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Lyu

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(45) **Date of Patent:** **Nov. 24, 2009**

(54) **LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY APPARATUS AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME COMPRISING INTERNAL BIAxIAL CHOLESTERIC RETARDATION LAYER**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(21) Appl. No.: **10/725,595**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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Aug. 12, 2003 (KR) 10-2003-0055738

(51) **Int. Cl.**

G02F 1/1335 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** 349/117; 349/118

(58) **Field of Classification Search** None
See application file for complete search history.

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6 Claims, 26 Drawing Sheets

A liquid crystal display apparatus includes a lower substrate, an upper substrate, a liquid crystal layer and a retardation layer. The lower substrate includes a first transparent substrate. The upper substrate faces the first transparent substrate. The upper substrate includes a second transparent substrate. The liquid crystal layer is interposed between the lower substrate and the upper substrate. The retardation layer is interposed between the first and second transparent substrates. The retardation layer compensates phase difference of light that passes through the liquid crystal layer. The retardation layer takes the place of the retardation film of a general liquid crystal display apparatus, so that the retardation film is not necessary to reduce manufacturing cost.

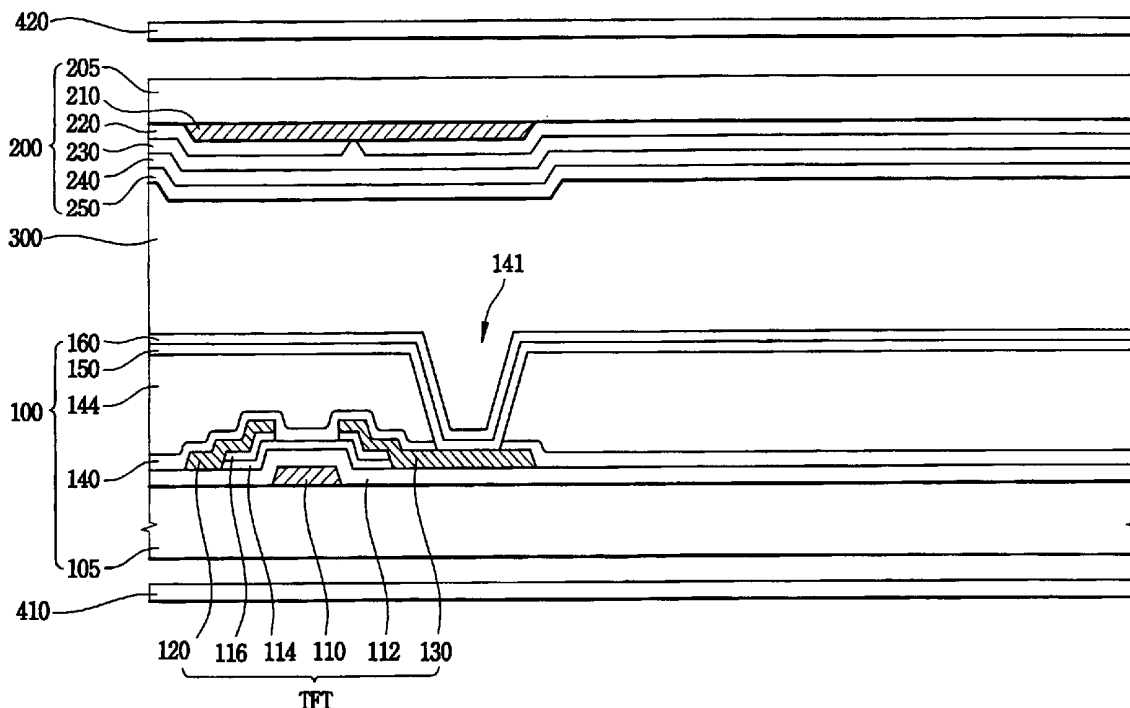


FIG. 1
(PRIOR ART)

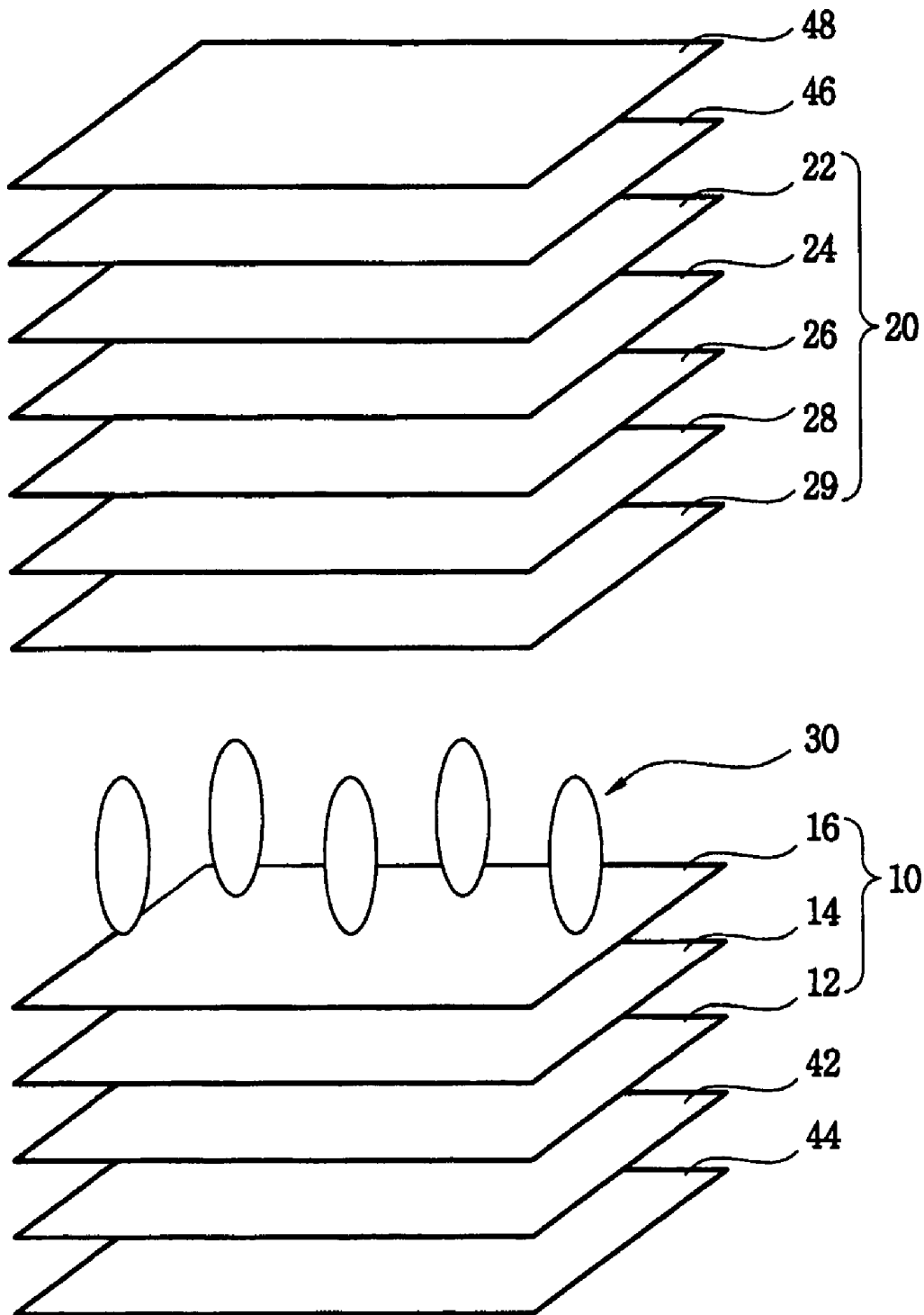


FIG. 2A
(PRIOR ART)

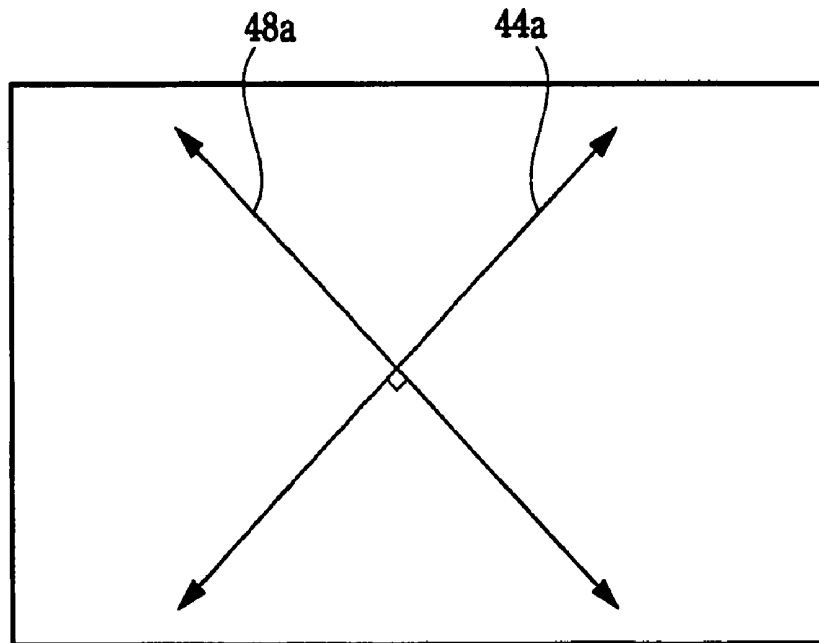


FIG. 2B
(PRIOR ART)

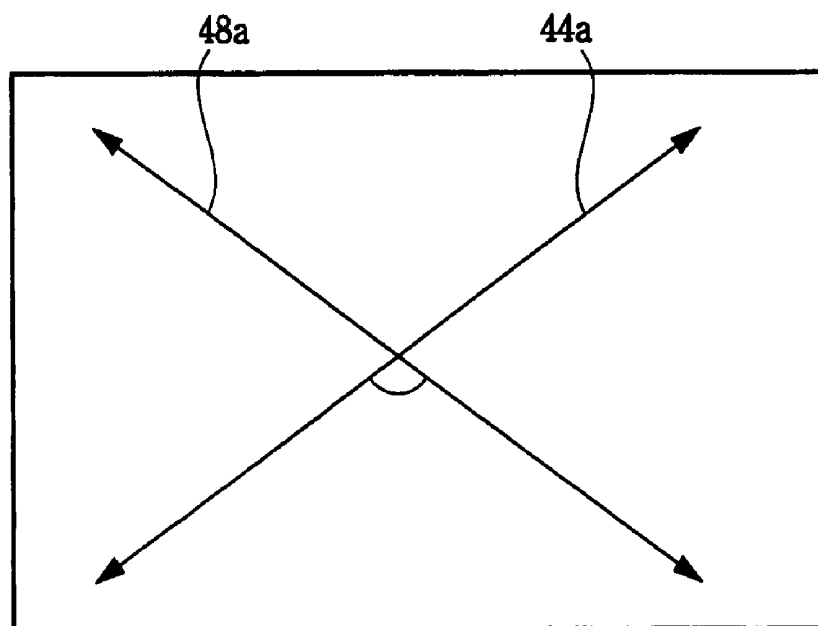


FIG. 3

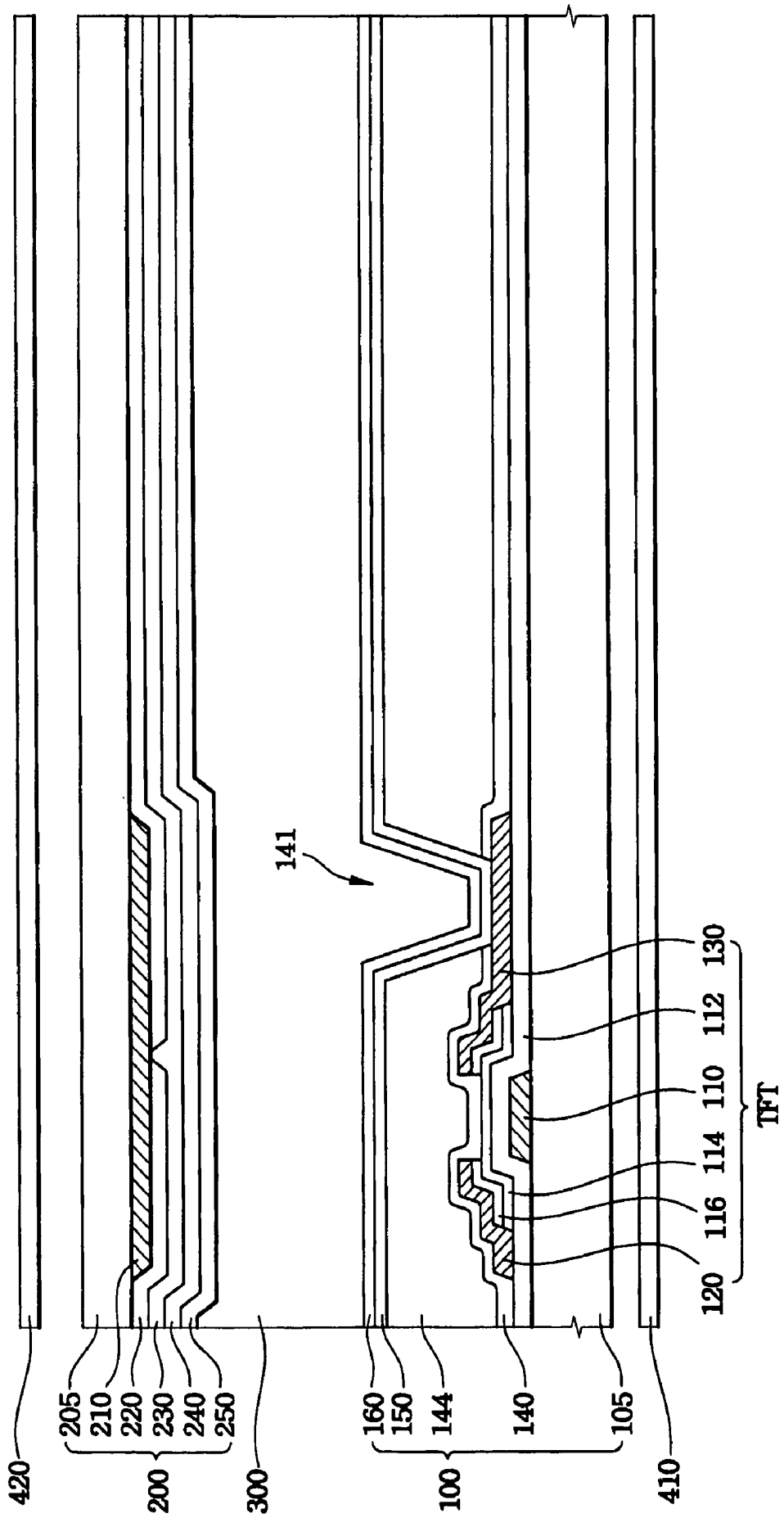


FIG. 4

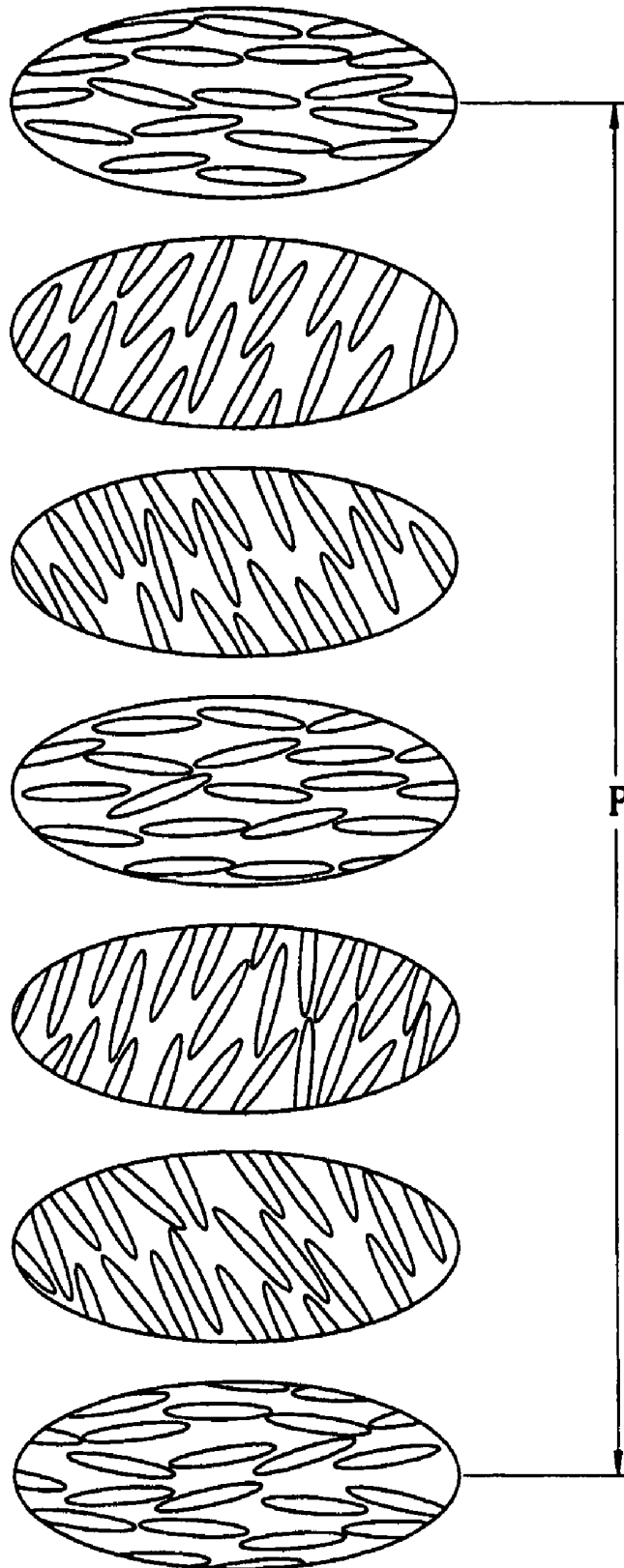


FIG. 5A

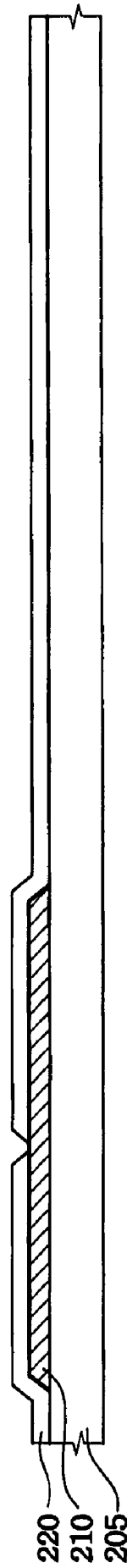


FIG. 5B

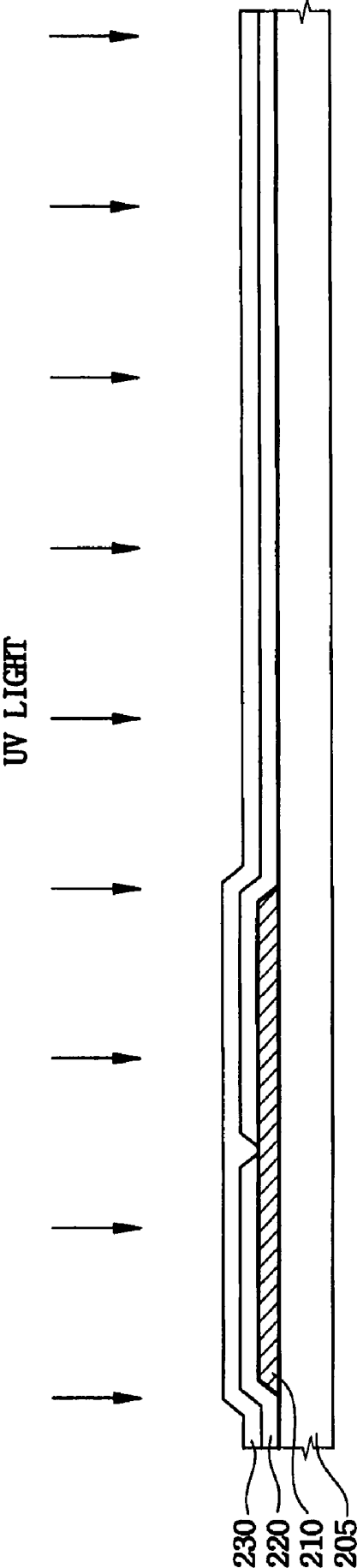


FIG. 5C

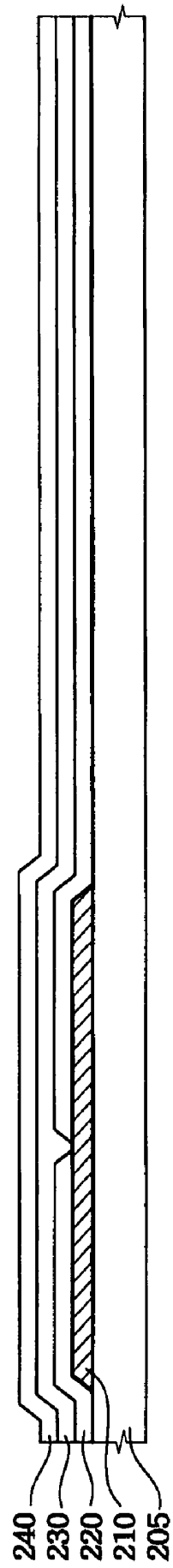


FIG. 5D

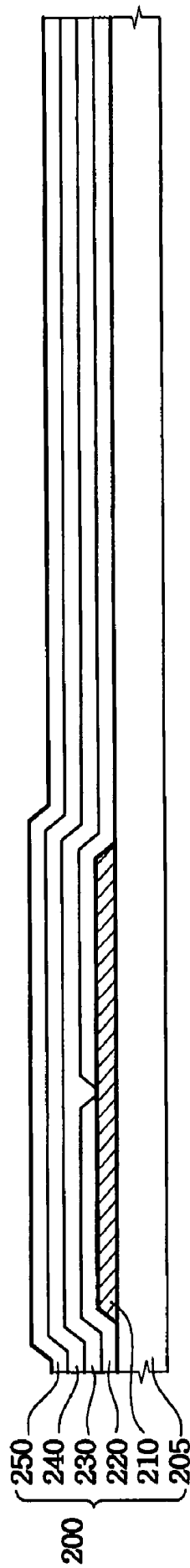


FIG. 6

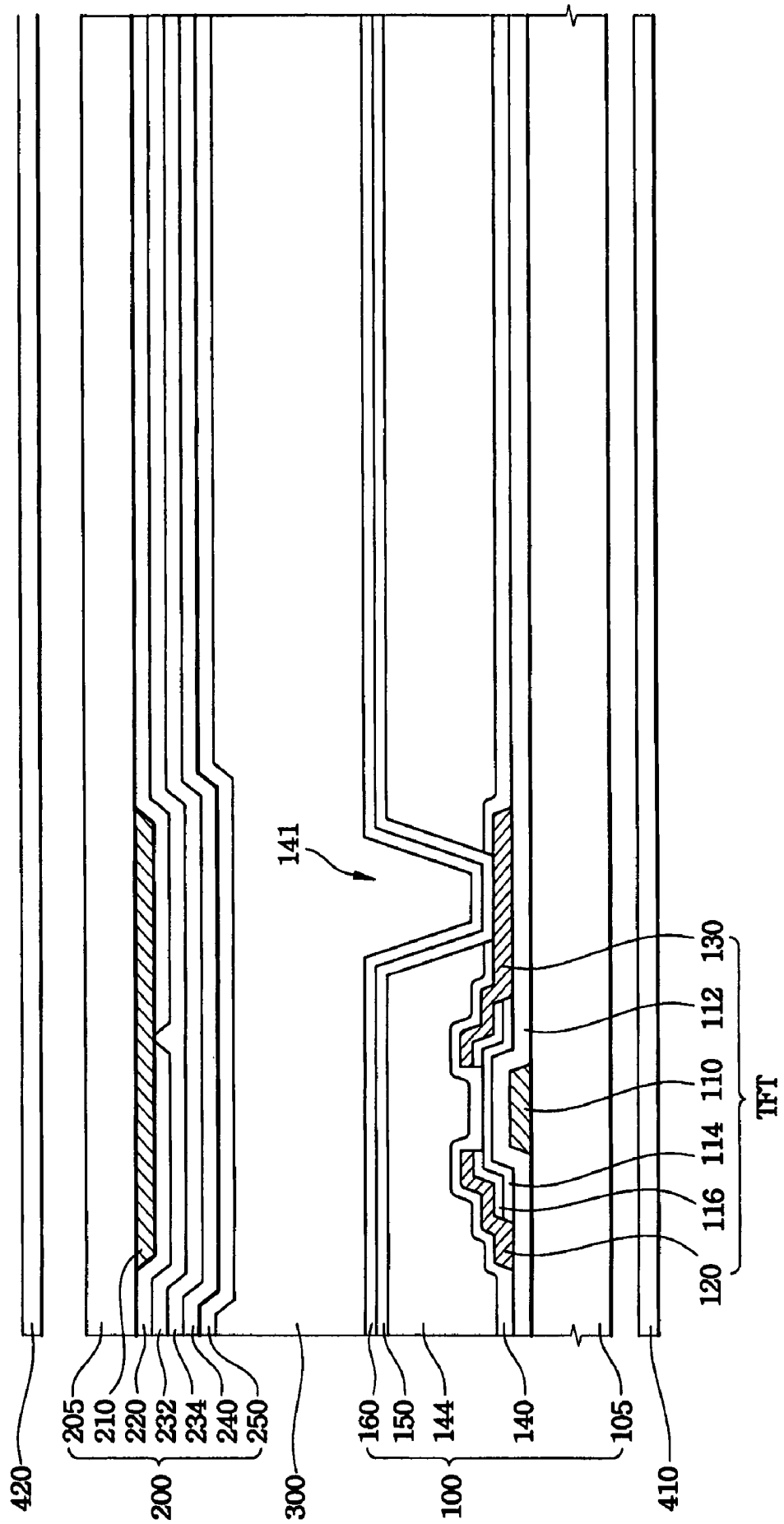


FIG. 7A

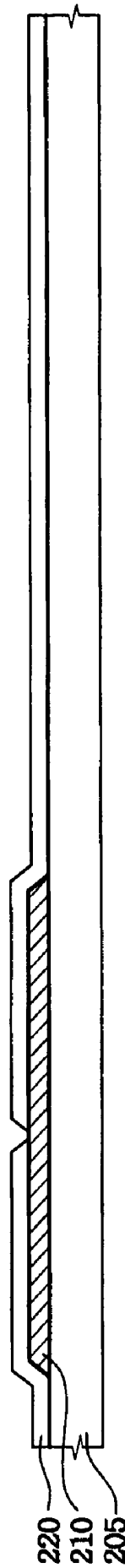


FIG. 7B

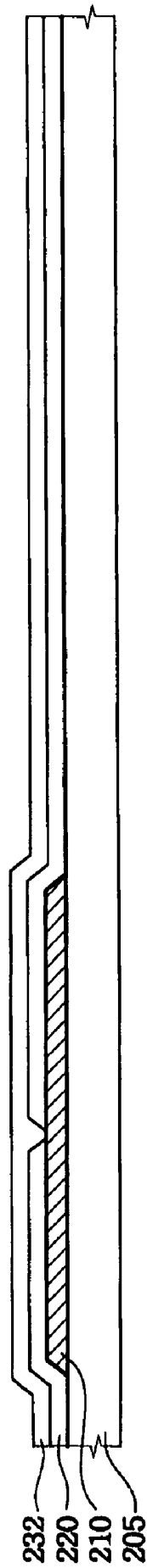


FIG. 7C

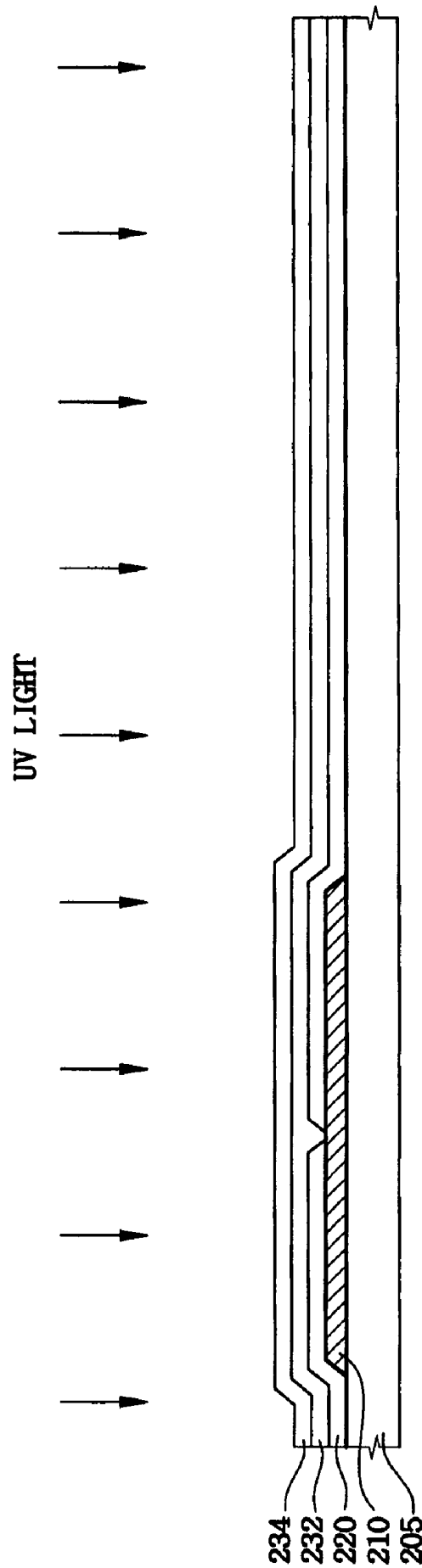


FIG. 7D

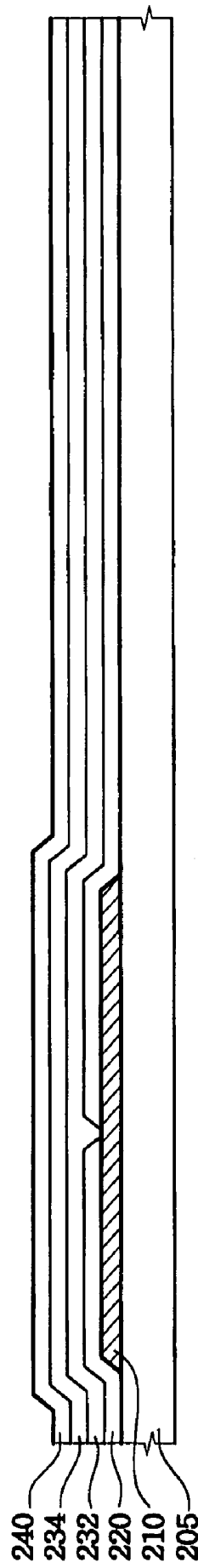


FIG. 7E

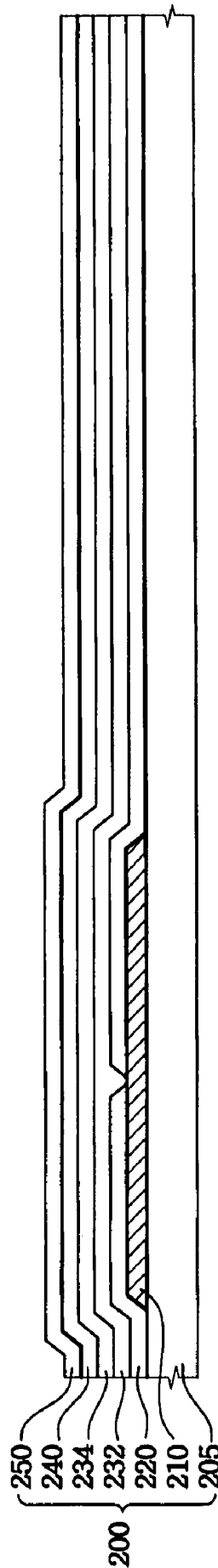


FIG. 8

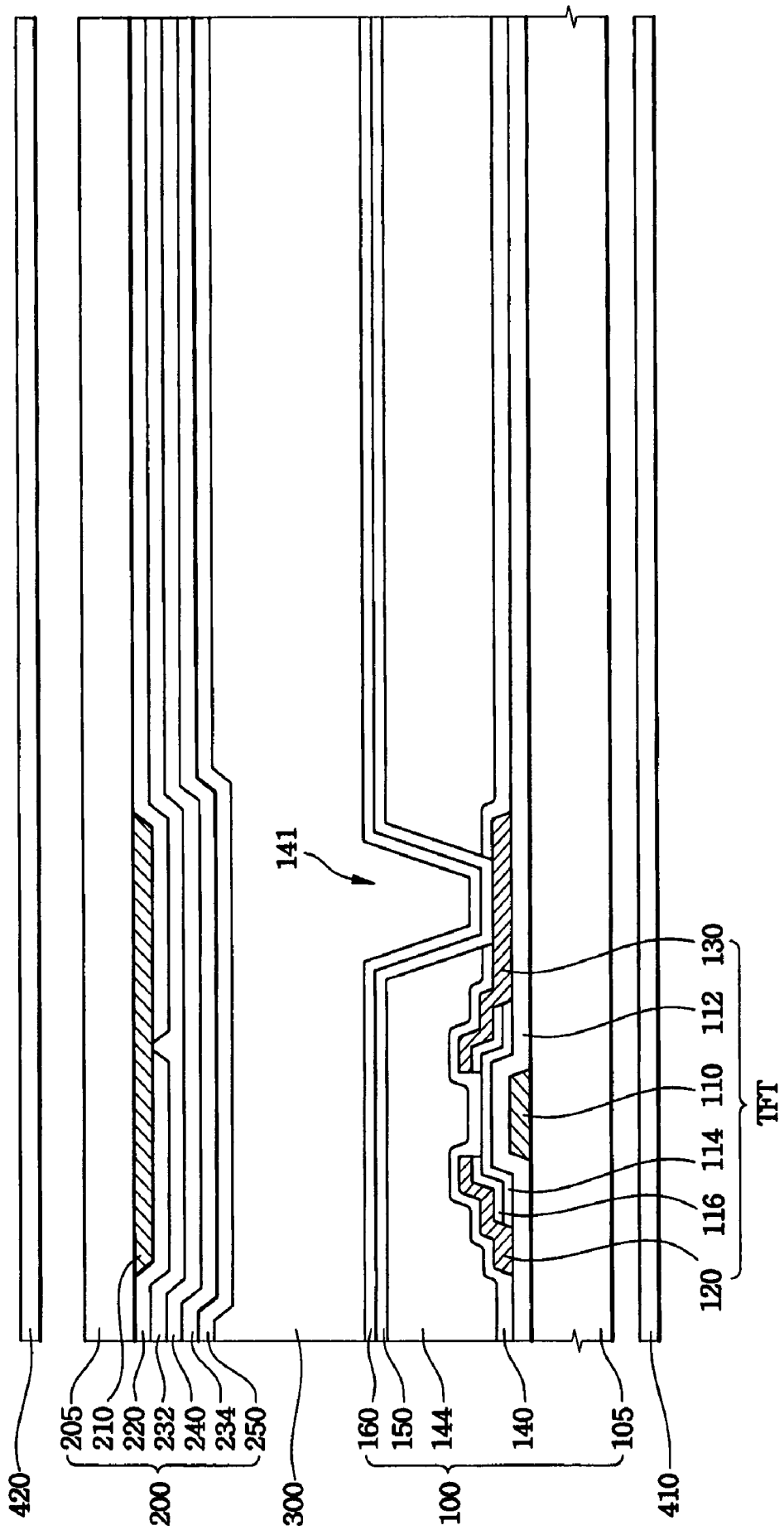


FIG. 9A



FIG. 9B

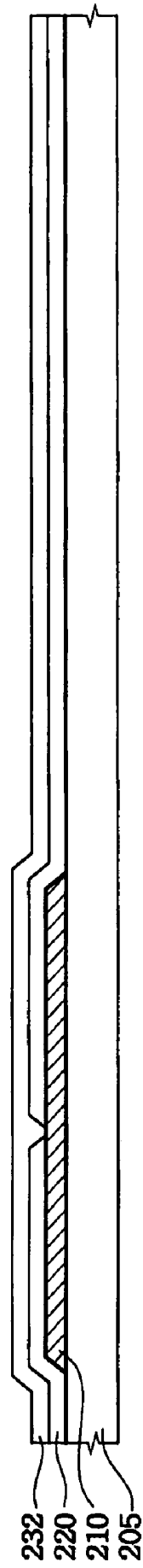


FIG. 9C

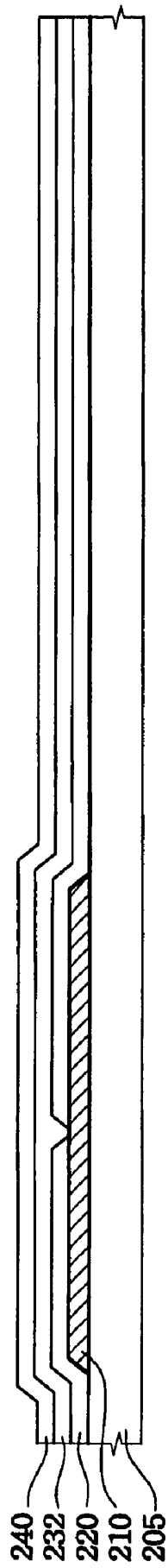


FIG. 9D

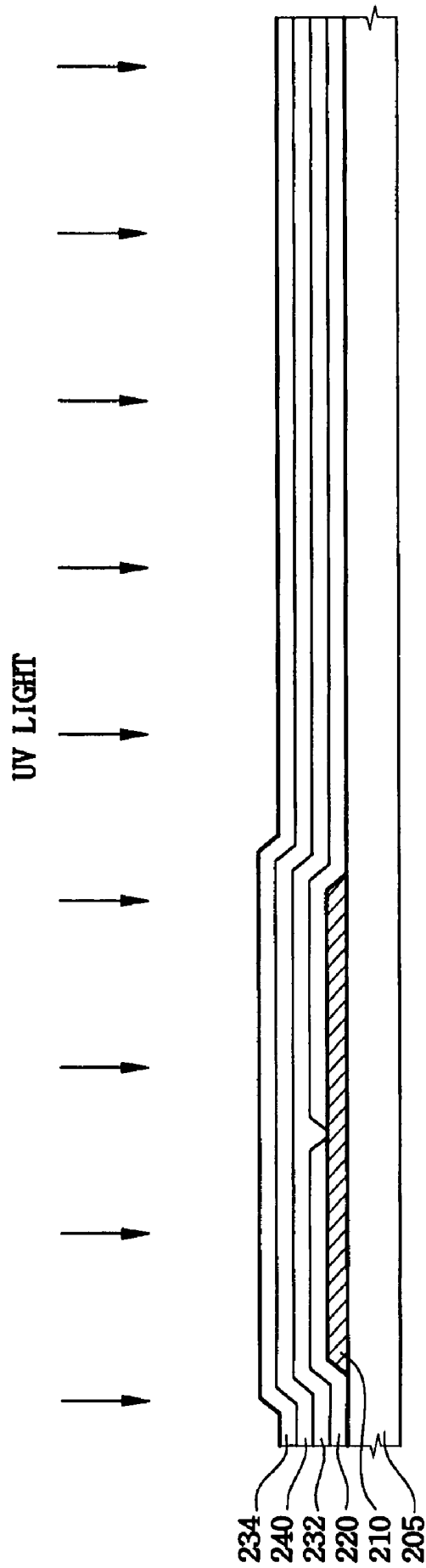


FIG. 9E

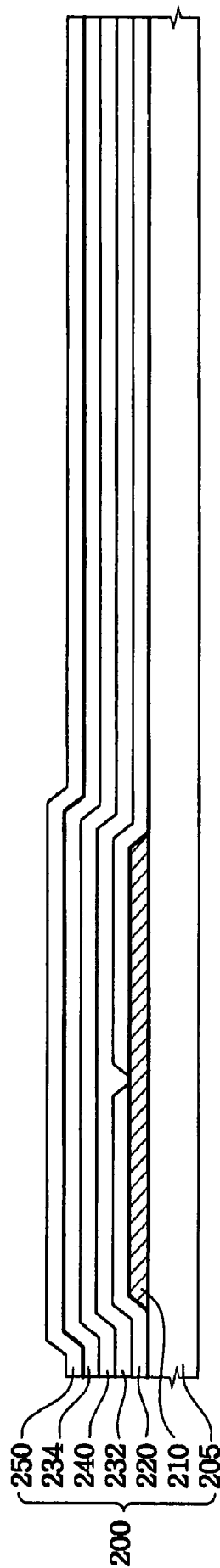


FIG. 10

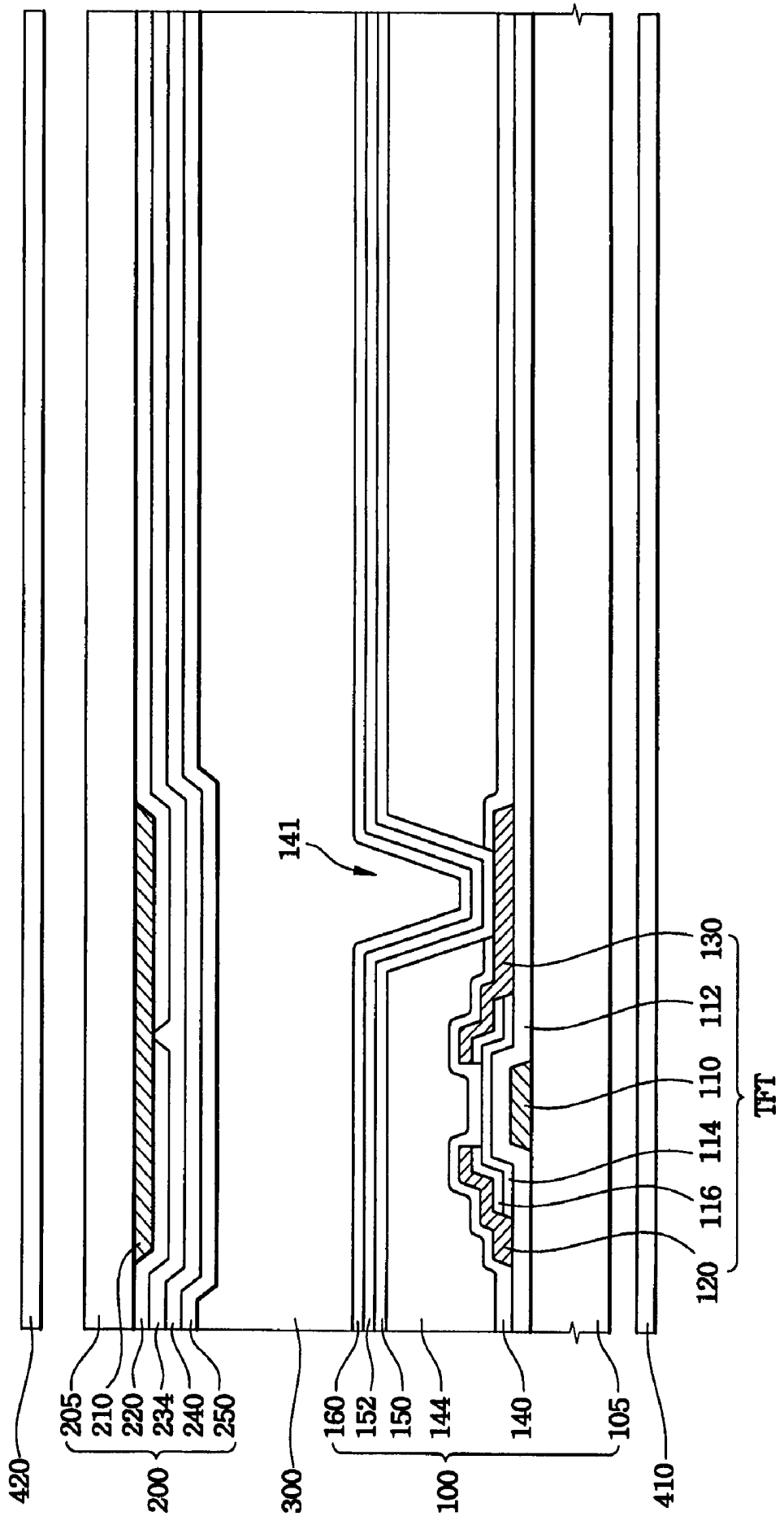


FIG. 11A

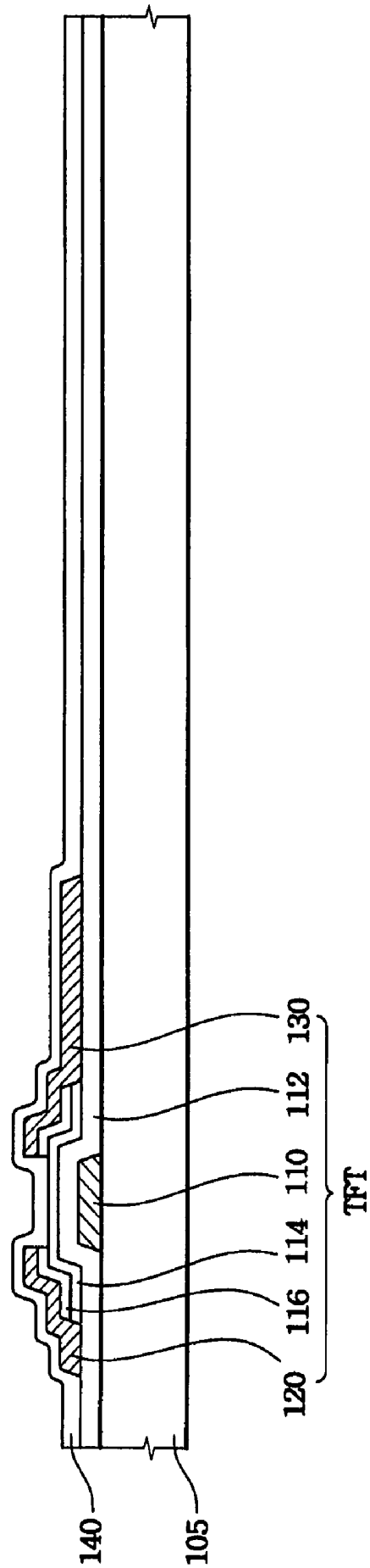


FIG. 11B

UV LIGHT

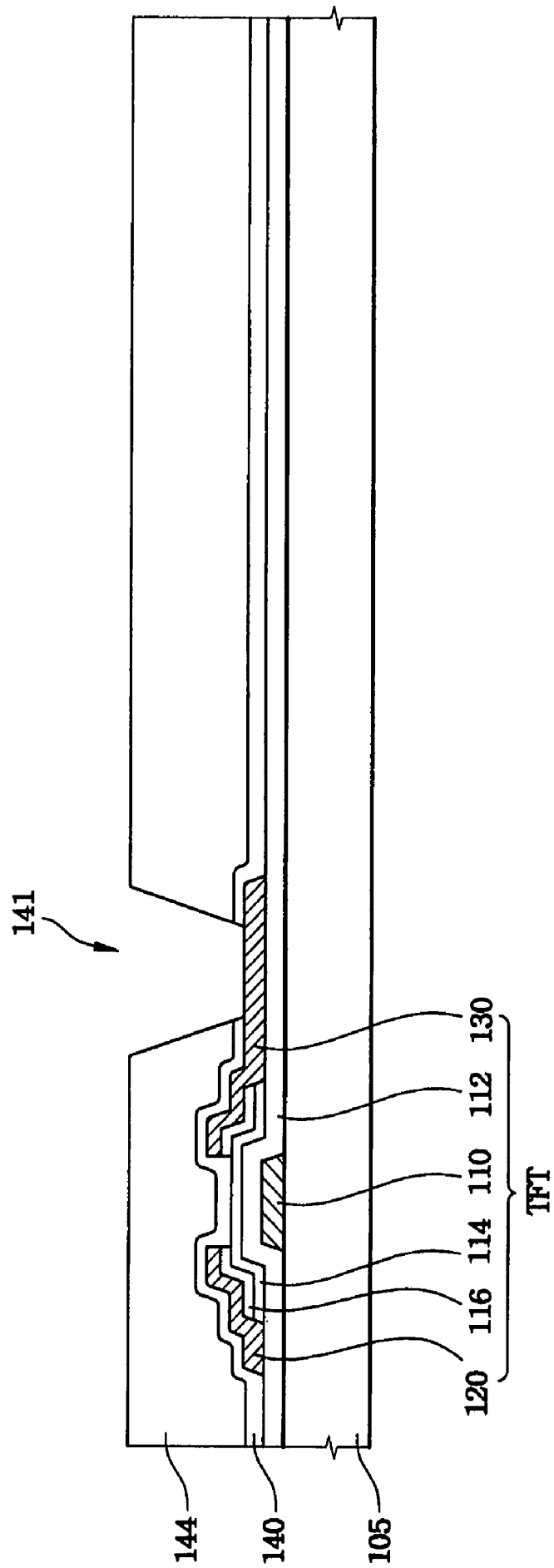


FIG. 11C

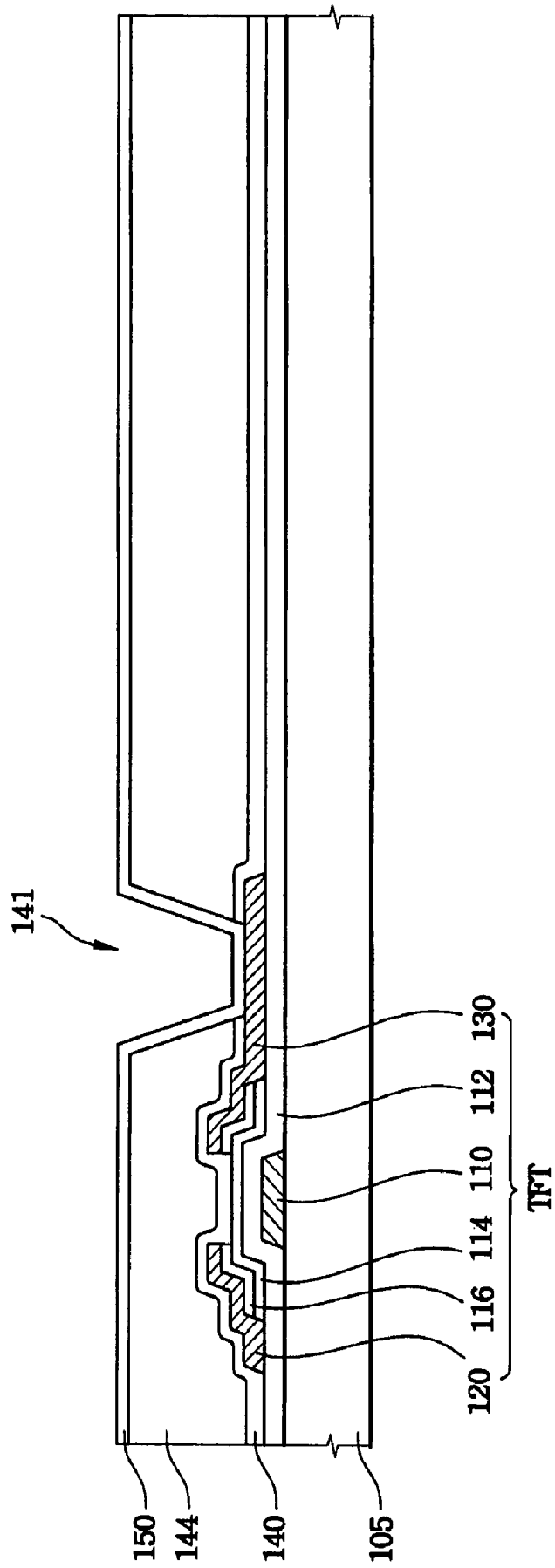


FIG. 11D

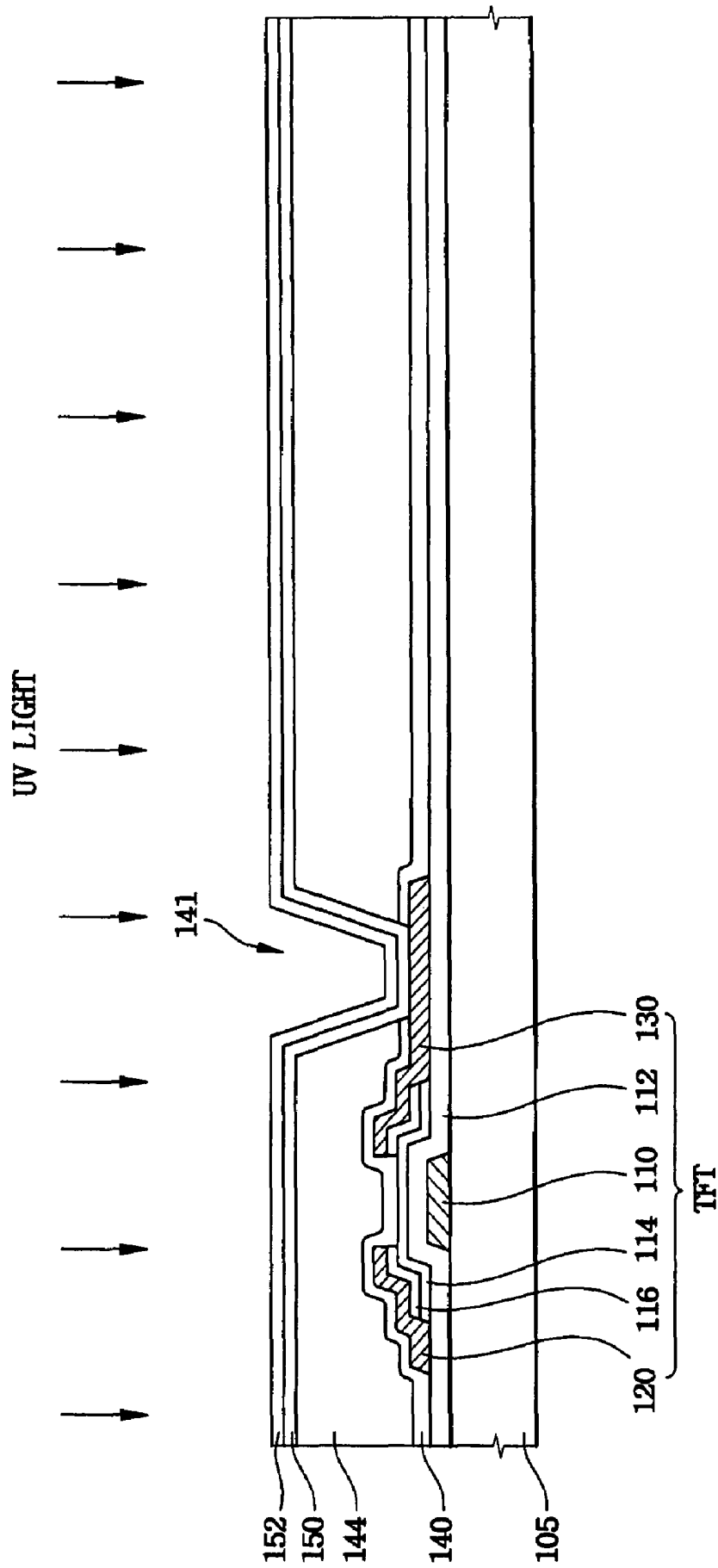
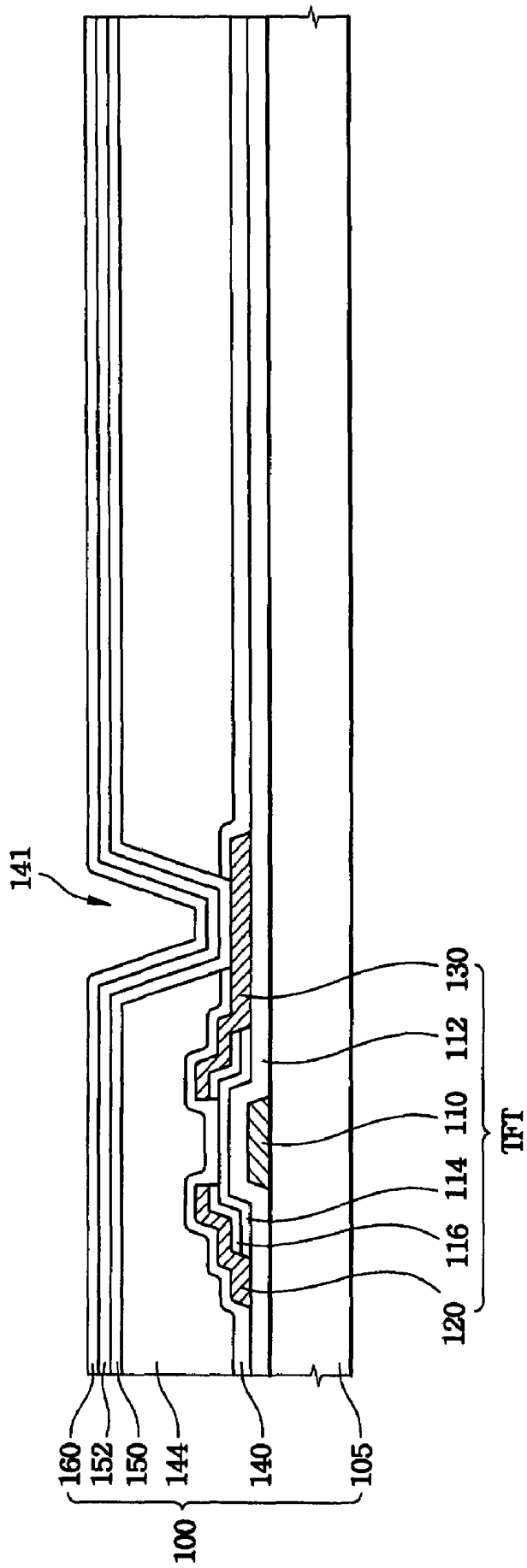


FIG. 11E



**LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY APPARATUS
AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE
SAME COMPRISING INTERNAL BIAxIAL
CHOLESTERIC RETARDATION LAYER**

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED
APPLICATIONS

This application relies for priority upon Korean Patent Application No. 2003-55738 filed on Aug. 12, 2003, the contents of which are herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a liquid crystal display apparatus and a method of manufacturing a substrate of the liquid crystal display apparatus, and more particularly to a liquid crystal display apparatus with retardation layer formed in a liquid crystal display panel and a manufacturing a substrate of the liquid crystal display apparatus.

2. Description of the Related Art

A general retardation film is used for a liquid crystal display apparatus. The retardation film allows a linearly polarized light to pass through the retardation film. The linearly polarized light is refracted in two directions due to a difference of velocity.

A first linearly polarized light that is referred to as 'ordinary light' is refracted according to Snell's law. However, a second polarized light that is referred to as 'extraordinary light' is refracted against the Snell's law. The retardation film applies different phases to the ordinary light and the extraordinary light.

Particularly, the retardation film of which optic axis is tilted with respect to a surface or normal line of the retardation film, compensates light that passes through the liquid crystal display apparatus. Thus, the retardation film increases viewing angle of the liquid crystal display apparatus.

FIG. 1 is a schematic view showing a general liquid crystal display apparatus.

Referring to FIG. 1, a general liquid crystal display apparatus includes an array substrate 10, a color filter substrate 20, a liquid crystal layer 30, a first retardation film 42, a first polarizing plate (or polarizer) 44, a second retardation film 46 and a second polarizing plate (or analyzer) 48. The array substrate 10 includes a first transparent substrate 12, a pixel electrode 14 and a first alignment film 16. The pixel electrode 14 is formed on the first transparent substrate 12. The first alignment film 16 is formed on the pixel electrode 14.

The color filter substrate 20 includes a second transparent substrate 22, a color filter layer 24, protection layer 26, a common electrode layer 28 and a second alignment film 29. The color filter layer 24 is formed on the second transparent substrate 22. The protection layer 26 is formed on the color filter layer 24. The common electrode layer 28 is formed on the protection layer 26. The second alignment film 29 is formed on the common electrode layer 28. The liquid crystal layer is interposed between the array substrate 10 and the color filter substrate 20. The first retardation film 42 is disposed on a backside of the first transparent substrate 12. The first polarizing plate 44 is disposed on the first retardation film 42. The second retardation film 46 is disposed on a backside of the second transparent substrate 22. The second polarizing plate 48 is disposed on the second retardation film 46.

When electric fields are formed between the pixel electrode 14 and the common electrode layer 28, liquid crystal

molecules of the liquid crystal layer 30 are erected (Homogeneous phase) or laid (Homeotropic phase) with respect to the array substrate 10 and the color filter substrate 20.

FIG. 2A is a plan view showing vertical angles formed between a first polarizing axis of a first polarizing plate and a second polarizing axis of a second polarizing plate, and FIG. 2B is a perspective view showing vertical angles formed between a first polarizing axis of a first polarizing plate and a second polarizing axis of a second polarizing plate.

Referring to FIG. 2A, when the liquid crystal molecules are erected (or vertically aligned), a light is not leaked in a normal direction of the liquid crystal display apparatus because a polarizing axis of the first and second polarizing plates are substantially orthogonal to each other.

Referring to FIG. 2B, the light is leaked in a tilted direction because the polarizing axis of the first and second polarizing plate are not orthogonal to each other. Thus, a contrast ratio decreases, so that a display quality is deteriorated.

In order to reduce the leakage of the light, a retardation film such as a biaxial film and uni-axial film is disposed at back-sides of the first and second transparent substrates 12 and 22 together with the first and second polarizing plates 44 and 48.

The retardation film increases a cost of manufacturing the liquid crystal display apparatus.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Accordingly, the present invention is provided to substantially obviate one or more problems due to limitations and disadvantages of the related art.

It is a feature of the present invention to provide a liquid crystal display apparatus with retardation layer interposed between substrates of a liquid crystal display panel.

It is another feature of the present invention to provide a method of manufacturing a color filter substrate for the liquid crystal display apparatus.

It is still another feature of the present invention to provide a method of manufacturing an array substrate for the liquid crystal display apparatus.

In one aspect of the liquid crystal display apparatus, the liquid crystal display apparatus includes a lower substrate, an upper substrate, a liquid crystal layer and a retardation layer. The lower substrate includes a first transparent substrate. The upper substrate faces the first transparent substrate. The upper substrate includes a second transparent substrate. The liquid crystal layer is interposed between the lower substrate and the upper substrate. The retardation layer is interposed between the first and second transparent substrates. The retardation layer compensates phase difference of light that passes through the liquid crystal layer.

According to the method of manufacturing a color filter substrate, a color filter layer is formed on a transparent substrate. A liquid crystal material is coated on the color filter layer. An ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the liquid crystal material to form a retardation layer with a fixed alignment of liquid crystal molecules of the liquid crystal material, the retardation layer. A common electrode layer is formed on the retardation layer. Then, an alignment film is formed on the common electrode layer.

According to another method of manufacturing a color filter substrate, a color filter layer is formed on a transparent substrate. A protection layer is formed on the color filter layer. A liquid crystal material is coated on the protection layer. An ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the liquid crystal material to form a retardation layer with a fixed alignment of liquid crystal molecules of the liquid crystal material, the retarda-

tion layer. A common electrode layer is formed on the retardation layer. Then, an alignment film is formed on the common electrode layer.

According to another method of manufacturing a color filter substrate, a color filter layer is formed on a transparent substrate. A protection layer is formed on the color filter layer. A common electrode layer is formed on the protection layer. A liquid crystal material is coated on the common electrode layer. An ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the liquid crystal material to form a retardation layer with a fixed alignment of liquid crystal molecules of the liquid crystal material, the retardation layer. Then, an alignment film is formed on the retardation layer.

According to the liquid crystal display apparatus and the method of this invention, the retardation layer takes the place of the retardation film of a general liquid crystal display apparatus, which disposed over the color filter substrate or under the array substrate, so that the retardation film is not necessary.

Therefore, a number of films for the liquid crystal display apparatus and a number of processes are reduced to save a manufacturing cost.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The above and other features and advantage points of the present invention will become more apparent by describing in detailed exemplary embodiments thereof with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a schematic view showing a general liquid crystal display apparatus;

FIG. 2A is a plan view showing vertical angles formed between a first polarizing axis of a first polarizing plate and a second polarizing axis of a second polarizing plate;

FIG. 2B is a perspective view showing vertical angles formed between a first polarizing axis of a first polarizing plate and a second polarizing axis of a second polarizing plate;

FIG. 3 is a cross-sectional view showing a liquid crystal display apparatus according to a first exemplary embodiment;

FIG. 4 is a schematic view showing an arrangement of cholesteric liquid crystal molecules;

FIGS. 5A through 5D are cross-sectional views showing a process of manufacturing a color filter substrate of FIG. 3;

FIG. 6 is a cross-sectional view showing a liquid crystal display apparatus according to a second exemplary embodiment of the present invention;

FIGS. 7A through 7E are cross-sectional views showing a process of manufacturing a color filter substrate of FIG. 6;

FIG. 8 is a cross-sectional view showing a liquid crystal display apparatus according to a third exemplary embodiment of the present invention;

FIGS. 9A through 9E are cross-sectional views showing a process of manufacturing a color filter substrate of FIG. 8;

FIG. 10 is cross-sectional view showing a liquid crystal display apparatus according to a fourth exemplary embodiment of the present invention; and

FIGS. 11A through 11E are cross-sectional views showing a process of manufacturing an array substrate of FIG. 10.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Hereinafter, the preferred embodiments of the present invention will be described in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings.

Embodiment 1

FIG. 3 is a cross-sectional view showing a liquid crystal display apparatus according to a first exemplary embodiment. In the present embodiment, a retardation layer is formed on a protection layer.

Referring to FIG. 3, a liquid crystal display apparatus according to a first exemplary embodiment includes an array substrate 100, a color filter substrate 200, a liquid crystal layer 300, and first and second polarizing plates 410 and 420. The liquid crystal layer 300 is interposed between the array substrate 100 and the color filter substrate 200. The first polarizing plate 410 is disposed under a backside of the array substrate 100. The second polarizing plate 420 is disposed over a backside of the color filter substrate 200.

The array substrate 100 includes a first transparent substrate 105, a gate insulation layer 112, a switching device TFT, a passivation layer 140, an organic insulation layer 144, a pixel electrode 150 and a first alignment film 160.

The switching device TFT includes a gate electrode 110, a gate insulation layer 112, a semiconductor layer 114, an ohmic contact layer 116, a source electrode 120 and a drain electrode 130.

The gate insulation layer 112 is formed on the first transparent substrate 105, such that the gate insulation layer 112 covers the gate electrode 110 of the switching device TFT.

The passivation layer 140 covers the switching device TFT, such that a portion of the drain electrode 130 of the switching device TFT is exposed.

The organic insulation layer 144 is formed on the passivation layer 140, such that the portion of the drain electrode 130 of the switching device TFT is exposed.

The pixel electrode 150 is formed on the organic insulation layer 144, such that the pixel electrode makes contact with the drain electrode 130 of the switching device TFT via a contact hole 141. The pixel electrode 150 comprises indium tin oxide (ITO) or indium zinc oxide (IZO), so that pixel electrode 150 is transparent and electrically conductive.

The first alignment film 160 is formed on the pixel electrode 150.

Not shown in FIG. 3, when the liquid crystal display apparatus corresponds to independent wiring type, a wiring for capacitance is separately formed, such that the wiring is spaced apart from the switching device TFT. The wiring and the pixel electrode 150 define a storage capacitor Cst. The liquid crystal display apparatus may correspond to a previous gate type.

The color filter substrate 200 includes a second transparent substrate 205, a black matrix 210, a color filter layer 220, a retardation layer 230, a common electrode layer 240 and a second alignment film 250.

The black matrix 210 is formed on the second transparent substrate 205, such that the black matrix 210 faces the switching device. Thus, the black matrix 210 hides the switching device.

The color filter layer 220 includes a red pixel region, a green pixel region and a blue pixel region. The black matrix 210 divides the red pixel region, the green pixel region and the blue pixel region. An edge of the red pixel region, the green pixel region and the blue pixel region may overlap with each other, so that the edge may hide the switching device TFT as a substitute of the black matrix 210.

The retardation layer 230 is formed on the black matrix 210 and the color filter layer 220. The retardation layer 230 protects the black matrix 210 and the color filter layer 220. The retardation layer 230 compensates a phase difference of a light that passes through the liquid crystal layer 300. The light

may be generated from a backlight assembly (not shown) in a transmissive type liquid crystal display apparatus. The light may correspond to a natural light that enters into the liquid crystal display apparatus via the backside of the color filter substrate **200** in a reflective type liquid crystal display apparatus. The light may be generated from the backlight assembly or correspond to the natural light in a transmissive and reflective type liquid crystal display apparatus.

The retardation layer **230** may comprise a liquid crystal polymer that is hardened when an ultraviolet light is irradiated. For example, the retardation layer **230** comprises cholesteric liquid crystal.

FIG. **4** is a schematic view showing an arrangement of cholesteric liquid crystal molecules.

Referring to FIG. **4**, a director 'n' of cholesteric liquid crystal (or chiral nematic liquid crystal) molecules rotates gradually in a z-axis direction to form a spiral shape. That is, the director n is expressed in an expression, $n=(\cos 2\pi/p, \sin 2\pi/p, 0)$. A period of rotation 'p' is characterized by the cholesteric liquid crystal. An axis of the spiral shape corresponds to an optic axis. In a microscopic view, the cholesteric liquid crystal molecules are arranged, such that each of the cholesteric liquid crystal molecules has the same director likewise the twisted nematic liquid crystal molecules.

However, in a macroscopic view, the directors of the cholesteric liquid crystal molecules are arranged in a circular shape.

Referring again to FIG. **3**, the cholesteric liquid crystal material is coated on the retardation layer **220**. Then, an ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the cholesteric liquid crystal material to harden the cholesteric liquid crystal material. Thus, directors of the liquid crystal molecules are fixed, so that the retardation layer **230** performing a function of a biaxial film or uni-axial film is formed.

In detail, when a polarized ultraviolet light is irradiated onto a film including the cholesteric liquid crystal material, the biaxial film is formed. When a non-polarized ultraviolet light is irradiated onto a film including the cholesteric liquid crystal material, a C-plate film is formed.

In case of the biaxial film, a refractivity of x-direction n_x , a refractivity of y-direction n_y , and a refractivity of z-direction n_z are different from each other.

The uni-axial film is divided into an A-plate film and C-plate film. In case of the A-plate film, the refractivity of y-direction n_y is substantially equal to the refractivity of z-direction n_z . The refractivity of y-direction n_y and the refractivity of z-direction n_z are less than the refractivity of x-direction n_x ($n_x > n_y = n_z$).

In case of the C-plate film, the refractivity of x-direction n_x is substantially equal to the refractivity of y-direction n_y . The refractivity of x-direction n_x and the refractivity of y-direction n_y are greater than the refractivity of z-direction n_z ($n_x = n_y > n_z$).

The retardation layer **230** may be formed via a spin coating method, a micro gravure coating method or a capillary coating method. In the spin coating method, an amount of material that is disused is larger than an amount of material that is used for coating. Thus, the retardation layer **230** is preferably formed via the micro gravure coating method disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 4,791,881 or the capillary coating method.

The retardation layer **230** may include reactive mesogen mixture (RMM), polyvinylalcohol (PVA), polycarbonate (PC), or cycloolefin polymer (COP).

The common electrode layer **240** is formed on the retardation layer **230**. A reference voltage V_{com} is applied to the common electrode layer **240**. Thus, electric fields are formed between the common electrode layer **240** and the pixel electrode **150** where a pixel voltage is applied.

The second alignment layer **250** is formed on the common electrode layer **240**. The second alignment layer **250** aligns the liquid crystal molecules. When the common electrode layer **240** may not be formed, the second alignment layer **250** may be formed on the retardation layer **230**.

The liquid crystal layer **300** is interposed between the array substrate **100** and the color filter substrate **240**. When the pixel voltage is applied to the pixel electrode **150**, the electric fields are formed between the array substrate **100** and the color filter substrate **200**. Thus, liquid crystal molecules are rearranged according to the electric fields. The liquid crystal layer **300** may correspond to a twisted nematic (TN) mode, a vertical alignment (VA) mode or optically compensated birefringence (OCB) mode.

The first polarizing plate (or polarizer) **410** is disposed under the array substrate **100**, so that a polarized light enters the array substrate **100** via the first polarizing plate **410**.

The second polarizing plate (or analyzer) **420** is disposed over the color filter substrate **200**, so that the polarized light is analyzed via the second polarizing plate **420**.

FIGS. **5A** through **5D** are cross-sectional views showing a process of manufacturing a color filter substrate of FIG. **3**.

Referring to FIG. **5A**, a metal layer including chromium (Cr) is deposited on a second transparent substrate **205**. A photoresist is deposited on the metal layer. Then, the photoresist is exposed and developed selectively via a photomask (not shown). Thus, a black matrix **210** including the chromium (Cr) is formed. The black matrix **210** is disposed such that the black matrix **210** faces a switching device of an array substrate when a color filter substrate and an array substrate are assembled together.

Then, a photosensitive red-colored resist is deposited on the second transparent substrate **205**. Then, the red-colored resist is exposed and developed, so that red color filter is formed. Green color filter and blue color filter are formed via same process. Thus, color filter layer **220** is formed.

Referring to FIG. **5B**, a liquid crystal polymer such as cholesteric liquid crystal material is coated on the color filter layer **220**. The liquid crystal molecules of the cholesteric liquid crystal material are aligned. Then, an ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the cholesteric liquid crystal material to fix the alignment of the liquid crystal molecules. Thus, a retardation layer **230** is formed. When the ultraviolet light is polarized, the retardation layer **230** corresponds to a biaxial film. However, when the ultraviolet light is not polarized, the retardation layer **230** corresponds to a C-plate film.

Referring to FIG. **5C**, a common electrode layer **240** is formed on a retardation layer **230**. The common electrode layer **240** comprises a transparent and electrically conductive material such as indium tin oxide (ITO) and indium zinc oxide (IZO).

Referring to FIG. **5D**, an alignment film **250** is formed on the common electrode layer **240**. The alignment film **250** allows liquid crystal molecules to arrange toward a predetermined direction. The alignment film **250** may include an inorganic material or an organic material as long as the alignment film **250** forms a pre-tilt angle of liquid crystal molecule.

The inorganic material for the alignment film **250** may comprise silicon oxide (SiO_2), a metal oxide such as magnesium oxide (MgO), magnesium fluoride (MgF_2), gold (Au), etc. When the inorganic material is used for the alignment film **250**, an inorganic material is deposited in a predetermined direction. Thus, a separate aligning process is not necessary.

The organic material for the alignment film **250** may comprise a resin such as, polyimide and polyvinyl alcohol, a

silane compound that may be absorbed on a substrate, and polyamic acid that may be formed in a thin film. When the organic material is used for the alignment film **250**, the separate aligning process is necessary.

That is, the organic material may be rubbed, or a polarized ultraviolet light may be irradiated.

Further, the alignment film **250** may be formed in a single layered structure comprising one material, or a multi-layered structure comprising at least two materials. For example, an inorganic layer is formed at first. Then, an organic layer is formed on the inorganic layer. When the aligning film **250** is formed in the multi-layered structure, a vertical aligner such as lecithin may be added to the organic material.

The color filter substrate **200** of FIG. **3** is formed via a process described in FIGS. **5A-5D**. When the color filter substrate **200** is completed, the color filter substrate **200** is assembled with the array substrate **100**. Then, liquid crystal material is interposed between the array substrate **100** and the color filter substrate **200** to form the liquid crystal layer **300**. The liquid crystal layer **300** may be formed before the array substrate **100** and the color filter substrate are assembled with each other.

As described above, the retardation layer formed on the color filter layer protects the color filter layer. Further, the ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the retardation layer comprising a cholesteric liquid crystal, so that the retardation layer compensates a phase difference. Thus, the retardation layer takes the place of the retardation film of a general liquid crystal display apparatus, which is disposed over the color filter substrate or under the array substrate, so that the retardation film is not necessary.

Therefore, a number of films for the liquid crystal display apparatus and a number of processes are reduced to save a manufacturing cost.

Embodiment 2

FIG. **6** is a cross-sectional view showing a liquid crystal display apparatus according to a second exemplary embodiment of the present invention. The liquid crystal display apparatus is same as in Embodiment 1 except for a protection layer. Thus, the same reference numerals will be used to refer to the same or like parts as those described in Embodiment 1 and any further explanation will be omitted.

Referring to FIG. **6**, a liquid crystal display apparatus according to a second exemplary embodiment includes an array substrate **100**, a color filter substrate **200**, a liquid crystal layer **300**, and first and second polarizing plates **410** and **420**. The liquid crystal layer **300** is interposed between the array substrate **100** and the color filter substrate **200**. The first polarizing plate **410** is disposed under a backside of the array substrate **100**. The second polarizing plate **420** is disposed over a backside of the color filter substrate **200**.

The color filter substrate **200** includes a second transparent substrate **205**, a black matrix **210**, a color filter layer **220**, a protection layer **232**, a retardation layer **234**, a common electrode layer **240** and a second alignment film **250**.

The black matrix **210** is formed on the second transparent substrate **205**, such that the black matrix **210** faces the switching device. Thus, the black matrix **210** hides the switching device.

The color filter layer **220** includes a red pixel region, a green pixel region and a blue pixel region. The black matrix **210** defines the red pixel region, the green pixel region and the blue pixel region. An edge of the red pixel region, the green pixel region and the blue pixel region may overlap with each

other, so that the edge may hide the switching device TFT as a substitute of the black matrix **210**.

The protection layer **232** is formed on the black matrix **210** and the color filter layer **220**. The protection layer **232** protects the black matrix **210** and the color filter layer **220**.

The retardation layer **234** is formed on the protection layer **232**. The retardation layer **234** compensates a phase difference of a light that passes through the liquid crystal layer **300**.

The retardation layer **234** may comprise a liquid crystal polymer that is hardened when an ultraviolet light is irradiated. For example, the retardation layer **230** comprises cholesteric liquid crystal.

FIGS. **7A** through **7E** are cross-sectional views showing a process of manufacturing a color filter substrate of FIG. **6**.

Referring to FIG. **7A**, a metal layer including chromium (Cr) is deposited on a second transparent substrate **205**. A photoresist is deposited on the metal layer. Then, the photoresist is exposed and developed selectively via a photomask (not shown). Thus, a black matrix **210** including the chromium (Cr) is formed. The black matrix **210** is disposed such that the black matrix **210** faces a switching device of an array substrate when a color filter substrate and an array substrate are assembled together.

Then, a photosensitive red-colored resist is deposited on the second transparent substrate **205**. Then, the red-colored resist is exposed and developed, so that red color filter is formed. Green color filter and blue color filter are formed via same process. Thus, color filter layer **220** is formed.

Referring to FIG. **7B**, a protection layer **232** is formed on the color filter layer **220** to protect the color filter layer **220**.

Referring to FIG. **7C**, a liquid crystal polymer such as cholesteric liquid crystal material is coated on the protection layer **232**. The liquid crystal molecules of the cholesteric liquid crystal material are aligned. Then, an ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the cholesteric liquid crystal material to fix the alignment of the liquid crystal molecules. Thus, a retardation layer **234** is formed. When the ultraviolet light is polarized, the retardation layer **234** corresponds to a biaxial film. However, when the ultraviolet light is not polarized, the retardation layer **234** corresponds to a C-plate film.

The retardation layer **234** may be formed via a spin coating method, a micro gravure coating method or a capillary coating method. Preferably, the retardation layer **234** is formed via the micro gravure coating method or the capillary coating method.

The retardation layer **234** may include reactive mesogen mixture (RMM), polyvinylalcohol (PVA), polycarbonate (PC), or cycloolefin polymer (COP).

Referring to FIGS. **7D** and **7E**, a common electrode layer **240** is formed on a retardation layer **234**. The common electrode layer **240** comprises a transparent and electrically conductive material such as indium tin oxide (ITO) and indium zinc oxide (IZO). Then, an alignment film **250** is formed on the common electrode layer **240**. The alignment film **250** allows liquid crystal molecules to arrange toward a predetermined direction. The alignment film **250** may include an inorganic material or an organic material as long as the alignment film **250** forms a pre-tilt angle of liquid crystal molecule. In FIG. **7E**, the alignment film **250** is formed on the common electrode layer **240**. However, when the common electrode layer **240** is not formed, the alignment film **250** may be formed on the retardation layer **240**.

The color filter substrate **200** of FIG. **6** is formed via a process described in FIGS. **7A** through **7E**. When the color filter substrate **200** is completed, the color filter substrate **200** is assembled with the array substrate **100**. Then, liquid crystal material is interposed between the array substrate **100** and the

color filter substrate **200** to form the liquid crystal layer **300**. The liquid crystal layer **300** may be formed before the array substrate **100** and the color filter substrate are assembled with each other.

As described above, the ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the retardation layer comprising a cholesteric liquid crystal, so that the retardation layer compensates a phase difference. Thus, the retardation layer interposed between the protection layer and the common electrode takes the place of the retardation film of a general liquid crystal display apparatus, which is disposed over the color filter substrate or under the array substrate, so that the retardation film is not necessary.

Therefore, a number of films for the liquid crystal display apparatus and a number of processes are reduced to save a manufacturing cost.

Embodiment 3

FIG. **8** is a cross-sectional view showing a liquid crystal display apparatus according to a third exemplary embodiment of the present invention. In the present embodiment, a retardation layer is disposed on an alignment film.

Referring to FIG. **8**, a liquid crystal display apparatus according to a third exemplary embodiment includes an array substrate **100**, a color filter substrate **200**, a liquid crystal layer **300**, and first and second polarizing plates **410** and **420**. The liquid crystal layer **300** is interposed between the array substrate **100** and the color filter substrate **200**. The first polarizing plate **410** is disposed under a backside of the array substrate **100**. The second polarizing plate **420** is disposed over a backside of the color filter substrate **200**.

The color filter substrate **200** includes a second transparent substrate **205**, a black matrix **210**, a color filter layer **220**, a protection layer **232**, a common electrode layer **240**, a retardation layer **234** and a second alignment film **250**.

The black matrix **210** is formed on the second transparent substrate **205**, such that the black matrix **210** faces a switching device TFT. Thus, the black matrix **210** hides the switching device TFT.

The color filter layer **220** includes a red pixel region, a green pixel region and a blue pixel region. The black matrix **210** defines the red pixel region, the green pixel region and the blue pixel region. An edge of the red pixel region, the green pixel region and the blue pixel region may overlap with each other, so that the edge may hide the switching device TFT as a substitute of the black matrix **210**.

The protection layer **232** is formed on the black matrix **210** and the color filter layer **220**. The protection layer **232** protects the black matrix **210** and the color filter layer **220**.

The common electrode layer **240** is formed on the protection layer **232**. The common electrode layer **240** receives a reference voltage V_{com} . When a pixel voltage is applied to a pixel electrode **150** of an array substrate **100**, electric fields are formed between the common electrode layer **240** and a pixel electrode **150** to rearrange liquid crystal molecules of a liquid crystal layer **300**.

The retardation layer **234** is formed on the common electrode layer **240**. The retardation layer **234** compensates a phase difference of a light that passes through the liquid crystal layer **300**. The retardation layer **234** is made of liquid crystal polymer that is hardened when an ultraviolet light is irradiated. For example, the retardation layer **234** comprises cholesteric liquid crystal.

In a process of manufacturing the color filter substrate, a cholesteric liquid crystal material is coated on the common electrode **240**. An ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the cholesteric liquid crystal material to fix an arrangement of cho-

lesteric liquid crystal molecules. Thus, the retardation layer **234** that operates as a biaxial film or uni-axial film is formed. When a polarized ultraviolet light is irradiated onto to the cholesteric liquid crystal material, the retardation layer **234** operates as the biaxial film. When a non-polarized ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the cholesteric liquid crystal material, the retardation layer **234** operates as a C-plate film that belongs to the uni-axial film.

The retardation layer **234** may be formed via a spin coating method, a micro gravure coating method or a capillary coating method. Preferably, the retardation layer **234** is formed via the micro gravure coating method or the capillary coating method.

The retardation layer **234** may include reactive mesogen mixture (RMM), polyvinylalcohol (PVA), polycarbonate (PC), or cycloolefin polymer (COP).

The second alignment film **250** is formed on the retardation layer **234**.

FIGS. **9A** through **9E** are cross-sectional views showing a process of manufacturing a color filter substrate of FIG. **8**.

Referring to FIG. **9A**, a metal layer including chromium (Cr) is deposited on a second transparent substrate **205**. A photoresist is deposited on the metal layer. Then, the photoresist is exposed and developed selectively via a photomask (not shown). Thus, a black matrix **210** including the chromium (Cr) is formed. The black matrix **210** is disposed such that the black matrix **210** faces a switching device of an array substrate when a color filter substrate and an array substrate are assembled together.

Then, a photosensitive red-colored resist is deposited on the second transparent substrate **205**. Then, the red-colored resist is exposed and developed, so that red color filter is formed. Green color filter and blue color filter are formed via same process. Thus, color filter layer **220** is formed.

Referring to FIG. **9B**, a protection layer **232** is formed on the color filter layer **220** to protect the color filter layer **220**.

Referring to FIG. **9C**, a common electrode layer **240** is formed on the protection layer **232**. The common electrode **240** comprises an electrically conductive and transparent material such as indium tin oxide (ITO) or indium zinc oxide (IZO).

Referring to FIG. **9D**, a cholesteric liquid crystal material is coated on the common electrode layer **240**. An ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the cholesteric liquid crystal material to fix an arrangement of cholesteric liquid crystal molecules. Thus, the retardation layer **234** that operates as a biaxial film or uni-axial film is formed. When a polarized ultraviolet light is irradiated onto to the cholesteric liquid crystal material, the retardation layer **234** operates as the biaxial film. When a non-polarized ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the cholesteric liquid crystal material, the retardation layer **234** operates as a C-plate film that belongs to the uni-axial film.

Referring to FIG. **9E**, an alignment film **250** is formed on the retardation layer **234** for pre-tilting liquid crystal molecules.

As described above, a retardation layer that is interposed between the common electrode layer and the alignment film takes the place of the retardation film of a general liquid crystal display apparatus, which is disposed over the color filter substrate or under the array substrate, so that the retardation film is not necessary.

Therefore, a number of films for the liquid crystal display apparatus and a number of processes are reduced to save a manufacturing cost.

Embodiment 4

FIG. 10 is cross-sectional view showing a liquid crystal display apparatus according to a fourth exemplary embodiment of the present invention. The liquid crystal display apparatus is same as in Embodiment 3 except for position of retardation layer. Thus, the same reference numerals will be used to refer to the same or like parts as those described in Embodiment 3 and any further explanation will be omitted.

Referring to FIG. 10, a liquid crystal display apparatus according to a fourth exemplary embodiment includes an array substrate 100, a color filter substrate 200, a liquid crystal layer 300, and first and second polarizing plates 410 and 420. The liquid crystal layer 300 is interposed between the array substrate 100 and the color filter substrate 200. The first polarizing plate 410 is disposed under a backside of the array substrate 100. The second polarizing plate 420 is disposed over a backside of the color filter substrate 200.

The array substrate 100 includes a first transparent substrate 105, a gate insulation layer 112, a switching device TFT, a passivation layer 140, an organic insulation layer 144, a pixel electrode 150, a retardation layer 152 and a first alignment film 160.

The switching device TFT includes a gate electrode 110, a gate insulation layer 112, a semiconductor layer 114, an ohmic contact layer 116, a source electrode 120 and a drain electrode 130.

The gate insulation layer 112 is formed on the first transparent substrate 105, such that the gate insulation layer 112 covers the gate electrode 110 of the switching device TFT.

The passivation layer 140 covers the switching device TFT such that a portion of the drain electrode 130 of the switching device TFT is exposed.

The organic insulation layer 144 is formed on the passivation layer 140 such that the portion of the drain electrode 130 of the switching device TFT is exposed.

The pixel electrode 150 is formed on the organic insulation layer 144 such that the pixel electrode makes contact with the drain electrode 130 of the switching device TFT via a contact hole 141. The pixel electrode 150 comprises indium tin oxide (ITO) or indium zinc oxide (IZO), so that pixel electrode 150 is transparent and electrically conductive.

The retardation layer 152 is formed on the pixel electrode 150. The retardation layer comprises liquid crystal polymer that is hardened when an ultraviolet light is irradiated. For example, the retardation layer 152 includes cholesteric liquid crystal. The retardation layer 152 compensates a phase difference of a light that passes through the liquid crystal layer 300. The light may be generated from a backlight assembly (not shown) in a transmissive type liquid crystal display apparatus.

In a process of manufacturing the array substrate 100, a cholesteric liquid crystal material is coated on the pixel electrode 150. An ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the cholesteric liquid crystal material to fix an arrangement of cholesteric liquid crystal molecules. Thus, the retardation layer 152 that operates as a biaxial film or uni-axial film is formed. When a polarized ultraviolet light is irradiated onto to the cholesteric liquid crystal material, the retardation layer 152 operates as the biaxial film. When a non-polarized ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the cholesteric liquid crystal material, the retardation layer 152 operates as a C-plate film that belongs to the uni-axial film.

The first alignment film 160 is formed on the retardation layer 160.

FIGS. 11A through 11E are cross-sectional views showing a process of manufacturing an array substrate of FIG. 10.

Referring to FIG. 11A, a metal such as tantalum (Ta), titanium (Ti), molybdenum (Mo), aluminum (Al), chromium (Cr), copper (Cu), tungsten (W), etc. is deposited on a first transparent substrate 105 that has a material that is transparent and electrically non-conductive such as glass, ceramic or quartz.

The metal is patterned to form a plurality of gate lines (not shown) and gate electrode 110 protruding from the gate lines.

Not shown in FIG. 11A, when the gate electrode 110 is formed, a storage electrode may be formed together with the gate electrode 110.

Silicon nitride is deposited on the first substrate 105 with a gate electrode formed thereon, so that the gate insulation layer 112 is formed.

Amorphous-silicon and n+ amorphous-silicon are deposited in sequence and patterned to form a semiconducting layer 114 and an ohmic contact layer 116 at a position near the gate electrode 110.

A metal such as tantalum (Ta), titanium (Ti), molybdenum (Mo), aluminum (Al), chromium (Cr), copper (Cu), tungsten (W), etc. is deposited and patterned to form a source line (not shown), a source electrode 120 and a drain electrode 130. The source electrode 120 protrudes from the source line. The drain electrode 130 is spaced apart from the source electrode 120.

Then, a passivation layer 140 is formed.

Referring to FIG. 11B, an organic insulation layer 144 is coated on a result of FIG. 11A via a spin coating method. A contact hole 141 is formed such that a drain electrode 130 is exposed via the contact hole 141. The organic insulation layer 144 includes thermosetting plastic such as acrylic resin that is positive type photoresist. Thus, a portion onto which an ultraviolet light is irradiated in a photolithography process is eliminated in a developing process to form the contact hole 141.

Referring to FIG. 11C, a pixel electrode 150 is formed on an organic insulation layer 144. The pixel electrode 150 makes contact with a drain electrode 130 via a contact hole 141. Thus, the pixel electrode 150 is electrically connected to the drain electrode 130. The pixel electrode 150 has indium tin oxide (ITO) or indium zinc oxide (IZO). The indium tin oxide (ITO) or indium zinc oxide (IZO) may be deposited on an entire surface of the organic insulation layer 144, and patterned to form the pixel electrode 150. The indium tin oxide (ITO) or indium zinc oxide (IZO) may be deposited partially to form the pixel electrode 150.

Referring to FIG. 11D, a cholesteric liquid crystal material is coated on the pixel electrode 150. An ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the cholesteric liquid crystal material to fix an arrangement of cholesteric liquid crystal molecules. Thus, the retardation layer 152 that operates as a biaxial film or uni-axial film is formed. When a polarized ultraviolet light is irradiated onto to the cholesteric liquid crystal material, the retardation layer 152 operates as the biaxial film. When a non-polarized ultraviolet light is irradiated onto the cholesteric liquid crystal material, the retardation layer 152 operates as a C-plate film that belongs to the uni-axial film.

The retardation layer 152 may be formed via a spin coating method, a micro gravure coating method or a capillary coating method. Preferably, the retardation layer 234 is formed via the micro gravure coating method or the capillary coating method.

The retardation layer **152** may include reactive mesogen mixture (RMM), polyvinylalcohol (PVA), polycarbonate (PC), or cycloolefin polymer (COP).

Referring to FIG. 11E, an alignment film **160** for pre-tilting liquid crystal molecules is formed on the retardation film **160**.

An array substrate **100** is formed via a process of manufacturing described above. The array substrate **100** is assembled with a color filter substrate **200**. The liquid crystal layer **300** is interposed between the array substrate **100** and the color filter substrate **200**.

As described above, a retardation layer interposed between the pixel electrode and the alignment film takes the place of the retardation film of a general liquid crystal display apparatus, which is disposed over the color filter substrate or under the array substrate, so that the retardation film is not necessary.

Therefore, a number of films for the liquid crystal display apparatus and a number of processes are reduced to save a manufacturing cost.

Having described the exemplary embodiments of the present invention and its advantages, it is noted that various changes, substitutions and alterations can be made herein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by appended claims.

An ultraviolet light is irradiated onto liquid crystal polymer layer to form a retardation layer. The retardation layer is formed in a liquid crystal display panel that includes a color filter substrate, an array substrate and a liquid crystal layer.

The retardation layer may be formed on a color filter layer, protection layer or a common electrode of the color filter substrate. The retardation layer may be formed on a pixel electrode of the array substrate.

The retardation layer interposed between the pixel electrode and the alignment film takes the place of the retardation film of a general liquid crystal display apparatus, which is disposed over the color filter substrate or under the array substrate, so that the retardation film is not necessary.

What is claimed is:

1. A liquid crystal display apparatus comprising:
 - a first transparent substrate;
 - a second transparent substrate facing the first substrate;
 - a liquid crystal layer interposed between the first and second transparent substrates;
 - a color filter layer disposed on the second transparent substrate,

a single retardation layer having a cholesteric liquid crystal material disposed having a substantially uniform thickness on substantially the entire color filter layer, the retardation layer being configured to be coated on the color filter layer and fixed by an ultraviolet light;

a transparent electrode formed on the retardation layer; and an alignment layer formed on the transparent electrode, wherein the cholesteric liquid crystal material has a function of a biaxial film.

2. The liquid crystal display apparatus of claim 1, wherein the retardation layer comprises reactive mesogen mixture (RMM), polyvinylalcohol (PVA), polycarbonate (PC) or cycloolefin polymer (COP).

3. The liquid crystal display apparatus of claim 1, wherein the retardation layer is coated via a micro gravure coating method.

4. A liquid crystal display apparatus comprising:

- a first transparent substrate;
- a second transparent substrate facing the first substrate;
- a liquid crystal layer interposed between the first and second transparent substrates;
- a color filter layer disposed on the second transparent substrate;

a single retardation layer having a cholesteric liquid crystal material disposed having a substantially uniform thickness on substantially the entire color filter layer, the retardation layer being configured to be coated on the color filter layer via micro gravure coating;

a transparent electrode formed on the retardation layer; and an inorganic alignment layer formed on the transparent electrode,

wherein the cholesteric liquid crystal material has a function of a biaxial film.

5. The liquid crystal display apparatus of claim 4, wherein the inorganic alignment layer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of silicon oxide (SiO₂), a metal oxide such as magnesium oxide (MgO), magnesium fluoride (MgF₂) and gold (Au).

6. The liquid crystal display apparatus of claim 4, wherein the retardation layer comprises reactive mesogen mixture (RMM), polyvinylalcohol (PVA), polycarbonate (PC) or cycloolefin polymer (COP).

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摘要(译)

一种液晶显示装置，包括下基板，上基板，液晶层和延迟层。下基板包括第一透明基板。上基板面向第一透明基板。上基板包括第二透明基板。液晶层介于下基板和上基板之间。延迟层介于第一和第二透明基板之间。延迟层补偿通过液晶层的光的相位差。延迟层代替普通液晶显示装置的延迟膜，因此延迟膜不需要降低制造成本。

