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(54) **Gradation control of an electro-optical display device**

(57) An electro-optical device for performing time division gray scale display and which is capable of arbitrarily setting the amount of time during which light is emitted by EL elements is provided. From among n sustain periods $Ts1, \dots, Tsn$, the brightness of light emitted by the EL elements during at least one sustain period is

set to be always lower than the brightness of light emitted by the EL elements during the other sustain periods, and the sustain periods are extended by the amount that the brightness has dropped. In accordance with the above structure, the sustain periods can be extended by lowering the setting of the brightness of light emitted by the EL elements.

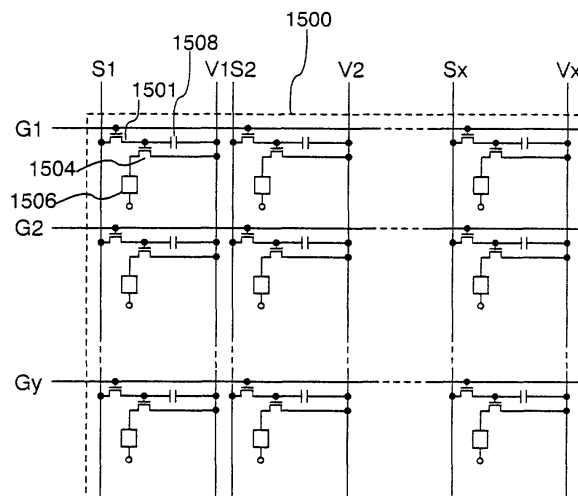


Fig.1



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 00 12 3262

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 17 February 2006	Examiner Kunze, H
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 17 February 2006	Examiner Kunze, H
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

专利名称(译)	电光显示装置的灰度控制		
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申请号	EP2000123262	申请日	2000-10-26
[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	株式会社半导体能源研究所		
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发明人	KOYAMA, JUN, C/O SEMICONDUCTOR ENERGY LAB. CO.,LTD		
IPC分类号	G09G3/30 G09G3/32 H01L27/00 C09K11/06 G09G3/20 H01L21/77 H01L21/84 H01L51/50 H05B33/14 H05B33/22		
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优先权	1999337003 1999-11-29 JP 1999304679 1999-10-26 JP		
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摘要(译)

本发明提供一种电光装置，其用于进行时分灰度显示，并且能够任意设定EL元件发光的时间。从n个维持期间Ts1，...，Tsn中，EL元件在至少一个维持期间发出的光的亮度始终低于EL元件在其他维持期间发出的光的亮度，并且维持周期延长了亮度下降的量。根据上述结构，可以通过降低EL元件发出的光的亮度设置来延长维持周期。

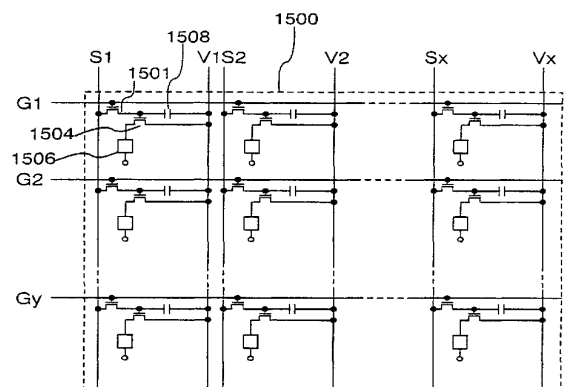


Fig.1