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Lai et al.

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(54) **LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY HAVING A PAIR OF STRIPE SHAPED SECOND SEAL PATTERNS AND FABRICATING METHOD THEREOF**

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G02F 1/1339 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **349/153**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 349/153,
349/155

See application file for complete search history.

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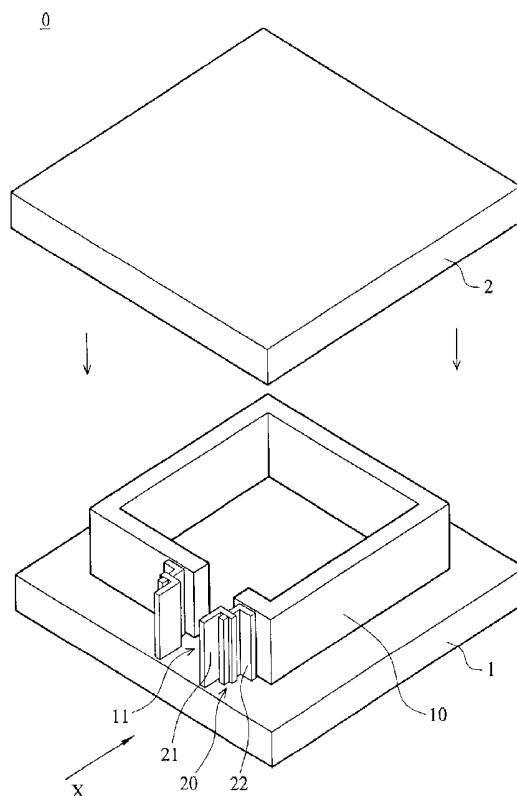
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A liquid crystal display (LCD) and fabricating method thereof. The fabricating method includes providing a double-layered substrate structure having a first seal pattern, inserted along the periphery thereof, wherein the first seal pattern has a notch for liquid crystal injection, facing an injecting direction of the liquid crystals, forming a second seal pattern near the notch, parallel to the injecting direction, injecting the liquid crystals via the notch along the injecting direction, and sealing the notch with a third seal pattern. According to the invention, the permeating rate of the third seal pattern is accelerated, enhancing the sealing of the liquid crystal display, and increasing productivity. Further, the second seal pattern enhances the adhesion between the substrate and the third seal pattern, protecting the cured third seal pattern from peeling and bubble formation.

18 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets



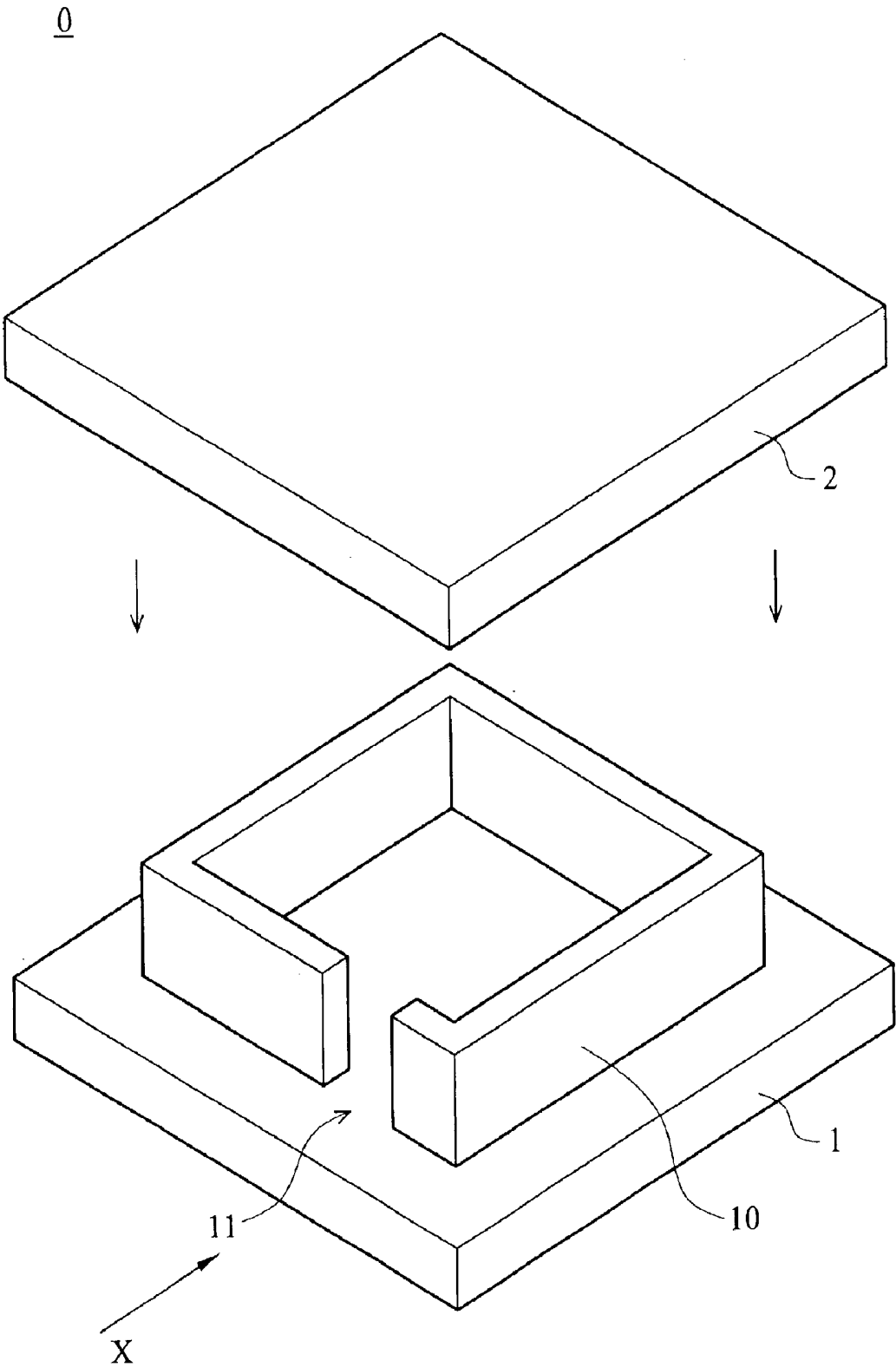


FIG. 1a

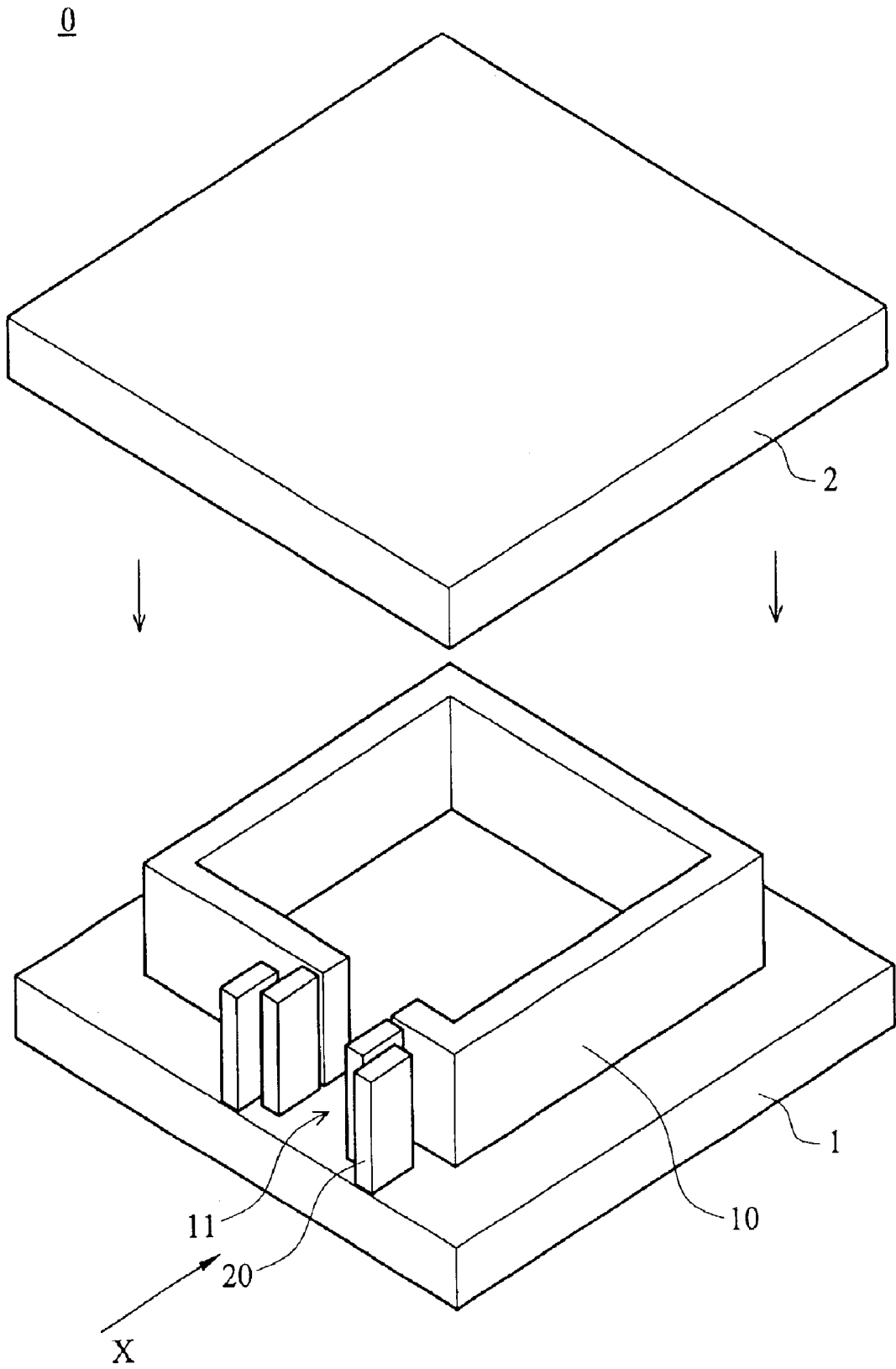


FIG. 1b

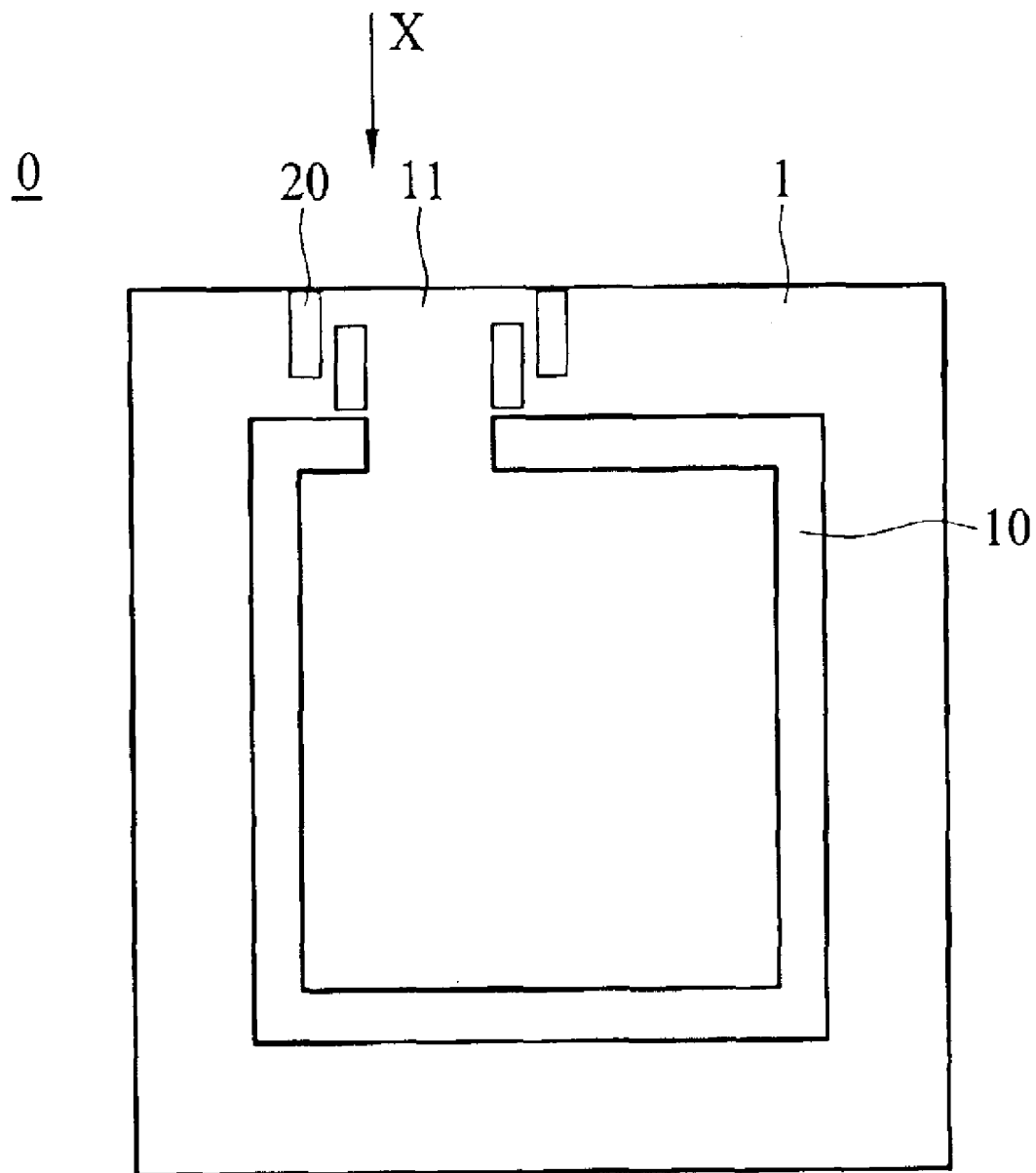
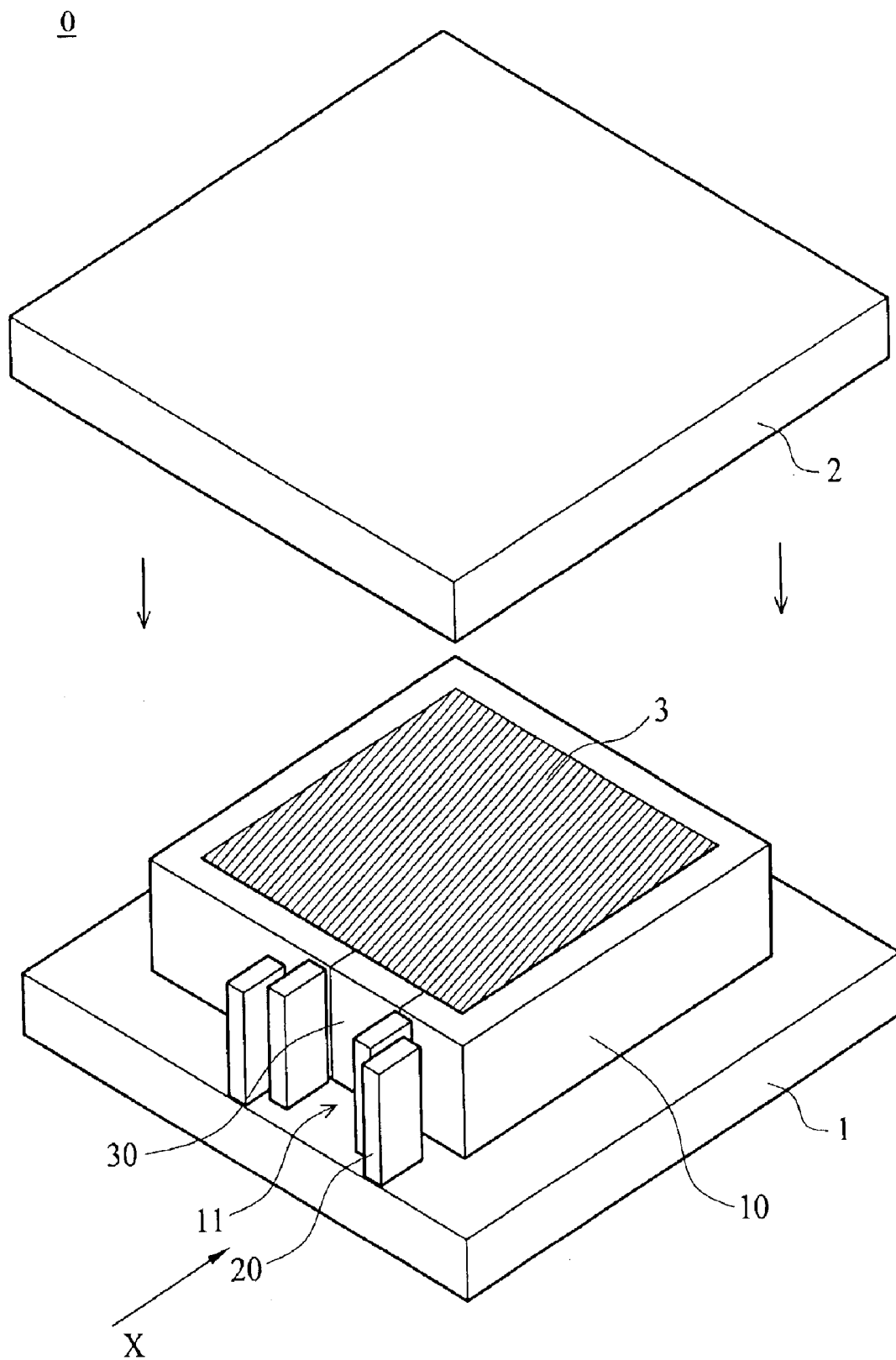


FIG. 1c



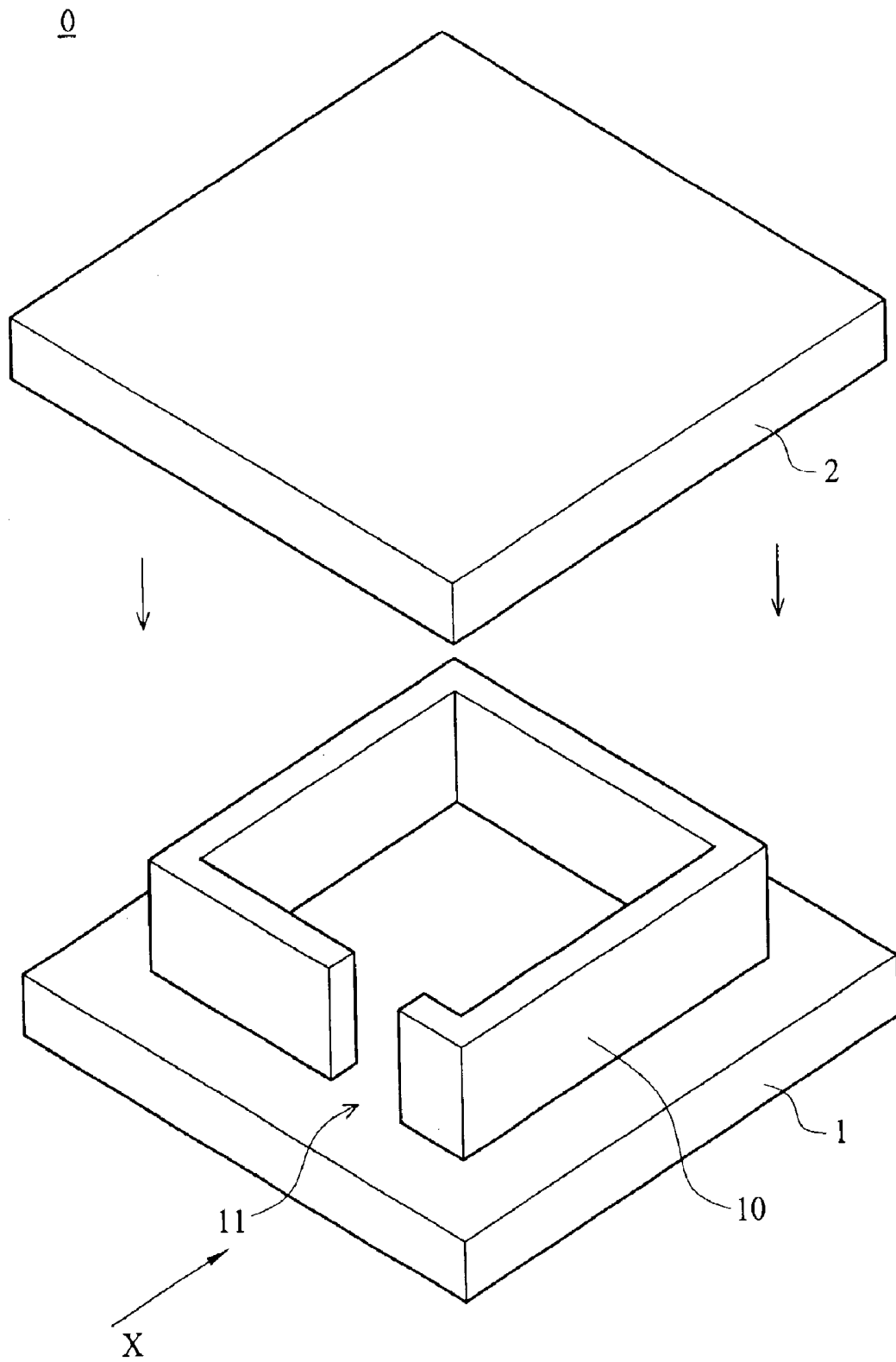


FIG. 2a

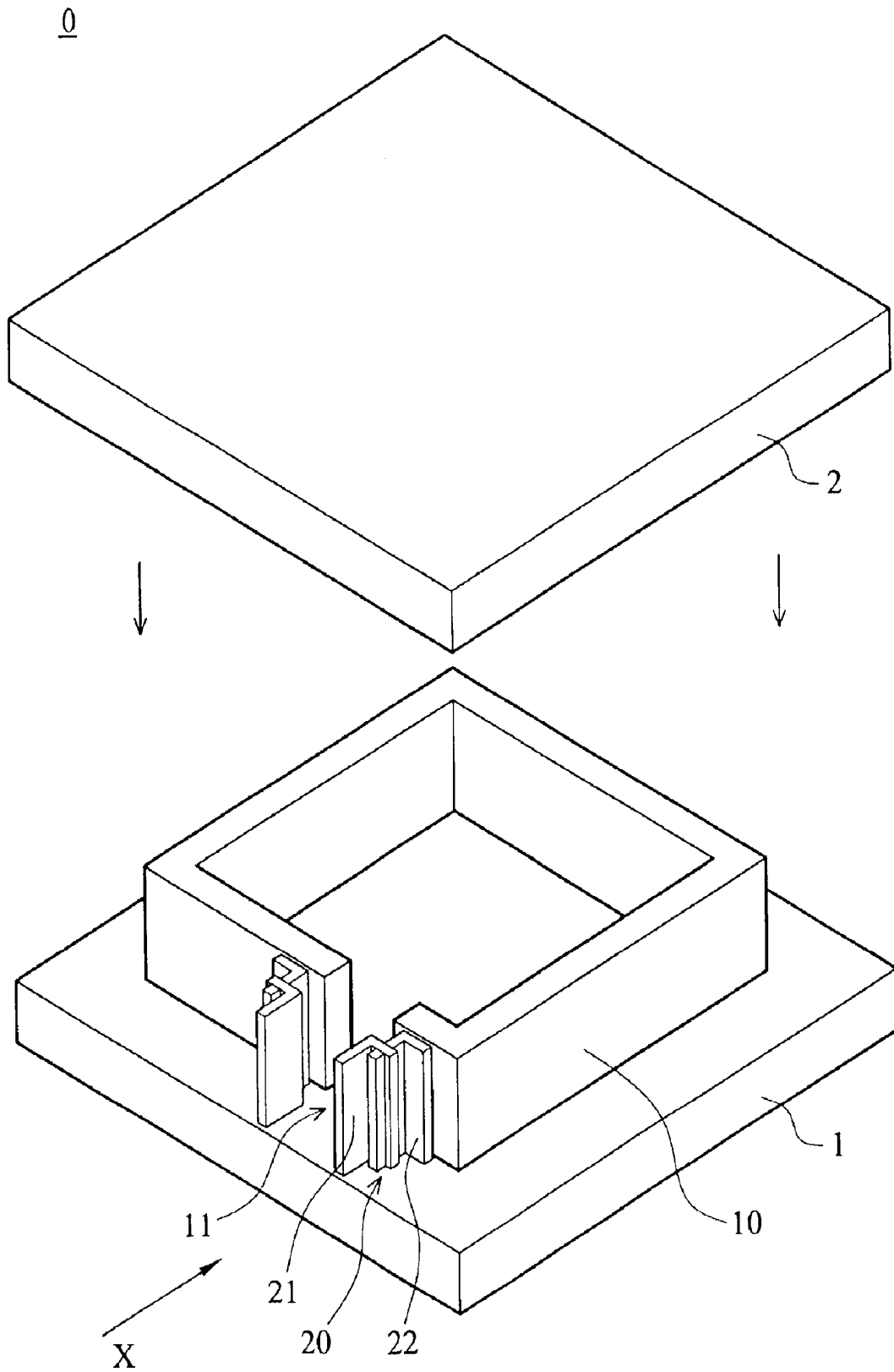


FIG. 2b

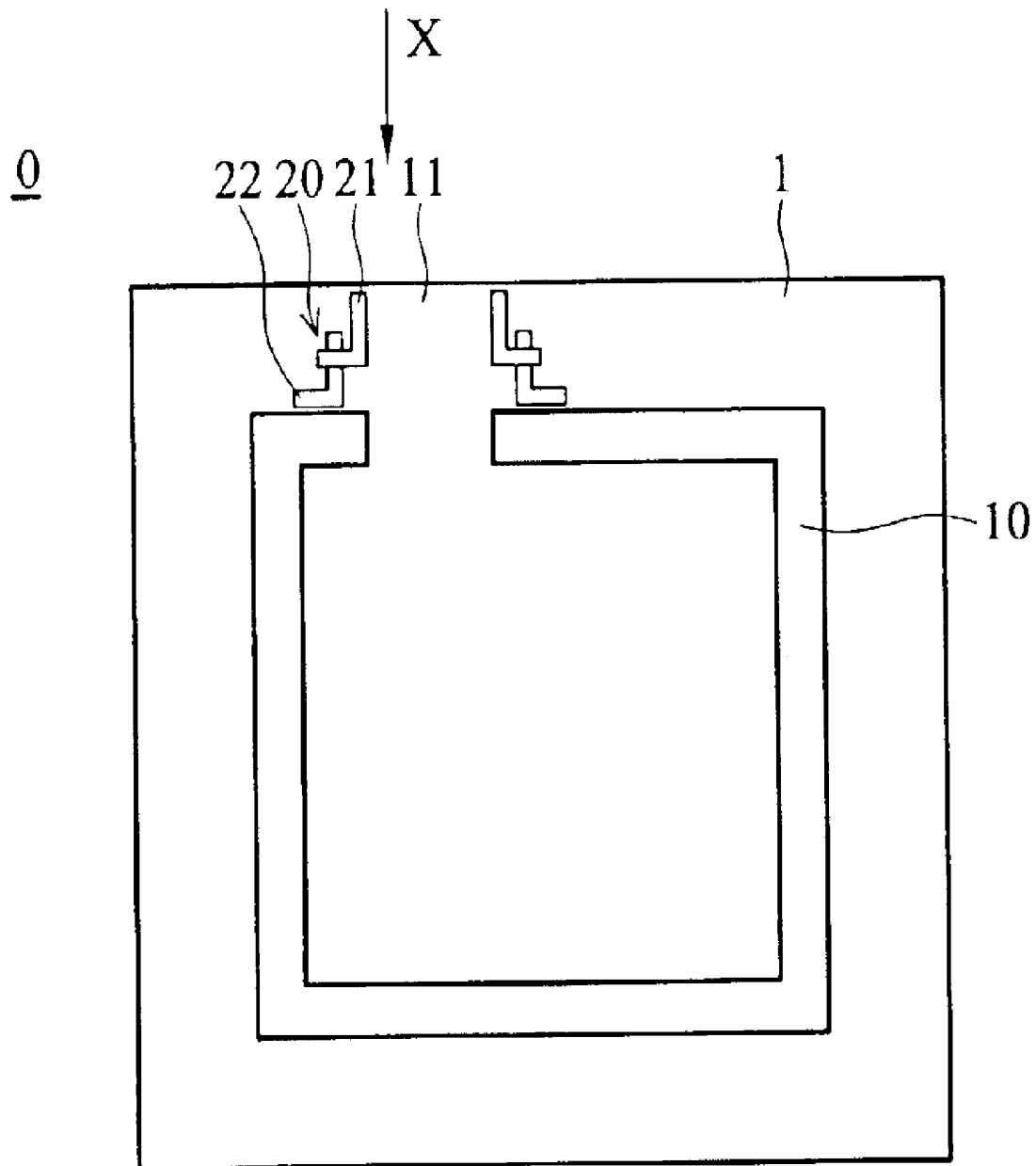
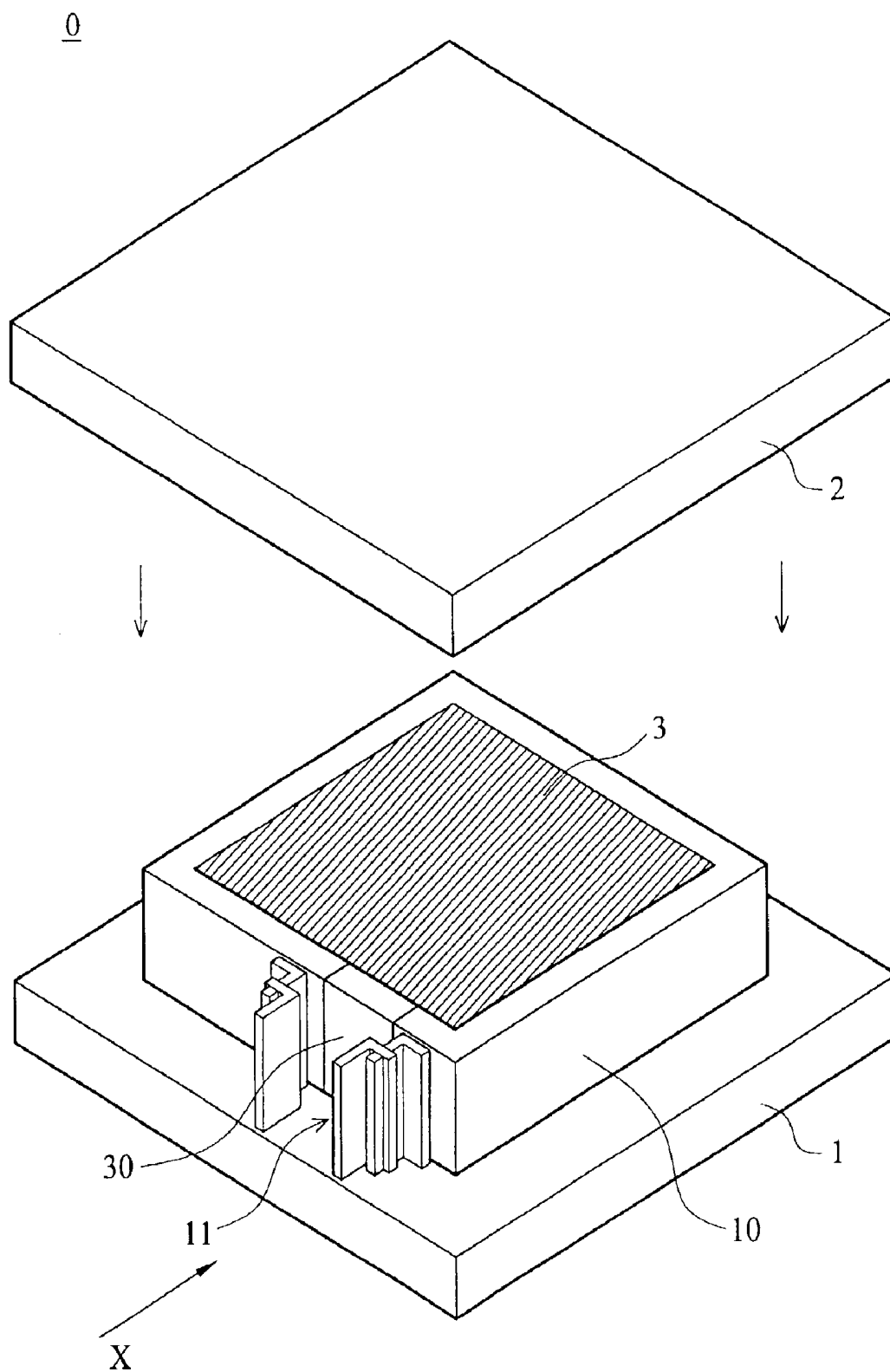


FIG. 2c



LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY HAVING A PAIR OF STRIPE SHAPED SECOND SEAL PATTERNS AND FABRICATING METHOD THEREOF

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a liquid crystal display and fabricating method thereof, and more particularly to a method enhancing sealing of the liquid crystal display.

2. Description of the Related Art

Liquid crystal display (LCD) is a commonly used flat panel technology. Owing to dielectric anisotropy and conductive anisotropy of liquid crystal molecules, molecular orientation of liquid crystals can be shifted under an external electronic field, such that various optical effects are produced.

An LCD panel is generally made up of two substrates, with a gap preserved therebetween, and a liquid crystal layer filled within the gap. Respective electrodes are formed on the two substrates, respectively, to control the orientation and shift of liquid crystal molecules.

A TFT (thin film transistor) LCD panel is generally made up of a TFT array substrate and a color filter substrate. The two substrates are first manufactured separately, then aligned and joined together. During the combining of the two substrates, generally referred to as cell process, spacers are spread over the liquid crystal chips to maintain and even the cell gap between the two substrates, and a seal pattern is formed along the periphery of each liquid crystal chip to adhere the two substrates after curing, sustaining the two-layered unit. Afterwards, the two-layered unit is broken to divide each liquid crystal chip into an independent double-layered unit, having a notch therebetween for liquid crystal injection. The notch is then sealed after injection of liquid crystals to complete the fabrication of the LCD panel.

The sealant applied in the current cell process for LCD can be, for example, epoxy or polyacrylate, first in a fluid state, and then thermally-cured or photo-cured to complete sealing. In the cell process of a large-scale LCD panel, a step of applying uniform pressure on the two substrates is usually performed, between the injection of liquid crystals and sealing of the notch, to spread the liquid crystals uniformly, expel the redundant material, and create a slight pressure therein, drawing the sealant into the notch in the subsequent step, enhancing the permeating rate of the sealant, and assuring sufficient permeating depth thereof. In the cell process of a small-scale LCD panel, however, applying a similar step for each small panel is time-consuming, thus the notch is usually sealed directly after the injection of liquid crystals. Owing to the absence of the slight pressure within the double-layered unit, the sealing time or length of sealant application must be prolonged to compensate for the slow-down of permeating rate.

Further, polymeric material is used in the cell process as a sealant because of its resistance to environmental effects, chemicals, and adhesion, but peeling or bubble formation may occur after curing the sealant, if improper sealant, curing temperature, or curing time is applied.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Accordingly, an object of the present invention is to facilitate the permeating rate of sealant, and provide better sealing properties.

Therefore, the invention provides a fabricating method for a liquid crystal display, comprising providing a double-layered substrate structure having a first seal pattern, inserted along the periphery thereof, wherein the first seal pattern has a notch for liquid crystal injection, facing an injecting direction of the liquid crystals, forming a pair of stripe-shaped second seal patterns with a space therebetween, parallel to the injecting direction, injecting the liquid crystals via the notch along the injecting direction, and sealing the notch with a third seal pattern, wherein the third seal pattern does not fill the space.

The invention further provides a liquid crystal display, comprising a double-layered substrate structure having a first seal pattern, inserted along the periphery thereof and filled with liquid crystals, wherein the first seal pattern has a notch facing an injecting direction of the liquid crystals, a pair of stripe-shaped second seal patterns with a space therebetween, and a third seal pattern sealing the notch, wherein the third seal pattern does not fill the space.

According to the invention, the permeating rate of the third seal pattern is accelerated, thereby the sealing of the liquid crystal display is enhanced, and productivity is increased. Further, the second seal pattern enhances the adhesion between the substrate and the third seal pattern, preventing the cured third seal pattern from peeling and forming bubbles.

According to the invention, the second seal pattern near the notch can be any shape, preferably striped, forming above the notch or in the vicinity of the notch.

According to the invention, the second seal pattern, perpendicular to the injecting direction of liquid crystals, is formed near the notch, thereby enhancing permeation of the third seal pattern into the notch in the sealing step, and increasing productivity.

According to the invention, the second seal pattern can further comprise a stripe perpendicular to the injecting direction, forming an L-shaped pattern together with the stripe parallel to the injecting direction, and preventing the permeation of external moisture.

The first, second and third seal patterns are preferably made of low-permeability material, wherein the first and the third seal patterns can be made of the same material. The second seal pattern is preferably a sealant having higher adhesion to the third seal pattern than the substrate, acting as an adhesive medium between the substrate and the third seal pattern, such that the adhesion therebetween is enhanced, and sealing properties are improved.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention can be more fully understood by reading the subsequent detailed description and examples with references made to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIGS. 1a-1d show an manufacturing process of a liquid crystal display in the first embodiment; and

FIGS. 2a-2d show an manufacturing process of a liquid crystal display in the second embodiment.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the embodiments, the first, second and third seal patterns are preferably made of low-permeability material, wherein the first and the third seal patterns can be of the same material. The first and the third seal patterns can be UV curable sealant or thermosetting sealant, for example, epoxy

or polyacrylate. The second seal pattern is preferably made of a material having higher adhesion to the third seal pattern than the substrate, for example, indium tin oxide (ITO) or indium zinc oxide (IZO).

First Embodiment

In FIG. 1a, a double-layered substrate structure **0**, made up of a substrate **1** and another substrate **2**, is provided. A color filter (not shown) and TFTs (not shown) are formed respectively on the substrates **1** and **2**. A first seal pattern **10** is inserted between the substrate **1** and substrate **2** along the periphery thereof, having a notch **11** facing an injecting direction *x* of liquid crystals.

In FIG. 1b, a second seal pattern **20** is formed, along the injecting direction *x*, near the notch **11**. The second seal pattern **20** can be formed in the notch, above the notch, or in the vicinity of the notch. The shape of the second seal pattern **20** is not limited, but preferably striped. FIG. 1c is a top view showing the position of the second seal pattern **20**. The seal pattern **20** can also be fabricated, on substrate **1** or substrate **2**, prior to the cell process of the double-layered substrate structure **0**.

In FIG. 1d, liquid crystals **3** are then injected via the notch **11** into a cell within the double-layered substrate structure **0**. A third seal pattern **30** is then applied to seal the notch **11**, thereby completing the LCD panel.

In the embodiment, the second seal pattern **20**, perpendicular to the injecting direction *x* of liquid crystals, is formed near the notch **11**, thereby enhancing permeation of the third seal pattern **30** into the notch **11** in the sealing step, and increasing productivity.

The first seal pattern **10**, second seal pattern **20** and the third seal pattern **30** are made of materials having low permeability to water. The second seal pattern **20** is made of ITO, having higher adhesion to the third seal pattern **30** than the double-layered substrate structure **0**, acting as an adhesive medium between the double-layered substrate structure **0** and the third seal pattern **30**, such that the adhesion therebetween is enhanced, and sealing properties are improved.

Second Embodiment

In FIG. 2a, a double-layered substrate structure **0**, made up of a substrate **1** and another substrate **2**, is provided. A color filter (not shown) and TFTs (not shown) are formed respectively on the substrates **1** and **2**. A first seal pattern **10** is inserted between the substrate **1** and substrate **2** along the periphery thereof, having a notch **11** facing an injecting direction *x* of liquid crystals.

In FIG. 2b, a second seal pattern **20** is formed near the notch **11**. The second seal pattern **20** includes a stripe **21**, along the injecting direction *x* of the liquid crystals above the notch **11**, and a stripe **22**, perpendicular to the injecting direction *x* and forming an L-shaped pattern together with the stripe **21**.

FIG. 2c is a top view showing the position of the second seal pattern **20**. According to the embodiment, the L-shaped pattern has the further benefit of preventing the permeation of external moisture. Furthermore, the seal pattern **20** can also be fabricated, on substrate **1** or substrate **2**, prior to the cell process of the double-layered substrate structure **0**.

In FIG. 2d, liquid crystals **3** are then injected via the notch **11** into a cell within the double-layered substrate structure **0**. A third seal pattern **30** is then applied to seal the notch **11**, thereby completing the LCD panel.

In the embodiment, the second seal pattern **20**, perpendicular to the injecting direction *x* of liquid crystals, is formed near the notch **11**, thereby enhancing permeation of the third seal pattern **30** into the notch **11** in the sealing step, and increasing productivity.

The first seal pattern **10**, second seal pattern **20** and the third seal pattern **30** are made of materials having low permeability to water. The second seal pattern **20** is made of ITO, having higher adhesion to the third seal pattern **30** than the double-layered substrate structure **0**, acting as an adhesive medium between the double-layered substrate structure **0** and the third seal pattern **30**, such that the adhesion therebetween is enhanced, and sealing properties are improved.

The foregoing description has been presented for purposes of illustration and description. Obvious modifications or variations are possible in light of the above teaching. The embodiments were chosen and described to provide the best illustration of the principles of this invention and its practical application to thereby enable those skilled in the art to utilize the invention in various embodiments and with various modifications as are suited to the particular use contemplated. All such modifications and variations are within the scope of the present invention as determined by the appended claims when interpreted in accordance with the breadth to which they are fairly, legally, and equitably entitled.

What is claimed is:

1. A liquid crystal display, comprising:

a double-layered substrate structure having a first seal pattern, inserted along the periphery thereof and filled with liquid crystals, wherein the first seal pattern has a notch facing an injecting direction of the liquid crystals;

a pair of stripe-shaped second seal patterns with a space therebetween, parallel to the injecting direction; and a third seal pattern sealing the notch and not filling the space.

2. The liquid crystal display as claimed in claim 1, wherein the double-layered substrate structure is formed by a first substrate provided with a color filter and a second substrate provided with thin film transistors.

3. The liquid crystal display as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second seal pattern is striped.

4. The liquid crystal display as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second seal pattern is fabricated on one of the substrates prior to the formation of the double-layered substrate structure.

5. The liquid crystal display as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second seal pattern further comprises a stripe perpendicular to the injecting direction, forming an L-shaped pattern together with the stripe parallel to the injecting direction.

6. The liquid crystal display as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first, second and third seal patterns are made of low-permeability sealant.

7. The liquid crystal display as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and third seal patterns are made of the same sealant.

8. The liquid crystal display as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second seal pattern is made of indium tin oxide (ITO) or indium zinc oxide (IZO).

9. A method of fabricating a liquid crystal display, comprising:

providing a double-layered substrate structure having a first seal pattern, inserted along the periphery thereof, wherein the first seal pattern has a notch for liquid crystal injection, facing an injecting direction of the liquid crystals;

forming a pair of stripe-shaped second seal patterns with a space therebetween,

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parallel to the injecting direction;

injecting the liquid crystals via the notch along the injecting direction; and

sealing the notch with a third seal pattern, the third seal pattern not filling the space.

10. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the double-layered substrate structure is formed by a first substrate provided with a color filter and a second substrate provided with thin film transistors.

11. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the second seal pattern is striped.

12. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the second seal pattern is fabricated on one of the substrates prior to the formation of the double-layered substrate structure.

13. The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the second seal pattern further comprises a stripe perpendicular to the injecting direction, forming an L-shaped pattern together with the stripe parallel to the injecting direction.

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14. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the first, second and third seal patterns are made of low-permeability sealant.

15. The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the first and third seal patterns are made of the same sealant.

16. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the second seal pattern is made of indium tin oxide (ITO) or indium zinc oxide (IZO).

17. The liquid crystal display as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of the second seal patterns comprises two L-shaped patterns intersecting with each other.

18. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein each of the second seal patterns comprises two L-shaped patterns intersecting with each other.

* * * * *

专利名称(译)	具有一对条形第二密封图案的液晶显示器及其制造方法		
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申请号	US10/453001	申请日	2003-06-03
[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	统宝光电股份有限公司		
申请(专利权)人(译)	统宝光电股份有限公司.		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	群创光电		
[标]发明人	LAI TZU YUAN TING DAI LIANG WEN CHI JIAN		
发明人	LAI, TZU-YUAN TING, DAI-LIANG WEN, CHI-JIAN		
IPC分类号	G02F1/1339 G02F1/1341		
CPC分类号	G02F1/1341		
优先权	091124760 2002-10-24 TW		
其他公开文献	US20040080702A1		
外部链接	Espacenet USPTO		

摘要(译)

一种液晶显示器及其制造方法。该制造方法包括提供双层衬底结构，该双层衬底结构具有沿着其周边插入的第一密封图案，其中第一密封图案具有面向液晶注入方向的用于液晶注入的凹槽，形成第二密封图案靠近所述凹口，平行于所述注入方向，经由所述凹口沿着所述注入方向注入所述液晶，以及使用第三密封图案密封所述凹口。根据本发明，加速第三密封图案的渗透速率，增强液晶显示器的密封，并提高生产率。此外，第二密封图案增强了基板和第三密封图案之间的粘附力，保护了固化的第三密封图案免于剥离和气泡形成。

