



(11) **EP 3 185 298 A1**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**
published in accordance with Art. 153(4) EPC

(43) Date of publication:
28.06.2017 Bulletin 2017/26

(51) Int Cl.:
H01L 27/32 (2006.01) G09G 3/32 (2016.01)

(21) Application number: **14882174.7**

(86) International application number:
PCT/CN2014/090880

(22) Date of filing: **12.11.2014**

(87) International publication number:
WO 2016/026220 (25.02.2016 Gazette 2016/08)

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB
GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC MK MT NL NO
PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR**
Designated Extension States:
BA ME

- **YANG, Fei**
Beijing 100176 (CN)
- **WANG, Dongfang**
Beijing 100176 (CN)

(30) Priority: **18.08.2014 CN 201410406612**

(71) Applicant: **BOE Technology Group Co., Ltd.**
Beijing 100015 (CN)

(74) Representative: **Isarpatent**
Patent- und Rechtsanwälte Behnisch Barth
Charles
Hassa Peckmann & Partner mbB
Friedrichstrasse 31
80801 München (DE)

(72) Inventors:
• **ZHANG, Chen**
Beijing 100176 (CN)

(54) **OLED DISPLAY APPARATUS, DISPLAY DEVICE AND OLED DISPLAY APPARATUS TESTING METHOD**

(57) The present disclosure provides an organic light-emitting diode (OLED) display apparatus, including a plurality of subpixels, each of which includes an anode, a cathode and a light-emitting layer. The OLED display apparatus further includes at least one photovoltaic conversion module arranged in correspondence with the

subpixel, and configured to receive an optical signal from the light-emitting layer of the corresponding subpixel and convert the received optical signal into an electric signal. A testing terminal is extracted from the photovoltaic conversion module and configured to acquire the electric signal converted by the photovoltaic conversion module.

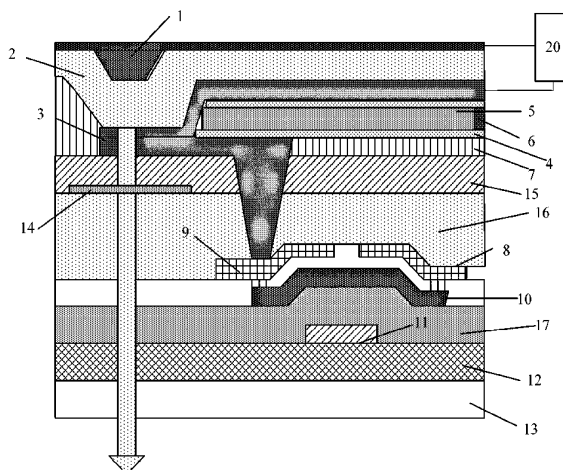


Fig.1

EP 3 185 298 A1

Description

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] The present application claims a priority of the Chinese patent application No.201410406612.0 filed on August 18, 2014, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0002] The present disclosure relates to the field of display technology, in particular to an organic light-emitting diode (OLED) display apparatus, a display device, and a method for testing the OLED display apparatus.

BACKGROUND

[0003] OLED has been regarded as an emerging technology for a next-generation flat-panel display due to its characteristics such as self-luminescence, being free of backlight source, high contrast, being thin, a wide viewing angle, rapid response, being applicable to a flexible panel and at a wide temperature range, a simple structure and a simple manufacture process. For an OLED apparatus, sometimes it is required to measure its optical characteristics.

[0004] For an existing optical test, an optical measurement instrument is usually used to measure optical data at a specified region of a panel and the other data, e.g., a current flowing through a light-emitting layer (EL), so as to estimate the luminescence efficiency of a material of the EL and the light-emission evenness of the entire panel. However, it is impossible for such a testing method to directly and accurately obtain the desired data, i.e., there is a relatively great error in the testing method. As a result, it is unable to accurately acquire the optical characteristics of the EL.

SUMMARY

[0005] An object of the present disclosure is to provide an OLED display apparatus, a display device and a method for testing the OLED display apparatus, so as to directly and accurately obtain optical data when performing optical measurement on an OLED panel, thereby to accurately acquire optical characteristics of an light-emitting layer.

[0006] In one aspect, the present disclosure provides in one embodiment an OLED display apparatus, including a plurality of subpixels, each of which includes an anode, a cathode and a light-emitting layer. The OLED display apparatus further includes at least one photovoltaic conversion module arranged in correspondence with the subpixel, and configured to receive an optical signal from the light-emitting layer of the corresponding subpixel and convert the received optical signal into an electric signal. A testing terminal is extracted from the

photovoltaic conversion module and configured to acquire the electric signal converted by the photovoltaic conversion module.

[0007] Alternatively, the OLED display apparatus further includes a control module configured to control a voltage between the anode and the cathode of the corresponding subpixel, so as to control a light-emitting state of the light-emitting layer of the corresponding subpixel.

[0008] Alternatively, the OLED display apparatus further includes an energy storage module connected to the testing terminal.

[0009] Alternatively, the photovoltaic conversion module includes a PN junction, and an insulating layer is provided at an outer layer of the PN junction.

[0010] Alternatively, the subpixels are arranged in a matrix form, and the testing terminals of the photovoltaic conversion modules corresponding to the subpixels in at least one column and/or one row are connected in parallel.

[0011] Alternatively, the OLED display apparatus further includes a thin film transistor (TFT) for driving the subpixel, the TFT includes a source electrode, a drain electrode and a gate electrode, and the source or drain electrode is connected to the anode.

[0012] Alternatively, the OLED display apparatus further includes a substrate arranged at a side where the gate electrode is located.

[0013] Alternatively, a gate insulating layer is arranged between the gate electrode and an active layer.

[0014] Alternatively, a planarization layer and an etch stop layer are further arranged between the TFT and the subpixel.

[0015] Alternatively, a color filter layer is further arranged at a light-exiting side of the light-emitting layer.

[0016] In another aspect, the present disclosure provides in one embodiment a display device including the above-mentioned OLED display apparatus.

[0017] In yet another aspect, the present disclosure provides in one embodiment a method for testing an OLED display apparatus, including steps of: when a light-emitting layer in the OLED display apparatus emits light, generating a current through a photovoltaic effect caused after a photovoltaic conversion module of the OLED display apparatus is irradiated by the light; acquiring by a testing terminal extracted from each subpixel the current converted by the photovoltaic conversion module, and steering the current toward an outer side of the OLED display apparatus; controlling a bright state and a dark state of each subpixel by a control circuit, thereby measuring a photovoltaic current for the corresponding subpixel; and determining a current relation according to a material of the light-emitting layer, and calculating an actual value of an optical characteristic of the light-emitting layer according to a theoretical value obtained from the relation and a measured current.

[0018] According to the embodiments of the present disclosure, the photovoltaic conversion module is added in an OLED pixel unit, so as to convert optical energy

generated by the light-emitting layer into electric energy and collect the electric energy, thereby to save the energy. In addition, the testing terminal is extracted from the photovoltaic conversion module, so as to acquire a value of the converted electric signal and calculate an actual value of the optical characteristic of the OLED according to the value of the electric signal, thereby to accurately measure the optical characteristic of the light-emitting layer.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0019]

Fig.1 is a schematic view showing an OLED display apparatus according to one embodiment of the present disclosure; and

Fig.2 is a schematic view showing the principle of testing the OLED display apparatus according to one embodiment of the present disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0020] In order to make the objects, the technical solutions and the advantages of the present disclosure, the present disclosure will be described hereinafter in conjunction with the drawings and embodiments.

[0021] As shown in Fig.1, which is a schematic view showing an OLED display apparatus according to one embodiment of the present disclosure, the OLED display apparatus includes a plurality of subpixels, each of which includes an anode 3, a cathode 1 and a light-emitting layer 2 arranged therebetween. The OLED display apparatus further include at least one photovoltaic conversion module arranged in correspondence with the subpixel, and configured to receive an optical signal from the light-emitting layer of the corresponding subpixel and convert the received optical signal into an electric signal. A testing terminal 6 is extracted from the photovoltaic conversion module and configured to acquire the electric signal converted by the photovoltaic conversion module.

[0022] According to the embodiments of the present disclosure, the photovoltaic conversion module is added in an OLED pixel unit, so as to convert optical energy generated by the light-emitting layer into electric energy and collect the electric energy, thereby to save the energy. In addition, the testing terminal is extracted from the photovoltaic conversion module, so as to acquire a value of the converted electric signal and calculate an actual value of the optical characteristic of the OLED according to the value of the electric signal, thereby to accurately measure the optical characteristic of the light-emitting layer.

[0023] Referring again to Fig.1, the photovoltaic conversion module includes a PN junction 5 and an insulating layer 4 arranged at both sides of the PN junction. The PN junction 5 absorbs the light from the light-emitting layer, and converts it into electric energy. The testing

terminal 6 is connected to the PN junction. The insulating layer 4 and the anode 3 are transparent or semi-transparent, so that the light from the light-emitting layer can be absorbed by the PN junction 5. In the embodiments of the present disclosure, each subpixel is provided with a photovoltaic conversion module and a testing terminal 6 for testing the value of the electric signal converted by the photovoltaic conversion module. Because the light-emitting state of each subpixel may be controlled, it is able to detect the value of the electric signal converted by any one of the photovoltaic conversion modules.

[0024] The OLED display apparatus may detect the value of the electric signal through an external detection module, e.g., an ampere meter. The OLED display apparatus further includes a control module 20 configured to control a voltage between the anode and the cathode of the corresponding subpixel, so as to control a light-emitting state of the light-emitting layer of the corresponding subpixel.

[0025] When the light-emitting layer of the OLED display apparatus emits light, a photovoltaic effect may occur after the photovoltaic conversion module is irradiated by the light and a current may thus be generated. The current is then steered by the testing terminal to an outer side of the display apparatus. The photovoltaic current for the corresponding subpixel may be measured by controlling a bright state and a dark state of each subpixel with a control circuit. Fig.2 shows one of the control methods, where the bright state and the dark state of the subpixels in each column are controlled so as to measure a current I for the corresponding subpixels in each column. At this time, $I \sim f(\rho)$, $I \sim f(\lambda)$ and $I \sim f(h\nu)$, wherein ρ represents the photovoltaic conversion efficiency, λ is a wavelength of the light, and $h\nu$ represents the optical energy of the light. The relationship between the current and each of the above three functions vary along with a material of the light-emitting layer and a light spectrum.

[0026] Fig.2 is a schematic view showing the principle of testing the OLED display apparatus. As shown in Figs.1 and 2, the light-emitting layer is arranged at a pixel region (PDL) 7 defined by data lines and gate lines that are arranged in a crisscross manner, and the gate lines Gate 1 to Gate n are configured to control the light-emitting states of each subpixel. When measuring the optical characteristic of the light-emitting layer, the above relations may be determined in accordance with the material of the light-emitting layer, and a desired theoretical value may be obtained. At this time, the actual value of the optical characteristic may be calculated according to the relations and a measured current. For example, the subpixels in previous 100 columns may be controlled by a circuit to emit light, and the other subpixels do not emit light. At this time, the photovoltaic currents generated by the subpixels in the previous 100 columns are measured, so as to obtain such data as the light-emitting efficiency of the light-emitting layers of the subpixels in these 100 columns. Because the optical characteristics of the light-emitting layers of the subpixels may be acquired, it is

able to make corresponding adjustment in accordance with these optical characteristics, thereby to further improve the quality of the OLED panel.

[0027] Referring again to Fig.2, the OLED display apparatus further includes an energy storage module connected to the testing terminal and configured to store the converted current. The subpixels are arranged in a matrix form, and the testing terminals of the photovoltaic conversion modules corresponding to the subpixels in at least one column and/or one row are connected in parallel. At this time, it is able to detect the currents for the subpixels in one or more rows/columns, thereby to obtain the optical characteristics of the light-emitting layers of the corresponding subpixels in accordance with the current stored in the energy storage module.

[0028] Referring again to Fig.1, the OLED display apparatus further includes a TFT connected to the anode and configured to control a voltage of the subpixel. The TFT includes a source electrode 8, a drain electrode 9, an active layer 10, a gate electrode 11 and a gate insulating layer 17. The drain electrode 9 of the TFT is connected to the anode 3, and the gate insulating layer 17 is arranged between the gate electrode 11 and the active layer 10. An etch stop layer 16 and a planarization layer 15 are arranged between the TFT and a layer of the subpixels. The gate electrode 11 is arranged on a substrate 12, and a reinforcement layer 13 is arranged at a light-exiting side of the substrate 12 for increasing the light output efficiency. Further, a color filter layer 14 is arranged at a light-exiting side of the light-emitting layer and at a surface of the planarization layer 15.

[0029] The present disclosure further provides in one embodiment a display device including the above-mentioned OLED display apparatus. The display device may be any product or member having a display function, such as a liquid crystal panel, an electronic paper, an OLED panel, a mobile phone, a flat-panel PC, a TV, a display, a lap-top PC, a digital photo frame or a navigator.

[0030] The present disclosure further provides in one embodiment a method for testing the OLED display apparatus, including steps of: when the light-emitting layer in the OLED display apparatus emits light, generating a current through the photovoltaic effect caused after the photovoltaic conversion module of the OLED display apparatus is irradiated by the light; acquiring by the testing terminal extracted from each subpixel the current converted by the photovoltaic conversion module, and steering the current toward the outer side of the OLED display apparatus; controlling the bright state and the dark state of each subpixel by a control circuit, thereby measuring a photovoltaic current for the corresponding subpixel; and determining a current relation according to the material of the light-emitting layer, and calculating the actual value of the optical characteristic of the light-emitting layer according to the theoretical value obtained from the relation and the measured current.

[0031] The above are merely the preferred embodiments of the present disclosure. It should be appreciated

that, a person skilled in the art may make further modifications and improvements without departing from the principle of the present disclosure, and these modifications and improvements shall also fall within the scope of the present disclosure.

Claims

1. An organic light-emitting diode (OLED) display apparatus, comprising a plurality of subpixels, each of which comprises an anode, a cathode and a light-emitting layer, wherein the OLED display apparatus further comprises at least one photovoltaic conversion module arranged in correspondence with the subpixel, and configured to receive an optical signal from the light-emitting layer of the corresponding subpixel and convert the received optical signal into an electric signal, and a testing terminal is extracted from the photovoltaic conversion module and configured to acquire the electric signal converted by the photovoltaic conversion module.
2. The OLED display apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a control module, configured to control a voltage between the anode and the cathode of the corresponding subpixel, so as to control a light-emitting state of the light-emitting layer of the corresponding subpixel.
3. The OLED display apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising an energy storage module connected to the testing terminal.
4. The OLED display apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the photovoltaic conversion module comprises a PN junction, and an insulating layer is provided at an outer layer of the PN junction.
5. The OLED display apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the subpixels are arranged in a matrix form, and the testing terminals of the photovoltaic conversion modules corresponding to the subpixels in at least one column and/or one row are connected in parallel.
6. The OLED display apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 3, further comprising a thin film transistor (TFT) for driving the subpixel, the TFT comprises a source electrode, a drain electrode and a gate electrode, and the source or drain electrode is connected to the anode.
7. The OLED display apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising a substrate arranged at a side where the gate electrode is located.

8. The OLED display apparatus according to claim 6, wherein a gate insulating layer is arranged between the gate electrode and an active layer.
9. The OLED display apparatus according to claim 6, wherein a planarization layer and an etch stop layer are further arranged between the TFT and the sub-pixel. 5
10. The OLED display apparatus according to any one of claims 6 to 9, wherein a color filter layer is further arranged at a light-exiting side of the light-emitting layer. 10
11. A display device comprising the organic light-emitting diode (OLED) display apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 10. 15
12. A method for testing an organic light-emitting diode (OLED) display apparatus, comprising steps of: 20

when a light-emitting layer in the OLED display apparatus emits light, generating a current through a photovoltaic effect caused after a photovoltaic conversion module of the OLED display apparatus is irradiated by the light; 25

acquiring, by a testing terminal extracted from each subpixel, the current converted by the photovoltaic conversion module, and steering the current toward an outer side of the OLED display apparatus; 30

controlling a bright state and a dark state of each subpixel by a control circuit, thereby measuring a photovoltaic current for the corresponding subpixel; and 35

determining a current relation according to a material of the light-emitting layer, and calculating an actual value of an optical characteristic of the light-emitting layer according to a theoretical value obtained from the relation and a measured current. 40

45

50

55

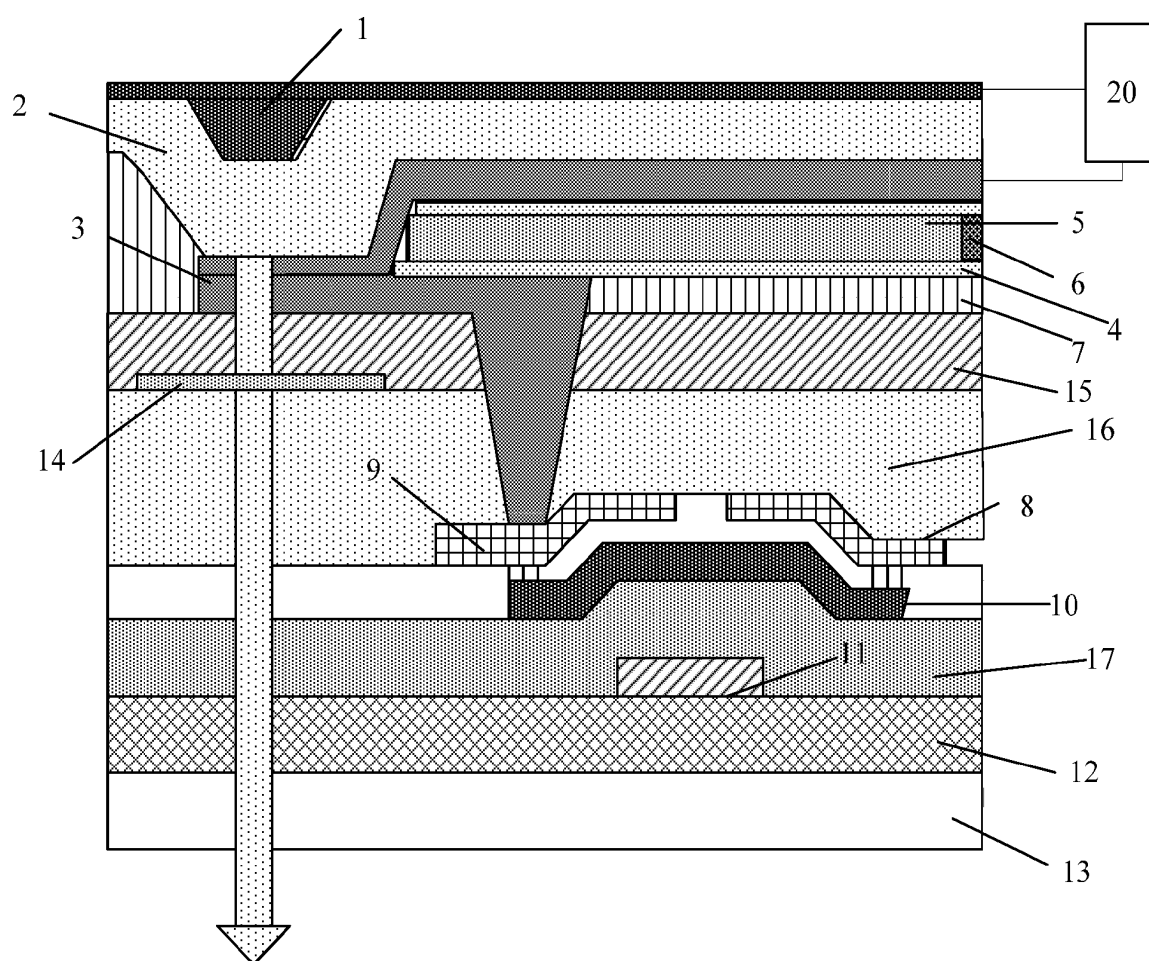


Fig.1

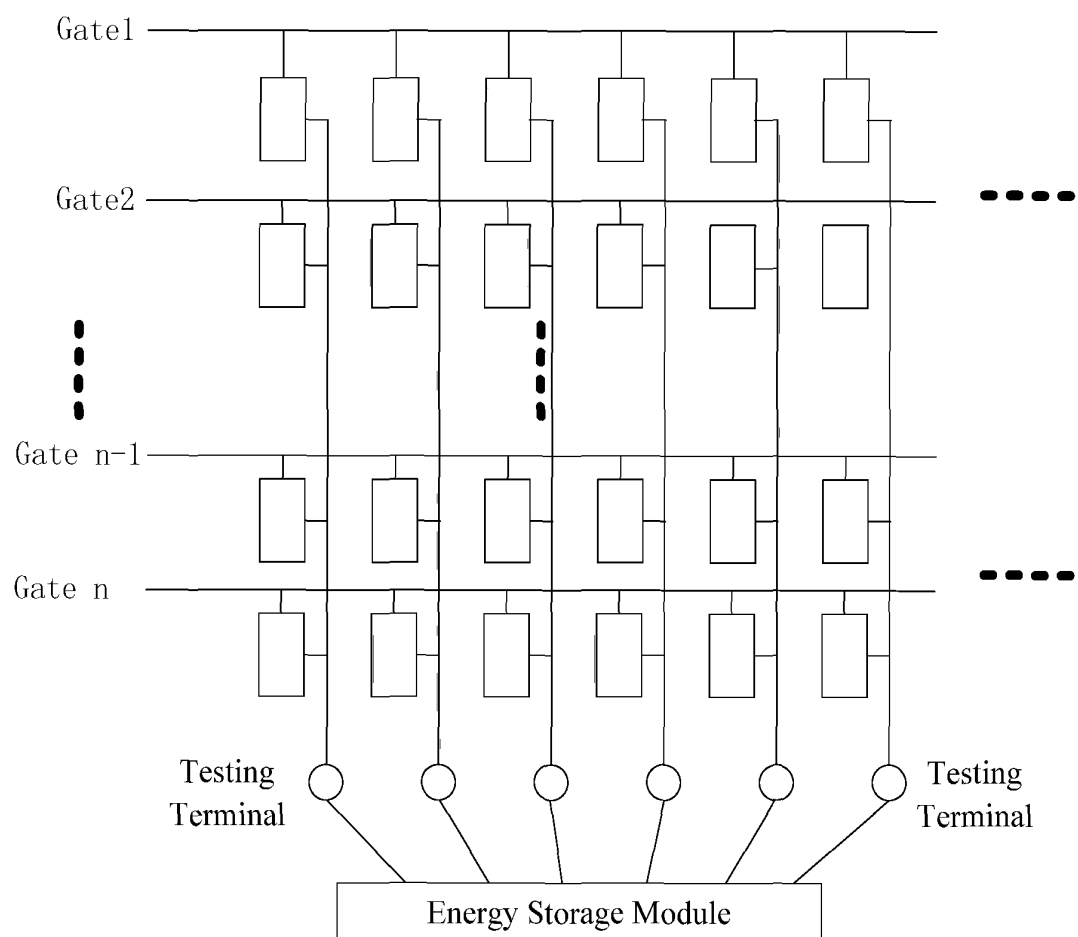


Fig.2

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/CN2014/090880

5

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

H01L 27/32 (2006.01)1; G09G 3/32 (2006.01) i

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

10

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

H01L; G09G

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

15

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

CNPAT, WPI, EPODOC: electroluminescent, organic light-emitting diode, AMOLED, organic light-emitting, OEL?, pixel, module, signal; LED, PLED, oled, organic, LED, EL?, organic LED, ?OLED, PLED, convers+, singnal+, optoelectrode, electrode, test+, detect+

20

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

25

30

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	CN 101044541 A (ADVANTECH GLOBAL, LTD.), 26 September 2007 (26.09.2007), description, page 3, last paragraph to page 5, paragraph 1 and page 11, paragraph 2 to page 13, paragraph 6, and figures 1 and 4	1-12
A	CN 103413522 A (BOE TECHNOLOGY GROUP CO., LTD. et al.), 27 November 2013 (27.11.2013), the whole document	1-12
A	CN 103760483 A (SOUTH CHINA UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY), 30 April 2014 (30.04.2014), the whole document	1-12
A	CN 203351177 U (GUANGDONG UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY), 18 December 2013 (18.12.2013), the whole document	1-12
A	JP 2010198849 A (TOSHIBA MATSUSHITA DISPLAY TECHNOLOGY CO.), 09 September 2010 (09.09.2010), the whole document	1-12
A	KR 20060037728 A (SAMSUNG SDI CO., LTD.), 03 May 2006 (03.05.2006), the whole document	1-12

35

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

40

45

* Special categories of cited documents:	"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
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

50

Date of the actual completion of the international search 25 April 2015 (25.04.2015)	Date of mailing of the international search report 22 May 2015 (22.05.2015)
Name and mailing address of the ISA/CN: State Intellectual Property Office of the P. R. China No. 6, Xitucheng Road, Jimenqiao Haidian District, Beijing 100088, China Facsimile No.: (86-10) 62019451	Authorized officer ZHANG, Wenping Telephone No.: (86-10) 61648431

55

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 2009)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/CN2014/090880

5

10

15

20

25

30

35

40

45

50

55

Patent Documents referred in the Report	Publication Date	Patent Family	Publication Date
CN 101044541 A	26 September 2007	US 7088318 B2	08 August 2006
		US 2006087247 A1	27 April 2006
		WO 2006047276 A1	04 May 2006
		US 2006092183 A1	04 May 2006
CN 103413522 A	27 November 2013	WO 2015014146 A1	05 February 2015
CN 103760483 A	30 April 2014	None	
CN 203351177 U	18 December 2013	None	
JP 2010198849 A	09 September 2010	None	
KR 20060037728 A	03 May 2006	KR 100669742 B1	16 January 2007

Form PCT/ISA/210 (patent family annex) (July 2009)

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

This list of references cited by the applicant is for the reader's convenience only. It does not form part of the European patent document. Even though great care has been taken in compiling the references, errors or omissions cannot be excluded and the EPO disclaims all liability in this regard.

Patent documents cited in the description

- CN 201410406612 [0001]

专利名称(译)	OLED显示装置，显示装置和OLED显示装置的测试方法		
公开(公告)号	EP3185298A1	公开(公告)日	2017-06-28
申请号	EP2014882174	申请日	2014-11-12
[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	京东方科技集团股份有限公司		
申请(专利权)人(译)	京东方科技集团股份有限公司.		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	京东方科技集团股份有限公司.		
[标]发明人	ZHANG CHEN YANG FEI WANG DONGFANG		
发明人	ZHANG, CHEN YANG, FEI WANG, DONGFANG		
IPC分类号	H01L27/32 G09G3/32 G09G3/3225		
CPC分类号	G09G3/3225 G01R31/44 G09G3/006 G09G3/32 G09G3/3233 G09G2360/147 G09G2360/148 H01L27/3244 H01L27/3269		
优先权	201410406612.0 2014-08-18 CN		
其他公开文献	EP3185298A4		
外部链接	Espacenet		

摘要(译)

本发明提供一种有机发光二极管 (OLED) 显示装置，包括多个子像素，每个子像素包括阳极，阴极和发光层。OLED显示装置还包括至少一个光电转换模块，其与子像素相对地布置，并且被配置为从对应的子像素的发光层接收光信号，并将接收的光信号转换为电信号。从光伏转换模块中提取测试终端，并配置为获取由光伏转换模块转换的电信号。

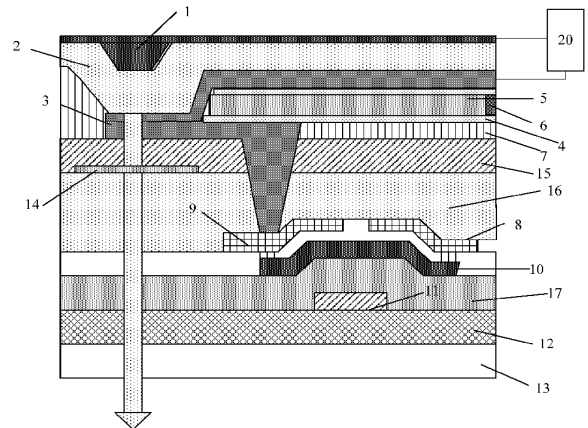


Fig.1