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Park et al.

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(54) **LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY DEVICE
IMPLEMENTING IMPROVED ELECTRICAL
LINES AND THE FABRICATING METHOD**

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May 29, 2000 (KR) 2000-29104

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **349/149; 349/54**

(58) **Field of Search** 349/54, 149, 152,
349/150, 151, 153

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Primary Examiner—Robert H. Kim

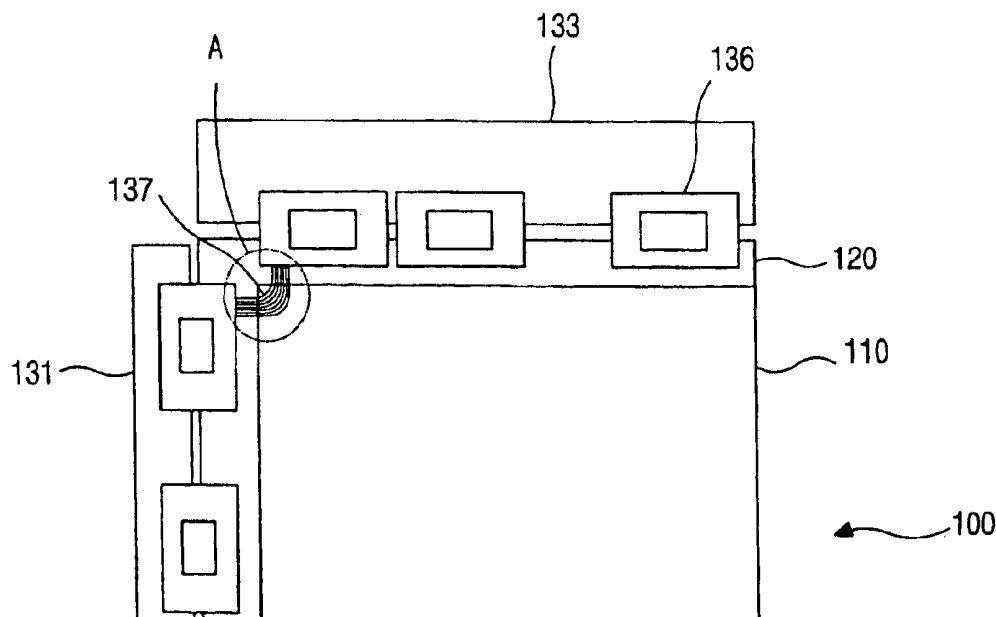
Assistant Examiner—Thoi V. Duong

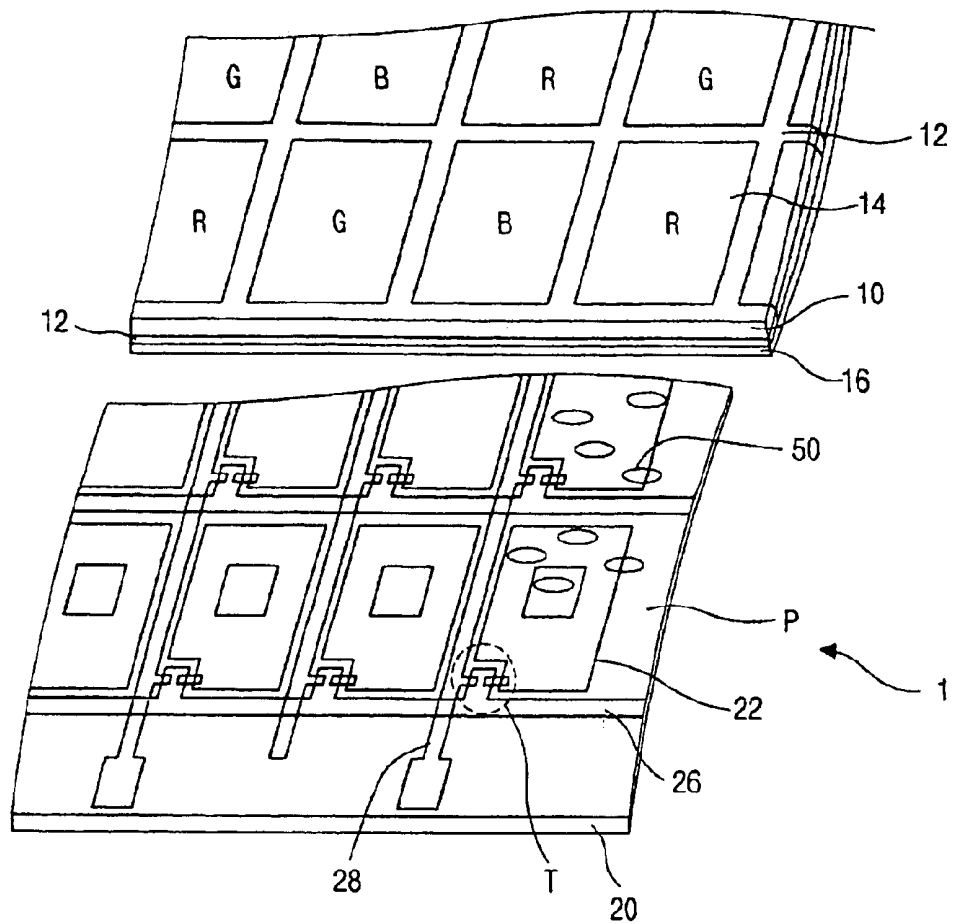
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Birch, LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

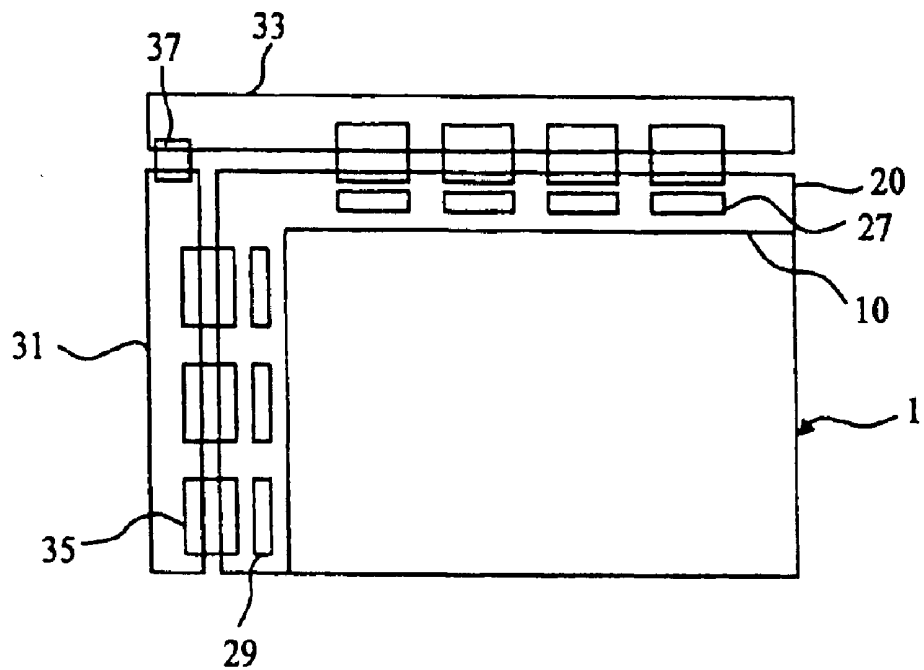
The present invention discloses a liquid crystal display device, including upper and lower substrates with a liquid crystal layer interposed therebetween; a sealant between the upper and lower substrates; a plurality of source and gate pads on the lower substrate; a plurality of gate and data lines on the lower substrate, each gate line being electrically connected with the corresponding gate pad, each data line being electrically connected with the corresponding source pad; a gate insulating layer between the gate lines and the data lines; a source PCB electrically connected with the plurality of source pads; a gate PCB electrically connected with the plurality of gate pads; and a plurality of transmitting wires on the lower substrate, the transmitting wires being electrically connected with the gate and source pads across the sealant such that the source PCB is electrically connected with the gate PCB. The liquid crystal display device further includes a repair wire to repair the gate transmitting wires, and dummy patterns to protect the gate transmitting wires from a mechanical damage of a scribing and breaking force.

14 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets

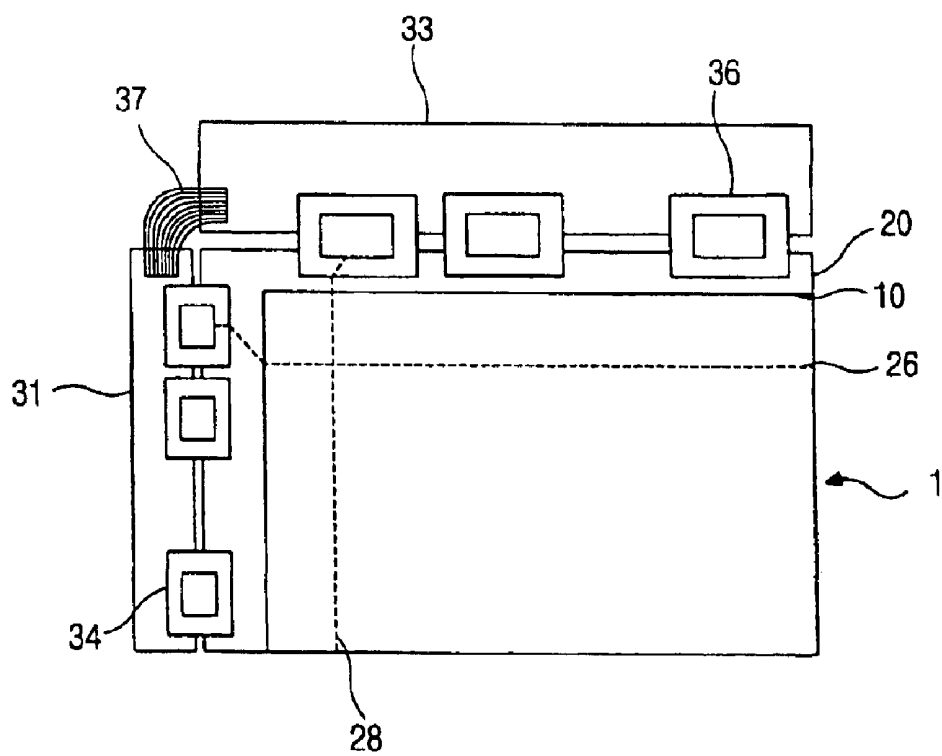




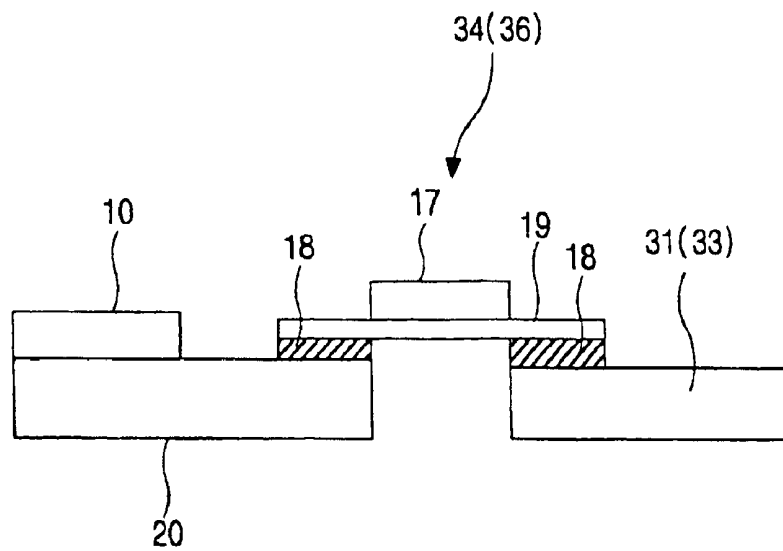
(related art)
FIG 1



(related art)
FIG 2



(related art)
FIG 3



(related art)
FIG 4

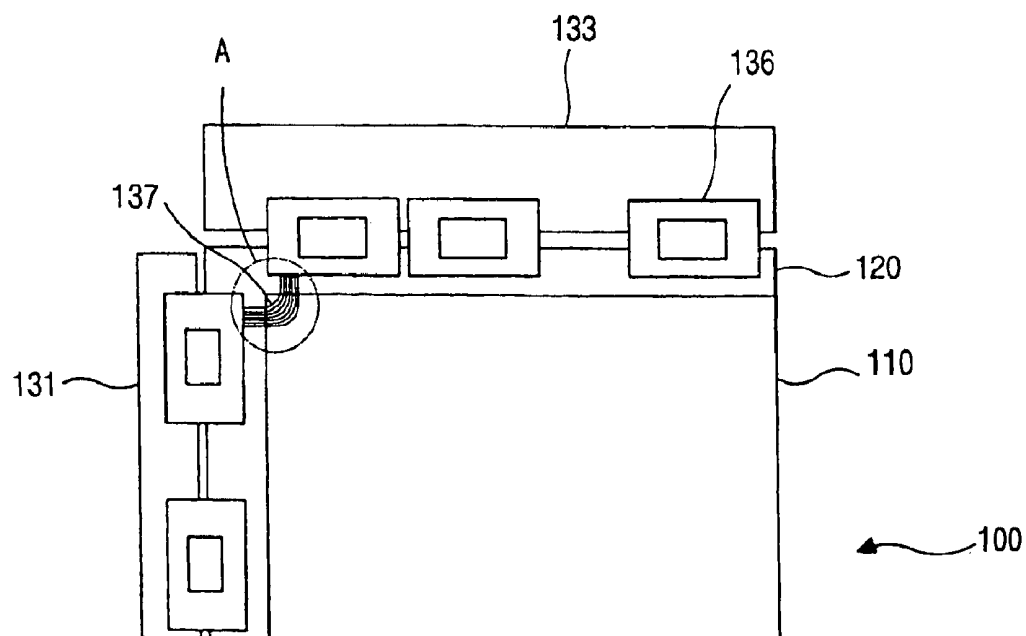


FIG 5

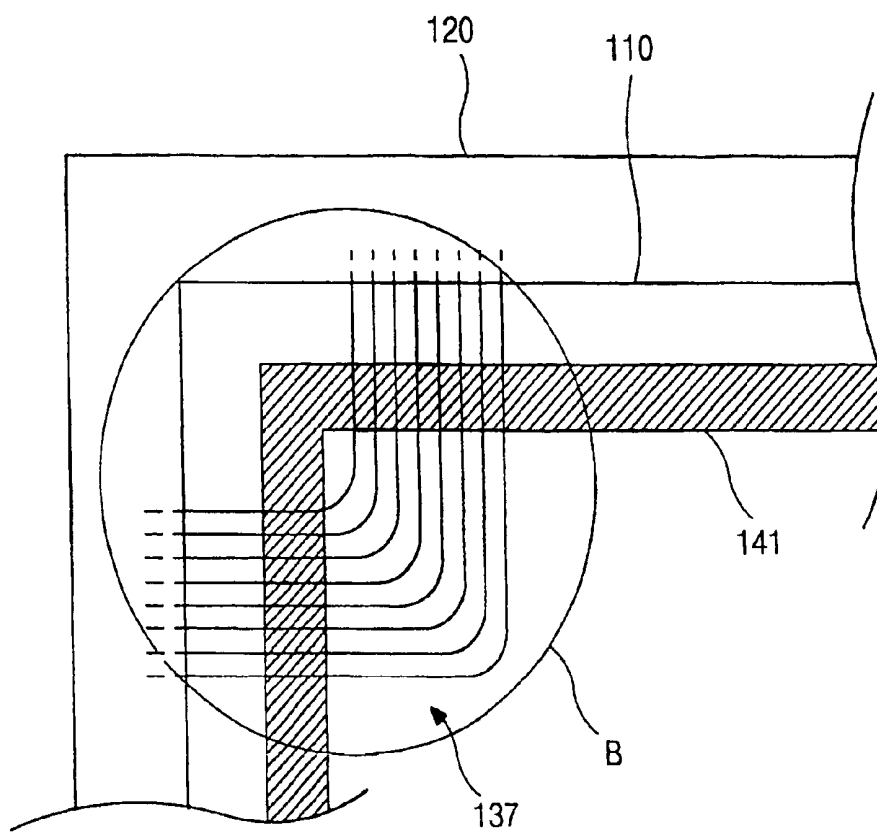


FIG 6

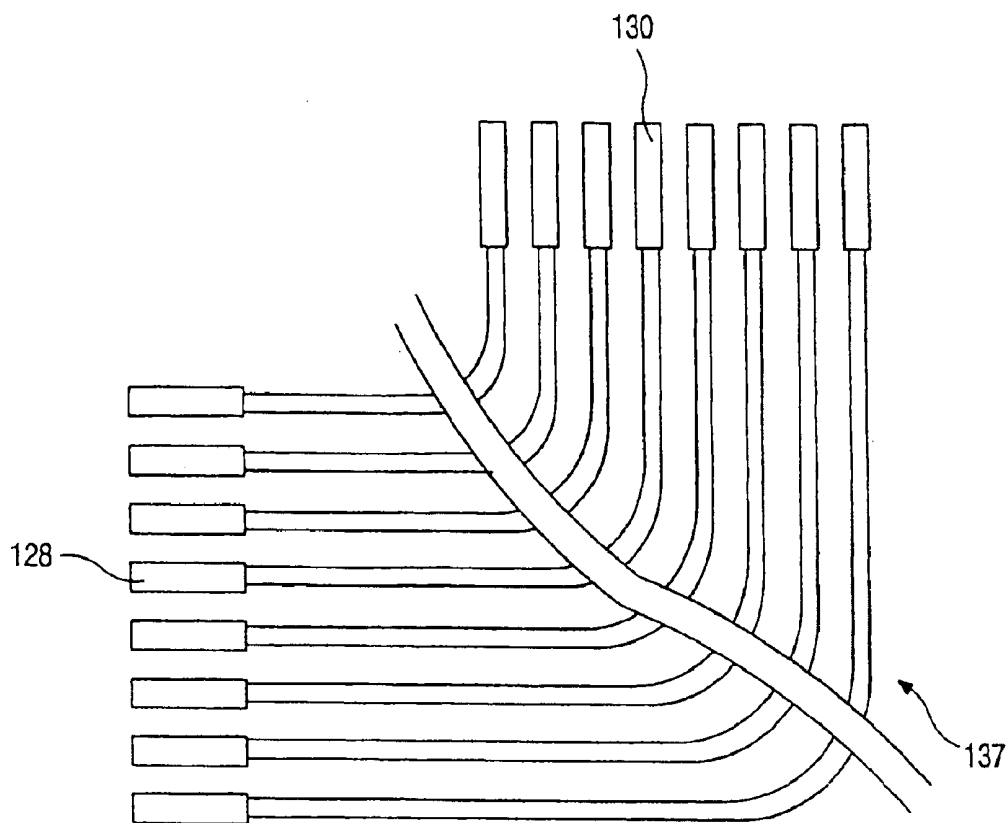


FIG 7

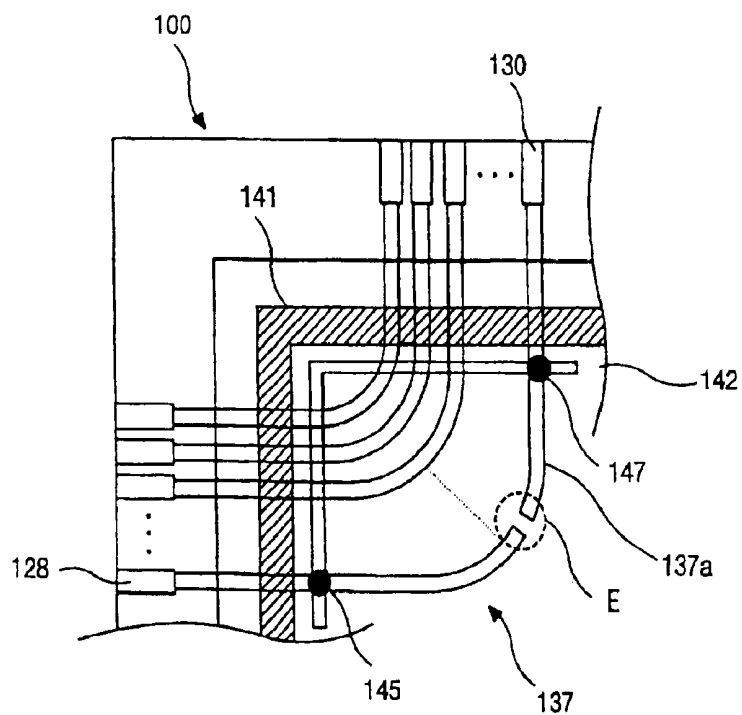


FIG 8

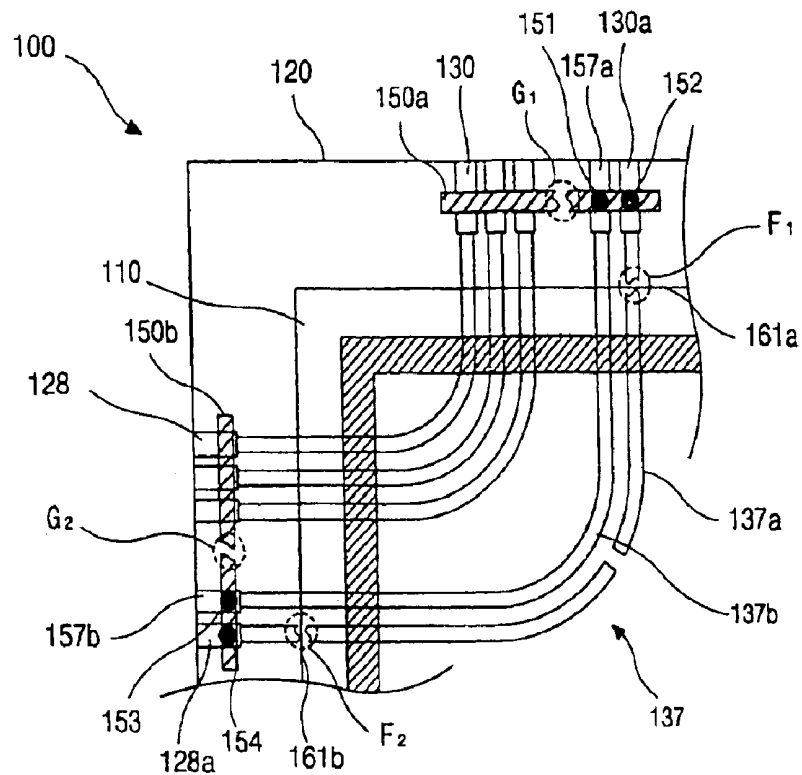


FIG 9

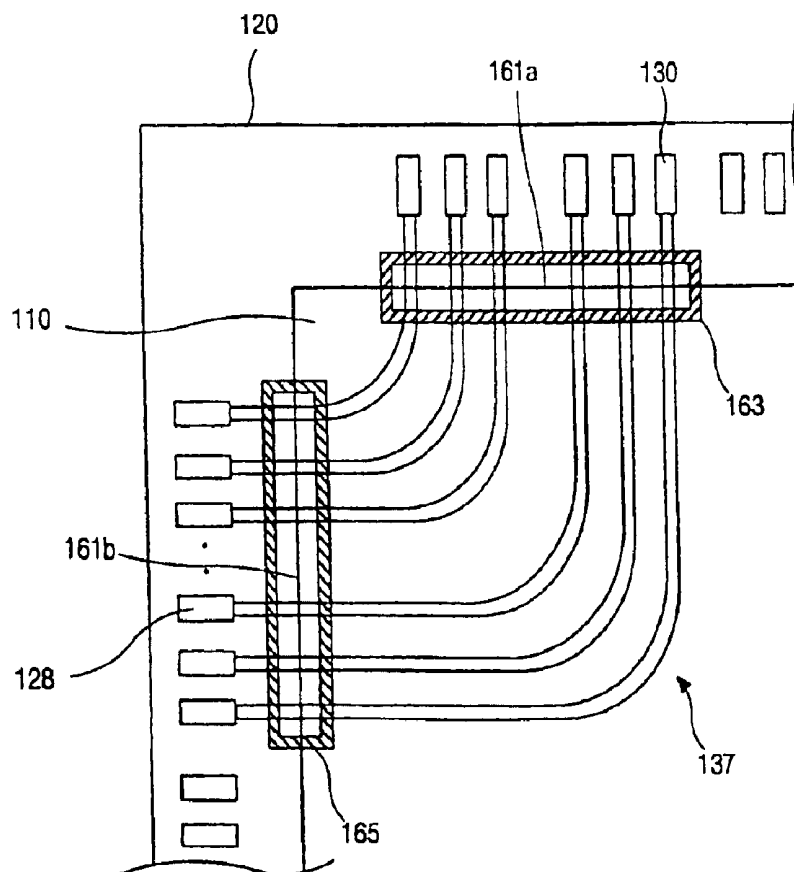


FIG 10A

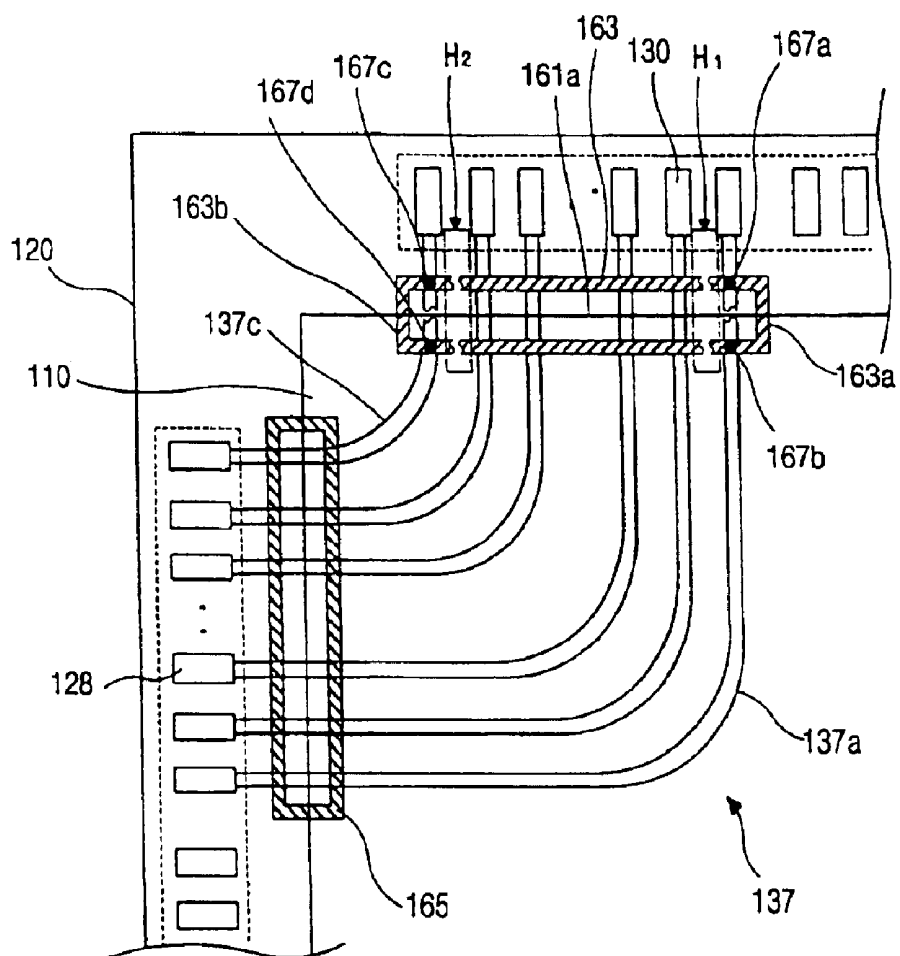


FIG 10B

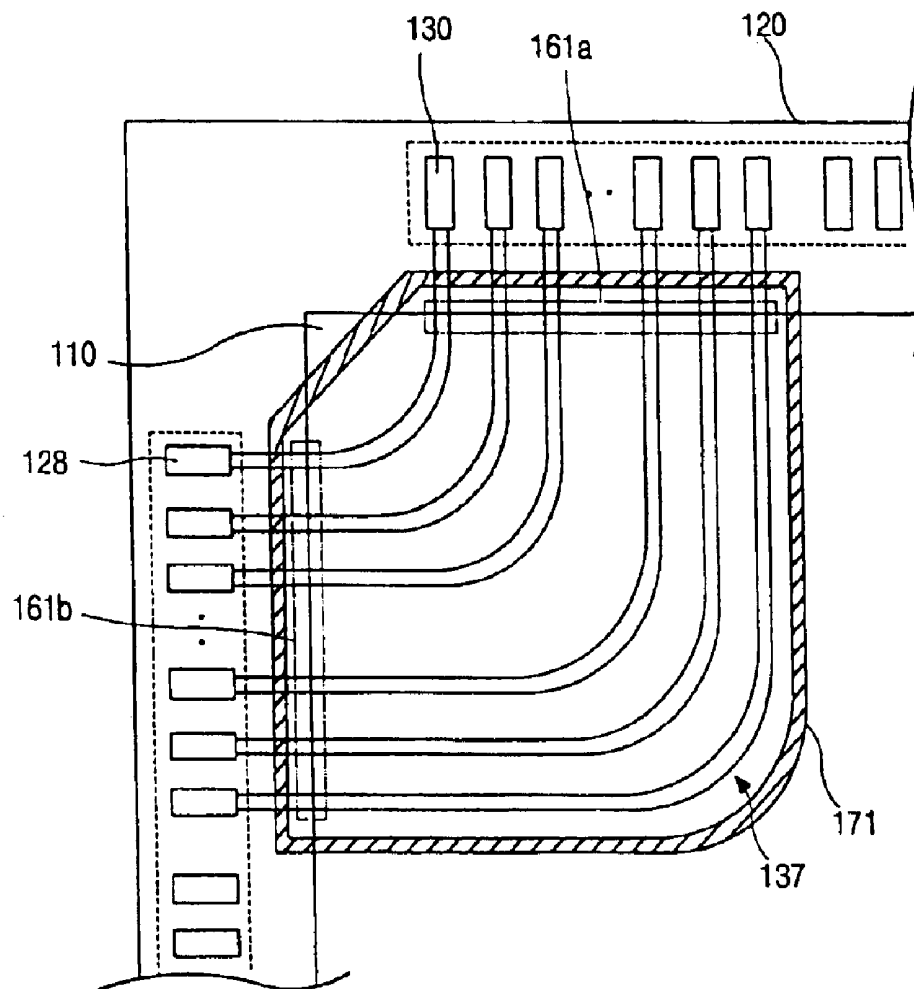


FIG. 11A

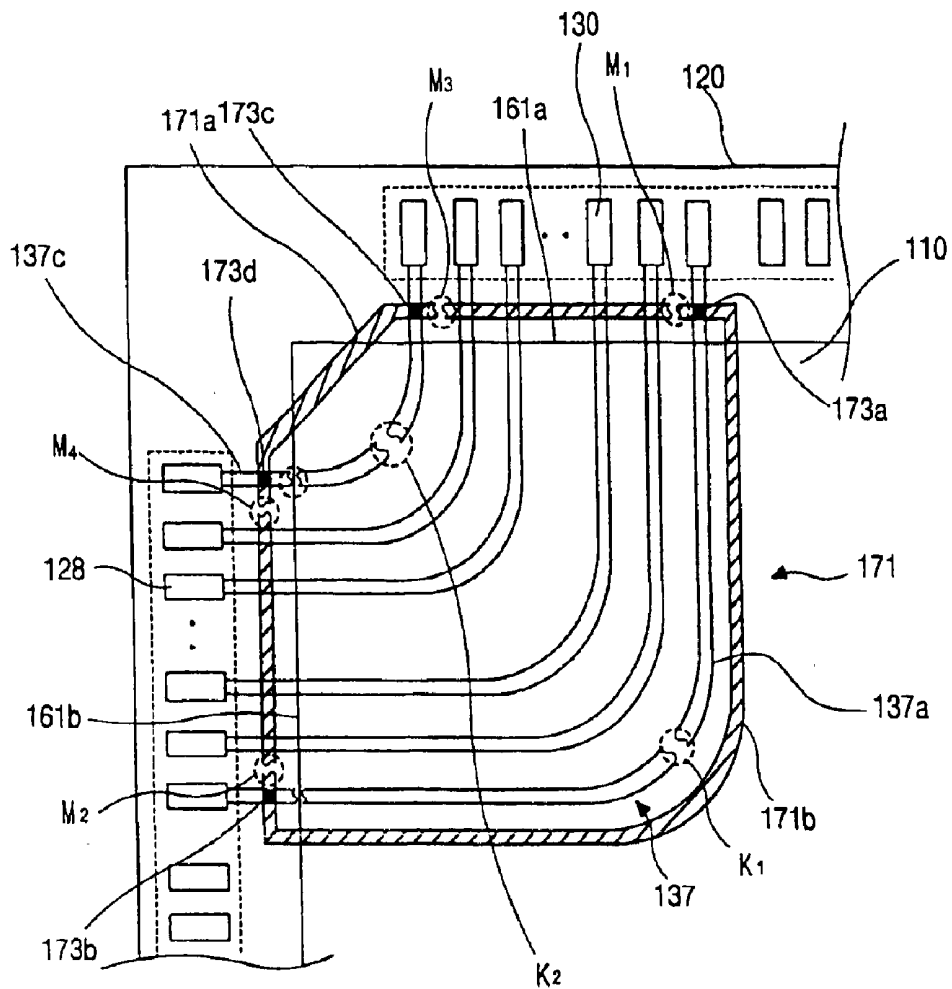


FIG 11B

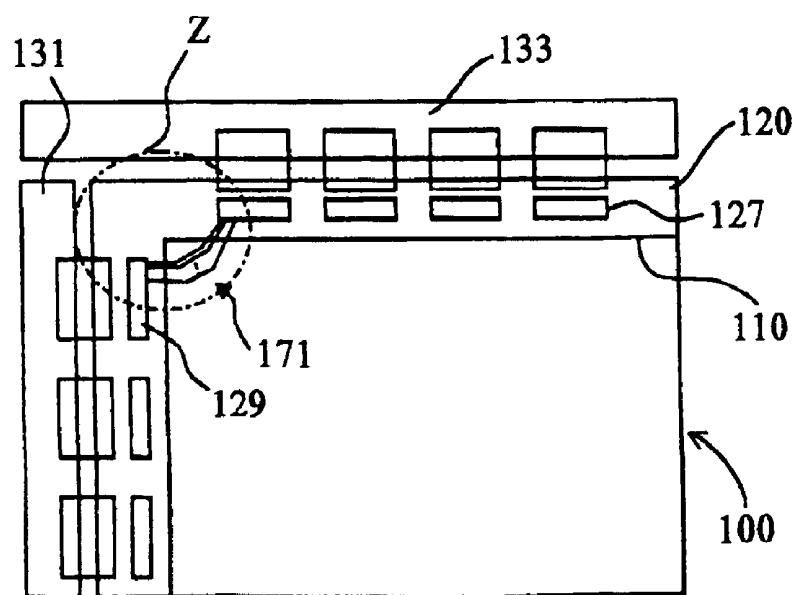


FIG 12

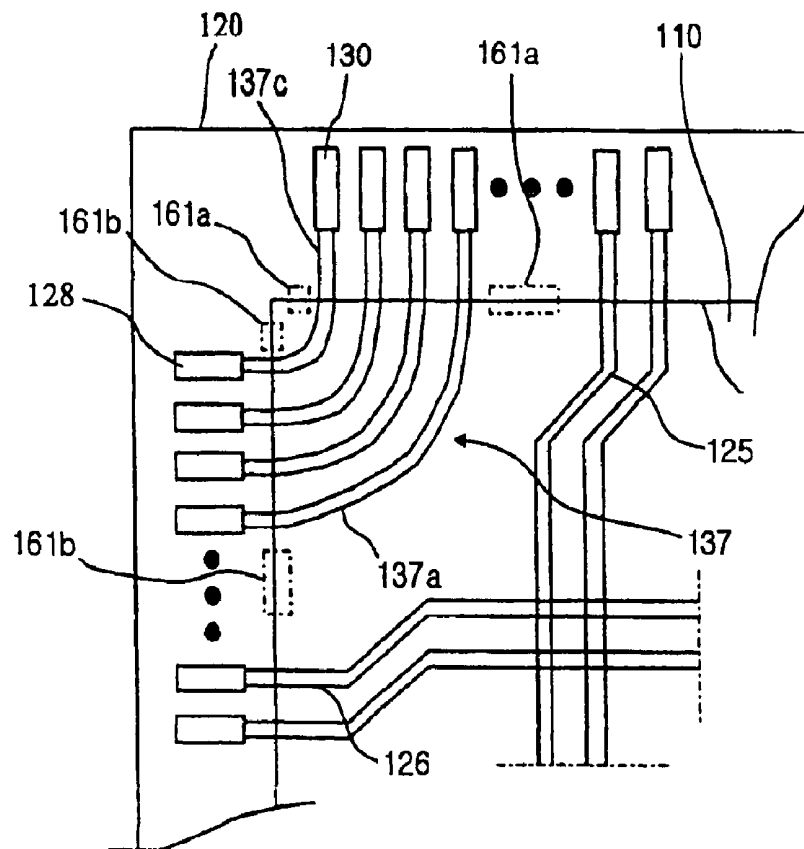


FIG 13A

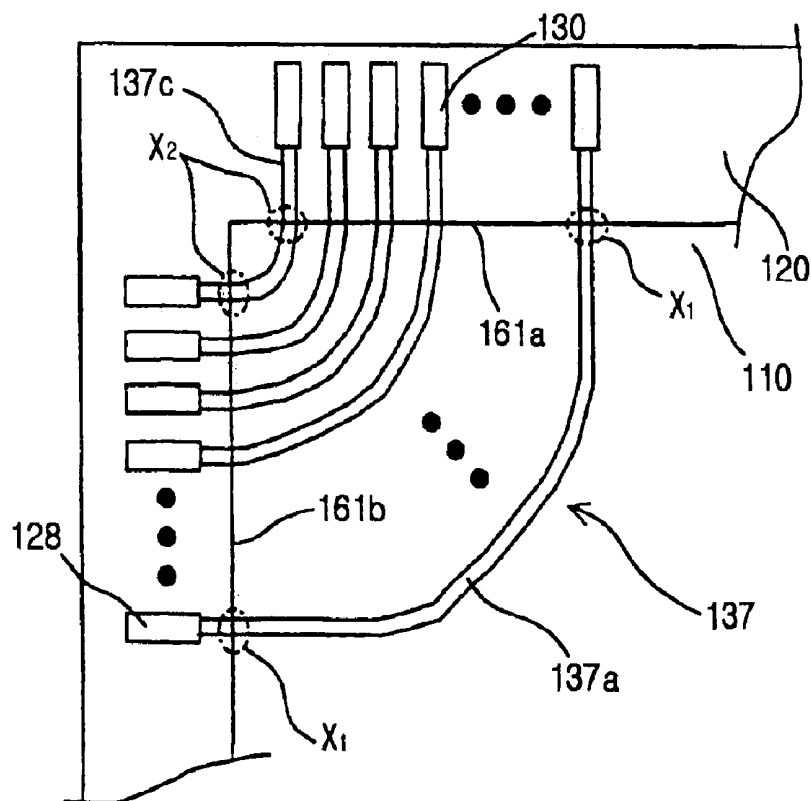


FIG 13B

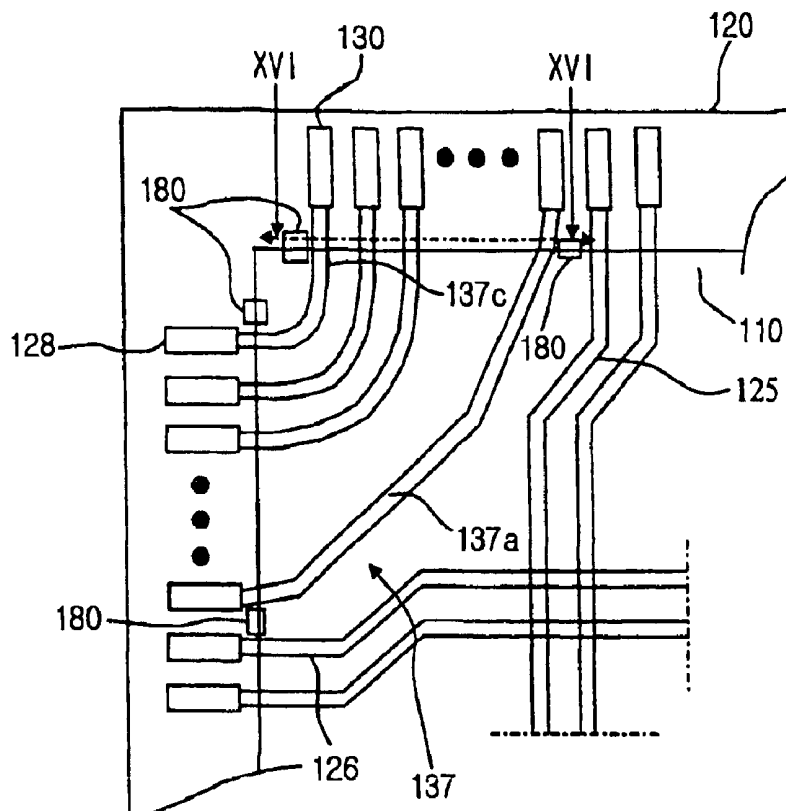


FIG 14

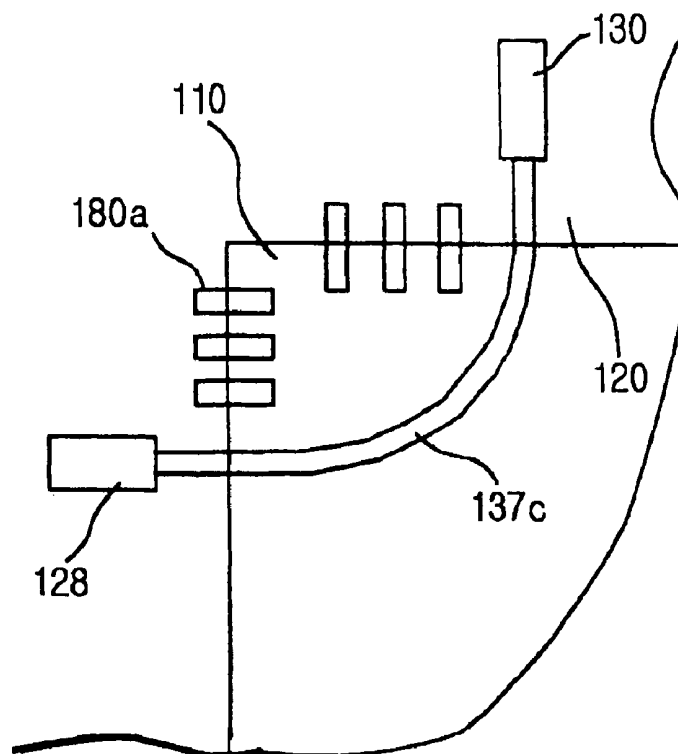


FIG 15A

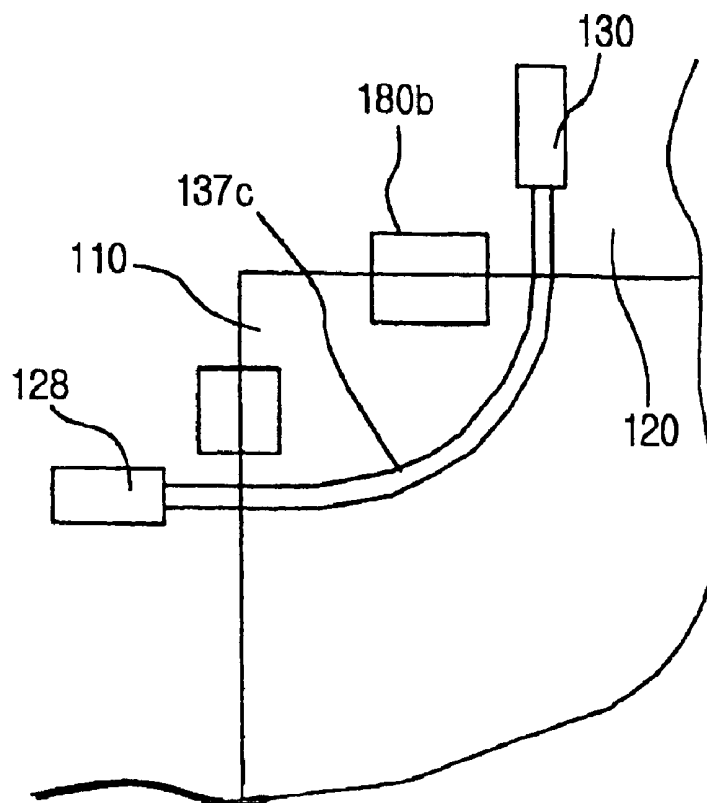


FIG 15B

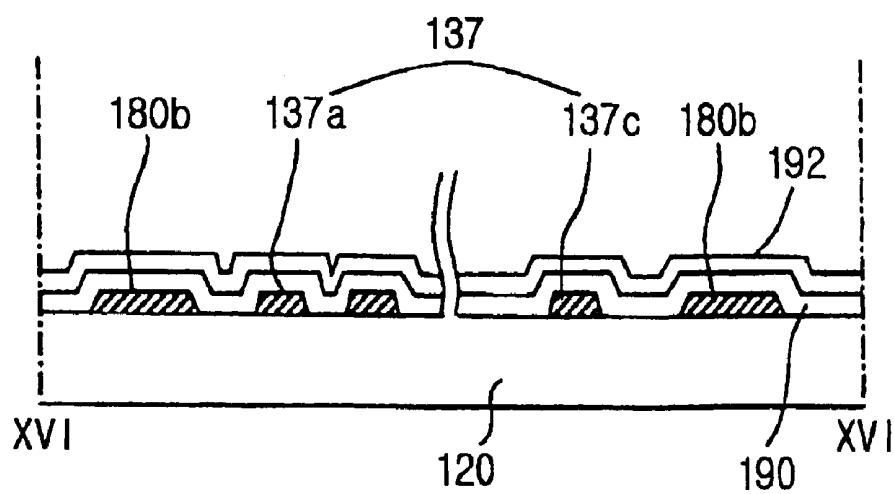
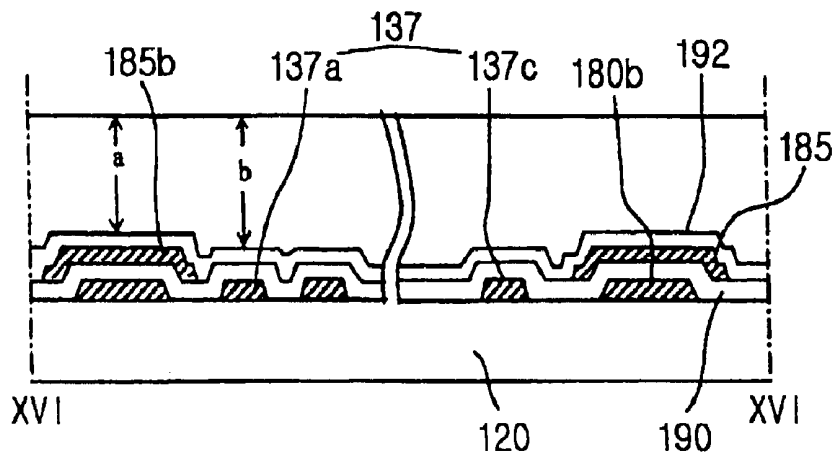


FIG 16A

**FIG 16B**

LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY DEVICE IMPLEMENTING IMPROVED ELECTRICAL LINES AND THE FABRICATING METHOD

CROSS REFERENCE

This application claims the benefit of Korean Patent Application Nos. 1999-67851, 2000-18093, and 2000-29104 respectively filed on Dec. 31, 1999, Apr. 7, 2000, and May 29, 2000 under 35 U.S.C. § 119, the entirety of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a liquid crystal display (LCD) device, and more particularly, to a liquid crystal display device implementing improved configuration of electrical lines and a fabricating method thereof.

2. Description of Related Art

A typical liquid crystal display device uses optical anisotropy and polarization properties of liquid crystal molecules. The liquid crystal molecules have a definite orientational order in arrangement resulting from their thin and long shapes. The arrangement direction of the liquid crystal molecules can be controlled by supplying an electric field to the liquid crystal molecules. In other words, as the arrangement direction of the liquid crystal molecules is changed, the arrangement of the liquid crystal molecules also changes. Since Incident light is refracted to the arrangement direction of the liquid crystal molecules due to the optical anisotropy of the arranged liquid crystal molecules image data can be displayed.

By now, an active matrix LCD that the thin film transistors and the pixel electrodes are arranged in the form of a matrix is most attention-getting due to its high resolution and superiority in displaying moving video data.

FIG. 1 shows the configuration of a typical TFT-LCD device. The TFT-LCD device 1 includes upper and lower substrates 10 and 20 with a liquid crystal 50 interposed therebetween. The upper and lower substrates 10 and 20 are called a color filter substrate and an array substrate, respectively.

In the upper substrate 10, on a surface opposing the lower substrate 20, black matrix 12 and color filter layer 14 that includes a plurality of red (R), green (G), and blue (B) color filters are formed in shape of an array matrix such that each color filter is surrounded by the black matrix 12. Further on the upper substrate 10, a common electrode 16 is formed and covers the color filter layer 14 and the black matrix 12.

In the lower substrate 20, on a surface opposing the upper substrate 10, a TFT "T", as a switching device, is formed in shape of an array matrix corresponding to the color filter layer 14, and a plurality of crossing gate and data lines 26 and 28 are positioned such that each TFT is located near each cross point of the gate and data lines 26 and 28. Further in the lower substrate 20, a plurality of pixel electrodes 22 are formed on an area defined by the gate and data lines 26 and 28. The area there defined is called a pixel portion "P". The pixel electrode 22 is a transparent conductive metal such as indium tin oxide (ITO).

The above-mentioned upper and lower substrate 10 and 20 are attached to each other using a sealant, and thereafter, the liquid crystal 50 is injected between the upper and lower substrates 10 and 20.

When the TFT "T" is the thin film transistor, which includes source, drain and gate electrodes (not shown), the

gate line 26 transmits scanning signals to the gate electrode while the data line 28 transmits video signals to the source electrode. The video signals change alignments of the liquid crystal molecules according to the scanning signals such that the LCD device displays various gray levels.

In a conventional fabricating process for the LCD panel, at least two LCD panels are fabricated employing a large-sized upper substrate as the upper substrate 10. Thereafter, the large sized upper substrate is scribed and broken into at least two upper substrates 10 of FIG. 1 such that at least two independent LCD panels shown in FIG. 1 are produced. The above-mentioned process is called a scribing and breaking process.

The typical LCD device has a drive IC (Integrated Circuit) on its lower substrate. The drive IC serves to apply electric signals to each electric line formed on the lower substrate. To install the drive IC on the lower substrate, various methods, for example, such as chip on board (COB), chip on glass (COG), and tape carrier package (TCP) methods are adopted.

The COB method is conventionally adopted for a segment type LCD device, or a LCD panel having a low resolution. Since the segment type LCD device or the low resolution LCD panel uses a small number of leads, the drive IC thereof has also a small number of leads. Therefor, the driver IC thereof is first installed on a printed circuit board (PCB) having a plurality of leads, and the leads of the PCB are connected with the LCD panel via a proper method, which is relatively simple.

However, as the LCD devices become to have a high resolution, a great number of leads are adopted for the drive IC. When the drive IC has a great number of leads, it is difficult to install the drive IC on the above-mentioned PCB.

In another method, the COG method, the drive IC is directly installed on the LCD panel without interposing the PCB. Therefore, the connection between the drive IC and the LCD panel is stable, and a minute pitch is applicable for the installation of the drive IC. The COG method employs a multi-layered flexible printed circuit (FPC) instead of the PCB. The multi layered FPC contacts the LCD panel via an anisotropic conductive film (ACF) and transmits input signals to the drive IC.

The above-mentioned COG method has advantages of low cost and high stability. However, since a pad of the LCD panel needs an additional area to install the drive IC, the LCD panel should be enlarged. In addition, when the COG method is adopted for the LCD panel, it is difficult to repair against troubles of the drive IC or terminal lines of the LCD panel.

In another method, the TCP method, the drive IC is installed on a polymer film. The TCP method is widely used for the LCD device as well as a mobile phone that need small, thin, and light electrical packages.

FIG. 2 shows a conventional LCD device adopting the COG method.

As shown, a data drive circuit 27 and a gate drive circuit 29 are formed around the lower substrate 20 of the LCD panel 1. The gate drive circuit 29 is electrically connected with the gate lines 26 of FIG. 1, while the data drive circuit 27 is electrically connected with the data lines 28 of FIG. 1. In another aspect, the data and gate drive circuits 27 and 29 are electrically connected with source PCB 33 and gate PCB 31, respectively. The data and gate drive circuits 27 and 29 respectively apply the video and scanning signals from the source and gate PCBs 33 and 31 to the data and gate lines 28 and 26 of FIG. 1.

Still in FIG. 2, the data and gate drive circuits 27 and 29 are directly installed on the lower substrate 20, and a plurality of FPCs 35 are used to connect the drive circuits 27 and 29 with the PCBs 33 and 31. At this point, the FPCs 35 serves as input terminals for transmitting the input signals from the PCBs to the drive circuits. In a reel chip on glass method, one edges of the PCBs 31 and 33 overlap opposing edges of the lower substrate 20, and input terminals are directly formed on the lower substrate 20 to connect the PCBs and the drive circuits.

Further, the data drive circuit 27 receives the video signals directly from the source PCB 33, while the gate drive circuit 29 receives the scanning signals from the source PCB 33 via the gate PCB 31. At this point, to transmit scanning signals from the source PCB 33 to the gate PCB 31, a transmitting FPC 37 is used. The transmitting FPC 37 transmits the gate signals including V_{com} , V_{gh} , V_{gl} , V_{cc} , G_{sp} , G_{sc} , C_{oe} , and G_{nd} to the gate PCB 31.

As explained above, since the COG method adopts an additional element, the transmitting FPC, a material cost of the LCD device increases. Further, soldering errors additionally occur in connecting the transmitting FPC 37 with the gate and source FPCs 31 and 33.

FIGS. 3 and 4 illustrate a conventional TCP method. As shown, a source TCP 36 and a gate TCP 34 are used to respectively connect the source and gate PCB 33 and 31 with the data and gate lines 28 and 26. The source and gate TCP 36 and 34 respectively have the data and gate drive circuits (data and gate drive ICs) in themselves as shown in FIG. 4. As shown in FIG. 4, the data or gate drive IC 17 is installed on a polymer film 19, and the polymer film 19 is connected with the lower substrate 20 and the gate or source PCB 31 or 33 via an anisotropic conductive films 18.

Returning to FIG. 3, similarly to the COG method of FIG. 2, the transmitting FPC 37 is used to transmit scanning signals from the source PCB 33 to the gate PCB 31. That is to say, the TCP method also has the same problem as what is mentioned in the explanation of the COG method.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is therefore an object of the present invention to reduce the detectable difference in brightness resulting from the difference in distance between pixel electrodes and data lines at the boundaries of exposure regions for a liquid crystal display device having a larger display area.

For the above object, present invention provides a liquid crystal display device, which includes upper and lower substrates with a liquid crystal layer interposed therebetween; a sealant between the upper and lower substrates; a plurality of source and gate pads on the lower substrate; a plurality of gate and data lines on the lower substrate, each gate line being electrically connected with the corresponding gate pad, each data line being electrically connected with the corresponding source pad; a gate insulating layer between the gate lines and the data lines; a source PCB electrically connected with the plurality of source pads; a gate PCB electrically connected with the plurality of gate pads; and a plurality of transmitting wires on the lower substrate, the transmitting wires being electrically connected with the gate and source pads across the sealant such that the source PCB is electrically connected with the gate PCB.

The device further includes a plurality of switching devices.

The gate transmitting wires include at least eight electrical wires.

The device further includes a plurality of dummy pads between the adjacent gate pads and between the adjacent source pads.

The device further includes repair wire crossing with each gate transmitting wire with the gate insulating layer interposed between the repair wire and the gate transmitting wire. A specific resistance of the repair wire is below $10 \mu\Omega/\text{cm}$ inclusive. The repair wire is positioned in a region defined by the sealant, or the repair wire is positioned across the sealant. The repair wire includes first and second closed roofs, the first closed roof being formed along first edge of the upper substrate, the second closed roof being formed along second edge of the upper substrate.

The device further includes first and second repair wire, the first repair wire crossing with each of the source pads with the gate insulating layer interposed therebetween, the second repair wire crossing with each of the gate pads with the gate insulating layer interposed therebetween. A specific resistance of the first and second repair wires is below $10 \mu\Omega/\text{cm}$ inclusive.

The device further includes first and second dummy patterns on the lower substrate, the first dummy pattern being positioned along a first edge of the upper substrate, the second dummy pattern being positioned along a second edge of the upper substrate, the each dummy pattern having at least the same height as the gate transmitting wire.

The device further includes auxiliary dummy patterns over the first and second dummy patterns.

In another aspect, the present invention provides a method of fabricating a liquid crystal display device, the method includes preparing first and second substrates; forming a plurality of gate lines, gate pads, and dummy patterns on the first substrate; forming a gate insulating layer on the gate lines, gate pads, and dummy patterns; forming a plurality of data lines, data pads, and gate transmitting wires on the gate insulating layer; forming a passivation layer on the data lines, the data pads, and the gate transmitting wires; forming a sealant on the first substrate; attaching the first and second substrates; scribing and breaking the second substrate; and forming a liquid crystal layer between the first and second substrates.

The method further includes a step of forming auxiliary dummy patterns over the dummy patterns before the passivation layer is formed.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

For a more complete understanding of the present invention and the advantages thereof, reference is now made to the following descriptions taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which like reference numerals denote like parts, and in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view illustrating a conventional LCD device;

FIG. 2 is a plan view of the conventional liquid crystal display device adopting a COG method;

FIG. 3 is a plan view of the conventional liquid crystal display device adopting a TCP method;

FIG. 4 is a side view of the TCP of FIG. 3;

FIG. 5 is a plane view of a LCD device according to a first preferred embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 6 is an expanded plane view of a portion "A" of FIG. 5;

FIG. 7 is an expanded plane view of a portion "B" of FIG. 6;

FIG. 8 is a partial expanded view of a liquid crystal display device according to a second preferred embodiment of the present invention;

5

FIG. 9 is a partial expanded view of a liquid crystal display device according to a third preferred embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 10A is a partial expanded view of a liquid crystal display device according to a fourth preferred embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 10B illustrates a repair method by the fourth preferred embodiment of FIG. 10A;

FIG. 11A is a partial expanded view of a liquid crystal display device according to a fifth preferred embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 11B illustrates a repair method by the fifth preferred embodiment of FIG. 11A;

FIG. 12 is a plane view of a COG type liquid crystal display device according to the first preferred embodiment of the present invention;

FIGS. 13A and 13B are expanded plane views of a portion "Z" of FIG. 12;

FIG. 14 is a partial expanded plane view of a liquid crystal display device according to a sixth preferred embodiment of the present invention;

FIGS. 15A and 15B are partial expanded plane views of FIG. 14; and

FIGS. 16A and 16B are cross-sectional views taken along a line "XVI—XVI" of FIG. 14.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Reference will now be made in detail to the preferred embodiment of the present invention, example of which is illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

First Preferred Embodiment

FIG. 5 is a plane view of a LCD device according to the first preferred embodiment of the present invention.

As shown, an upper substrate 110 is positioned over a lower substrate 120 with a liquid crystal (not shown) interposed between the upper and lower substrates 110 and 120. A sealant 141 shown in FIG. 6 is used to attach the lower and upper substrates 120 and 110. Around edges of the lower substrate 120, gate and source PCBs 131 and 133 are positioned. Gate and source TCPs 134 and 136 electrically connect, respectively, the gate and source PCBs 131 and 133 with a LCD panel 100 including the upper and lower substrates 110 and 120. A gate transmitting wires 137 electrically connects the gate TCP 134 with the source TCP 136 such that the source PCB 133 is electrically connected with the gate PCB 131. The gate transmitting wires 137 are preferably selected from a group consisting of aluminum (Al), molybdenum (Mo), chromium (Cr), alloys thereof and the like.

FIG. 6 is an expanded plane view of a portion "A" of FIG. 5.

As shown, both ends of the gate transmitting wires 137 are positioned on edges of the lower substrate 120, while the gate transmitting wires 137 are preferably bent to be positioned across the sealant 141 that is formed between the lower and upper substrates 120 and 110. Since the gate transmitting wires 137 are covered and fixed by the lower and upper substrates 120 and 110, they are shielded from exterior effects.

FIG. 7 is an expanded plane view of a portion "B" of FIG. 6.

As shown, the gate transmitting wires preferably include at least eight electric wires and transmit gate signals from the

6

source PCB 133 to the gate PCB 131. The gate signals include V_{com} , V_{gh} , V_{gl} , V_{cc} , G_{sp} , G_{sc} , C_{oe} , and G_{nd} . Each gate transmitting wire 137 is electrically connected with gate and source pads 128 and 130, which respectively serve as output and input terminals of the gate transmitting wires 137. A specific resistance of the gate transmitting wires 137 is preferably below $10 \mu\Omega/\text{cm}$ inclusive, and a resistance of each gate transmitting wire 137 is preferably below 100Ω inclusive.

Further, dummy pads (not shown) are preferably formed in gaps between adjacent gate pads 128 and between adjacent source pads 130. When the gate transmitting wires 137 respectively transmit different signals having different voltages, the dummy pads prevent an abnormal electrical interaction between the adjacent gate transmitting wires.

Furthermore, since the gate transmitting wires are covered by the lower and upper substrates 120 and 110, they are protected from exterior humidity or scratch.

Second Preferred Embodiment

The second preferred embodiment of the present invention provides a repair wire to repair a short line occurring in the gate transmitting wires provided by the first preferred embodiment of the present invention.

As shown in FIG. 8, over the gate transmitting wires 137, the repair wire 142 is formed with an insulating layer (not shown) interposed between the gate transmitting lines 137 and the repair wire 142. The repair wire 142 is inwardly spaced apart from the sealant 141 and overlaps two different portions of each gate transmitting wire 137. When a last gate transmitting wire 137a has a short line at a portion "E", the repair wire 142 and the last gate transmitting wire 137a are welded together at their first and second cross points 145 and 147 using a laser and the like. By the above-mentioned repair, the voltage signal is transmitted again via the repair wire 142. The last gate transmitting wire 137a is only an example. When the other of the gate transmitting wires 137 has the short line, it is repaired similar to the above-mentioned last gate transmitting wire 137a.

Third Preferred Embodiment

In a scribing and breaking process to separate at least two LCD panels independently from each other, a large sized upper substrate is scribed and broken by force into a plurality of the upper substrates 110 such that a plurality of the LCD panels are fabricated. The third preferred embodiment provides repair wires to repair the gate transmitting wires 137 that are broken in the above-mentioned scribing and breaking process.

Now, with reference to FIG. 9, the third preferred embodiment is explained.

As shown, adjacent to each gate pad 128 and each source pad 130, a gate dummy pad 157b and a source dummy pad 157a are formed respectively. Across the source pads 130 and the source dummy pads 157a, a first repair wire 150a is formed with an insulating layer (not shown) interposed between the pads and the repair wire. Similarly, a second repair wire 150b is formed across the gate pads 128 and the gate dummy pads 157a with the insulating layer interposed between the pads and the repair wire. The source and gate dummy pads 157a and 157b are electrically connected via a dummy wire 137b that has the same material as the gate transmitting wires 137.

Since a mechanical impact or vibration acts on the upper substrate in the above-mentioned scribing and breaking

process, open defects occur in the gate transmitting wire **137** along first and second edges **161a** and **161b** of the upper substrate **110**. For example, first and second open defects F_1 and F_2 of the last gate transmitting wire **137a** occur, respectively, near the first and second edges **161a** and **161b** of the upper substrate **110**.

To repair the broken transmitting wire **137a**, the first repair wire **150a** is welded with a last source pad **130a** and the adjacent source dummy pad **157a** at their first and second cross points **151** and **152**. In addition, the second repair wire **150b** is welded with a last gate pad **128a** and the adjacent gate dummy pad **157b** at their third and fourth cross points **153** and **154**.

By the above-mentioned welding, the first repair wire **150a** electrically connect the last source pad **130a** of the broken gate transmitting wire **137a** with the adjacent source dummy pad **157a**, and the second repair wire **150b** electrically connect the last gate pad **128a** of the broken gate transmitting wire **137a** with the adjacent gate dummy pad **157b**. Accordingly, a voltage signal corresponding to the broken gate transmitting wire **137a** is transmitted again from the source PCB **133** of FIG. 3 to the gate PCB **131** of FIG. 3 via the gate and source dummy pads **157a** and **157b** and the dummy line **137b**.

When another gate transmitting wire is also broken, the first and second repair wires **150a** and **150b** are respectively cut at first and second separation points G_1 and G_2 that are respectively adjacent to the first and third cross points **151** and **153**. Thereafter, the above-mentioned repair process is repeated for another broken gate transmitting wire to transmit the voltage signals via another dummy wire.

Fourth Preferred Embodiment

As shown in FIG. 10A, first and second repair wires **163** and **165** are formed in shape of a closed roof along the first and second edges **161a** and **161b** of the upper substrate **110** and across the gate transmitting wires **137** with an insulating layer (not shown) interposed between the repair wires and the gate transmitting wires. The first and second repair wires **163** and **165** preferably have the same material as the gate transmitting wires **137**. At this point, one side of the first and second repair wires **163** and **165** is preferably positioned outside the upper substrate **110**, while another side of the first and second repair wires **163** and **165** is preferably positioned inside the upper substrate **110**.

In FIG. 10B, first and last gate transmitting wires **137c** and **137a** have short lines near the first edge **161a** of the upper substrate **110**. To repair the first and last gate transmitting wires **137c** and **137a**, the first repair wire **163** is welded with the first and last gate transmitting wires **137c** and **137a** at their first to fourth cross points **167a** to **167d**. Thereafter, first and second portion **H1** and **H2** of the first repair wire **163** are cut to separate first and second separated wires **163a** and **163b** from the first repair wire **163**.

Since the first and second separated wires **163a** and **163b** respectively connect the first and last broken gate transmitting wires **137c** and **137a**, voltage signals are successfully transmitted via the first and last gate transmitting wires **137c** and **137a** from the source pads **130** to the gate pads **128**.

Fifth Preferred Embodiment

As shown in FIG. 11A, a repair wire **171** in shape of a closed roof is formed over the gate transmitting wires **137** with an insulating layer (not shown) interposed therebetween. The repair wire **171** crosses with each of the

transmitting wires **171** at two different cross points between the repair wire and the gate transmitting wire. Each cross point between the repair wire **171** and the gate transmitting wires **137** is preferably located outside the first and second edges **161a** and **161b** of the upper substrate **110**. The repair wire preferably has the same material as the gate transmitting wire.

In FIG. 11B, the first and last gate transmitting wires **137c** and **137a** have short lines K_1 and K_2 respectively. To repair the first and last gate transmitting wires **137c** and **137a**, the repair wire **171** is welded with the first and last gate transmitting wires **137c** and **137a** at their first to fourth cross points **173a** to **173d**. Thereafter, first to fourth portions **M1** to **M4** of the repair wire **171** are cut away such that first and second separated wires **171a** and **171b** are separated from the repair wire **171**. Therefore, the first and second separated wires **171a** and **171b** become electrically independent of each other and the remaining portion of the repair wire **171**.

Via the first and second separated wires **171a** and **171b**, different voltage signals are transmitted from the source pads **130** to the gate pads **128** successfully.

If only one gate transmitting wire **137** is broken, after welding the broken transmitting wire with the repair wire, the repair wire is preferably cut at two different points of itself such that the separated wire compensating for the broken gate transmitting wire has the shortest length. Namely, when the broken gate transmitting wire is electrically connected via the separated wire of the repair wire, the length of the separated wire prefers to be the shortest such that a resistance between the source and gate pads becomes the lowest not to affect the voltage signals abnormally.

The above-mentioned first to fifth preferred embodiments of the present invention are also applicable for a COG typed LCD device. FIG. 12 is a plane view of the COG typed LCD device according to the first preferred embodiment of the present invention.

As shown, data and gate drive circuits **127** and **129** are formed on edges of the lower substrate **120**, and the gate transmitting wires **171** electrically connect data drive circuits **127** with the gate drive circuits **129**. Via the gate transmitting wires **171**, voltage signals are transmitted from the source PCB **133** to the gate PCB **131**. The gate transmitting wires **171** are preferably positioned at a corner "Z" of the upper substrate **110** such that the gate transmitting wire is away from a display area of the LCD device.

FIGS. 13A and 13B are expanded plane view of the corner "Z" of FIG. 12.

On the lower substrate **120**, a plurality of data lines **125** and gate lines **126** are formed in shape of a matrix array, and each of the data lines **125** and each of the gate lines **126** are electrically connected, respectively, with the source and gate pads **130** and **128**. Further, the gate transmitting wires **137** electrically connect the source pads **130** with the gate pads **128** such that voltage signals are transmitted from the source PCB **133** of FIG. 12 to the gate PCB **131** of FIG. 12. The last gate transmitting wire **137a** is spaced apart from the data and gate lines **125** and **126**.

In an actual process of fabricating the above-mentioned LCD panel, on a plurality of the lower substrate **120** including the above-mentioned wires, a large-sized substrate is attached via the sealant **141** of FIG. 6, and the large-sized substrate is scribed and broken by force to form a plurality of independent LCD panels. After the scribing and breaking process, the source and gate pads **130** and **128** are respectively connected with the source and gate PCBs **133** and **131** of FIG. 12.

Namely, in the above-mentioned scribing and breaking process, the first and second edges **161a** and **161b** of the upper substrate **110** are acted on by the above-mentioned force of scribing and breaking. The scribing and breaking force further acts on the first and last gate transmitting wires **137b** and **137a**. Specifically, as shown in FIG. **13B**, cross portions X_1 and X_2 where the gate transmitting wires cross with the edges of the upper substrate **110** are most acted on by the scribing and breaking force such that the first and last gate transmitting wires **137b** and **137a** are broken at the cross portions X_1 and X_2 .

Though the above-mentioned open defects are easily repaired by the third to fifth preferred embodiments of the present invention, a more safety should be confirmed to prevent the open defects of the gate transmitting wires.

Sixth Preferred Embodiment

In the sixth preferred embodiment, dummy patterns are used to prevent the above-mentioned open defects.

As shown in FIG. **14**, a plurality of dummy patterns **180** are formed on the lower substrate **120** such that the position of the dummy patterns **180** correspond to the position of the first and second edges **161a** and **161b** (see FIG. **12**) of the upper substrate **110**.

In detail, the dummy patterns **180** are formed adjacent the first and last gate transmitting wires **137c** and **137a**. The dummy patterns **180** preferably have at least the same height as the gate transmitting wires **137c** and **137a** such that most of the above-mentioned scribing and breaking force is acted on the dummy patterns **180** instead of the gate transmitting wires **137c** and **137a**.

FIGS. **15A** and **15B** show different shapes of the dummy patterns **180**.

In FIG. **15A**, each dummy pattern **180a** includes smaller patterns that are aligned closely, while FIG. **15B** shows that each dummy pattern **180b** includes only one body.

FIG. **16A** is a cross-sectional view taken along a line "XVI—XVI" of FIG. **14**. With reference to FIG. **16**, a fabricating process of an array substrate having an inverted staggered type TFT is explained.

First, on the lower substrate **120**, the gate and source pads **128** and **130** (see FIG. **14**), the gate lines **126** (see FIG. **14**), and gate electrodes (not shown) that are electrically connected with the gate lines **126** (see FIG. **14**) are formed. At the same time, the gate transmitting wires **137** are formed to electrically connect some of the gate and source pads **128** and **130** (see FIG. **14**) that are specifically positioned near the corner "Z" of FIG. **12**. Further, the dummy patterns **180b** are formed adjacent the last and first gate transmitting wires **137a** and **137b**. The position of the dummy patterns **180b** correspond to the edges of the upper substrate **110** (see FIG. **14**) that will be attached to the lower substrate **120**, scribed and broken in a later process. At this point, a portion of each dummy pattern **180b** will be overlapped by the upper substrate **110**.

Next, a gate insulating layer **190** are formed to cover the gate lines and the gate transmitting wires **137**. Thereafter, not shown in FIG. **16A**, source and drain electrodes, and a plurality of data lines **125** (see FIG. **14**) will be formed on the gate insulating layer **190**. The gate, source and drain electrodes are included in a switching device such as a thin film transistor (TFT).

Finally, a passivation layer **192** is formed on an overall surface of the lower substrate **120** where the data lines and the like are formed, and a plurality of pixel electrodes (not shown) are formed on the passivation layer **192**.

Though each dummy pattern **180b** of FIG. **16A** has at least the same height as the gate transmitting wire **137**, it is preferred that the height of each dummy pattern **180b** is bigger than that of the gate transmitting wire **137**, as shown in FIG. **16B**.

In FIG. **16B**, between the dummy patterns **180b** and the passivation layer **192**, auxiliary dummy patterns **185** are interposed in shape of islands such that a first height "a" measured from the upper substrate **110** to the auxiliary dummy pattern **185** is smaller than a second height "b" measured from the upper substrate **110** to the gate transmitting wire **137**. In this case, since the auxiliary dummy patterns **185** and the dummy patterns **180b** absorb most of the scribing and breaking force in the scribing and breaking process, the gate transmitting wires **137** are protected from the mechanical impact or vibration of a cutting device used for the scribing and breaking process.

As described herein-before, by manufacturing the LCD device according to the preferred embodiments of the present invention, since the gate transmitting wires substitute for the FPC, the material cost becomes lower and the fabrication yield becomes higher. Further, due to the repair wires, the open defects of the gate transmitting wires are easily repaired. Furthermore, due to the dummy pads, the open defects of the gate transmitting wires are prevented.

While the invention has been particularly shown and described with reference to preferred embodiments thereof, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that the foregoing and other changes in form and details may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A liquid crystal display device comprising:

upper and lower substrates with a liquid crystal layer interposed therebetween;

a sealant between the upper and lower substrates in an area near an edge of the upper substrate;

a plurality of source and gate pads on the lower substrate;

a plurality of gate and data lines on the lower substrate, each gate line being electrically connected with the corresponding gate pad, each data line being electrically connected with the corresponding source pad;

a gate insulating layer between the gate lines and the data lines;

a source PCB and a gate PCB electrically connected with the plurality of source pads and the plurality of gate pads, respectively, the source PCB and the gate PCB being formed along a first side and a second side, respectively, of the lower substrate and outside the area in which the sealant is formed such that the upper substrate is not formed over the source PCB or the gate PCB, wherein the first and second sides meet at a corner of the lower substrate; and

a plurality of transmitting wires on the lower substrate, the transmitting wires directly connecting the gate and source pads across the sealant such that the source PCB is electrically connected with the gate PCB in the vicinity of the corner of the lower substrate, wherein the plurality of transmitting wires are formed in a curved shape on the lower substrate from the gate pads to the source pads.

2. The device of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of switching devices.

3. The device of claim 1, wherein the transmitting wires include at least eight electrical wires.

11

4. The device of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of dummy pads between the adjacent gate pads and between the adjacent source pads.

5. A liquid crystal display device comprising:

upper and lower substrates with a liquid crystal layer interposed therebetween;

a sealant between the upper and lower substrates in an area near an edge of the upper substrate;

a plurality of source and gate pads on the lower substrate;

a plurality of gate and data lines on the lower substrate, each gate line being electrically connected with the corresponding gate pad, each data line being electrically connected with the corresponding source pad;

a gate insulating layer between the gate lines and the data lines;

a source PCB and a gate PCB electrically connected with the plurality of source pads and the plurality of gate pads, respectively, the source PCB and the gate PCB being formed outside the area in which the sealant is formed such that the upper substrate is not formed over the source PCB or the gate PCB; and

a plurality of transmitting wires on the lower substrate, the transmitting wires being electrically connected with the gate and source pads across the sealant such that the source PCB is electrically connected with the gate PCB, further comprising a repair wire crossing with each gate transmitting wire with the gate insulating layer interposed between the repair wire and the gate transmitting wire.

6. A liquid crystal display device, comprising:

upper and lower substrates with a liquid crystal layer interposed therebetween;

a sealant between the upper and lower substrates;

a plurality of source and gate pads on the lower substrate;

a plurality of gate and data lines on the lower substrate, each gate line being electrically connected with the corresponding gate pad, each data line being electrically connected with the corresponding source pad;

a gate insulating layer between the gate lines and the data lines;

a source PCB electrically connected with the plurality of source pads;

a gate PCB electrically connected with the plurality of gate pads;

a plurality of transmitting wires on the lower substrate, the transmitting wires being electrically connected with the gate and source pads across the sealant such that the source PCB is electrically connected with the gate PCB; and

a repair wire crossing with each gate transmitting wire with the gate insulating layer interposed between the repair wire and the gate transmitting wire, wherein a specific resistance of the repair wire is below $10\ \mu\Omega/\text{cm}$ inclusive.

7. The device of claim 5, wherein the repair wire is positioned in a region defined by the sealant.

8. The device of claim 5, wherein the repair wire is positioned across the sealant.

9. A liquid crystal display device, comprising:

upper and lower substrates with a liquid crystal layer interposed therebetween;

a sealant between the upper and lower substrates;

a plurality of source and gate pads on the lower substrate;

a plurality of gate and data lines on the lower substrate, each gate line being electrically connected with the

12

corresponding gate pad, each data line being electrically connected with the corresponding source pad;

a gate insulating layer between the gate lines and the data lines;

a source PCB electrically connected with the plurality of source pads;

a gate PCB electrically connected with the plurality of gate pads;

a plurality of transmitting wires on the lower substrate, the transmitting wires being electrically connected with the gate and source pads across the sealant such that the source PCB is electrically connected with the gate PCB; and

a repair wire crossing with each gate transmitting wire with the gate insulating layer interposed between the repair wire and the gate transmitting wire, wherein the repair wire includes first and second closed roofs, the first closed roof being formed along first edge of the upper substrate, the second closed roof being formed along second edge of the upper substrate.

10. A liquid crystal display device comprising:

upper and lower substrates with a liquid crystal layer interposed therebetween;

a sealant between the upper and lower substrates in an area near an edge of the upper substrate;

a plurality of source and gate pads on the lower substrate;

a plurality of gate and data lines on the lower substrate, each gate line being electrically connected with the corresponding gate pad, each data line being electrically connected with the corresponding source pad;

a gate insulating layer between the gate lines and the data lines;

a source PCB and a gate PCB electrically connected with the plurality of source pads and the plurality of gate pads, respectively, the source PCB and the gate PCB being formed outside the area in which the sealant is formed such that the upper substrate is not formed over the source PCB or the gate PCB;

a plurality of transmitting wires on the lower substrate, the transmitting wires being electrically connected with the gate and source pads across the sealant such that the source PCB is electrically connected with the gate PCB; and

a first and second repair wire, the first repair wire crossing with each of the source pads with the gate insulating layer interposed therebetween, the second repair wire crossing with each of the gate pads with the gate insulating layer interposed therebetween.

11. The device of claim 10, wherein a specific resistance of the first and second repair wires is below $10\ \mu\Omega/\text{cm}$ inclusive.

12. A liquid crystal display device comprising:

upper and lower substrates with a liquid crystal layer interposed therebetween;

a sealant between the upper and lower substrates in an area near an edge of the upper substrate;

a plurality of source and gate pads on the lower substrate;

a plurality of gate and data lines on the lower substrate, each gate line being electrically connected with the corresponding gate pad, each data line being electrically connected with the corresponding source pad;

a gate insulating layer between the gate lines and the data lines;

a source PCB and a gate PCB electrically connected with the plurality of source pads and the plurality of gate

13

pads, respectively, the source PCB and the gate PCB being formed outside the area in which the sealant is formed such that the upper substrate is not formed over the source PCB or the gate PCB;

a plurality of transmitting wires on the lower substrate, the transmitting wires being electrically connected with the gate and source pads across the sealant such that the source PCB is electrically connected with the gate PCB; and

first and second dummy patterns on the lower substrate, the first dummy pattern being positioned along a first edge of the upper substrate, the second dummy pattern being positioned along a second edge of the upper substrate, the each dummy pattern having at least the same height as the gate transmitting wire.

13. The device of claim **12**, further comprising auxiliary dummy patterns over the first and second dummy patterns.

14. A method of fabricating a liquid crystal display device, the method comprising:

preparing first and second substrates;

14

forming a plurality of gate lines, gate pads, gate transmitting wires, and dummy patterns on the first substrate;

forming a gate insulating layer on the gate lines, gate pads, gate transmitting wires, and dummy patterns;

forming a plurality of data lines and data pads on the gate insulating layer;

forming a passivation layer on the data lines and the data pads;

forming a sealant on the first substrate, wherein the gate transmitting wires directly connect the gate pads to the source pads across the sealant in the vicinity of a corner of the first substrate, and wherein the gate transmitting wires are formed in a curved shape on the lower substrate from the gate pads to the source pads;

attaching the first and second substrates;

scribing and breaking the second substrate; and

forming a liquid crystal layer between the first and second substrates.

* * * * *

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摘要(译)

本发明公开了一种液晶显示装置，包括上基板和下基板，其间插入有液晶层;上基板和下基板之间的密封剂;下基板上的多个源极和栅极焊盘;下基板上的多条栅极线和数据线，每条栅极线与相应的栅极焊盘电连接，每条数据线与相应的源极焊盘电连接;栅极线和数据线之间的栅极绝缘层;源极PCB与多个源极焊盘电连接;栅极PCB与多个栅极焊盘电连接;在下基板上的多个传输线上，传输线通过密封剂与栅极和源极焊盘电连接，使得源极PCB与栅极PCB电连接。液晶显示装置还包括：修复线，用于修复栅极传输线;以及虚设图案，用于保护栅极传输线免受划线和断裂力的机械损坏。

