



- (51) International Patent Classification:
H01L 27/32 (2006.01) *G06F 3/041* (2006.01)
H01L 51/52 (2006.01) *H01L 51/56* (2006.01)
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/CN2015/097029
- (22) International Filing Date:
10 December 2015 (10.12.2015)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
201510144816.6 30 March 2015 (30.03.2015) CN
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- (81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, JP, KE, KG, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ,

[Continued on next page]

- (54) Title: OLED TOUCH-CONTROL SUBSTRATE AND FABRICATION METHOD THEREOF, AND DISPLAY APPARATUS

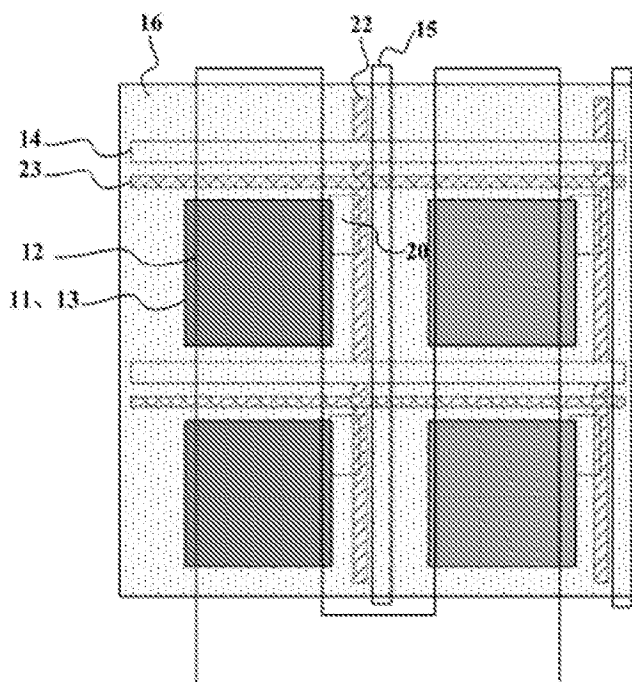


FIG. 2

- (57) Abstract: An organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate, a fabrication method thereof, and a display apparatus are provided. The organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate comprises a plurality of OLEDs, each of the OLEDs having a first electrode (11), a second electrode (12) and a light-emitting layer (13) between the first electrode (11) and the second electrode (12); a plurality of first touch-control electrodes (14) disposed in the same layer with the first electrodes (11) and insulated from the first electrodes (11); and a plurality of second touch-control electrodes (15) disposed in the same layer with the second electrodes (12) and insulated from the second electrodes (12) and the first touch-control electrodes (14).



TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*

OLED TOUCH-CONTROL SUBSTRATE AND FABRICATION METHOD THEREOF, AND DISPLAY APPARATUS

CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[001] This PCT patent application claims priority of Chinese Patent Application No. 201510144816.6, filed on March 30, 2015, the entire contents of which are incorporated by reference herein.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[002] The present invention generally relates to the field of the display technologies and, more particularly, to an OLED touch-control substrate and fabrication methods thereof, and a display apparatus.

BACKGROUND

[003] Organic Light-Emitting Diode (OLED) displays have many advantages, including ultra-thin, light weight, low cost, wide viewing-angle, self-emitting, continuously adjustable emitting color, fast response speed, low driving voltage, low power-consumption, broad working temperature range, simple manufacturing process, high light-emitting efficiency, and flexible display, etc. Thus, the OLED has become a new generation of display device technology.

[004] The basic structure of an OLED includes an anode, a cathode, and a light-emitting layer between the anode and the cathode. Light-emitting of OLED is caused by the injection and combination of carriers through the anode and the cathode when an external electric field is applied on the light-emitting layer. Specifically, the carriers, e.g., holes and electrons, are transported between the anode to the cathode under the electric field; and combined into excitons when the holes and the electrons meet within the light-emitting layer. The excitons release energy to activate the light-emitting molecules. Then, the activated light-emitting molecules emit visible light by a radiation relaxation process.

[005] In the existing display technologies, OLED touch-control substrates usually formed by a plug-in architecture. That is, a touch-control screen and an OLED display are fabricated separately, and then bonded together. Such a technology has many disadvantages, such as large module thickness, low light transparency and high production cost, etc.

[0006] The disclosed device structures, methods and systems are directed to at least partially solve one or more problems set forth above and other problems.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0007] One aspect of the present disclosure includes providing an organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate and a fabrication method thereof. The organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate comprises a plurality of OLEDs, each of the OLEDs having a first electrode, a second electrode and a light-emitting layer between the first electrode and the second electrode; a plurality of first touch-control electrodes disposed in a same layer with the first electrodes and insulated from the first electrodes; and a plurality of second touch-control electrodes disposed in a same layer with the second electrodes and insulated from the second electrodes and the first touch-control electrodes.

[0008] The first touch-control electrodes and the second touch-control electrodes configured for realizing a touch-control function are embedded in the OLED touch-control substrate. Thus, the thickness of the modules of the OLED touch-control substrate may be significantly reduced; the light transmittance may be increased; and the production cost may be reduced.

[0009] Optionally, the organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate further includes a first dielectric layer disposed between the layer having the first touch-control electrodes and the first electrodes and the layer having the second touch-control electrodes and the second electrodes, having via holes at positions corresponding to the light-emitting layer.

[0010] Optionally, the organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate further includes a plurality of insulation blocks disposed at cross-positions of the first touch-control electrodes.

[0011] Optionally, one first touch-control electrode is disposed between at least two adjacent first electrode lines; and one second touch-control electrode is disposed between at least two adjacent second electrode lines

[0012] Optionally, the OLEDs comprises passive matrix OLEDs (PMOLEDs) having a plurality of first electrode lines and second electrode lines, the first electrode lines electrically connecting the first electrodes, the second electrode lines connecting the second electrodes; the plurality of first touch-control electrodes are parallel to the plurality of first

electrode lines and insulated from the plurality of the first electrode lines; and the plurality of second touch-control electrodes are parallel to the plurality of second electrode lines and insulated from the second electrode lines.

[0013] Optionally, the OLEDs comprises active matrix OLEDs (AMOLEDs); the plurality of first touch-control electrodes are electrically insulated from the plurality of first electrodes of the AMOLEDs; and a plurality of second electrode of the AMOLEDs are electrically connected.

[0014] Optionally, the organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate further includes thin film transistors for controlling the plurality of OLEDs.

[0015] Optionally, the organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate further includes gate lines connecting to gates of thin film transistors; and data lines connecting to sources of the thin film transistors.

[0016] Optionally, the first touch-control electrodes are parallel to one of the gate lines and the data lines; and the second touch-control electrodes are parallel to the other one of the gate lines and the data lines.

[0017] Optionally, the first electrodes are one of the anodes and the cathode; and the second electrodes are the other one of the anodes and the cathodes.

[0018] Optionally, the first touch-control electrodes are one of the driving electrode lines and sensing electrode lines; and the second touch-control electrodes are the other one of the driving electrodes and sensing electrodes.

[0019] Another aspect of the present disclosures is providing a method for fabricating an OLED touch-control substrate. The method comprises forming a plurality of first touch-control electrodes and a plurality of first electrodes of OLEDs insulated from the plurality of first touch-control electrodes in a same layer on a substrate; forming a light-emitting layer on the plurality of first touch-control electrodes and the plurality of first electrodes; and forming a plurality of second touch-control electrodes and a plurality of second electrodes insulated from the second touch-control electrodes in a same layer on the light-emitting layer.

[0020] The thicknesses of the modules of the OLED touch-control substrate fabricated by the disclosed method may be relatively small; and the light transmittance may be relatively large. Further, comparing with existing methods, the production cost may be relatively low.

[0021] Optionally, the method further includes forming a first insulation layer having a plurality of via holes corresponding to positions of the light-emitting layer of the OLEDs on the plurality of first touch-control electrodes and the plurality of first electrodes; and forming the light-emitting layer in each of the openings.

[0022] Optionally, the method further includes forming a plurality of insulation blocks at cross positions of the first touch-control electrodes and the second touch-control electrodes.

[0023] Optionally, the OLEDs are passive matrix OLEDs (PMOLEDs) having a plurality of first electrode lines and second electrode lines; the plurality of first touch-control electrodes are parallel to the plurality of first electrode lines and insulated from the first electrode lines; and the plurality of second touch-control electrodes are parallel to the plurality of second electrode lines and insulated from the second electrode lines.

[0024] Optionally, the OLEDs comprises active matrix OLEDs (AMOLEDs); the plurality of first touch-control electrodes are electrically insulated from the plurality of first electrodes; and the plurality of second electrodes are electrically connected.

[0025] Optionally, the method further includes forming a plurality of thin-film transistors for controlling the plurality of OLEDs on the substrate; and forming a second insulation layer having a plurality of openings corresponding to drains of thin-film transistors connecting the drains with the first electrodes.

[0026] Optionally, the first electrodes are one of the anodes and the cathodes; and the second electrodes are the other one of the anodes and the cathodes

[0027] Optionally, the first touch-control electrodes are one of the driving electrodes and the sensing electrode; and the second touch-control electrodes are the other one of the anodes and the sensing electrodes.

[0028] Another aspect of the present disclosure includes providing a display apparatus. The display apparatus comprises at least the disclosed OLED touch-control substrate.

[0029] Other aspects of the present disclosure can be understood by those skilled in the art in light of the description, the claims, and the drawings of the present disclosure.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0030] Figure 1 illustrates an exemplary PMOLED touch-control substrate according to the disclosed embodiments;

[0031] Figure 2 illustrates an exemplary AMOLED touch-control substrate according to the disclosed embodiments;

[0032] Figure 3 illustrates an exemplary fabrication process of an OLED display according to the disclosed embodiments;

[0033] Figures 4a~4c illustrate structures corresponding to certain stages of an exemplary fabrication process of a PMOLED touch-control substrate according to the disclosed embodiments;

[0034] Figures 5a~5f illustrate structures corresponding to certain stages of an exemplary fabrication process of an AMOLED touch-control substrate according to the disclosed embodiments; and

[0035] Figure 6 illustrates a block diagram of an exemplary display apparatus according to the disclosed embodiments.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0036] For those skilled in the art to better understand the technical solution of the invention, reference will now be made in detail to exemplary embodiments of the invention, which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings. Wherever possible, the same reference numbers will be used throughout the drawings to refer to the same or like parts.

[0037] In order to reduce the thicknesses of the modules of OLED touch-control substrate, and to increase the light transmittance and lower the production cost, an OLED touch-control substrate and a fabrication process thereof are provided in the present disclosure.

[0038] According to driving methods, OLEDs can be categorized as Passive Matrix OLEDs (PMOLEDs) and Active Matrix OLED (AMOLEDs). For PMOLEDs, the anodes and cathodes form a matrix, and pixels in the matrix are turned on/off by a scanning mode. Each pixel is operated under a short pulse mode; and the emission of light in the PMOLEDs is a transient process with a relatively high light intensity. Figure 1 illustrates the top view of an exemplary PMOLED touch-control substrate according to the disclosed embodiments.

[0039] As shown in Figure 1, the PMOLED touch-control substrate may include a plurality of OLEDs (not labeled). The plurality of OLEDs may be distributed as an array, i.e.,

a plurality of rows and a plurality of columns. Each of the plurality of OLEDs may include a first electrode 11, a second electrode 12, and a light-emitting layer 13 between the first electrode 11 and the second electrode 12.

[0040] Further, the PMOLED touch-control substrate may also include a plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14. The plurality of touch-control electrodes 14 may be disposed on a same layer with the first electrodes 11.

[0041] Further, the PMOLED touch-control substrate may also include a plurality of second touch-control electrodes 15. The plurality of the second touch-control electrodes 15 may be disposed on a same layer with the second electrodes 12.

[0042] Each row or column of first electrode 11 may be electrically connected by a first electrode line 18; and each row or column of the second electrodes 12 may be electrically by a second electrode line 19.

[0043] The first touch-control electrodes 14 and the second touch-control electrodes 15 may be electrically insulated by any appropriate structures. In one embodiment, as shown in Figure 1, the PMOLED may include a first insulation layer 16 between the layer having the first electrodes 11 and the first touch-control electrodes 14 and the layer having the second electrodes 12 and the second touch-control electrodes 15; and the first insulation 16 may be used to electrically insulate the first touch-control electrodes 14 and the second touch-control electrodes 15. The portions of the first insulation layer 16 corresponding to the light-emitting layers 13 may have via holes (not labeled in Figure 1). That is, the light-emitting layers 13 may be in the via holes of the first insulation layer 16.

[0044] In certain other embodiments, insulation blocks (not labeled) may be formed between portions of the first touch-control electrodes 14 and the portions of the second touch-control electrodes 15 at the cross positions of the first touch-control electrodes 14 and the second touch-control electrodes 15. Thus, the first touch-control electrodes 14 and the second touch-control electrodes 15 may be electrically insulated.

[0045] The OLEDs may be top-emitting OLEDs, or bottom-emitting OLEDs. The OLEDs may include red OLEDs, green OLEDs, or white OLEDs, etc. In the OLED layer, PMOLED display may also include transport layer and shared layers, etc.

[0046] According to the type of the OLEDs, the first electrodes 11 may be anodes and the second electrodes 12 may be cathodes. In certain other embodiments, the first electrodes 11 may be cathodes and the second electrodes 12 may be anodes.

[0047] In a PMOLED display structure, the first electrodes 11 may be close to the substrate. In certain other embodiments, the second electrodes 12 may be close to the substrate.

[0048] Further, as electrode lines for realizing a touch-control function, the first touch-control electrodes 14 may be driving electrode lines, and the second touch-control electrodes 15 may be sensing electrode lines. In certain other embodiments, the first touch-control electrodes 14 may be touch-control sensing electrode lines and the second touch-control electrodes 15 may be driving electrode lines.

[0049] In a PMOLED display structure, the first touch-control electrodes 14 may be close to the substrate. In certain other embodiments, the second touch-control electrodes 15 may be close to the substrate.

[0050] Further, as shown in Figure 1, the PMOLED may also include a plurality of first electrode lines 18, and a plurality of second electrode lines 19. One first electrode line 18 may electrically connect one row, or one column of first electrodes 11; and one second electrode line 19 may electrically connect one row or one column of second electrodes 12. The plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 may be parallel to the plurality of first electrode lines 18; and the plurality of second touch-control electrodes 15 may be parallel to the plurality of second electrode lines 19.

[0051] The number of first electrode lines 18 and the second electrode lines 19 corresponding to one OLED may be any appropriate value. For example, the light-emitting layer 13 of one OLED may be disposed at the cross-position of a first electrode line 18 and a second electrode line 19, as shown in Figure 1.

[0052] The line density of the first touch-control electrodes 14 and the second touch-control electrodes 15 may be any appropriate value. For example, one first touch-control electrode line 14 may be disposed between two adjacent first electrode lines 18, or one first touch-control electrode line 14 may be disposed between two sets of first electrode lines 18; and each set of first electrode lines 18 may include a plurality of first electrode lines 18. Similarly, one second touch-control electrode line 15 may be disposed between two adjacent second electrode lines 19, or one second touch-control electrode line 15 may be disposed between two sets of second electrode lines 19; and each set of second electrode lines 19 may include a plurality of second electrode lines 19.

[0053] AMOLEDs utilize independent Thin Film Transistors (TFTs) to drive each pixel; and each pixel is able to independently and continuously emit light. Figure 2 illustrates the top view of an exemplary AMOLED touch-control substrate according to the disclosed embodiments. As shown in Figure 2, the AMOLED touch-control substrate may include a plurality of OLEDs (not labeled). The plurality of OLEDs may be distributed as an array, i.e., a plurality of rows and a plurality of columns. Each of the plurality of OLEDs may include a first electrode 11, a second electrode 12, and a light-emitting layer 13 between the first electrode 11 and the second electrode 12.

[0054] Further, the AMOLED touch-control substrate may also include a plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14. The plurality of touch-control electrodes 14 may be disposed on a same layer with the first electrodes 11.

[0055] Further, the AMOLED touch-control substrate may also include a plurality of second touch-control electrodes 15. The plurality of second touch-control electrodes 15 may be disposed on a same layer with the second electrodes 12.

[0056] The first touch-control electrodes 14 and the second touch-control electrodes 15 may be electrically insulated by any appropriate structures. In one embodiment, as shown in Figure 2, the AMOLED touch-control substrate may include a first insulation layer 16 between the layer having the first electrodes 11 and the first touch-control electrodes 14 and the layer having the second electrodes 12 and the second touch-control electrodes 15; and the first insulation layer 16 may be used to electrically insulate the first touch-control electrodes 14 and the second touch-control electrodes 15. The portions of the first insulation layer 16 corresponding to the light-emitting layers 13 may have via holes (not labeled in Figure 2). That is, the light-emitting layers 13 may be in the via holes of the first insulation layer 16.

[0057] In certain other embodiments, insulation blocks (not labeled) may be formed between portions of the first touch-control electrodes 14 and the portions of the second touch-control electrodes 15 at the cross-positions of the first touch-control electrodes 14 and the second touch-control electrodes 15. Thus, the first touch-control electrodes 14 and the second touch-control electrodes 15 may be electrically insulated.

[0058] The OLEDs may be top-emitting OLEDs, or bottom-emitting OLEDs. The OLEDs may include red OLEDs, green OLEDs, or white OLEDs, etc. In the OLED layer, an AMOLED display may also include transport layers and shared layers, etc.

[0059] According to the type of the OLEDs, the first electrodes 11 may be anodes and the second electrodes 12 may be cathodes. In certain other embodiments, the first electrodes 11 may be cathodes and the second electrodes 12 may be anodes.

[0060] In an AMOLED touch-control substrate structure, the first electrodes 11 may be close to the substrate. In certain other embodiments, the second electrodes 12 may be close to the substrate.

[0061] Further, as electrode lines for realizing a touch-control function, the first touch-control electrodes 14 may be driving electrode lines, and the second touch-control electrodes 15 may be touch-sensing electrode lines. In certain other embodiments, the first touch-control electrodes 14 may be touch-sensing electrode lines and the second touch-control electrodes 15 may be driving electrode lines.

[0062] In an AMOLED display structure, the first touch-control electrodes 14 may be close to a substrate. In certain other embodiments, the second touch-control electrodes 15 may be close to a substrate.

[0063] Further, as shown in Figure 2, the first electrodes 11 of the plurality of OLEDs may be insulated from each other; and the second electrodes 12 of the plurality of second electrodes 12 may be electrically connected. Further, the AMOLED touch-control substrate may include TFTs 20 for controlling the corresponding OLEDs.

[0064] Specifically, as shown in Figure 2, the drain (not labeled) of the TFTs 20 may electrically connect with the first electrodes 11. The OLEDs may be turned on or off by controlling the TFTs 20.

[0065] Further, as shown in Figure 2, the AMOLED touch-control substrate may also include gate lines 22 and data lines 23. The sources of TFTs 20 may electrically connect with the data lines 23; and the gates of the TFTs 20 may electrically connect with the gate lines 23. The first touch-control electrodes 14 may be parallel to the data lines 23; and the second touch-control electrodes 15 may be parallel to the gate lines 22. In certain other embodiments, the first touch-control electrodes 14 may be parallel to the gate lines 22; and the second touch-control electrodes 15 may be parallel to the data lines 23.

[0066] Therefore, as shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2, in the PMOLED and the AMOLED, the first touch-control electrodes 14 and the second touch-control electrodes 15 configured to realize a touch-control function may be embedded in the OLED display. Comparing with the existing technologies, the thickness of the modules of the OLED touch-

control substrate may be significantly reduced, the light transmittance may be increased; and the production cost may be reduced.

[0067] Figure 3 illustrates an exemplary fabrication process of an OLED touch-control substrate. Figures 4a~4c illustrate structures corresponding certain stages of the exemplary fabrication for forming a PMOLED touch-control substrate.

[0068] As shown in Figure 3, at the beginning of the fabrication process, a plurality of first touch-control electrodes and a plurality of first electrodes of the PMOLEDs may be formed on a substrate (S101). Figure 4a illustrates a corresponding structure.

[0069] As shown in Figure 4a, a substrate (not labeled) is provided; and a plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 and a plurality of first electrode lines 18 may be formed. The plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 may be parallel to each other; and the plurality of first electrode lines 18 may be parallel to each other. The dashed areas on the first electrode lines 18 may be corresponding to the first electrodes 11 of the PMOLEDs. That is, the dashed areas of the first electrode lines 18 may be configured as the first electrodes 11 of the PMOLEDs, i.e., one light-emitting layer 13 may be subsequently formed on each of the dashed regions of the first electrode lines 18. Or, one first electrode line 18 may be used to electrically connect one row of first electrodes 11, or one column of first electrodes 11. Further, the plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 and the plurality of first electrode lines 18 may be on a same layer, i.e., a surface of the substrate.

[0070] The plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 and the plurality of first electrode lines 18 may be formed by a patterning process. For example, the plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 and the plurality of first electrode lines 18 may be formed by forming a metal layer on the surface of the substrate; and followed by patterning the metal layer. In certain other embodiments, the plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 and the plurality of first electrode lines 18 may be formed by a lift-off process.

[0071] After providing the substrate and forming the plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 and the plurality of first electrode lines 18, a first insulation layer may be formed. Figure 4b illustrates a corresponding structure.

[0072] As shown in Figure 4b, a first insulation layer 16 may be formed on the plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 and the plurality of first electrode lines 18. The first insulation layer 16 may have a plurality of via holes 17. The portions of the first electrode lines 18 exposed by the via holes 17 may be configured as the first electrodes 11 of

the PMOLEDs. The via holes 17 may be used to subsequently form a light-emitting layer. Thus, the light-emitting layer may be formed on the first electrodes 11.

[0073] The first insulation layer 16 may be formed by a patterning process. Specifically, an insulation material layer may be formed on the plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14, the plurality of first electrode lines 18 and the substrate; and followed by etching the insulation material layer to expose the portion of the first electrode lines 18 corresponding to the first electrodes 11.

[0074] Returning to Figure 3, after forming the first insulation layer 16, a light-emitting layer may be formed (S102). Figure 4c illustrates a corresponding structure.

[0075] As shown in Figure 4c, a light-emitting layer 13 is formed in each of the via holes 17. That is, a light-emitting layer 13 is formed on each of the first electrodes 11.

[0076] The light-emitting layer 13 may be formed by a patterning process. Specifically, a light-emitting material layer may be formed in the via holes 17 and on the first insulation layer 16; and followed by removing the portion of the light-emitting material layer on the first insulation layer 16. Thus, a light-emitting layer 13 is formed in each of the via holes 17, or on each of the first electrodes 11.

[0077] Returning to Figure 3, after forming the light-emitting layer 13, a plurality of second touch-control electrodes and a plurality of second electrode lines may be formed (S103). A corresponding structure may refer to Figure 1.

[0078] As shown in Figure 1, a plurality of second touch-control electrodes 15 and a plurality of second electrode lines 19 are formed on the first insulation layer 16 and the light-emitting layer 13. The plurality of second touch-control electrodes 15 and the plurality of second electrode lines 19 may be on a same layer. The plurality of second touch-control electrodes 15 and the plurality of second electrode lines 19 may be parallel to each other. Further, the portions of the second electrode lines 19 contacting with the light-emitting layer 13 may be referred as second electrodes 12.

[0079] The plurality of second touch-control electrodes 15 and the plurality of second electrode lines 19 may be formed by a patterning process. Specifically, a second material layer may be formed on the light-emitting layer 13 and the first insulation layer 16; and followed by patterning the second material layer to form the plurality of second touch-control electrodes 15 and the plurality of second electrode lines 19. In certain other embodiments,

the plurality of second touch-control electrodes 15 and the plurality of second electrodes lines 19 may be formed by a lift-off process.

[0080] Figures 5a~5f illustrate structures corresponding to certain stages of the exemplary fabrication process illustrated in Figure 3 for forming an AMOLED touch-control substrate according to the disclosed embodiments.

[0081] Referring to Figure 1 and Figure 2, comparing with the PMOLED touch-control substrate, an AMOLED touch-control substrate may include TFTs 20, data lines 23, and gate lines 22. Further, the first electrodes 11 of the plurality of AMOLEDs may be electrically insulated; and the second electrodes 12 of the plurality of the AMOLEDs may be electrically connected. Thus, before forming the first touch-control electrodes 14 and the first electrode lines 18, a plurality of TFTs 20 may be formed on a substrate; and a second insulation layer may be formed on the TFTs. The portions of the second insulation layer corresponding to the drains of the TFTs 20 may have a plurality of corresponding via holes.

[0082] Specifically, at the beginning of the fabrication process, a plurality of gate lines 22 may be formed on a substrate. Figure 5a illustrates a corresponding structure. As shown in Figure 5a, the plurality of gate lines 22 may be parallel to each other. The plurality of gate lines 22 may be formed by a patterning process.

[0083] Further, after forming the plurality of gates lines 22, a gate dielectric layer (not shown) may be formed on the gate lines 22. The gate dielectric layer may be formed by any appropriate process; and may be patterned to be configured as the gate dielectric layer of the plurality of OLEDs.

[0084] Further, after forming the gate dielectric layer, an active layer (not shown) may be formed on the gate dielectric layer. The active layer may be formed by any appropriate processes; and may be patterned to be configured as an active layer of the plurality of OLEDs.

[0085] Further, after forming the active layer, a plurality of data lines 23 may be formed on the active layer. Thus, as shown in Figure 5b, TFTs 20 may be formed. Figure 5b illustrates the schematic of the TFTs 20.

[0086] Further, as shown in Figure 5c, after forming the TFTs, a second insulation layer 21 may be formed on the data lines 23 and the TFTs 20. The positions of the second insulation layer 21 corresponding to the drains of the TFTs 20 may have a plurality of via holes (not shown).

[0087] Further, as shown in Figure 5d, after forming the second insulation layer 21, a plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 and first electrodes 11 of the plurality of OLEDs may be formed on the substrate. The first electrodes 11 of the plurality of OLEDs may be separated. The plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 and the plurality of first electrodes 11 may be on a same layer.

[0088] The plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 and the first electrodes 11 of the plurality of the OLEDs may be formed by a patterning process. Specifically, a first material layer may be formed on the second insulation layer 21; and followed by patterning the first material layer. Thus, the plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 and the first electrodes 11 of the plurality of OLEDs may be formed. In certain other embodiments, the plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 and the first electrodes 11 of the plurality of OLEDs may be formed by a lift-off process.

[0089] Further, as shown in Figure 5e, after forming the plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 and the first electrodes 11 of the plurality of OLEDs, a first insulation layer 16 may be formed on the plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14 and the first electrodes 11 of the plurality of OLEDs. The positions of the first insulation layer 16 corresponding to the subsequently formed light-emitting layer of OLEDs may have a plurality of via holes 17. That is, the first electrodes 11 may be exposed.

[0090] The first insulation layer 16 having the plurality of via holes 17 may be formed by a patterning process. Specifically, a first insulation material layer may be formed on the plurality of first touch-control electrodes 14, the first electrodes 11 of the plurality of OLEDs and the second insulation layer 23; and followed by etching the first insulation material layer to form the plurality of via holes 17.

[0091] Further, as shown in Figure 5f, after forming the first insulation layer 16 having the plurality of via holes 17, a light-emitting layer 13 is formed in each of the via holes 17. That is, the first light-emitting layer 13 is formed on the first electrodes 11.

[0092] The light-emitting layer 13 may be formed by a patterning process. Specifically, a light-emitting material layer may be formed on the first electrodes 11 and a portion of the first insulation layer 16; and followed by removing the portion of the light-emitting material layer on the first insulation layer 16. Thus, the light-emitting layer 13 may be formed on each of the first electrodes 11.

[0093] Further, after forming the light-emitting layer 13, a plurality of second touch-control electrodes 15 and second electrodes 12 of the plurality of OLEDs may be formed on the first insulation layer 16 and the light-emitting layer 13. A corresponding structure is illustrated in Figure 2. As shown in Figure 2, the plurality of second electrodes 12 of the OLEDs may be electrically connected. The plurality of second touch-control electrodes 15 and the second electrodes 12 may be formed on a same layer.

[0094] The plurality of second touch-control electrodes 15 and the second electrodes 12 of the plurality of OLEDs may be formed by a patterning process. Specifically, a second material layer may be formed on the first insulation layer 16 and the light-emitting layer 13 and followed by patterning the second material. Thus, the plurality of second touch-control electrodes 15 and the second electrodes 12 of the plurality of OLEDs may be formed. In certain other embodiments, the plurality of second touch-control electrodes 15 and the second electrodes 12 of the plurality of OLEDs may be formed by a lift-off process.

[0095] The TFTs 20 may be bottom-gated TFTs. In certain other embodiments, the TFTs 20 may be top-gated TFTs. The TFTs 20 may be used to control the light-emitting of the OLEDs.

[0096] According to the disclosed embodiments, the module thickness of the OLED touch-control substrate formed by the disclosed methods may be relatively small, and the light transmittance may be relatively high. Further, because the first touch-control electrodes and the first electrodes of the OLEDs may be made of a same material; and the second touch-control electrodes and the second electrode may be made of a same material, it may not need extra masks and patterning processes. Thus, the production cost may be relatively low.

[0097] Further, according to the disclosed embodiments, a display apparatus is provided. Figure 6 illustrates an exemplary display apparatus 400 incorporating at least a disclosed OLED touch-control substrate and other aspects of the present disclosure. The display device 400 may be any appropriate device, panel or component with certain display function, such as an OLED panel, an OLED TV, an OLED monitor, an OLED cell phone, an OLED navigation system, or e-paper, etc. As shown in Figure 6, the display apparatus 400 includes a controller 402, a driver circuit 404, a memory 406, peripherals 408, and an OLED touch-control substrate 410. Certain devices may be omitted and other devices may be included.

[0098] The controller 402 may include any appropriate processor or processors. Further, the controller 402 can include multiple cores for multi-thread or parallel processing. The memory 406 may include any appropriate memory modules. The memory 406 may store computer programs for implementing various processes, when executed by the controller 402.

[0099] Peripherals 408 may include any interface devices for providing various signal interfaces. Further, peripherals 408 may include any input and output (I/O) devices. Peripherals 408 may also include any appropriate communication module for establishing connections through wired or wireless communication networks.

[00100] The driver circuitry 404 may include any appropriate driving circuits to drive the OLED touch-control substrate 410. During operation, the OLED touch-control substrate 410 may be provided with image signals by the controller 402 and the driver circuit 404 for display. Because the module thickness of the disclosed OLED touch-control substrate be relatively small, the light-transmittance may be relative high; and the production cost may be reduced, the display apparatus having such a OLED touch-control substrate may also have similar advantages.

[00101] The above detailed descriptions only illustrate certain exemplary embodiments of the present invention, and are not intended to limit the scope of the present invention. Those skilled in the art can understand the specification as whole and technical features in the various embodiments can be combined into other embodiments understandable to those persons of ordinary skill in the art. Any equivalent or modification thereof, without departing from the spirit and principle of the present invention, falls within the true scope of the present invention.

What is claimed is:

1. An organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate, comprising:

a plurality of OLEDs, each of the OLEDs having a first electrode, a second electrode and a light-emitting layer between the first electrode and the second electrode;

a plurality of first touch-control electrodes disposed in a same layer with the first electrode and insulated from the first electrode; and

a plurality of second touch-control electrodes disposed in a same layer with the second electrode and insulated from the second electrode and the first touch-control electrodes.

2. The organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate according to claim 1, further comprising:

a first dielectric layer disposed between the layer having the first touch-control electrodes and the first electrodes and the layer having the second touch-control electrodes and the second electrodes, having via holes at positions corresponding to the light-emitting layer.

3. The organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate according to claim 1, further comprising:

a plurality of insulation blocks disposed at cross positions of the first touch-control electrodes and the second touch-control electrodes.

4. The organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate according to claim 1, wherein:

one first touch-control electrode is disposed between at least two adjacent first electrode lines; and

one second touch-control electrode is disposed between at least two adjacent second electrode lines.

5. The organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate according to any one of claims 1~4, wherein:

the OLEDs comprise passive matrix OLEDs (PMOLEDs) having a plurality of first electrode lines and second electrode lines, the first electrode lines electrically connecting the first electrodes, and the second electrode line connecting the second electrodes;

a plurality of first touch-control electrode lines are parallel to the plurality of first electrode lines and insulated from the plurality of the first electrode lines; and

a plurality of second touch-control electrode lines are parallel to a plurality of second electrode lines and insulated from the second electrode lines.

6. The organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate according to any one of claims 1~4, wherein:

the OLEDs comprise active matrix OLEDs (AMOLEDs);

the first touch-control electrodes are electrically insulated from the first electrodes of the AMOLEDs; and

the second electrodes of the AMOLEDs are electrically connected.

7. The organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate according to claim 6, further comprising:

a plurality of thin film transistors for controlling the plurality of OLEDs.

8. The organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate according to claim 6 or claim 7, further comprising:

gate lines connecting to gates of the thin film transistors; and

data lines connecting to sources of the thin film transistors.

9. The organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate according to claim 8, wherein:

the first touch-control electrode lines are parallel to one of the gate lines and the data lines; and

the second touch-control electrode lines are parallel to the other one of the gate lines and the data lines.

10. The organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate according to any one of claims 1~9, wherein:

the first electrodes are one of anodes and cathodes; and

the second electrodes are the other one of anodes and cathodes.

11. The organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate according to any one of claims 1~9, wherein:

the first touch-control electrodes are driving electrode lines; and

the second touch-control electrodes are sensing electrode lines.

12. A method for fabricating an organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touch-control substrate, comprising:

forming a plurality of first touch-control electrodes and a plurality of first electrodes of OLEDs insulated from the plurality of first touch-control electrodes in a same layer on a substrate;

forming a light-emitting layer on the plurality of first touch-control electrodes and the plurality of first electrodes; and

forming a plurality of second touch-control electrodes and a plurality of second electrodes insulated from the plurality of second touch-control electrodes in a same layer on the light-emitting layer.

13. The method according to claim 12, further comprising:

forming a first insulation layer having a plurality of via holes corresponding to positions of the light-emitting layer of the OLEDs on the plurality of first touch-control electrodes and the plurality of first electrodes; and

forming the light-emitting layer in each of the via holes.

14. The method according to claim 12, further comprising:

forming a plurality of insulation blocks at cross positions of the first touch-control electrodes and the second touch-control electrodes.

15. The method according to any one of claims 12~14, wherein:

the OLEDs comprise passive matrix OLEDs (PMOLEDs) having a plurality of first electrode lines and second electrode lines, the first electrode lines electrically connecting the first electrodes, and the second electrode lines electrically connecting the second electrodes;

the plurality of first touch-control electrode lines are parallel to the plurality of first electrode lines and insulated from the plurality of the first electrode lines; and

the plurality of second touch-control electrode lines are parallel to a plurality of second electrode lines and insulated from the second electrode lines.

16. The method according to any one of claims 12~14, wherein:

the OLEDs comprise active matrix OLEDs (AMOLEDs);

the plurality of first touch-control electrodes are electrically insulated from a plurality of first electrodes of the AMOLEDs; and

a plurality of second electrodes of the AMOLEDs are electrically connected.

17. The method according to claim 16, further comprising:

forming a plurality of thin-film transistors for controlling the OLEDs on the substrate;
and

forming a second insulation layer having a plurality of via holes corresponding to drains of thin-film transistors connecting the drains with the first electrodes.

18. The method according to any one of claims 12~17, wherein:

the first electrodes are one of anodes and cathodes; and

the second electrodes are the other one of anodes and cathodes.

19. The method according to any one of claims 12~17, wherein:

the first touch-control electrodes are one of the driving electrodes and the sensing electrodes; and

the second touch-control electrodes are the other one of the driving electrodes and the sensing electrodes.

20. A display apparatus comprising the OLED touch-control substrate according to any one of claims 1~11.

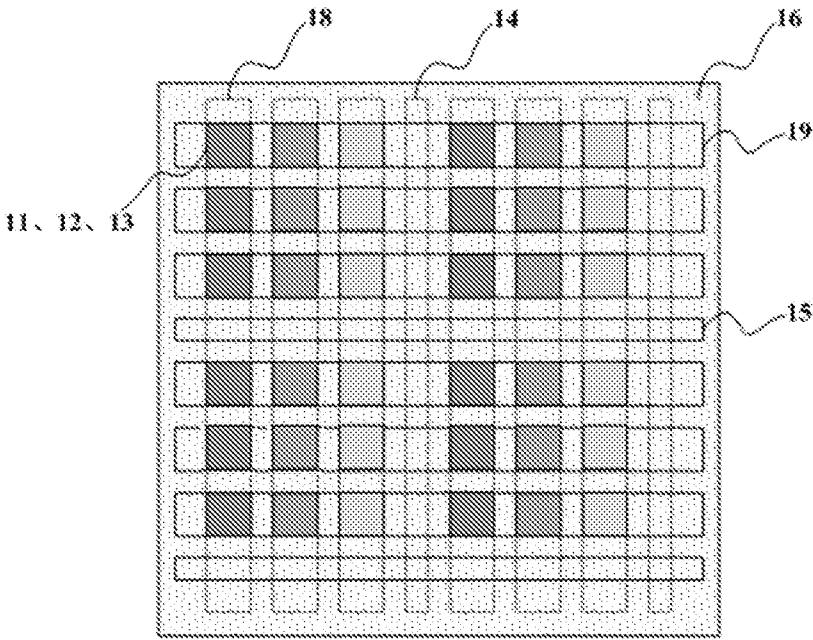


FIG. 1

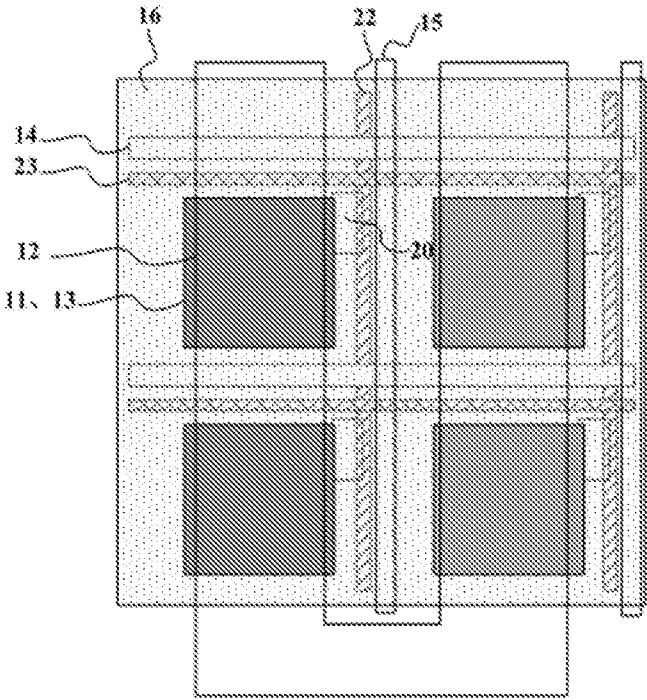
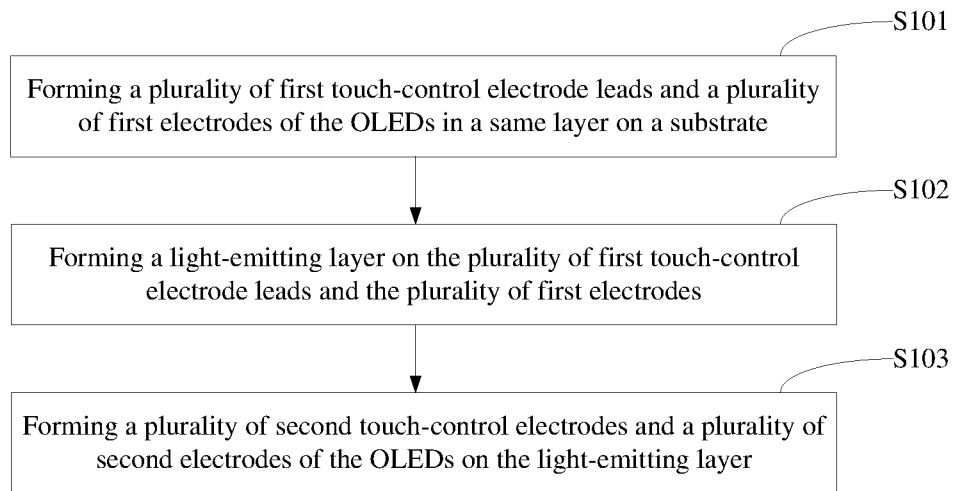
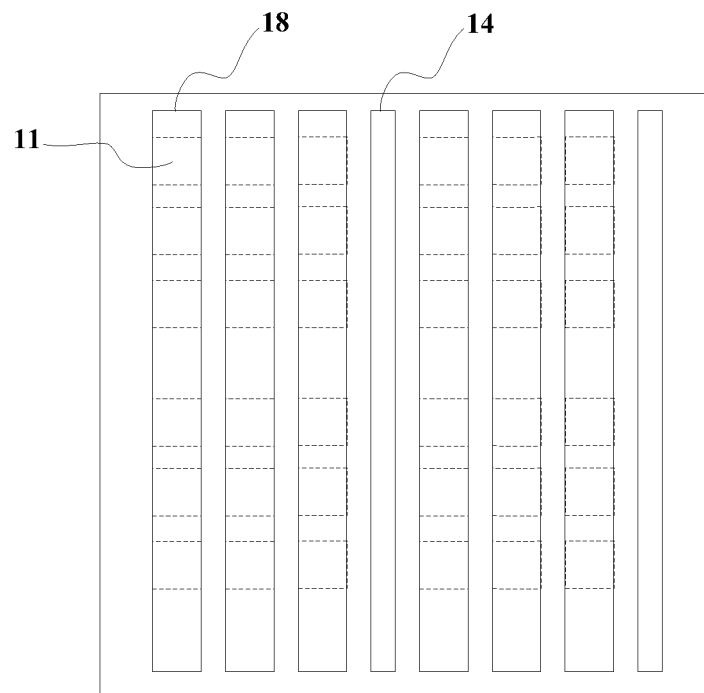


FIG. 2

**FIG. 3****FIG. 4a**

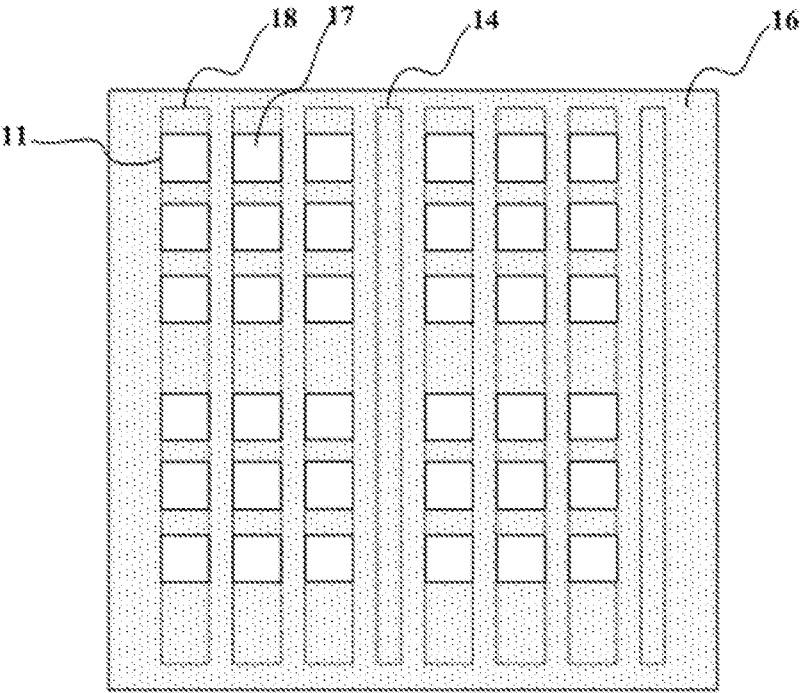


FIG. 4b

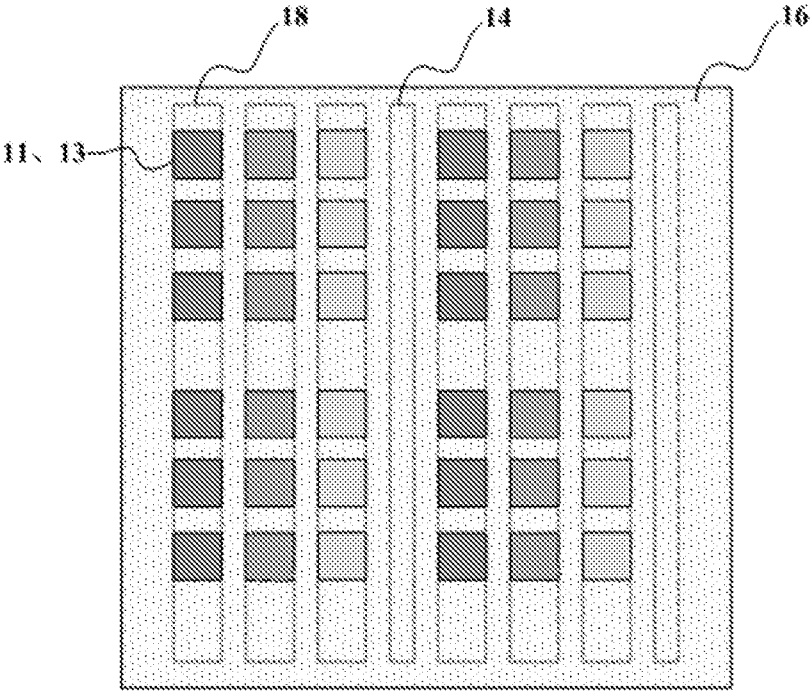


FIG. 4c

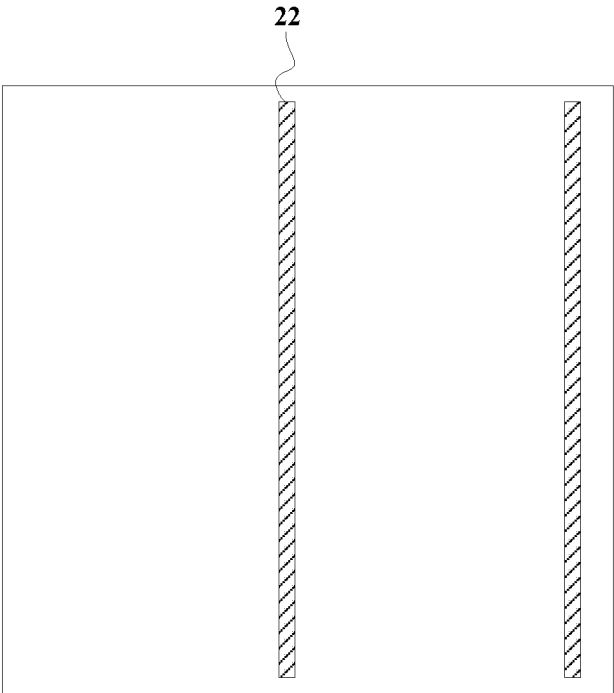


FIG. 5a

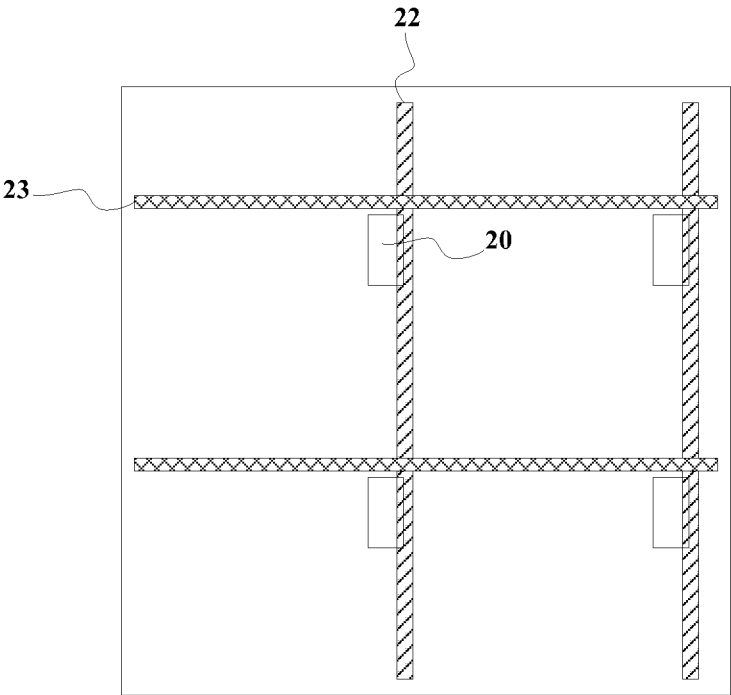


FIG. 5b

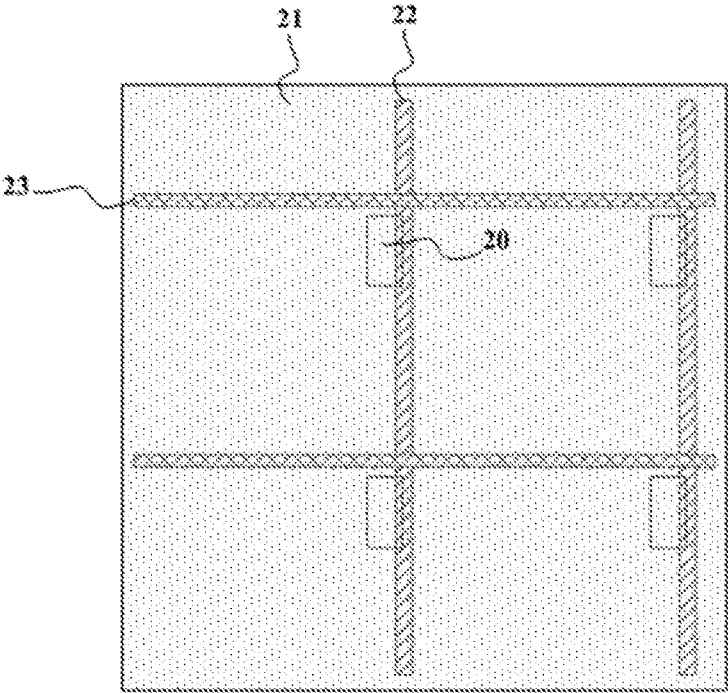


FIG. 5c

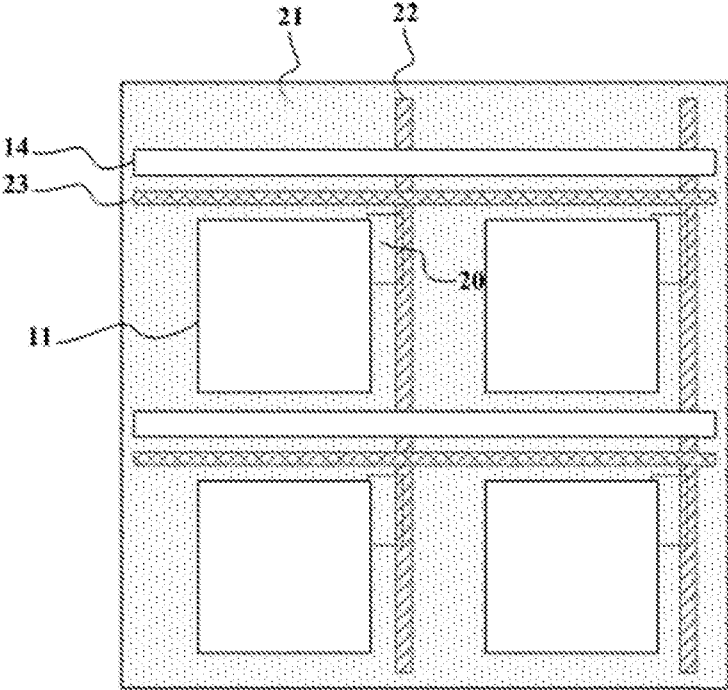


FIG. 5d

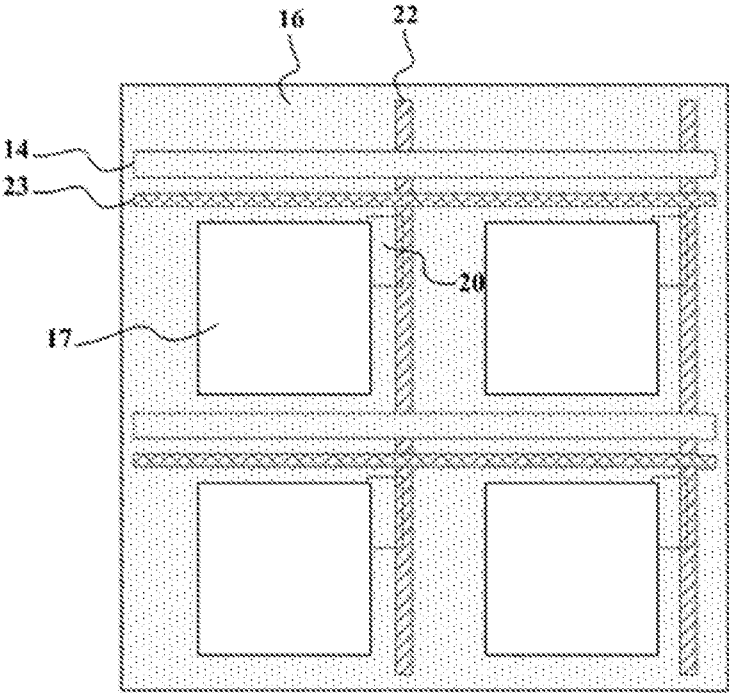


FIG. 5e

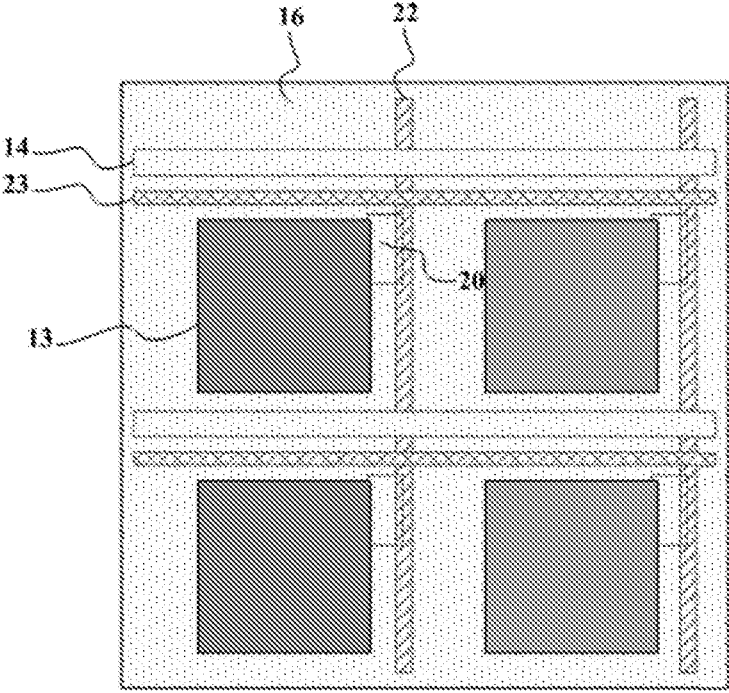


FIG. 5f

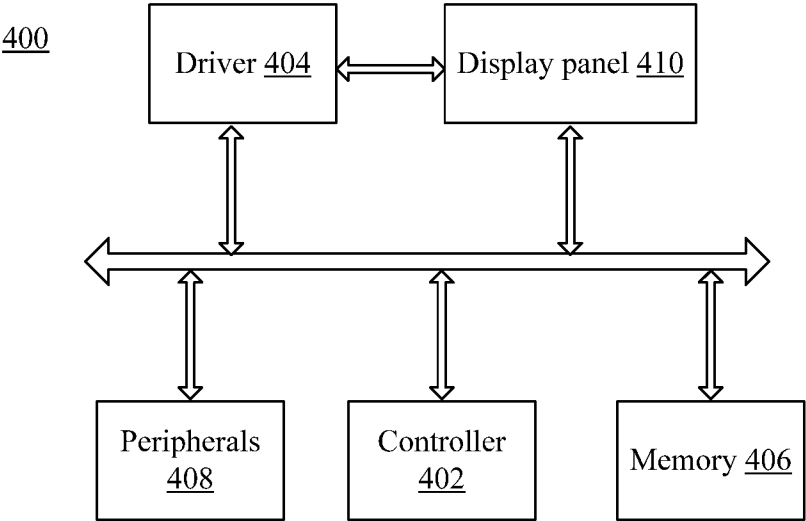


FIG. 6

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/CN2015/097029

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

H01L 27/32(2006.01)i; H01L 51/52(2006.01)i; G06F 3/041(2006.01)i; H01L 51/56(2006.01)i

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

H01L;G06F3/+

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

CNPAT;WPI;EPDOC: touch+, driv+, sens+, electrode?, same, alike, one, ilk, uniform, like, identic+, self+, layer, level, first, second, anode?, anticathode?, cathode?, positive, negative, upper, top, bottom, lower,+OLED,light emitting, active, luminous, luminesc+

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
PX	CN 104795425 A (BOE TECHNOLOGY GROUP CO LTD ET AL) 22 July 2015 (2015-07-22) description, paragraphs [0004]-[0085] and figures 1-5f	1-20
X	CN 104182112 A (BOE TECHNOLOGY GROUP CO LTD) 03 December 2014 (2014-12-03) description, paragraphs [0040]-[0067] and figures 1-5	1-2, 4-13, 15-20
Y	CN 104182112 A (BOE TECHNOLOGY GROUP CO LTD) 03 December 2014 (2014-12-03) description, paragraphs [0040]-[0067] and figures 1-5	3, 14, 20
Y	CN 104461092 A (CHEN HUNG TECHNOLOGY XIAMEN CO LTD) 25 March 2015 (2015-03-25) description, paragraphs [0002]-[0003], [0042]-[0044] and figures 1-2	3, 14, 20
Y	CN 104393025 A (BOE TECHNOLOGY GROUP CO LTD) 04 March 2015 (2015-03-04) description, paragraphs [0003]-[0042] and figures 1-5	1-20
Y	CN 103887324 A (AU OPTRONICS CORP) 25 June 2014 (2014-06-25) description, paragraphs [0035]-[0053] and figures 1-2	1-20

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.
☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

“A”	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	“T”	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
“E”	earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	“X”	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
“L”	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	“Y”	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
“O”	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	“&”	document member of the same patent family
“P”	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 February 2016

Date of mailing of the international search report

09 March 2016

Name and mailing address of the ISA/CN

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/CN2015/097029

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	CN 203858617 U (BOE TECHNOLOGY GROUP CO LTD ET AL) 01 October 2014 (2014-10-01) the whole document	1-20

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/CN2015/097029

Patent document cited in search report			Publication date (day/month/year)	Patent family member(s)			Publication date (day/month/year)
CN	104795425	A	22 July 2015	None			
CN	104182112	A	03 December 2014	None			
CN	104461092	A	25 March 2015	TW	201510806	A	16 March 2015
				TW	483476	U	01 August 2014
CN	104393025	A	04 March 2015	None			
CN	103887324	A	25 June 2014	None			
CN	203858617	U	01 October 2014	None			

专利名称(译)	OLED触控基板及其制造方法，显示装置		
公开(公告)号	EP3281226A4	公开(公告)日	2018-10-31
申请号	EP2015851612	申请日	2015-12-10
[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	京东方科技集团股份有限公司 成都京东方光电科技有限公司		
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当前申请(专利权)人(译)	京东方科技集团股份有限公司. 成都京东方光电科技有限公司.		
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IPC分类号	H01L27/32 H01L51/52 G06F3/041 H01L51/56		
CPC分类号	H01L27/323 G06F3/0412 G06F3/044 G06F2203/04103 H01L27/3276 H01L27/3288 H01L51/56		
代理机构(译)	COHAUSZ & FLORACK		
优先权	201510144816.6 2015-03-30 CN		
其他公开文献	EP3281226A1		
外部链接	Espacenet		

摘要(译)

提供一种有机发光二极管 (OLED) 触控基板。有机发光二极管 (OLED) 触控基板包括多个OLED，每个OLED具有第一电极，第二电极和位于第一电极和第二电极之间的发光层;多个第一触控电极，与第一电极设置在同一层，与第一电极线绝缘;多个第二触控电极与第二电极设置在同一层，并与第二电极线和第一触控电极绝缘。