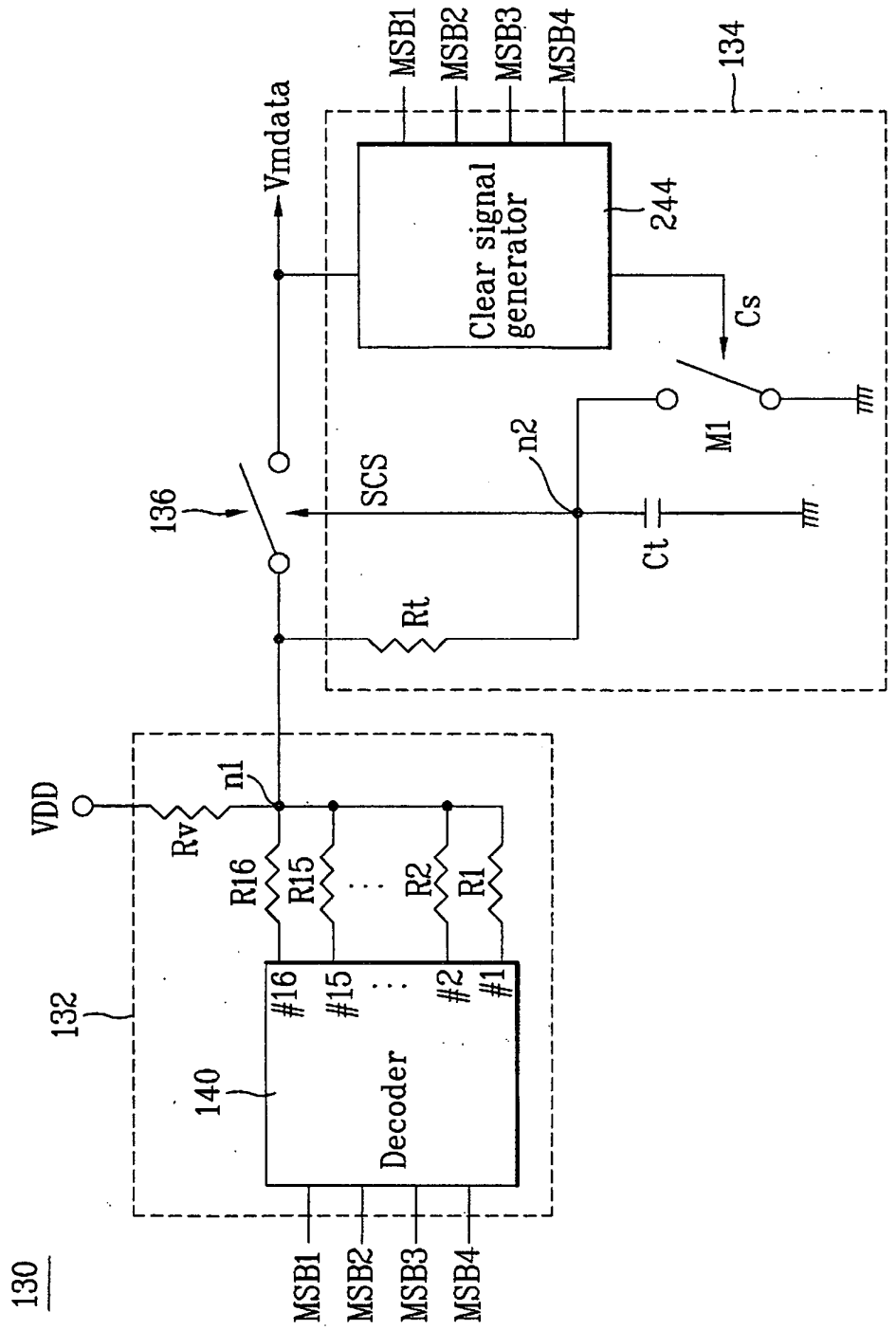

MSB1
MSB2
MSB3
MSB4
134
Vmdata
Clear signal generator
244
Cs
M1
n2
SCS
136
Ct
Rt
VDD
Rv
n1
R16
R15
R2
R1
#16
#15
#2
#1
132
140
Decoder
130
MSB1
MSB2
MSB3
MSB4

FIG. 12

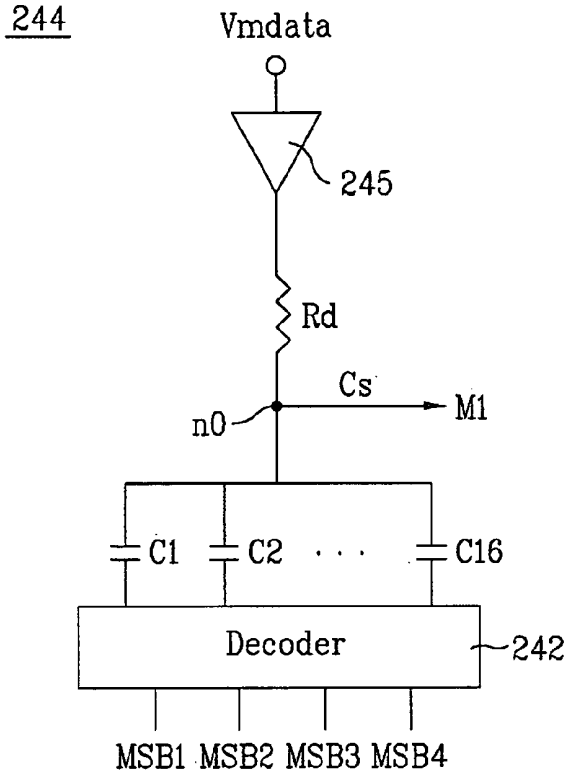

244
Vmdata
245
Rd
Cs
n0
M1
C1
C2
C16
Decoder
242
MSB1 MSB2 MSB3 MSB4

FIG. 13

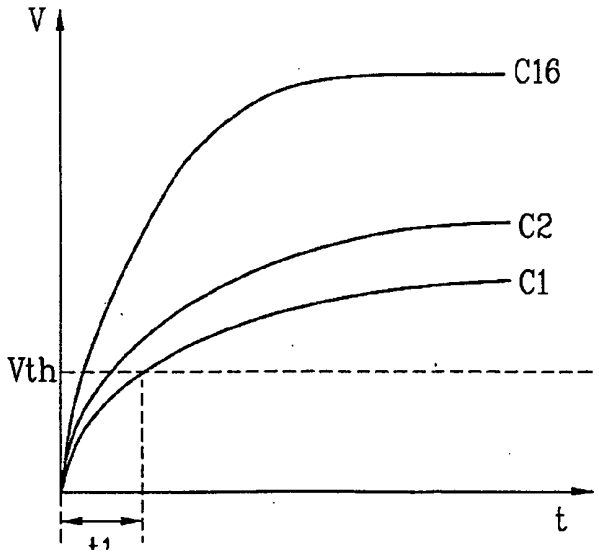

V
C16
C2
C1
Vth
t
t1

FIG. 14

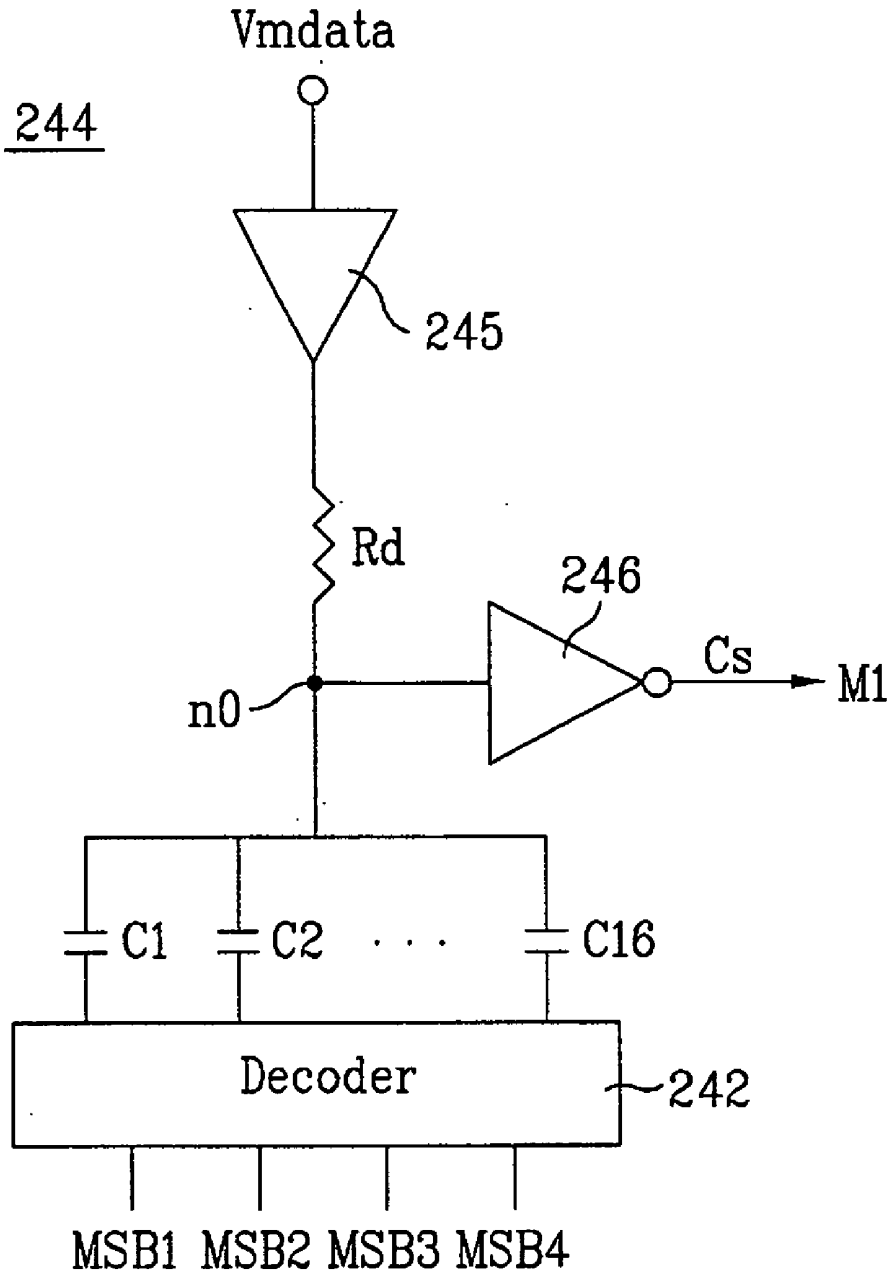

Vmdata
244
245
Rd
246
Cs
M1
n0
C1
C2
C16
Decoder
242
MSB1 MSB2 MSB3 MSB4

FIG. 15

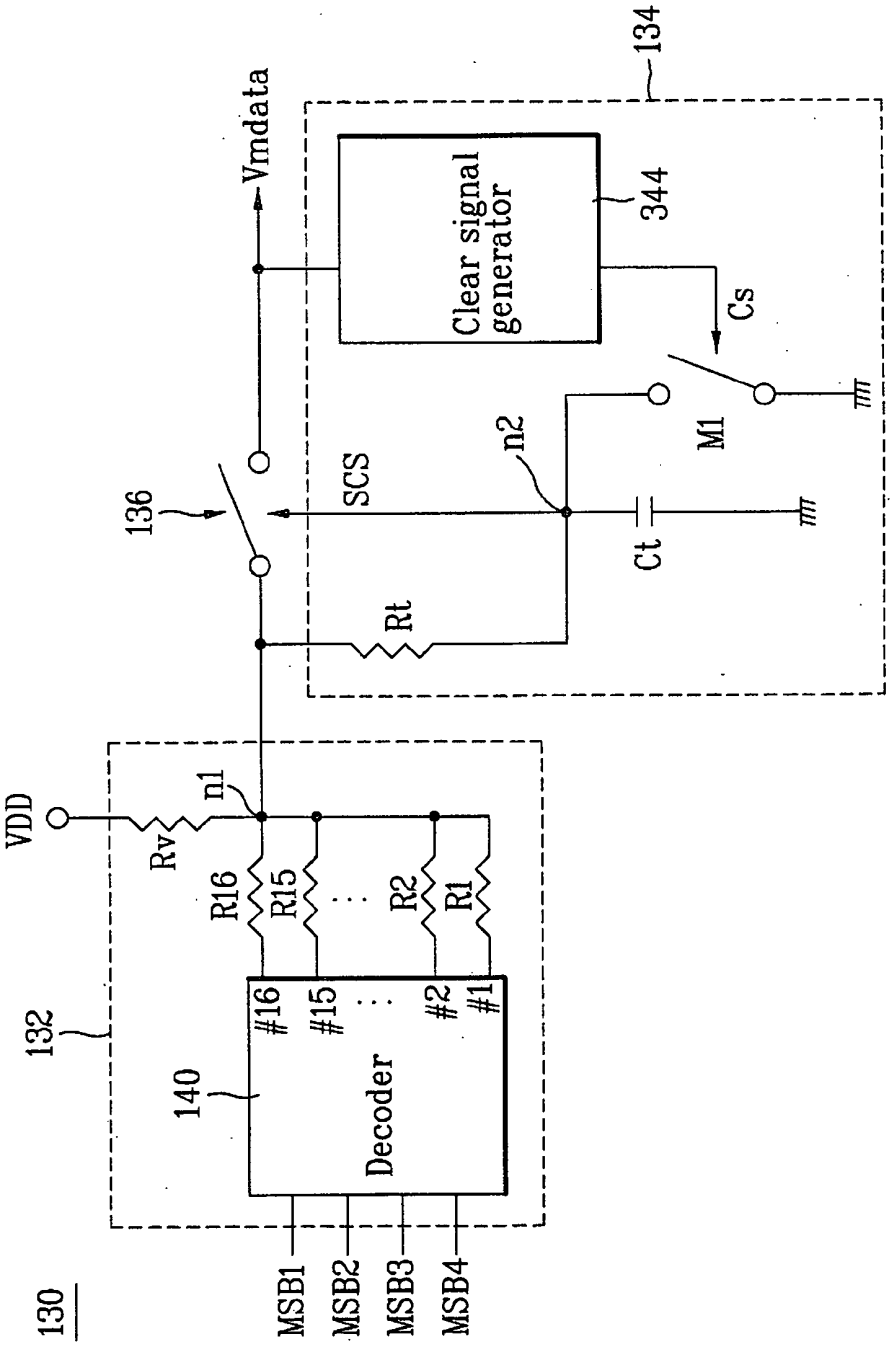

134
Vmdata
Clear signal generator
344
Cs
M1
n2
SCS
136
Ct
Rt
VDD
Rv
n1
R16
R15
R2
R1
132
#16
#15
#2
#1
140
Decoder
MSB1
MSB2
MSB3
MSB4
130

FIG. 16

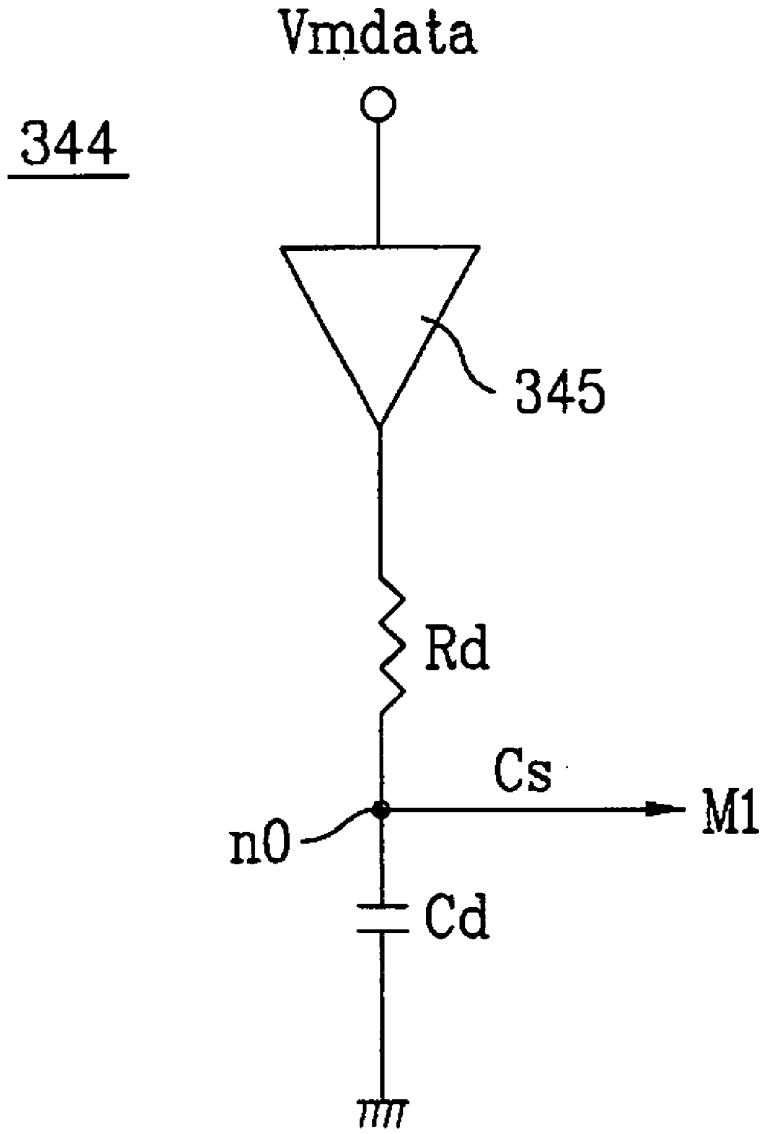


FIG. 17

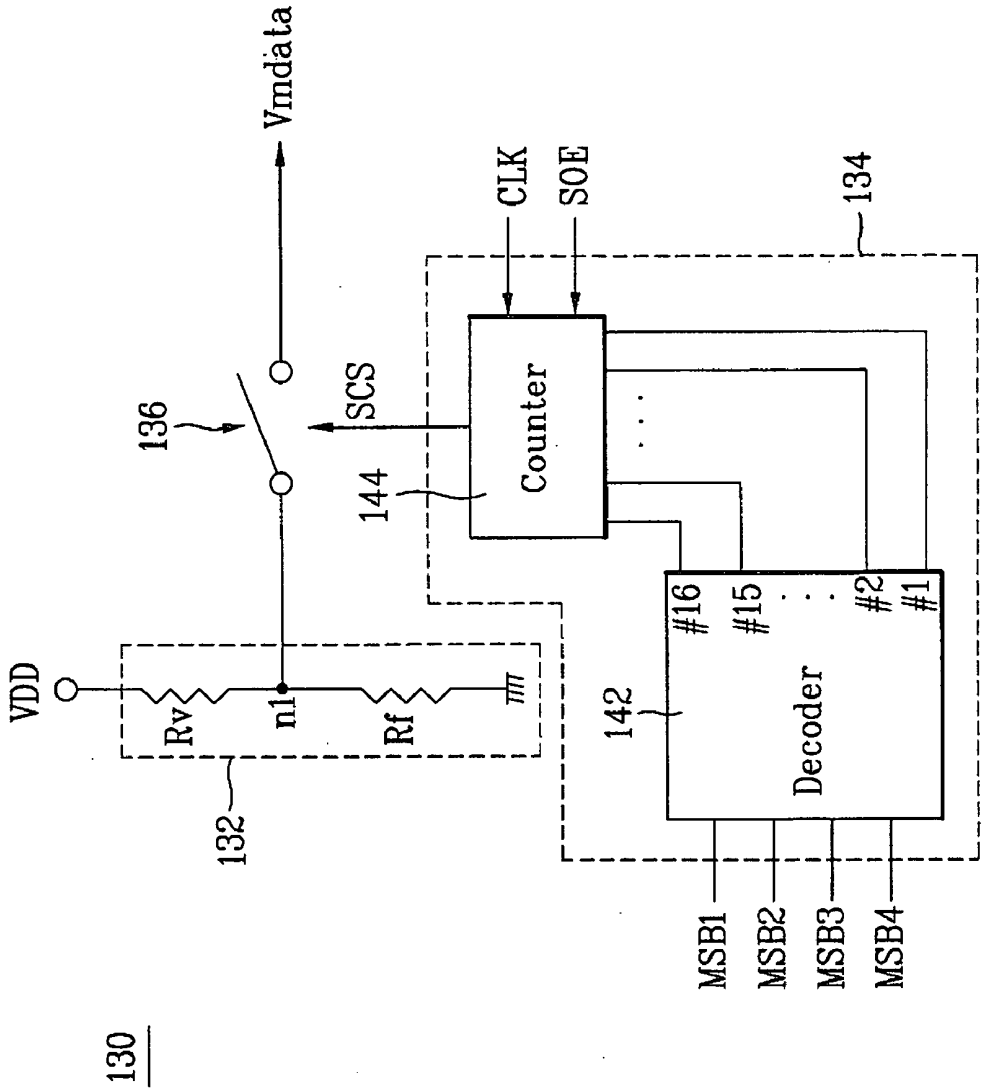

Vmdata
CLK
SOE
134
136
SCS
144
Counter
VDD
Rv
n1
Rf
132
142
#16
#15
#2
#1
Decoder
MSB1
MSB2
MSB3
MSB4
130

FIG. 18

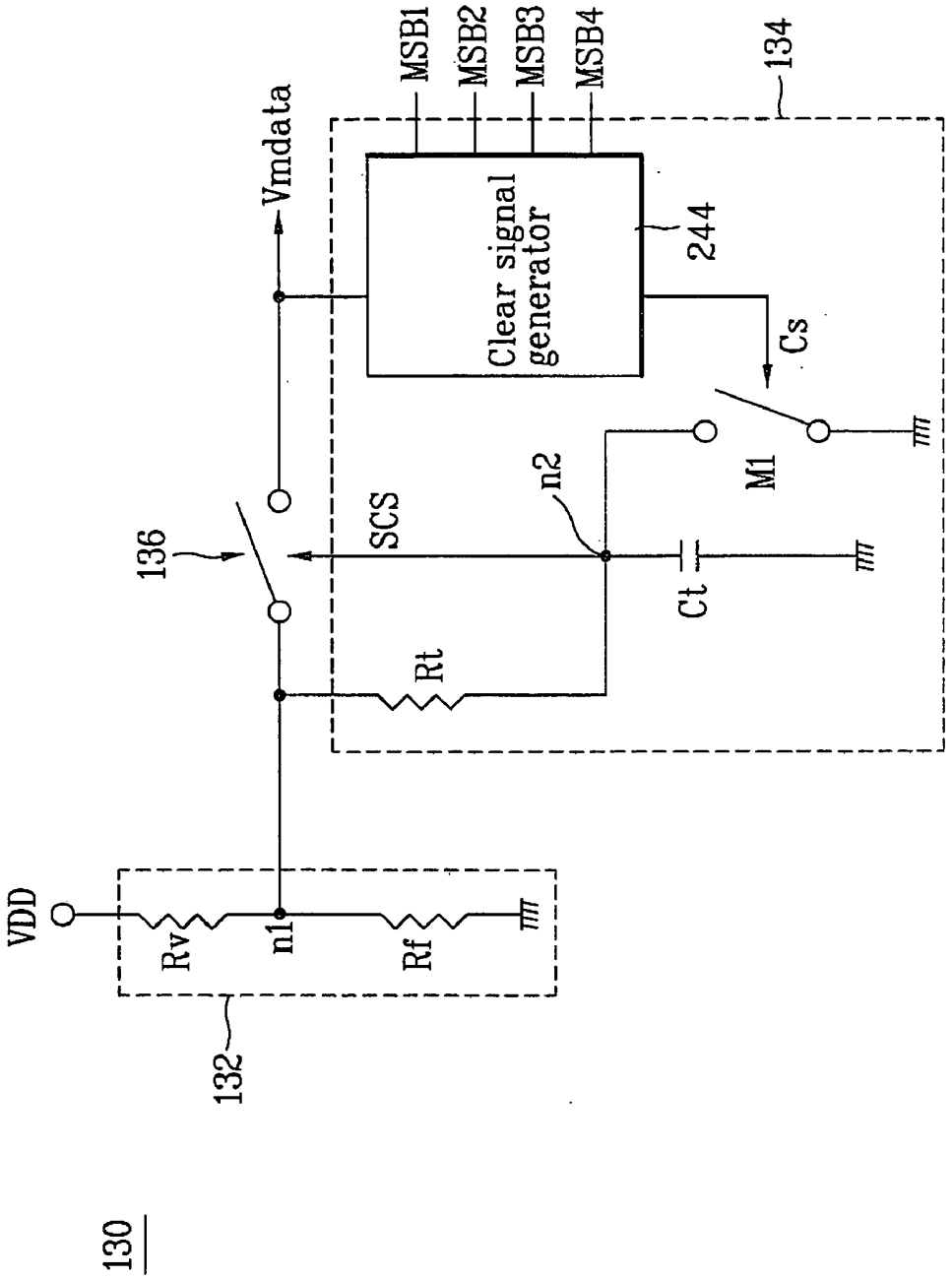

MSB1
MSB2
MSB3
MSB4
134
Vmdata
Clear signal generator
244
Cs
M1
n2
136
SCS
Ct
Rt
VDD
Rv
n1
Rf
132
130

FIG. 19

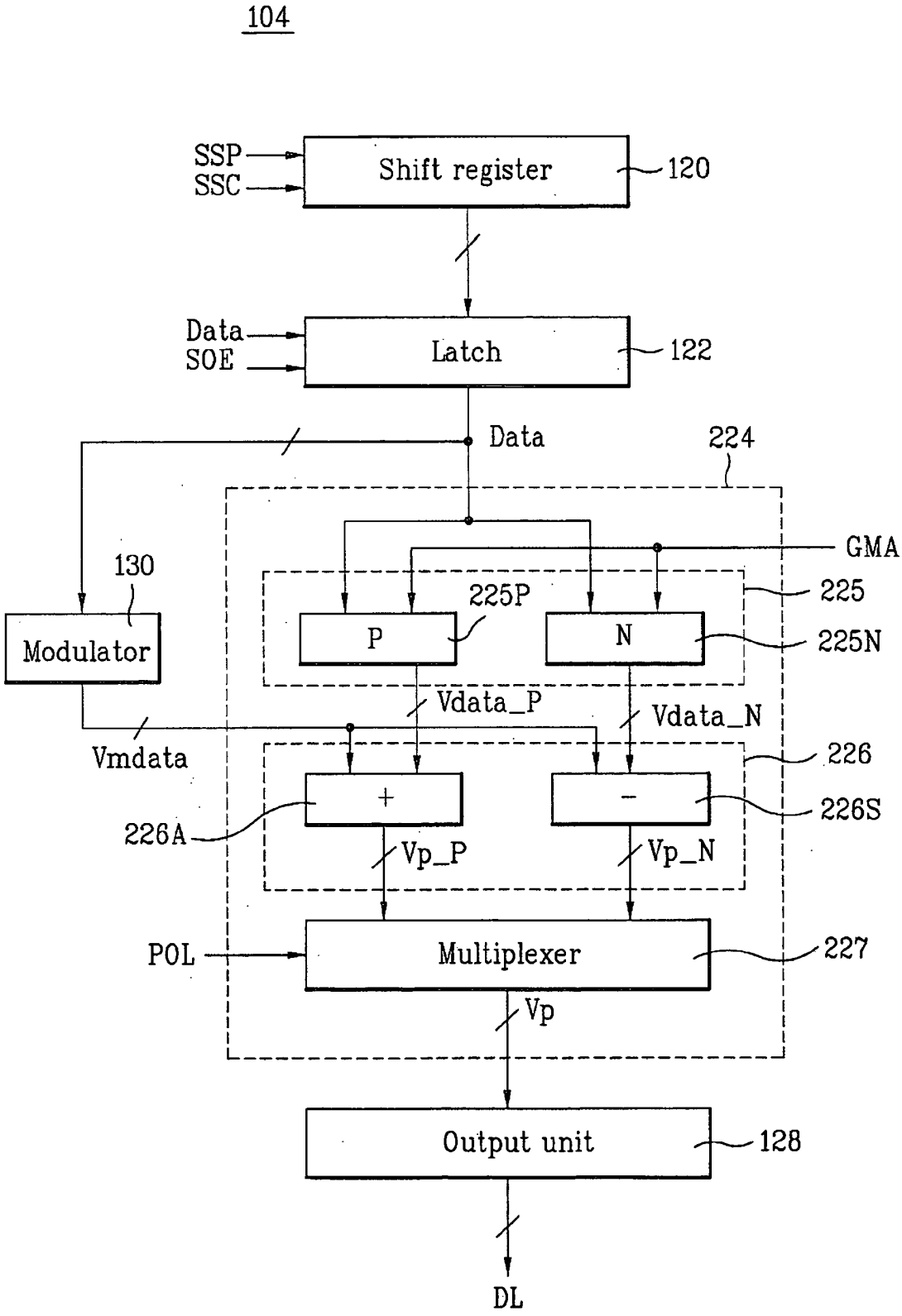

104
SSP
SSC
Shift register
120
Data
SOE
Latch
122
Data
224
GMA
130
225P
225
Modulator
P
N
225N
Vdata_P
Vdata_N
Vmdata
226
+
−
226S
226A
Vp_P
Vp_N
POL
Multiplexer
227
Vp
Output unit
128
DL

FIG. 20A

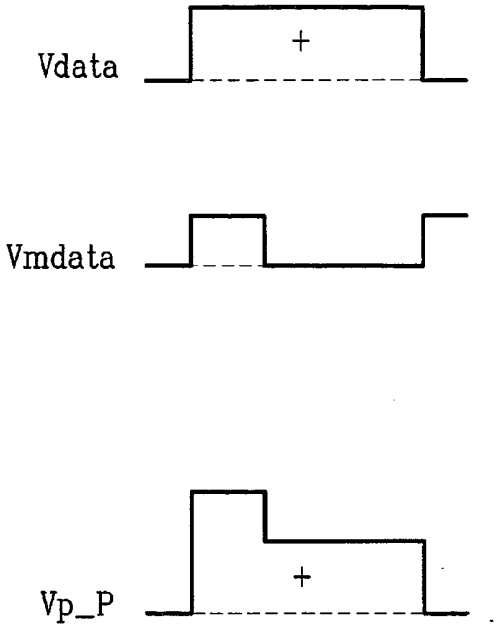


FIG. 20B

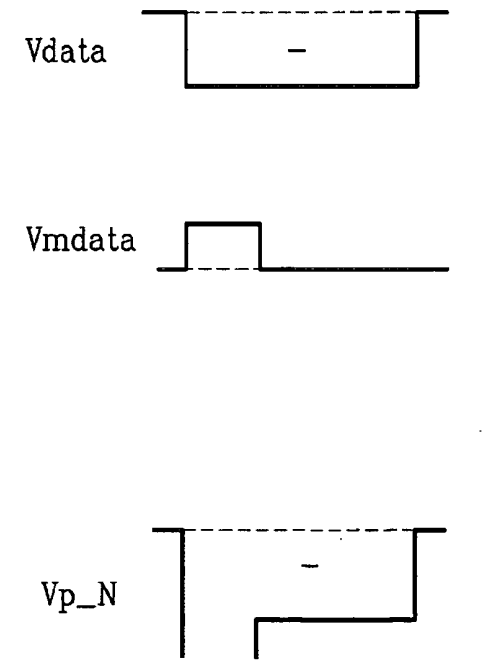


FIG. 21

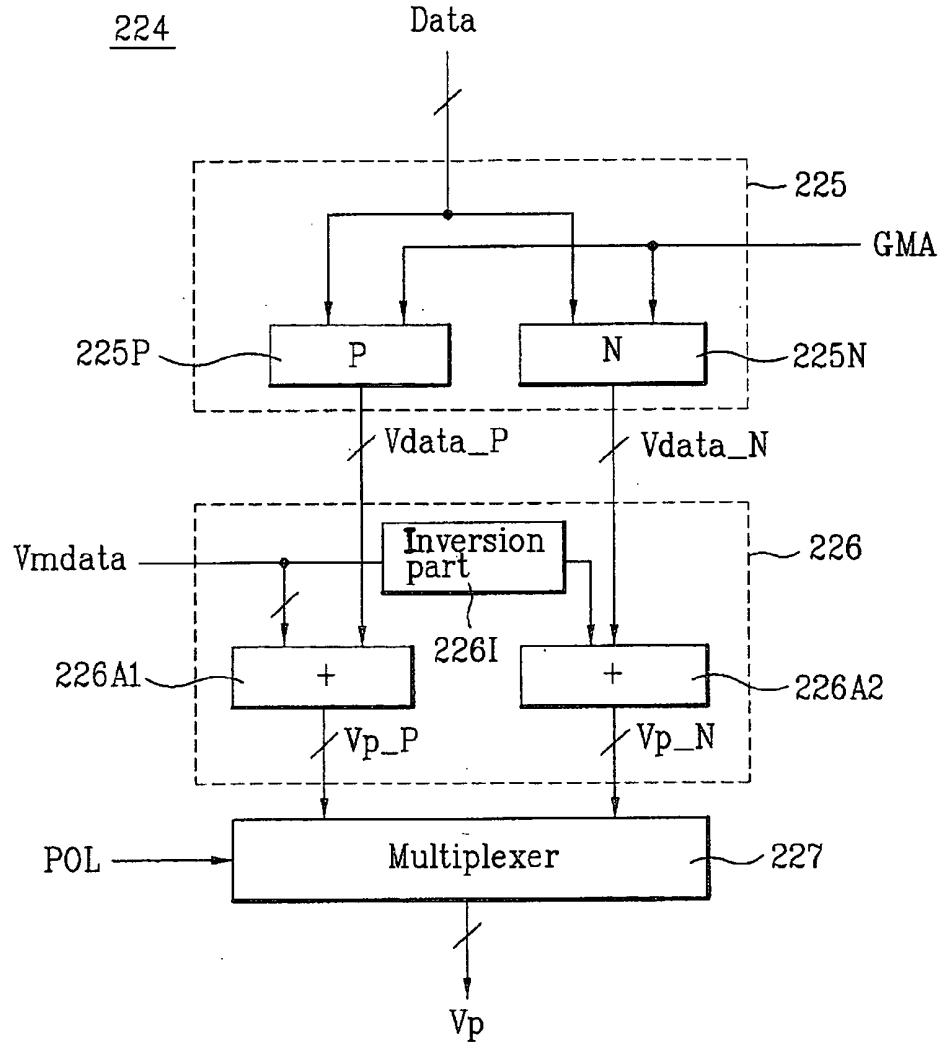

224
Data
225
GMA
225P
P
N
225N
Vdata_P
Vdata_N
Vmdata
Inversion part
226
226I
226A1
+
+
226A2
Vp_P
Vp_N
POL
Multiplexer
227
Vp

FIG. 22

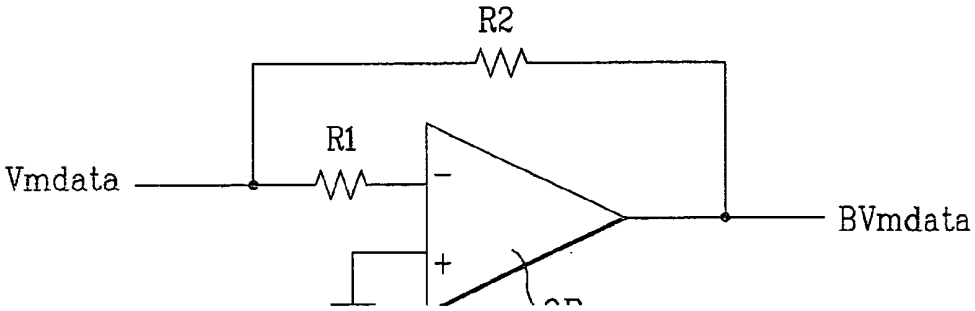
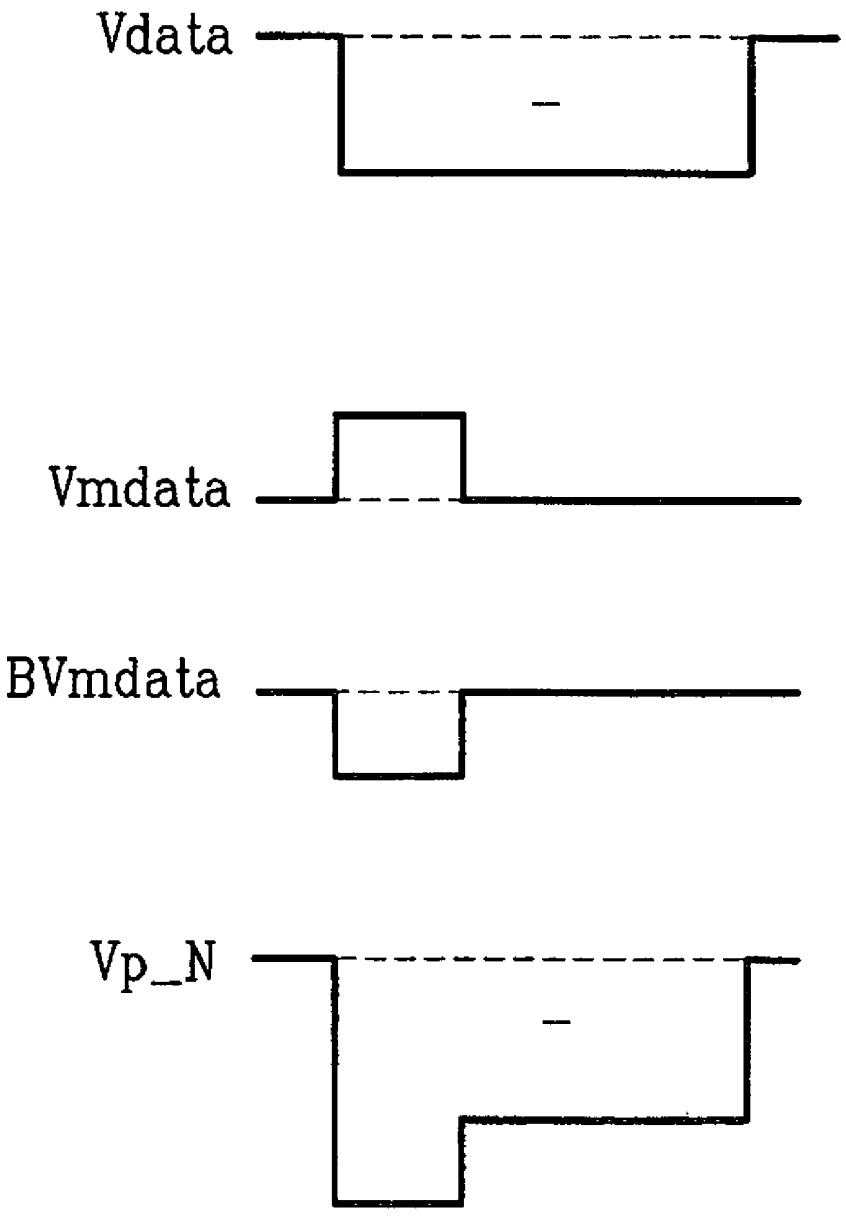

R2
R1
Vmdata
−
+
BVmdata

FIG. 23



APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DRIVING LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY DEVICE

[0001] This application claims the benefit of priority to Korean Patent Application No. P2005-97131 filed on Oct. 14, 2005, herein incorporated by reference.

[0002] 1. Technical Field

[0003] The technical field relates to a liquid crystal display (LCD) device, and more particularly, to an apparatus and method for driving a liquid crystal display device, wherein the response speed of a liquid crystal is increased without using a memory, thereby preventing degradation in picture quality.

[0004] 2. Discussion of the Related Art

[0005] Liquid crystal display devices have been used in many different types of electronic equipment. Liquid crystal display devices adjust light transmittance of liquid crystal cells according to a video signal so as to display an image. An active matrix type liquid crystal display device has a switching element formed for every liquid crystal cell and is suitable for the display of a moving image. A thin film transistor (TFT) is mainly used as the switching element in the active matrix type liquid crystal display device.

[0006] However, the liquid crystal display device has a relatively slow response speed due to characteristics such as the inherent viscosity and elasticity of a liquid crystal, as shown in the following Equations 1 and 2:

$$\tau_r \propto \frac{\gamma d^2}{\Delta\varepsilon |Va^2 - V_F^2|} \quad \text{[Equation 1]}$$

where τ_r is a rising time when a voltage is applied to the liquid crystal, Va is the applied voltage, V_F is a Frederick transition voltage at which liquid crystal molecules start to be inclined, d is a liquid crystal cell gap, and γ is the rotational viscosity of the liquid crystal molecules.

$$\tau_F \propto \frac{\gamma d^2}{K} \quad \text{[Equation 2]}$$

where τ_F is a falling time when the liquid crystal is returned to its original position due to an elastic restoration force after the applied voltage of the liquid crystal is turned off, and K is the inherent elastic modulus of the liquid crystal.

[0007] In a twisted nematic (TN) mode, although the response speed of the liquid crystal may be different according to the physical properties and cell gap of the liquid crystal, it is common that the rising time is 20 to 80 ms and the falling time is 20 to 30 ms. Because this liquid crystal response speed is longer than one frame period (16.67 ms in National Television Standards Committee (NTSC)) of a moving image, the response of the liquid crystal proceeds to the next frame before a voltage being charged on the liquid crystal reaches a desired level, as shown in FIG. **1**, resulting in motion blurring in which an afterimage is left in the eyeplane.

[0008] With reference to FIG. **1**, a conventional liquid crystal display device cannot express a desired color and brightness for display of a moving image in that, when data VD is changed from one level to another level, the corresponding display brightness level BL is unable to reach a desired value due to the slow response of the liquid crystal display device. As a result, motion blurring occurs in the moving image, causing degradation in contrast ratio and, in turn, degradation in display quality.

[0009] In order to solve the low response speed of the liquid crystal display device, U.S. Pat. No. 5,495,265 and PCT International Publication No. WO 99/09967 proposed a method for modulating data according to a variation therein using a look-up table (referred to hereinafter as a 'high-speed driving method'). This high-speed driving method is adapted to modulate data on the basis of a principle as shown in FIG. **2**.

[0010] With reference to FIG. **2**, the conventional high-speed driving method includes modulating input data VD and applying the modulated data MVD to a liquid crystal cell to obtain a desired brightness level MBL. In order to obtain the desired brightness level corresponding to the luminance of the input data in one frame period in this high-speed driving method, the response of a liquid crystal is rapidly accelerated by increasing $|Va^2-V_F^2|$ in the Equation 1 on the basis of a variation in the input data.

[0011] Accordingly, a conventional liquid crystal display device using the high-speed driving method is able to compensate for the slow response of a liquid crystal by modulating the data value to reduce motion blurring in a moving image, thereby displaying a picture with a desired color and brightness.

[0012] As shown in FIG. **3**, to reduce the memory capacity burden in the hardware implementation, the conventional high-speed driving method performs modulation by comparing respective most significant bits MSB of a previous frame Fn−1 and current frame Fn with each other. To clarify, the conventional high-speed driving method compares respective most significant bit data MSB of the previous frame Fn−1 and current frame Fn with each other to determine whether there is a variation between the two most significant bit data MSB. If there is a variation between the two most significant bit data MSB, the corresponding modulated data MRGB is selected from a look-up table as most significant bit data MSB of the current frame Fn.

[0013] FIG. **4** shows the configuration of a conventional high-speed driving apparatus implementing the aforementioned high-speed driving method.

[0014] With reference to FIG. **4**, the conventional high-speed driving apparatus comprises a frame memory **43** connected to a most significant bit bus line **42**, and a look-up table **44** connected in common to output terminals of the most significant bit bus line **42** and frame memory **43**.

[0015] The frame memory **43** stores most significant bit data MSB for one frame period and supplies the stored data to the look-up table **44**. Here, the most significant bit data MSB is set to four most significant bits of 8-bit source data RGB.

[0016] The look-up table **44** compares most significant bit data MSB of a current frame Fn inputted from the most

significant bit bus line **42** with most significant bit data MSB of a previous frame Fn−1 inputted from the frame memory **43**, as in Table 1 below, and selects modulated data MRGB corresponding to the comparison result. The modulated data MRGB is added to least significant bit data LSB from a least significant bit bus line **41** and then supplied to a liquid crystal display device.

[**0017**] Where the most significant bit data MSB is limited to four bits, the modulated data MRGB registered in the look-up table **44** of the high-speed driving apparatus and method is

TABLE 1

		Current Frame															
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Previous Frame	0	0	1	3	4	6	7	9	10	11	12	14	15	15	15	15	15
	1	0	1	2	4	5	7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	15	15	15
	2	0	1	2	3	5	7	8	9	10	12	13	14	15	15	15	15
	3	0	1	2	3	5	6	8	9	10	11	12	14	14	15	15	15
	4	0	0	1	2	4	6	7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	15	15
	5	0	0	0	2	3	5	7	8	9	11	12	13	14	15	15	15
	6	0	0	0	1	3	4	6	8	9	10	11	13	14	15	15	15
	7	0	0	0	1	2	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	14	14	15	15
	8	0	0	0	1	2	3	5	6	8	9	11	12	13	14	15	15
	9	0	0	0	1	2	3	4	6	7	9	10	12	13	14	15	15
	10	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	5	7	8	10	11	13	14	15	15
	11	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	5	6	7	9	11	12	14	15	15
	12	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	4	5	7	8	10	12	13	15	15
	13	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	4	6	8	10	11	13	14	15
	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	5	7	9	11	13	14	15
	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	6	9	11	13	14	15

[**0018**] In the above Table 1, the leftmost column represents the data voltage VDn−1 of the previous frame Fn−1 and the uppermost row represents most row represents the data voltage VDn of the current frame Fn. Table 1 also includes look-up table information obtained by expressing four most significant bits in decimal form.

[**0019**] In the above-mentioned high-speed driving apparatus and method, a digital memory, such as the look-up table **44**, is used to generate modulated data MRGB by comparing the data of the previous frame Fn−1 and current frame Fn with each other. The use of the digital memory increases chip size as well as manufacturing costs.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[**0020**] The disclosure includes the following detailed description and reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

[**0021**] FIG. **1** is a waveform diagram of a data-dependent brightness variation in a conventional liquid crystal display device;

[**0022**] FIG. **2** is a waveform diagram of a data modulation-dependent brightness variation of a conventional high-speed driving method;

[**0023**] FIG. **3** is a view of most significant bit data modulation in a conventional high-speed driving apparatus;

[**0024**] FIG. **4** is a block diagram of the conventional high-speed driving apparatus;

[**0025**] FIG. **5** is a block diagram schematically showing a configuration of a driving apparatus;

[**0026**] FIG. **6** is a schematic diagram of the data driver in FIG. **5**;

[**0027**] FIG. **7**A is a graph of the levels of gamma voltages which are supplied to a digital-to-analog converter in FIG. **6**, or the levels of modulated data voltages which are outputted from a modulator in FIG. **6**;

[**0028**] FIG. **7**B is a graph of the levels of the modulated data voltages which are outputted from the modulator in FIG. **6**;

[**0029**] FIG. **8** is a waveform diagram of waveforms that are supplied to gate lines and data lines of a liquid crystal panel in FIG. **5**;

[**0030**] FIG. **9** is a view showing one example of the modulator in FIG. **6**;

[**0031**] FIG. **10** is a view showing another example of the modulator in FIG. **6**;

[**0032**] FIG. **11** is a view showing yet another example of the modulator in FIG. **6**;

[**0033**] FIG. **12** is a view showing one example of a clear signal generator in FIG. **11**;

[**0034**] FIG. **13** is a waveform diagram of voltages stored in respective capacitors in FIG. **12**;

[**0035**] FIG. **14** is a view showing another example of the clear signal generator in FIG. **11**;

[**0036**] FIG. **15** is a view showing a fourth example of the modulator in FIG. **6**;

[**0037**] FIG. **16** is a view showing one example of a clear signal generator in FIG. **15**;

[**0038**] FIG. **17** is a view showing a fifth example of the modulator in FIG. **6**;

[**0039**] FIG. **18** is a view showing a sixth example of the modulator in FIG. **6**;

[**0040**] FIG. **19** is a block diagram showing another example of a data driver;

[0041] FIG. **20**A is a waveform diagram of a mix of a modulated data voltage and a positive analog data voltage shown in FIG. **19**;

[0042] FIG. **20**B is a waveform diagram of a mix of a modulated data voltage and a negative analog data voltage shown in FIG. **19**;

[0043] FIG. **21** is a block diagram of another example of a digital-to-analog converter;

[0044] FIG. **22** is a circuit diagram of an inversion part of FIG. **21**; and

[0045] FIG. **23** is a waveform diagram of a mix of a modulated data voltage and a negative analog data voltage shown in FIG. **21**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0046] Reference will now be made in detail to the examples, which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings. Wherever possible, the same reference numbers will be used throughout the drawings to refer to the same or like parts.

[0047] Referring first to FIG. **5**, the driving apparatus of a liquid crystal display device comprises a liquid crystal panel **102** including a plurality of gate lines GL**1** to GLn and a plurality of data lines DL**1** to DLm arranged perpendicularly to each other for defining cell areas, a gate driver **106** for driving the gate lines GL**1** to GLn of the liquid crystal panel **102**, and a data driver **104** for sampling an input N-bit (where N is a positive integer) digital data signal Data. The data driver **104** is further capable of generating an analog data voltage Vdata (not shown) corresponding to the sampled N-bit digital data signal Data and generating a modulated data voltage Vmdata (not shown) for accelerating the response speed of a liquid crystal according to an M-bit (where M is a positive integer smaller than or equal to N) data value of the sampled N-bit digital data signal Data. The data driver **104** is also capable of mixing the modulated data voltage Vmdata with the analog data voltage Vdata and supplying the mixed data voltage to the data lines DL. The driving apparatus of the liquid crystal display device further comprises a timing controller **108** for controlling driving timings of the data and gate drivers (**104**, **106**) and supplying the digital data signal Data to the data driver **104**.

[0048] The liquid crystal panel **102** further includes a plurality of thin film transistors (TFTs) formed respectively at intersections of the gate lines GL**1** to GLn and the data lines DL**1** to DLm, and a plurality of liquid crystal cells connected respectively to the TFTs. Each TFT supplies an analog data voltage from an associated one of the data lines DL**1** to DLm to an associated one of the liquid crystal cells in response to a gate pulse from an associated one of the gate lines GL**1** to GLn. Each liquid crystal cell can be expressed as a liquid crystal capacitor Clc because it is provided with a common electrode facing the liquid crystal, and a pixel electrode connected to the associated TFT. This liquid crystal cell includes a storage capacitor Cst for maintaining an analog data voltage charged on the liquid crystal capacitor Clc until the next data signal is charged.

[0049] The timing controller **108** arranges source data RGB externally supplied thereto into a digital data signal Data for driving of the liquid crystal panel **102**, and supplies the arranged digital data signal Data to the data driver **104**. The timing controller **108** also generates a data control signal DCS and a gate control signal GCS using a main clock MCLK, a data enable signal DE, and horizontal and vertical synchronous signals Hsync and Vsync externally inputted thereto. The timing controller **108** applies the generated data control signal DCS and gate control signal GCS respectively to the data and gate drivers (**104**, **106**) to control their driving timings.

[0050] The gate driver **106** sequentially generates and supplies a gate pulse to the gate lines GL**1** to GLn in response to the gate control signal GCS from the timing controller **108** to turn the TFTs on and off. The gate control signal GCS may include a gate start pulse GSP, a gate shift clock GSC, a gate output enable signal GOE, or other similar signals. The gate pulse may include a gate high voltage VGH for turning the TFTs on, a gate low voltage VGL for turning the TFTs off, or other similar signals.

[0051] The data driver **104** samples the N-bit (where N is a positive integer) digital data signal Data from the timing controller **108** in response to the data control signal DCS and generates the analog data voltage Vdata corresponding to the sampled N-bit digital data signal Data. The data driver **104** also generates the modulated data voltage Vmdata for accelerating the response speed of the liquid crystal according to the M-bit (where M is a positive integer smaller than or equal to N) data value of the sampled N-bit digital data signal Data. The data driver **104** further mixes the modulated data voltage Vmdata with the analog data voltage Vdata and supplies the mixed data voltage to the data lines DL.

[0052] As shown in FIG. **6**, the data driver **104** includes, a shift register **120** for sequentially generating a sampling signal, a latch **122** for latching the N-bit digital data signal Data in response to the sampling signal, and a digital-to-analog converter **124** for selecting any one of a plurality of gamma voltages GMA based on the latched N-bit digital data signal Data and generating the selected gamma voltage GMA as the analog data voltage Vdata corresponding to the digital data signal Data. The data driver **104** also includes a modulator **130** for generating the modulated data voltage Vmdata for accelerating the response speed of the liquid crystal according to the M-bit data value of the latched N-bit digital data signal Data, a mixer **126** for mixing the modulated data voltage Vmdata with the analog data voltage Vdata, and an output unit **128** for buffering the mixed data voltage Vp and supplying the buffered data voltage to the data lines DL.

[0053] The shift register **120** sequentially generates and supplies the sampling signal to the latch **122** in response to a source start pulse SSP and a source shift clock SSC included in the data control signal DCS from the timing controller **108**.

[0054] The latch **122** latches the N-bit digital data signal Data from the timing controller **108** in response to the sampling signal from the shift register **120** on a horizontal line-by-horizontal line basis. The latch **122** also supplies the latched N-bit digital data signal Data of one horizontal line to the digital-to-analog converter **124** in response to a source output enable signal SOE included in the data control signal DCS from the timing controller **108**.

[0055] The digital-to-analog converter **124** converts the N-bit digital data signal Data into the analog data voltage

Vdata and supplies the converted analog data voltage Vdata to the mixer **126** by selecting any one of the plurality of gamma voltages GMA, which are supplied from a gamma voltage generator, not shown, according to the N-bit digital data signal Data from the latch **122**. When the N-bit digital data signal Data is of 8 bits, the plurality of gamma voltages GMA have 256 different levels, as shown in FIG. **7**A. In this case, the digital-to-analog converter **124** selects any one of the gamma voltages GMA of the 256 different levels corresponding to the N-bit digital data signal Data from the latch **122** and generates the selected gamma voltage as the analog data voltage Vdata.

[**0056**] The modulator **130** generates the modulated data voltage Vmdata for accelerating the response speed of the liquid crystal according to the digital data signal Data of the M bits from the N bits outputted from the latch **122** and supplies the generated data voltage Vmdata to the mixer **126**.

[**0057**] In detail, the modulator **130** generates a modulated data voltage Vmdata having a different level and a different pulse width depending on the M-bit digital data signal Data supplied from the latch **122**.

[**0058**] When the M-bit digital data signal Data outputted from the latch **122** is 8 bits, the modulator **130** generates modulated data voltages Vmdata having 256 different levels and pulse widths. However, when the M-bit digital data signal Data inputted to the modulator **130** is 8 bits, the modulator **130** is increased in size. For this reason, it is assumed that the digital data signal Data of the four most significant bits MSB**1** to MSB**4** of the 8 bits outputted from the latch **122** is supplied to the modulator **130**. Thus, the modulator **130** generates a modulated data voltage Vmdata having any one of 16 different levels and any one of 16 different pulse widths, as shown in FIG. **7**B, on the basis of the four most significant bits MSB**1** to MSB**4** from the latch **122**, and supplies the generated modulated data voltage Vmdata to the mixer **126**.

[**0059**] The mixer **126** mixes the modulated data voltage Vmdata from the modulator **130** with the analog data voltage Vdata from the digital-to-analog converter **124** and supplies the mixed data voltage Vp to the output unit **128**.

[**0060**] The output unit **128** supplies the data voltage Vp from the mixer **126** to the data lines DL.

[**0061**] FIG. **8** is a waveform diagram of a gate pulse GP and data voltage Vp which are supplied to the liquid crystal panel **102** in FIG. **5** for one horizontal period.

[**0062**] Referring to FIG. **8** in connection with FIG. **6**, a gate pulse GP with a certain width W from the gate driver **106** is supplied to the gate line GL of the liquid crystal panel **102**. Synchronously with this gate pulse GP, the mixer **126** supplies the mixed data voltage Vp of the analog data voltage Vdata from the digital-to-analog converter **124** and the modulated data voltage Vmdata from the modulator **130** to the data line DL of the liquid crystal panel **102** for a first period t**1** of the gate pulse GP in which a gate high voltage VGH is supplied to the gate line. Then, the analog data voltage Vdata from the digital-to-analog converter **124** is supplied to the data line DL of the liquid crystal panel **102** for a second period t**2** of the gate pulse GP subsequent to the first period t**1** in which the gate high voltage VGH is supplied to the gate line. Preferably, the first period t**1** is shorter than the second period t**2**.

[**0063**] Therefore, in the driving apparatus and method of the liquid crystal display device, the liquid crystal is predriven with a voltage higher than the analog data voltage Vdata by supplying the data voltage Vp and the modulated data voltage Vmdata to the data line DL in the first period t**1** of the gate pulse GP which is supplied to the gate line GL. The liquid crystal is then driven in a desired state by supplying an analog data voltage Vp of a desired gray scale to the data line DL in the second period t**2** of the gate pulse GP. To clarify, in the driving apparatus and method of the liquid crystal display device according to the embodiment of the present invention, the liquid crystal is driven at high speed with the mixed data voltage of the modulated data voltage Vmdata and analog data voltage Vdata in the first period t**1** of the scan period of the liquid crystal panel **102**, and then normally driven with the analog data voltage Vdata in the second period t**2** subsequent to the first period t**1**.

[**0064**] Hence, in the driving apparatus and method of the liquid crystal display device, it is possible to increase the response speed of the liquid crystal even without using a separate memory, so as to prevent degradation in picture quality.

[**0065**] FIG. **8** shows one example of the modulator $_0$ **30** in the driving apparatus of the liquid crystal display device shown in FIGS. **5** and **6**.

[**0066**] Referring to FIG. **8** in connection with FIG. **6**, the modulator $_0$ **30** includes a modulated voltage generator $_0$ **32** for generating the modulated data voltage Vmdata having the different level according to a 4-most significant bit digital data signal (MSB_0 to MSB**4**) from the latch $_0$ **22**, a switching control signal generator $_0$ **34** for generating a switching control signal SCS having a different pulse width according to the 4-most significant bit digital data signal (MSB_0 to MSB**4**) from the latch $_0$ **22**, and a switch $_0$ **36** for supplying the modulated data voltage Vmdata from an output node n_0 of the modulated voltage generator $_0$ **32** to the mixer $_0$ **26** in response to the switching control signal SCS.

[**0067**] The modulated voltage generator $_0$ **32** includes a first decoder $_0$ **40** for decoding the 4-most significant bit digital data signal (MSB_0 to MSB**4**) from the latch $_0$ **22** and outputting the decoded signal at a plurality of output terminals, a plurality of voltage-dividing resistors Ro to R_0 **6** connected respectively to the output terminals of the first decoder $_0$ **40**, and a first resistor Rv electrically connected between a drive voltage terminal VDD and each of the voltage-dividing resistors R_0 to R_0 **6**.

[**0068**] The voltage-dividing resistors R**1** to R**16** have different resistances and are electrically connected between the output node n**1** and the corresponding output terminals of the first decoder **140**. The first resistor Rv and the plurality of voltage-dividing resistors R**1** to R**16** constitute a voltage divider circuit for setting the level of a data voltage modulated by the decoding of the first decoder **140**.

[**0069**] The first decoder **140** decodes the 4-most significant bit digital data signal (MSB**1** to MSB**4**) from the latch **122** to selectively connect any one of the plurality of voltage-dividing resistors R**1** to R**16** to an internal ground voltage source. As a result, the drive voltage VDD is divided by the first resistor Rv and the selectively connected voltage-

dividing resistor and the divided voltage appears at the output node n1 as the modulated data voltage Vmdata. The modulated data voltage Vmdata can be expressed by the following Equation 3:

$$Vmdata = \frac{Rx}{Rv + Rx} \times VDD \quad \text{[Equation 3]}$$

[0070] In Equation 3, Rx is any one of the plurality of voltage-dividing resistors R1 to R16.

[0071] In this manner, the modulated voltage generator **132** supplies the modulated data voltage Vmdata with the different level to the switch **136** by selectively connecting any one of the plurality of voltage-dividing resistors R1 to R16 to the internal ground voltage source according to the 4-most significant bit digital data signal (MSB1 to MSB4) from the latch **122**.

[0072] The switching control signal generator **134** includes a second decoder **142** for decoding the 4-most significant bit digital data signal (MSB1 to MSB4) from the latch **122**, and a counter **144** for counting a clock signal CLK correspondingly to the decoded signal from the second decoder **142** to generate the switching control signal SCS with the different pulse width, and supplying the generated switching control signal SCS to the switch **136** synchronously with the source output enable signal SOE.

[0073] The second decoder **142** decodes the 4-most significant bit digital data signal (MSB1 to MSB4) from the latch **122** and supplies the resulting decoded signal with a different value to the counter **144**.

[0074] The counter **144** counts the clock signal CLK by the decoded value from the second decoder **142** to generate the switching control signal SCS having the pulse width corresponding to the decoded value. The counter **144** then supplies the generated switching control signal SCS to the switch **136** synchronously with the source output enable signal SOE. Alternatively, the counter **144** may supply the generated switching control signal SCS to the switch **136** synchronously with the gate pulse GP.

[0075] The switch **136** is turned on in response to the switching control signal SCS from the counter **144** in switching control signal generator **134** to supply the modulated data voltage Vmdata from the output node n1 of the modulated voltage generator **132** to the mixer **126**. Then, the switch **136** supplies the modulated data voltage Vmdata to the mixer **126** for a period corresponding to the pulse width of the switching control signal SCS.

[0076] In this first example, the modulator **130** generates the modulated data voltage Vmdata and the switching control signal SCS according to the 4-most significant bit digital data signal (MSB1 to MSB4) from the latch **122** and sets the level and pulse width of the modulated data voltage Vmdata supplied to the mixer **126**.

[0077] Therefore, in the driving apparatus and method of the liquid crystal display device including the modulator **130**, the liquid crystal is driven at high speed with the mixed data voltage of the modulated data voltage Vmdata with a level and pulse width corresponding to the M-bit digital data signal Data and the analog data voltage Vdata in the first period t1 of the scan period of the liquid crystal panel **102**, and then normally driven with the analog data voltage Vdata in the second period t2 subsequent to the first period t1.

[0078] The modulator **130** may further include a buffer, not shown, disposed between the output node n1 of the modulated voltage generator **132** and the switch **136**. The buffer buffers the modulated data voltage Vmdata from the output node n1 of the modulated voltage generator **132** and supplies the buffered data voltage to the switch **136**.

[0079] Although the modulator **130** may use the four most significant bits of the 8-bit digital data signal Data outputted from the latch **122**, it is not limited thereto. For example, the modulator **130** may generate and supply the modulated data voltage Vmdata with the different level and pulse width to the mixer **126** according to the 4-most significant bits all the way up to the full 8-bit digital data signal Data.

[0080] FIG. **10** shows another example of the modulator **130** in the driving apparatus of the liquid crystal display device shown in FIGS. **5** and **6**.

[0081] Referring to FIG. **10** in connection with FIG. **6**, the modulator **130** may be similar in construction as that shown in FIG. **9**. Therefore, a description will be omitted of similar components. As shown in FIG. **10**, the modulator **130** may also include a switching control signal generator **134**.

[0082] The switching control signal generator **134** of the modulator **130** includes a counter **146** for counting the clock signal CLK up to a predetermined value to generate a switching control signal SCS with a fixed pulse width. The counter **146** supplies the generated switching control signal SCS to the switch **136** synchronously with the source output enable signal SOE.

[0083] The counter **146** counts the clock signal CLK up to a predetermined value to generate the switching control signal SCS. The counter **146** then supplies the generated switching control signal SCS to the switch **136** synchronously with the source output enable signal SOE.

[0084] Alternatively, the counter **146** may supply the generated switching control signal SCS to the switch **136** synchronously with the gate pulse GP.

[0085] Hence, the switching control signal generator **134** in the modulator **130** generates the switching control signal SCS with the fixed pulse width through the use of the counter **146** to control the switch **136**. As a result, a modulated data voltage Vmdata with a fixed pulse width is supplied to the mixer **126** regardless of the M-bit digital data signal Data.

[0086] Therefore, in the driving apparatus and method of the liquid crystal display device including the modulator **130** shown in FIG. **10**, the liquid crystal is driven at high speed with a mixed data voltage. The mixed data voltage includes the modulated data voltage Vmdata and the analog data voltage Vdata. The modulated data voltage Vmdata has a fixed pulse width and a level corresponding to the M-bit digital data signal Data. The liquid crystal is driven at high speed with the mixed data voltage in the first period t1 of the scan period of the liquid crystal panel **102**, and then normally driven with the analog data voltage Vdata in the second period t2 subsequent to the first period t1.

[0087] FIG. **11** shows a yet another example of the modulator **130** in the driving apparatus of the liquid crystal display device shown in FIGS. **5** and **6**.

[0088] Referring to FIG. **11** in connection with FIG. **6**, the modulator **130** may be similar in construction as that shown in FIG. **9**. Therefore, a description will be omitted of similar components. As shown in FIG. **11**, the modulator **130** may also include a switching control signal generator **134**.

[0089] The switching control signal generator **134** of the modulator **130** includes a resistor Rt electrically connected between a first node n**1**, which is the output node of the modulated voltage generator **132**, and a second node n**2**, which is a control terminal of the switch **136**. The switching control signal generator **134** also includes a first capacitor Ct and a transistor M**1** connected in parallel between the second node n**2** and a ground voltage source. The switching control signal generator **134** further includes a clear signal generator **244** for decoding the modulated data voltage Vmdata outputted through the switch **136** according to the 4-most significant bit digital data signal (MSB**1** to MSB**4**) from the latch **122** to generate a clear signal Cs for turning the transistor M**1** on/off.

[0090] The resistor Rt supplies a voltage from the first node n**1** to the second node n**2**. The first capacitor Ct constitutes an RC circuit with the resistor Rt to turn on a voltage at the second node n**2**, namely, the switch **136**. As a result, while the first capacitor Ct is charged with a voltage from the RC circuit of the first capacitor Ct and resistor Rt, the switch **136** is turned on to supply the modulated data voltage Vmdata from the modulated voltage generator **132** to the mixer **126**.

[0091] The transistor M**1** electrically connects the second node n**2** to the ground voltage source in response to the clear signal Cs from the clear signal generator **244** so as to discharge the voltage charged on the first capacitor Ct.

[0092] The clear signal generator **244** decodes the modulated data voltage Vmdata which is supplied to the mixer **126** through the switch **136**, according to the 4-most significant bit digital data signal (MSB**1** to MSB**4**) from the latch **122**, to generate the clear signal Cs.

[0093] As shown in FIG. **12**, the clear signal generator **244** includes a buffer **245** for buffering the modulated data voltage Vmdata which is supplied to the mixer **126**, a resistor Rd electrically connected between an output terminal n**0** of the clear signal generator **244**, which is connected to a control terminal of the transistor M**1** and the buffer **245**. The clear signal generator **244** also includes a plurality of second capacitors C**1** to C**16** connected in parallel to the output terminal n**0**, and a second decoder **242** for selecting any one of the second capacitors C**1** to C**16** according to the 4-most significant bit digital data signal (MSB**1** to MSB**4**) from the latch **122**.

[0094] The buffer **245** buffers the modulated data voltage Vmdata which is supplied to the mixer **126** through the switch **136**, and supplies the buffered voltage to the resistor Rd.

[0095] Each of the second capacitors C**1** to C**16** has a first electrode electrically connected to the output terminal n**0**, and a second electrode electrically connected to the second decoder **242**. These capacitors C**1** to C**16** have different capacitances, so that they have charging characteristics as shown in FIG. **13**.

[0096] The second decoder **242** decodes the 4-most significant bit digital data signal (MSB**1** to MSB**4**) from the latch **122** to selectively connect the second electrode of any one of the plurality of second capacitors C**1** to C**16** to an internal ground voltage source. As a result, the selectively connected second capacitor and the resistor Rt constitute an RC circuit.

[0097] With this configuration, the clear signal generator **244** selects any one of the second capacitors C**1** to C**16** according to the 4-most significant bit digital data signal (MSB**1** to MSB**4**) from the latch **122** and connects the selected second capacitor to the ground voltage source, so as to charge the voltage inputted through the buffer **245** on the selected second capacitor. Thus, the clear signal generator **244** generates a clear signal Cs corresponding to the voltage charged on the second capacitor selected by the second decoder **242**, and supplies the generated clear signal Cs to the transistor M**1**.

[0098] The clear signal Cs has a first logic state when the voltage charged on the selected one of the second capacitors C**1** to C**16** is lower than a threshold voltage Vth of the transistor M**1**, and a second logic state when the charged voltage is higher than or equal to the threshold voltage Vth of the transistor M**1**. Preferably, the second logic state has a voltage level capable of turning on the transistor M**1**, and the first logic state has a voltage level capable of turning off the transistor M**1**.

[0099] The transistor M**1** discharges the voltage at the second node n**2** to the ground voltage source by the clear signal Cs of the generated second logic state depending on the capacitance of each of the second capacitors C**1** to C**16**. As a result, the switching control signal generator **134** sets the time t**1** for which the modulated data voltage Vmdata is supplied to the mixer **126**. The switching control signal generator **134** sets the time t**1** by generating a switching control signal SCS with a different pulse width based on the clear signal Cs generated according to the 4-most significant bit digital data signal (MSB**1** to MSB**4**).

[0100] Alternatively, the clear signal generator **244** may further include, as shown in FIG. **14**, an inverter **246** connected between the output terminal n**0** and the control terminal of the transistor M**1**.

[0101] The inverter **246** inverts the clear signal Cs from the output terminal n**0** and supplies the inverted clear signal to the control terminal of the transistor M**1**. In one example, the transistor M**1** may be a P type transistor.

[0102] In another alternative, the clear signal generator **244** may further include two inverters which are connected between the output terminal n**0** and the control terminal of the transistor M**1** to invert the clear signal Cs from the output terminal n**0** two times and supply the non-inverted clear signal to the control terminal of the transistor M**1**. In this alternative, the transistor M**1** may be an N type transistor.

[0103] Hence, the switching control signal generator **134** in the modulator **130** generates the clear signal Cs corresponding to the M-bit digital data signal Data to control the switch **136**. As a result, a modulated data voltage Vmdata with a different level and different pulse width depending on the M-bit digital data signal Data is supplied to the mixer **126**.

[0104] To clarify, the switching control signal generator **134** in the modulator **130**, as shown in FIG. **11**, turns on the

switch **136** through the use of the first capacitor Ct and resistor Rt to supply a modulated data voltage Vmdata having a different pulse width and a level corresponding to the M-bit digital data signal Data to the mixer **126** in the first period t**1** of the gate pulse GP. The switching control signal generator **134** also turns off the switch **136** by generating the clear signal Cs corresponding to the M-bit digital data signal Data to discharge the voltage stored in the first capacitor Ct in the second period t**2** of the gate pulse GP.

[**0105**] Therefore, in the driving apparatus and method of the liquid crystal display device including the modulator **130** shown in FIG. **11**, the liquid crystal is driven at high speed with a mixed data voltage. The mixed data voltage includes the modulated data voltage Vmdata and the analog data voltage Vdata. The modulated data voltage Vmdata has a fixed pulse width and a level corresponding to the M-bit digital data signal Data. The liquid crystal is driven at high speed with the mixed data voltage in the first period t**1** of the scan period of the liquid crystal panel **102**, and then normally driven with the analog data voltage Vdata in the second period t**2** subsequent to the first period t**1**.

[**0106**] FIG. **15** shows a fourth example of the modulator **130** in the driving apparatus of the liquid crystal display device shown in FIGS. **5** and **6**.

[**0107**] Referring to FIG. **15** in connection with FIG. **6**, the modulator **130** may be similar in construction as that shown in FIG. **9**. Therefore, a description will be omitted of similar components. As shown in FIG. **15**, the modulator **130** may also include a switching control signal generator **134**.

[**0108**] The switching control signal generator **134** of the modulator **130** shown in FIG. **15** includes a resistor Rt electrically connected between a first node n**1**, which is the output node of the modulated voltage generator **132**, and a second node n**2**, which is a control terminal of the switch **136**. The switching control signal generator **134** also includes a first capacitor Ct and a transistor M**1** connected in parallel between the second node n**2** and a ground voltage source, and a clear signal generator **344** for generating a clear signal Cs for turning the transistor M**1** on and off using the modulated data voltage Vmdata outputted through the switch **136**.

[**0109**] The resistor Rt supplies a voltage from the first node n**1** to the second node n**2**. The first capacitor Ct constitutes an RC circuit with the resistor Rt to turn on a voltage at the second node n**2**, namely, the switch **136**. Thus, while a voltage is charged on the first capacitor Ct by the RC circuit of the first capacitor Ct and resistor Rt, the switch **136** is turned on to supply the modulated data voltage Vmdata from the modulated voltage generator **132** to the mixer **126**.

[**0110**] The transistor M**1** electrically connects the second node n**2** to the ground voltage source in response to the clear signal Cs from the clear signal generator **344** so as to discharge the voltage charged on the first capacitor Ct.

[**0111**] The clear signal generator **344** generates the clear signal Cs for turning the transistor M**1** on and off, using the modulated data voltage Vmdata which is supplied to the mixer **126** through the switch **136**.

[**0112**] As shown in FIG. **16**, the clear signal generator **344** includes a buffer **345** for buffering the modulated data voltage Vmdata, a resistor Rd electrically connected between an output terminal n**0** of the clear signal generator **344**, which is connected to a control terminal of the transistor M**1** and the buffer **345**, and a second capacitor Cd electrically connected between the output terminal n**0** and the ground voltage source.

[**0113**] The buffer **345** buffers the modulated data voltage Vmdata which is supplied to the mixer **126**, and supplies the buffered voltage to the resistor Rd.

[**0114**] The resistor Rd and the second capacitor Cd function so as to delay the modulated data voltage Vmdata supplied from the buffer **345** by an RC time constant to generate the clear signal Cs, and to supply the generated clear signal Cs to the control terminal of the transistor M**1**. The RC time constant of the resistor Rd and second capacitor Cd is set to a value to turn the transistor M**1** on by generating the clear signal Cs for the second period t**2** of the gate pulse GP supplied to the gate line.

[**0115**] Alternatively, the clear signal generator **344** may further include at least one inverter connected between the output terminal n**0** and the control terminal of the transistor M**1**.

[**0116**] In this arrangement, the switching control signal generator **134** in the modulator **130** turns on the switch **136** through the use of the first capacitor Ct and resistor Rt to supply a modulated data voltage Vmdata having a fixed pulse width and a level corresponding to the M-bit digital data signal Data to the mixer **126** in the first period t**1** of the gate pulse GP. The switching control signal generator **134** also turns off the switch **136** by discharging the voltage stored in the first capacitor Ct in the second period t**2** of the gate pulse GP through the use of the clear signal generator **344** and transistor M**1**.

[**0117**] Therefore, in the driving apparatus and method of the liquid crystal display device including the modulator **130** shown in FIG. **15**, the liquid crystal is driven at high speed with a mixed data voltage. The mixed data voltage includes the modulated data voltage Vmdata and the analog data voltage Vdata. The modulated data voltage Vmdata has a fixed pulse width and a level corresponding to the M-bit digital data signal Data. The liquid crystal is driven at high speed with the mixed data voltage in the first period t**1** of the scan period of the liquid crystal panel **102**, and then normally driven with the analog data voltage Vdata in the second period t**2** subsequent to the first period t**1**.

[**0118**] FIG. **17** shows a fifth example of the modulator **130** in the driving apparatus of the liquid crystal display device according to the embodiment of the present invention shown in FIGS. **5** and **6**.

[**0119**] Referring to FIG. **17** in connection with FIG. **6**, the modulator **130** may be similar in construction as that shown in FIG. **9**. Therefore, a description will be omitted of similar components. As shown in FIG. **17**, the modulator **130** may also include a modulated voltage generator **132**.

[**0120**] As shown in FIG. **17**, the modulated voltage generator **132** of the modulator **130** includes first and second voltage-dividing resistors Rv and Rf connected in series between a drive voltage VDD and a ground voltage, and an output node n**1** located between the first and second voltage-dividing resistors Rv and Rf and electrically connected to the switch **136**.

[0121] The first and second voltage-dividing resistors Rv and Rf cooperate to divide the drive voltage VDD by their resistances and supply the divided voltage of a fixed level to the switch **136**.

[0122] In this arrangement, the modulated voltage generator **132** of the modulator. **130** generates the modulated data voltage Vmdata of the fixed level through the use of the first and second voltage-dividing resistors Rv and Rf and supplies the generated data voltage to the switch **136**.

[0123] Therefore, in the driving apparatus and method of the liquid crystal display device including the modulator **130** shown in FIG. **17**, the liquid crystal is driven at high speed with the mixed data voltage. The mixed data voltage includes the modulated data voltage Vmdata and an analog data voltage Vdata. The modulated data voltage Vmdata has a level fixed regardless of the M-bit digital data signal Data and a pulse width based on the M-bit digital data signal Data. The liquid crystal is driven at high speed with the mixed data voltage in the first period t**1** of the scan period of the liquid crystal panel **102**, and then normally driven with the analog data voltage Vdata in the second period t**2** subsequent to the first period t**1**.

[0124] FIG. **18** shows a sixth example of the modulator **130** in the driving apparatus of the liquid crystal display device shown in FIGS. **5** and **6**.

[0125] Referring to FIG. **18** in connection with FIG. **6**, the modulator **130** may be similar in construction as that shown in FIG. **11**. Therefore, a description will be omitted of similar components. As shown in FIG. **18**, the modulator **130** may also include a modulated voltage generator **132**.

[0126] As shown in FIG. **18**, the modulated voltage generator **132** of the modulator **130** includes first and second voltage-dividing resistors Rv and Rf connected in series between a drive voltage VDD and a ground voltage, and an output node n**1** located between the first and second voltage-dividing resistors Rv and Rf and electrically connected to the switch **136**.

[0127] The first and second voltage-dividing resistors Rv and Rf cooperate to divide the drive voltage VDD by their resistances and to supply the divided voltage of a fixed level to the switch **136**.

[0128] In this arrangement, the modulated voltage generator **132** of the modulator **130** according to the sixth embodiment generates the modulated data voltage Vmdata of the fixed level through the use of the first and second voltage-dividing resistors Rv and Rf and supplies the generated data voltage to the switch **136**.

[0129] Therefore, in the driving apparatus and method of the liquid crystal display device including the modulator **130** shown in FIG. **18**, the liquid crystal is driven at high speed with the mixed data voltage. The mixed data voltage includes the modulated data voltage Vmdata and an analog data voltage Vdata. The modulated data voltage Vmdata has a level fixed regardless of the M-bit digital data signal Data and a pulse width based on the M-bit digital data signal Data. The liquid crystal is driven at high speed with the mixed data voltage in the first period t**1** of the scan period of the liquid crystal panel **102**, and then normally driven with the analog data voltage Vdata in the second period t**2** subsequent to the first period t**1**.

[0130] FIG. **19** is a block diagram showing another example of a data driver.

[0131] As shown in FIG. **19** with reference to FIG. **5**, the data driver **104** comprises a shift register **120** that sequentially generates a sampling signal, a latch **122** that latches an N-bit digital data signal Data in response to the sampling signal, and a modulator **130** that generates a modulated data voltage Vmdata for accelerating the response speed of liquid crystal according to an M-bit data value from the latched N-bit digital data signal Data. The data driver **104** also includes a digital-to-analog converter **224** that generates an analog data voltage Vdata corresponding to the digital data signal Data by selecting any one of a plurality of gamma voltages GMA in response to the latched N-bit digital data signal Data, mixes the generated analog data voltage Vdata and the modulated data voltage Vmdata from the modulator **130**, and outputs the mixed result. The data driver **104** further includes an output unit **128** that buffers the data voltage Vp mixed in the digital-to-analog converter **224** and supplies the buffered data voltage to data lines DL.

[0132] The shift register **120** sequentially generates and supplies the sampling signal to the latch **122** in response to a source start pulse SSP and a source shift clock SSC included in a data control signal DCS from a timing controller **108**.

[0133] The latch **122** latches the N-bit digital data signal Data from the timing controller **108** in response to the sampling signal from the shift register **120** on a horizontal line-by-horizontal line basis. The latch **122** also supplies the latched N-bit digital data signal Data of one horizontal line to the digital-to-analog converter **224** in response to a source output enable signal SOE included in the data control signal DCS from the timing controller **108**.

[0134] The modulator **130** generates the modulated data voltage Vmdata for accelerating the response speed of the liquid crystal according to the digital data signal Data of the M bits from the N bits outputted from the latch **122** and supplies the generated data voltage Vmdata to the digital-to-analog converter **224**.

[0135] The digital-to-analog converter **224** comprises a decoder **225**, a mixer **226**, and a multiplexer **227**. The decoder **225** generates positive (+) and negative (−) polarity analog data voltages (Vdata_P, Vdata_N) by decoding the N-bit digital data signal Data supplied from the latch **122**. The mixer **226** mixes the positive (+) and negative (−) polarity analog data voltages (Vdata_P, Vdata_N) with the modulated data voltage Vmdata. The multiplexer **227** selects any one of the positive (+) and negative (−) polarity data voltages (Vp_P, Vp_N) mixed from the mixer **226** according to a polarity control signal POL, and supplies the selected voltage to the output unit **128**.

[0136] Furthermore, the decoder **225** comprises a positive polarity decoder **225**P for generating the positive analog data voltage Vdata_P, and a negative polarity decoder **225**N for generating the negative analog data voltage Vdata_N.

[0137] The positive polarity decoder **225**P generates the positive analog data voltage Vdata_P by decoding any one of the plurality of positive polarity gamma voltages GMA according to the N-bit digital data signal Data, and supplies the generated positive analog data voltage Vdata_P to the mixer **226**.

[0138] The negative polarity decoder **225**N generates the negative analog data voltage Vdata_N by decoding any one of the plurality of negative polarity gamma voltages GMA according to the N-bit digital data signal Data, and supplies the generated negative analog data voltage Vdata_N to the mixer **226**.

[0139] The mixer **226** comprises an adding part **226**A for generating the positive data voltage Vp_P, and a subtracting part **226**S for generating the negative data voltage Vp_N.

[0140] As shown in FIG. **20**A, the adding part **226**A generates the positive data voltage Vp_P by adding the modulated data voltage Vmdata and the positive analog data voltage Vdata_P from the positive polarity decoder **225**P.

[0141] As shown in FIG. **20**B, the subtracting part **226**S generates the negative data voltage Vp_N by subtracting the modulated data voltage Vmdata from the negative analog data voltage Vdata_N from the negative polarity decoder **225**N.

[0142] The multiplexer **227** selects any one of the positive and negative data voltages (Vp_P, Vp_N) supplied from the adding part **226**A and the subtracting part **226**S of the mixer **226** according to the polarity control signal POL included in the data control signal DCS supplied from the timing controller **108**, and supplies the selected one to the output unit **128**.

[0143] The output unit **128** applies the data voltage Vp supplied from the multiplexer **227** of the digital-to-analog converter **224** to the corresponding data lines DL.

[0144] FIG. **21** is a block diagram showing another example of a digital-to-analog converter **224**.

[0145] As shown in FIG. **21** with reference to FIG. **19**, the digital-to-analog converter **224** comprises a decoder **225**, a mixer **226**, and a multiplexer **227**. The decoder **225** generates positive (+) and negative (−) polarity analog data voltages (Vdata_P, Vdata_N) by decoding the N-bit digital data signal Data supplied from the latch **122**. The mixer **226** also mixes the positive (+) and negative (−) polarity analog data voltages (Vdata_P, Vdata_N) with the modulated data voltage Vmdata supplied from the modulator **130**. Then, the multiplexer **227** selects any one of the positive (+) and negative (−) polarity data voltages (Vp_P, Vp_N) mixed from the mixer **226** according to a polarity control signal POL, and supplies the selected one to the output unit **128**.

[0146] Furthermore, the decoder **225** comprises a positive polarity decoder **225**P for generating the positive analog data voltage Vdata_P, and a negative polarity decoder **225**N for generating the negative analog data voltage Vdata_N.

[0147] The positive polarity decoder **225**P generates the positive analog data voltage Vdata_P by decoding any one of the plurality of positive polarity gamma voltages GMA according to the N-bit digital data signal Data, and supplies the generated positive analog data voltage Vdata_P to the mixer **226**.

[0148] The negative polarity decoder **225**N generates the negative analog data voltage Vdata_N by decoding any one of the plurality of negative polarity gamma voltages GMA according to the N-bit digital data signal Data, and supplies the generated negative analog data voltage Vdata_N to the mixer **226**.

[0149] The mixer **226** comprises a first adding part **226A1** for generating the positive data voltage Vp_P by using the modulated data voltage Vmdata, an inversion part **226**I for inverting the polarity of the modulated data voltage Vmdata, and a second adding part **226A2** for generating the negative data voltage Vp_N by using the modulated data voltage Vmdata, which is inversed by the inversion part **226**I.

[0150] As shown in FIG. **21**, the first adding part **226A1** generates the positive data voltage Vp_P by adding the modulated data voltage Vmdata and the positive analog data voltage Vdata_P from the positive polarity decoder **225**P.

[0151] The inversion part **226**I inverts the polarity of the modulated data voltage Vmdata supplied from the modulator **130**, and supplies the modulated data voltage of the inverted polarity to the second adding part **226A2**. As shown in FIG. **22**, the inversion part **226**I comprises an inversion amplifier OP.

[0152] To invert the polarity of the modulated data voltage Vmdata, the modulated data voltage Vmdata is supplied to an inversion terminal (−) of the inversion amplifier OP, and a ground voltage is supplied to a non-inversion terminal (+) of the inversion amplifier OP. A feedback loop is also located between the non-inversion terminal (+) and the inversion terminal (−) in the inversion amplifier OP.

[0153] As shown in FIG. **23**, the second adding part **226A2** generates the negative data voltage Vp_N by adding the modulated data voltage of the inverted polarity BVmdata supplied from the inversion part **226**I and the negative analog data voltage Vdata_N supplied from the negative polarity decoder **225**N.

[0154] The multiplexer **227** selects any one of the positive and negative data voltages (Vp_P, Vp_N) supplied from the first and second adding parts **226A1** and **226A2** according to the polarity control signal POL included in the data control signal DCS supplied from the timing controller **108**, and supplies the selected one to the output unit **128**.

[0155] Thus, a driving apparatus and method of a liquid crystal display device is described in which a liquid crystal is pre-driven with a modulated data voltage higher than an analog data voltage corresponding to a digital data signal by supplying a data voltage including the modulated data voltage to a data line in a first period of a gate pulse which is supplied to a gate line, and then driven in a desired state by supplying an analog data voltage of a desired gray scale to the data line in a second period of the gate pulse.

[0156] Therefore, according to the disclosed driving apparatus and method of the liquid crystal display device, it is possible to increase the response speed of the liquid crystal without using a separate memory, so as to prevent degradation in picture quality. Furthermore, because a separate memory is not used, it is possible to decrease the cost of the liquid crystal display.

[0157] It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various modifications and variations can be made without departing from the spirit or scope of the disclosure. Thus, it is intended that this disclosure covers the modifications and variations of this according to the scope of the appended claims and their equivalents.

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for driving a liquid crystal display device, comprising:

a liquid crystal panel including a plurality of gate lines and a plurality of data lines arranged perpendicularly to each other;

a gate driver that supplies a gate pulse to the gate lines; and

a data driver that samples an input first digital data signal to generate an analog data voltage, generates a modulated data voltage according to a data value of the sampled digital data signal, mixes the modulated data voltage with the analog data voltage to form a mixed data voltage, and supplies the mixed data voltage to the data lines, wherein

the input digital data signal comprises a first set of bits;

the data value of the sampled digital data signal comprises a second set of bits; and

the second set of bits comprises no more bits than the number of bits in the first set of bits.

2. The apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the mixed data voltage has a magnitude greater than the analog data voltage.

3. The apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the data driver supplies the mixed modulated data voltage and analog data voltage to the data lines in a first period of the gate pulse, and supplies the analog data voltage to the data lines in a second period of the gate pulse.

4. The apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the data driver comprises:

a shift register that generates a sampling signal;

a latch coupled with the shift register that latches the first digital data signal in response to the sampling signal and outputs the latched first digital data signal in response to a data output enable signal;

a digital-to-analog converter that converts the first digital data signal from the latch into the analog data voltage;

a modulator that generates the modulated data voltage according to a second digital data signal from the latch; and

a mixer that mixes the modulated data voltage from the modulator with the analog data voltage to form the mixed data voltage and outputs the mixed data voltage to the data lines.

5. The apparatus as set forth in claim 4, wherein the modulated data voltage has a level and a pulse width, at least one of which is modulated according to the second digital data signal.

6. The apparatus as set forth in claim 4, wherein the modulator comprises:

a modulated voltage generator that sets a level of the modulated data voltage;

a switching control signal generator that generates a switching control signal to set a pulse width of the modulated data voltage; and

a switch that supplies the modulated data voltage from the modulated voltage generator to the mixer in response to the switching control signal.

7. The apparatus as set forth in claim 6, wherein the modulated voltage generator comprises:

a first decoder that decodes the second digital data signal to generate a first decoded signal;

a first resistor connected between a drive voltage terminal and an output node of the modulated voltage generator; and

a plurality of voltage-dividing resistors connected between the output node of the modulated voltage generator and the first decoder that divide a drive voltage from the drive voltage terminal in response to the first decoded signal to vary a voltage level of the output node of the modulated voltage generator.

8. The apparatus as set forth in claim 6, wherein the modulated voltage generator includes first and second resistors connected between a drive voltage terminal and a ground voltage source that divide a drive voltage from the drive voltage terminal into the modulated data voltage of a fixed level by resistances thereof and supplying the divided voltage to the switch.

9. The apparatus as set forth in claim 6, wherein the switching control signal generator comprises:

a first decoder that decodes the second digital data signal to generate a first decoded signal; and

a counter that counts an input clock signal by the first decoded signal to generate the switching control signal with a different pulse width, and supplies the generated switching control signal to the switch.

10. The apparatus as set forth in claim 9, wherein the switching control signal is supplied to the switch synchronously with the data output enable signal or the gate pulse.

11. The apparatus as set forth in claim 6, wherein the switching control signal generator includes a counter that counts an input clock signal by a predetermined value to generate the switching control signal with a fixed pulse width, and supplies the generated switching control signal to the switch.

12. The apparatus as set forth in claim 11, wherein the switching control signal is supplied to the switch synchronously with the data output enable signal or the gate pulse.

13. The apparatus as set forth in claim 6, wherein the switching control signal generator comprises:

a resistor connected between an output node of the modulated voltage generator and a control terminal of the switch;

a capacitor connected between the control terminal of the switch and a ground voltage source that generates the switching control signal;

a clear signal generator that decodes the modulated data voltage outputted through the switch according to the second digital data signal to generate a clear signal; and

a transistor disposed between the control terminal of the switch and the ground voltage source that discharges a voltage stored in the capacitor in response to the clear signal.

14. The apparatus as set forth in claim 13, wherein the clear signal generator comprises:

a buffer that buffers the modulated data voltage;

a resistor connected between an output terminal of the clear signal generator, which is connected to a control terminal of the transistor, and the buffer;

a plurality of capacitors connected in parallel to the output terminal; and

a decoder that selects at least one of the plurality of capacitors according to the second digital data signal.

15. The apparatus as set forth in claim 14, wherein the clear signal generator further includes an inverter connected between the output terminal and the control terminal of the transistor.

16. The apparatus as set forth in claim 6, wherein the switching control signal generator comprises:

a resistor connected between an output node of the modulated voltage generator and a control terminal of the switch;

a capacitor connected between the control terminal of the switch and a ground voltage source that generates the switching control signal;

a clear signal generator that generates a clear signal using the modulated data voltage outputted through the switch; and

a transistor disposed between the control terminal of the switch and the ground voltage source that discharges a voltage stored in the capacitor in response to the clear signal.

17. The apparatus as set forth in claim 16, wherein the clear signal generator comprises:

a buffer that buffers the modulated data voltage;

a resistor connected between an output terminal of the clear signal generator, which is connected to a control terminal of the transistor, and the buffer; and

a capacitor connected between the output terminal and the ground voltage source.

18. The apparatus as set forth in claim 17, wherein the clear signal generator further includes an inverter connected between the output terminal and the control terminal of the transistor.

19. The apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the data driver comprises:

a shift register that generates a sampling signal;

a latch that latches the first digital data signal in response to the sampling signal and outputs the latched first digital data signal in response to a data output enable signal;

a modulator that generates a modulated data voltage according to the second digital data signal outputted from the latch; and

a digital-to-analog converter that converts the first digital data signal from the latch into the analog data voltage, mixes the analog data voltage and the modulated data voltage to generate positive and negative data voltages, and outputs the generated positive and negative data voltages to data lines according to a polarity control signal.

20. The apparatus as set forth in claim 19, wherein the modulated data voltage has at least one of modulated voltage level and pulse width according to the second digital data signal.

21. The apparatus as set forth in claim 19, wherein the modulator comprises:

a modulated voltage generator that sets a level of the modulated data voltage;

a switching control signal generator that generates a switching control signal to set a pulse width of the modulated data voltage; and

a switch that supplies the modulated data voltage from the modulated voltage generator to the mixer in response to the switching control signal.

22. The apparatus as set forth in claim 21, wherein the modulated voltage generator comprises:

a first decoder that decodes the second digital data signal to generate a first decoded signal;

a first resistor connected between a drive voltage terminal and an output node of the modulated voltage generator; and

a plurality of voltage-dividing resistors connected between the output node of the modulated voltage generator and the first decoder that divide a drive voltage from the drive voltage terminal in response to the first decoded signal to vary a voltage level of the output node of the modulated voltage generator.

23. The apparatus as set forth in claim 21, wherein the modulated voltage generator includes first and second resistors connected between a drive voltage terminal and a ground voltage source that divide a drive voltage from the drive voltage terminal into the modulated data voltage of a fixed level by resistances thereof and supplying the divided voltage to the switch.

24. The apparatus as set forth in claim 21, wherein the switching control signal generator comprises:

a first decoder that decodes the second digital data signal to generate a first decoded signal; and

a counter that counts an input clock signal by the first decoded signal to generate the switching control signal with a different pulse width, and supplies the generated switching control signal to the switch.

25. The apparatus as set forth in claim 24, wherein the switching control signal is supplied to the switch synchronously with the data output enable signal or the gate pulse.

26. The apparatus as set forth in claim 21, wherein the switching control signal generator includes a counter that counts an input clock signal by a predetermined value to generate the switching control signal with a fixed pulse width, and supplies the generated switching control signal to the switch.

27. The apparatus as set forth in claim 26, wherein the switching control signal is supplied to the switch synchronously with the data output enable signal or the gate pulse.

28. The apparatus as set forth in claim 21, wherein the switching control signal generator comprises:

a resistor connected between an output node of the modulated voltage generator and a control terminal of the switch;

a capacitor connected between the control terminal of the switch and a ground voltage source that generates the switching control signal;

a clear signal generator that decodes the modulated data voltage outputted through the switch according to the second digital data signal to generate a clear signal; and

a transistor disposed between the control terminal of the switch and the ground voltage source that discharges a voltage stored in the capacitor in response to the clear signal.

29. The apparatus as set forth in claim 28, wherein the clear signal generator comprises:

a buffer that buffers the modulated data voltage;

a resistor connected between an output terminal of the clear signal generator, which is connected to a control terminal of the transistor, and the buffer;

a plurality of capacitors connected in parallel to the output terminal; and

a first decoder that selects at least one of the plurality of capacitors according to the second digital data signal.

30. The apparatus as set forth in claim 29, wherein the clear signal generator further includes an inverter connected between the output terminal and the control terminal of the transistor.

31. The apparatus as set forth in claim 21, wherein the switching control signal generator comprises:

a resistor connected between an output node of the modulated voltage generator and a control terminal of the switch;

a capacitor connected between the control terminal of the switch and a ground voltage source that generates the switching control signal;

a clear signal generator that generates a clear signal using the modulated data voltage outputted through the switch; and

a transistor disposed between the control terminal of the switch and the ground voltage source that discharges a voltage stored in the capacitor in response to the clear signal.

32. The apparatus as set forth in claim 31, wherein the clear signal generator comprises:

a buffer that buffers the modulated data voltage;

a resistor connected between an output terminal of the clear signal generator, which is connected to a control terminal of the transistor, and the buffer; and

a capacitor connected between the output terminal and the ground voltage source.

33. The apparatus as set forth in claim 32, wherein the clear signal generator further includes an inverter connected between the output terminal and the control terminal of the transistor.

34. The apparatus as set forth in claim 19, wherein the digital-to-analog converter comprises:

a decoder that generates positive and negative polarity analog data voltages by decoding the first digital data signal supplied from the latch;

a mixer that mixes the positive and negative polarity analog data voltages with the modulated data voltage; and

a multiplexer that selects any one of the mixed positive and negative polarity data voltages according to a polarity control signal, and outputs the selected one.

35. The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein the mixer comprises:

an adding part that generates the positive data voltage by adding the modulated data voltage and the positive analog data voltage; and

a subtracting part coupled with the adding part that generates the negative data voltage by subtracting the modulated data voltage from the negative analog data voltage.

36. The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein the mixer comprises:

a first adding part that adds adding the modulated data voltage and the positive analog data voltage to generate the positive data voltage;

an inversion part coupled with the first adding part that inverts the polarity of the modulated data voltage; and

a second adding part coupled with the inversion part that adds the modulated data voltage of the inverted polarity and the negative analog data voltage to generate the negative data voltage.

37. The apparatus as set forth in claim 36, wherein the inversion part is formed of an inversion amplifier.

38. An apparatus for driving a liquid crystal display device, comprising:

a liquid crystal panel including a plurality of gate lines and a plurality of data lines arranged perpendicularly to each other;

a gate driver that supplies a gate pulse to the gate lines; and

a data driver that supplies a data voltage to the data lines, the data voltage having a first voltage in a first period of the gate pulse and a second voltage in a second period of the gate pulse, wherein the first voltage is different in magnitude and pulse width from the second voltage.

39. The apparatus as set forth in claim 38, wherein the data driver comprises:

a mixer that mixes a modulated data voltage with the second voltage to create the first voltage;

a modulated voltage generator that sets a magnitude of the modulated data voltage;

a switching control signal generator that generates a switching control signal to set a width of the modulated data voltage; and

a switch that supplies the modulated data voltage from the modulated voltage generator to the mixer in response to the switching control signal.

40. The apparatus as set forth in claim 39, wherein the modulated voltage generator comprises:

a first resistor connected between a first voltage terminal and an output node of the modulated voltage generator; and

a plurality of voltage-dividing resistors at least one of which is selected to divide a voltage between a first voltage terminal and a second voltage terminal.

41. The apparatus as set forth in claim 40, wherein the modulated voltage generator further includes a first decoder that decodes an input digital data signal to generate a first decoded signal, and the at least one voltage-dividing resistor is selected by the first decoded signal.

42. The apparatus as set forth in claim 39, wherein the modulated voltage generator includes first and second resistors connected between a drive voltage terminal and a ground voltage source, wherein the first and second resistors divide a drive voltage from the drive voltage terminal to provide a fixed voltage to the switch.

43. The apparatus as set forth in claim 39, wherein the switching control signal generator includes a counter that counts an input clock signal and generates the switching control signal, wherein a width of the switching control signal is dependent on an output of the counter.

44. The apparatus as set forth in claim 43, wherein the switching control signal generator further includes a decoder that decodes an input digital data signal to generate a decoded signal, and the counter generates the switching control signal dependent on the decoded signal.

45. The apparatus as set forth in claim 39, wherein the switching control signal generator includes a counter that counts an input clock signal by a predetermined value and generates the switching control signal of a fixed pulse width.

46. The apparatus as set forth in claim 39, wherein the switching control signal generator comprises:

a resistor connected between an output node of the modulated voltage generator and a control terminal of the switch;

a capacitor connected between the control terminal of the switch and a voltage source that generates the switching control signal;

a clear signal generator that receives the modulated data voltage outputted through the switch and generates a clear signal; and

a transistor disposed between the control terminal of the switch and the voltage source that discharges a voltage stored in the capacitor in response to the clear signal.

47. The apparatus as set forth in claim 46, wherein the clear signal generator decodes an input digital data signal to generate the clear signal.

48. The apparatus as set forth in claim 47, wherein the clear signal generator comprises:

a buffer that buffers the modulated data voltage;

a resistor connected between an output terminal of the clear signal generator, which is connected to a control terminal of the transistor, and the buffer; and

a plurality of capacitors connected in parallel to the output terminal, at least one of which is selected according to the digital data signal.

49. The apparatus as set forth in claim 48, wherein the clear signal generator further includes a decoder that selects the at least one of the plurality of capacitors.

50. The apparatus as set forth in claim 39, wherein the switching control signal generator comprises:

a resistor connected between an output node of the modulated voltage generator and a control terminal of the switch;

a capacitor connected between the control terminal of the switch and a ground voltage source that generates the switching control signal;

a clear signal generator that generates a clear signal using the modulated data voltage outputted through the switch; and

a transistor disposed between the control terminal of the switch and the ground voltage source that discharges a voltage stored in the capacitor in response to the clear signal.

51. The apparatus as set forth in claim 50, wherein the clear signal generator comprises:

a buffer that buffers the modulated data voltage;

a resistor connected between an output terminal of the clear signal generator, which is connected to a control terminal of the transistor, and the buffer; and

a capacitor connected between the output terminal and the ground voltage source.

52. A method for driving a liquid crystal panel which includes a plurality of gate lines and a plurality of data lines arranged perpendicularly to each other, comprising:

sampling an input digital data signal to generate an analog data voltage;

generating a modulated data voltage for acceleration of a response speed of a liquid crystal according to an data value of the sampled digital data signal;

supplying a gate pulse to the gate lines;

mixing the modulated data voltage with the analog data voltage to form a mixed data voltage; and,

supplying the mixed data voltage to the data lines synchronously with the gate pulse, wherein

the input digital data signal comprises a first set of bits;

the data value of the sampled digital data signal comprises a second set of bits; and

the second set of bits comprises no more bits than the number of bits in the first set of bits.

53. The method as set forth in claim 52, wherein the mixed data voltage is supplied to the data lines in a first period of the gate pulse, and the analog data voltage is supplied to the data lines in a second period of the gate pulse.

54. The method as set forth in claim 53, wherein the modulated data voltage has a level and a pulse width, at least one of which is modulated according to the second digital data signal.

55. The method as set forth in claim 54, wherein generating the modulated data voltage comprises:

setting the level of the modulated data voltage;

generating a switching control signal to set the pulse width of the modulated data voltage; and

controlling a switch in response to the switching control signal to generate the modulated data voltage having the set level and pulse width.

56. The method as set forth in claim 55, wherein setting the level of the modulated data voltage comprises:

selectively connecting at least two resistors among a plurality of resistors in response to the second digital data signal; and

dividing a drive voltage using the selectively connected resistors to generate the modulated data voltage.

57. The method as set forth in claim 55, wherein setting the level of the modulated data voltage comprises dividing a drive voltage into the modulated data voltage of a fixed level using first and second resistors connected between the drive voltage and a ground voltage source to generate the modulated data voltage.

58. The method as set forth in claim 55, wherein generating the switching control signal comprises:

counting an input clock signal dependent on the second digital data signal to generate the switching control signal with a different pulse width, and supplying the generated switching control signal to the switch.

59. The method as set forth in claim 58, wherein the switching control signal is supplied to the switch synchronously with the gate pulse.

60. The method as set forth in claim 55, wherein generating the switching control signal comprises counting an input clock signal by a predetermined value to generate the switching control signal with a fixed pulse width, and supplying the generated switching control signal to the switch.

61. The method as set forth in claim 60, wherein the switching control signal is supplied to the switch synchronously with the gate pulse.

62. The method as set forth in claim 55, wherein generating the switching control signal comprises:

storing the modulated data voltage inputted to the switch in a first capacitor to generate the switching control signal;

buffering the modulated data voltage outputted through the switch and storing the buffered voltage in at least one of a plurality of second capacitors through a resistor dependent on the second digital data signal; and

generating a clear signal according to the voltage stored in the at least one of the plurality of second capacitors to discharge the voltage stored in the first capacitor.

63. The method as set forth in claim 55, wherein generating the switching control signal comprises:

storing the modulated data voltage inputted to the switch in a first capacitor to generate the switching control signal;

buffering the modulated data voltage outputted through the switch and storing the buffered voltage in a second capacitor through a resistor; and

generating a clear signal according to the voltage stored in the second capacitor to discharge the voltage stored in the first capacitor.

64. The method as set forth in claim 52, wherein mixing the modulated data voltage with the analog data voltage comprises:

generating positive and negative analog data voltages by decoding the first digital data signal;

generating positive and negative data voltages by mixing the modulated data voltage with the respective positive and negative analog data voltages; and

selectively supplying the positive and negative data voltages to the data line according to a polarity control signal.

65. The method as set forth in claim 64, wherein generating the positive and negative data voltages comprises:

generating the positive data voltage by adding the modulated data voltage to the positive analog data voltage; and

generating the negative data voltage by subtracting the modulated data voltage from the negative analog data voltage.

66. The method as set forth in claim 64, wherein generating the positive and negative data voltages comprises:

generating the positive data voltage by adding the modulated data voltage to the positive analog data voltage;

inverting the polarity of the modulated data voltage; and

generating the negative data voltage by adding the modulated data voltage of the inverted polarity to the negative analog data voltage.

67. The method as set forth in claim 66, wherein the polarity of the modulated data voltage is inverted by an inversion amplifier.

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专利名称(译)	用于驱动液晶显示装置的装置和方法		
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摘要(译)

公开了一种用于驱动液晶显示装置的装置和方法，其中可以在不使用数字存储器的情况下提高液晶的响应速度。驱动装置包括：液晶面板，具有彼此垂直布置的栅极线和数据线;栅极驱动器，向栅极线提供栅极脉冲;以及数据驱动器。数据驱动器对输入的N位数字数据信号进行采样以产生模拟数据电压，根据采样的数字数据信号的M位数据值产生用于加速液晶响应速度的调制数据电压，混合调制数据电压与模拟数据电压，并将混合数据电压提供给数据线。