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YIM et al.(10) **Pub. No.: US 2018/0013100 A1**(43) **Pub. Date: Jan. 11, 2018**(54) **ORGANIC LIGHT-EMITTING DIODE
DISPLAY DEVICE****Publication Classification**(71) Applicant: **SAMSUNG DISPLAY CO., LTD.**,
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(57)

ABSTRACT

An display device including a substrate, an organic light-emitting diode, and a thin film encapsulation layer. The organic light-emitting diode is disposed on the substrate. The thin film encapsulation layer is disposed on the organic light-emitting diode. The thin film encapsulation layer includes at least one inorganic layer, at least one organic layer, and a first refractive-index control layer. The at least one organic layer is alternately disposed with the at least one inorganic layer. The first refractive-index layer is disposed between one of the at least one inorganic layer and one of the at least one organic layer disposed adjacent to each other. The first refractive-index control layer has a refractive-index variation ratio per unit length ($\Delta n/nm$) from about 0.001/nm to about 0.002/nm along a direction from the organic light-emitting diode toward the thin film encapsulation layer.

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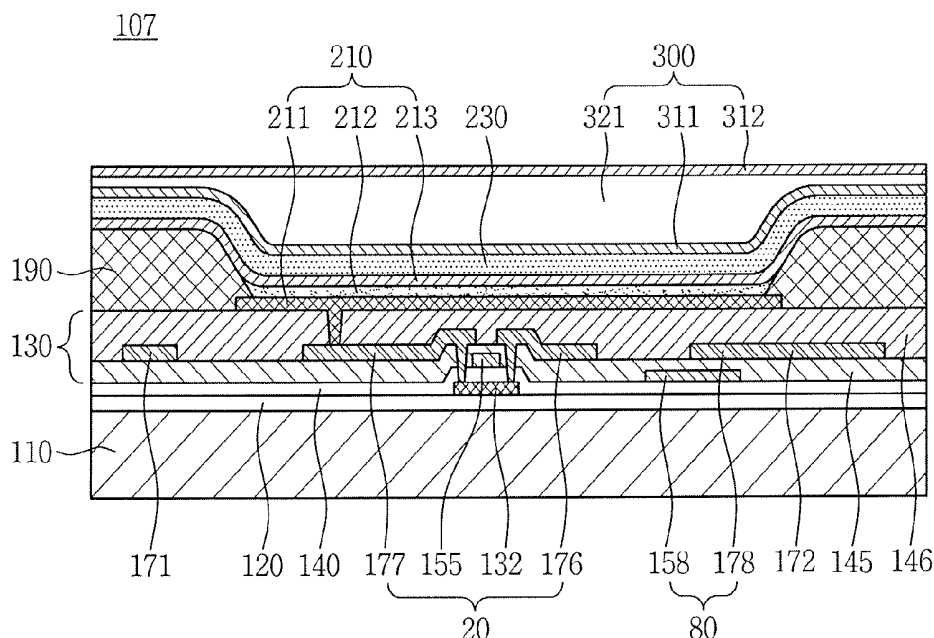


FIG. 1

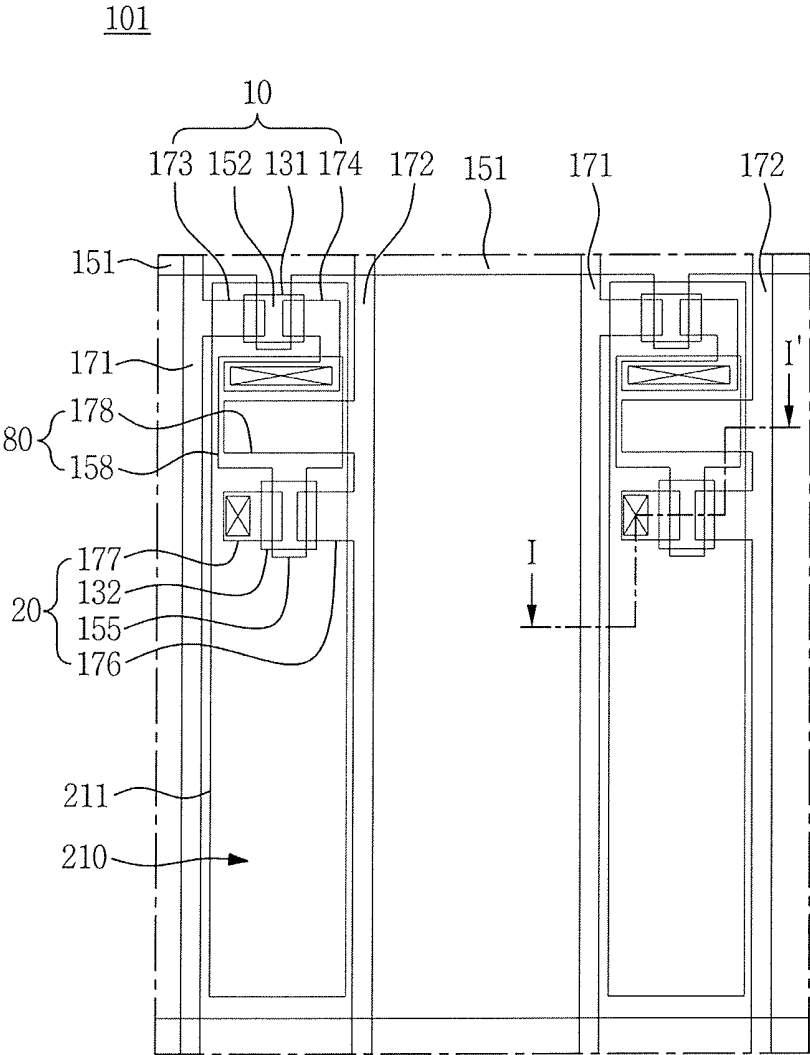


FIG. 2

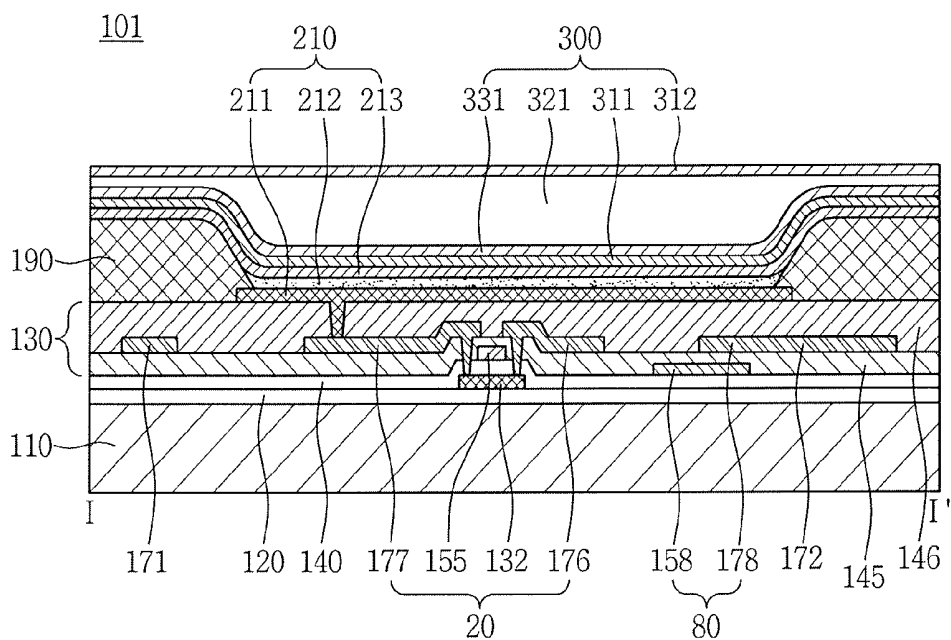


FIG. 3

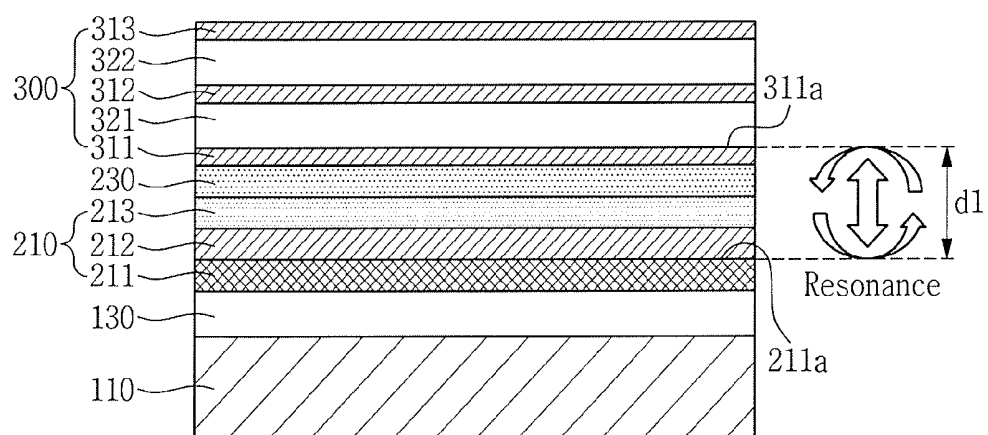


FIG. 4

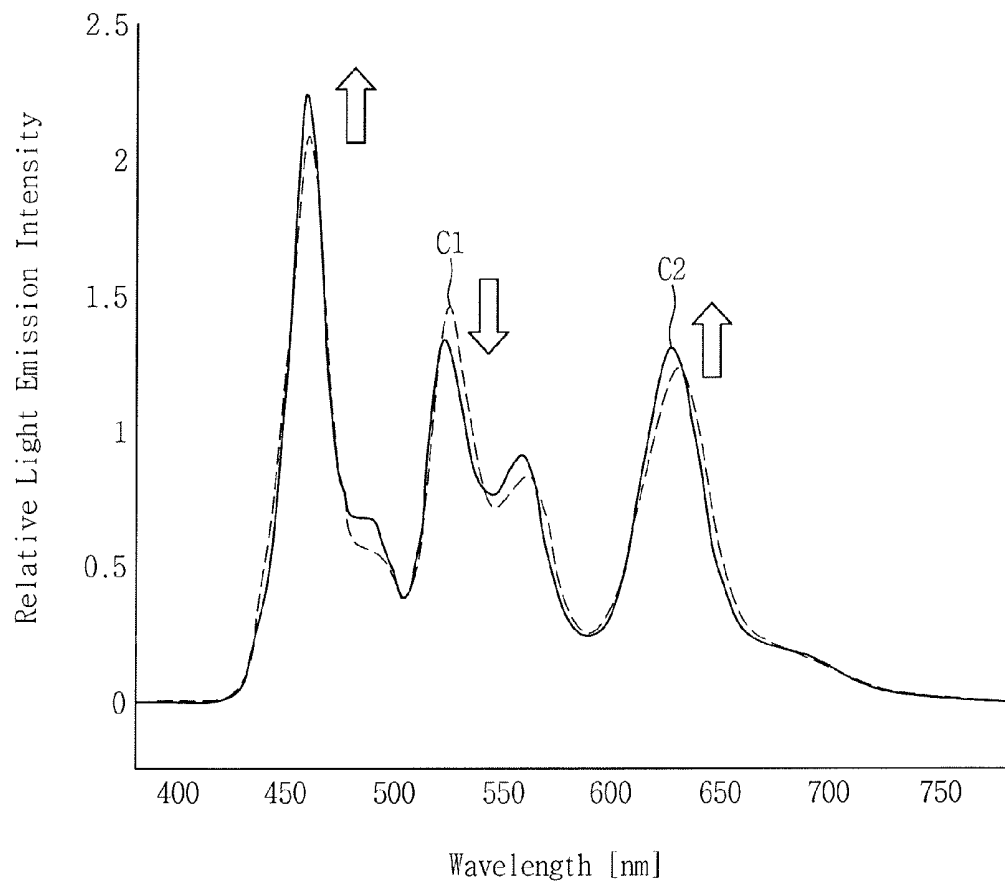


FIG. 5

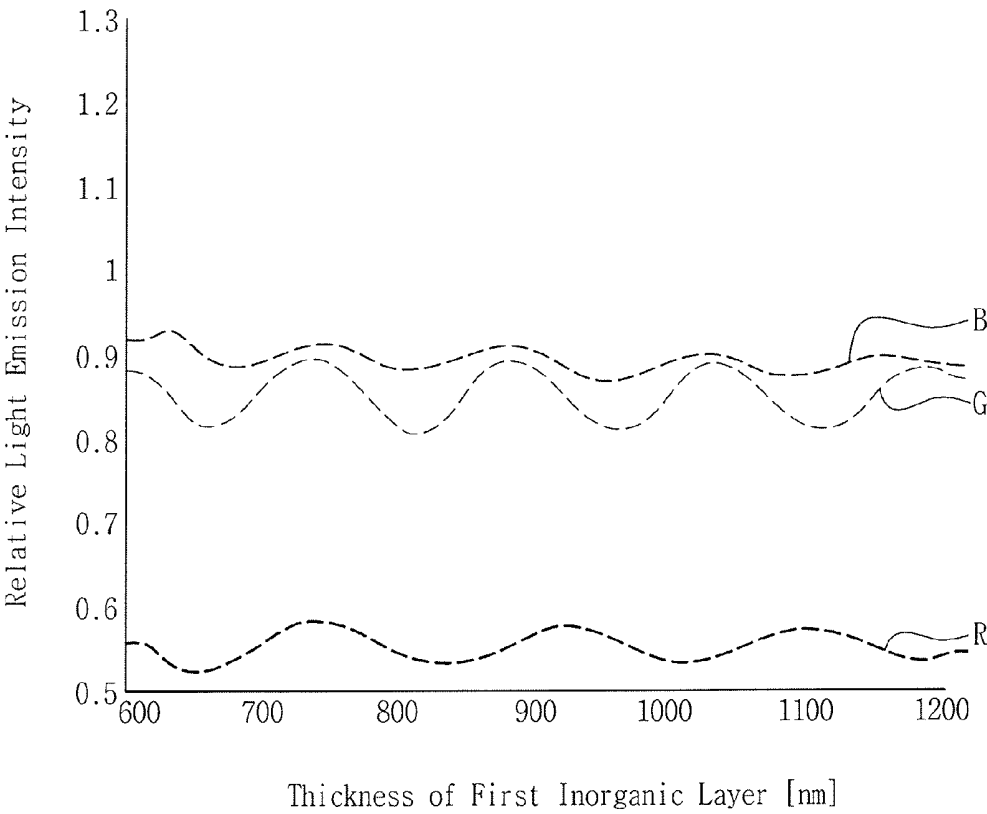


FIG. 6

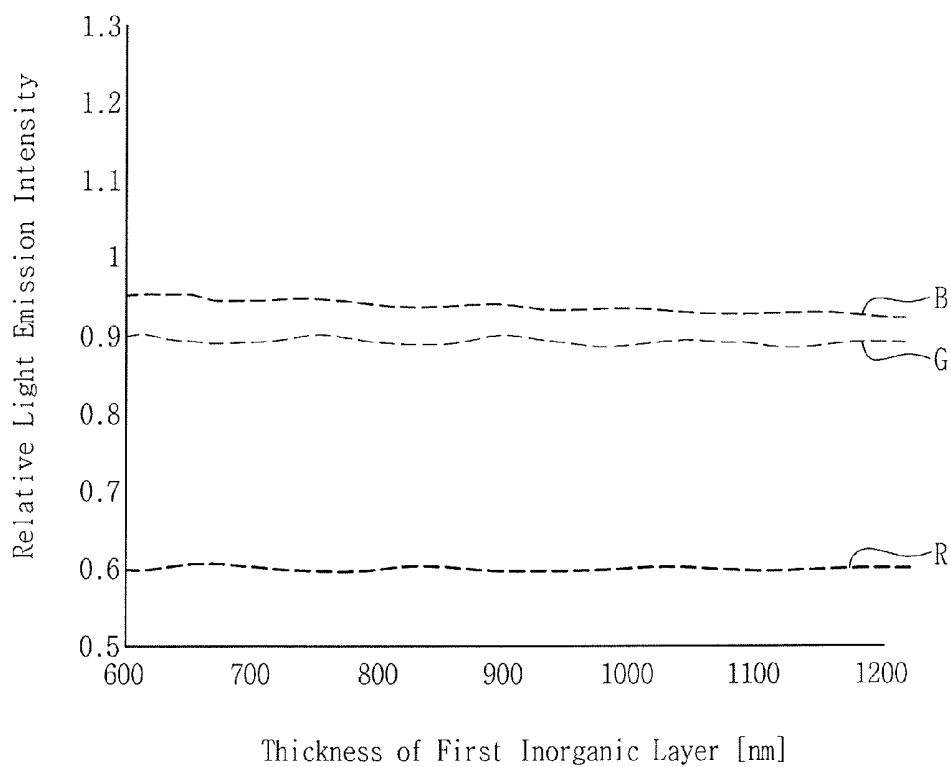


FIG. 7

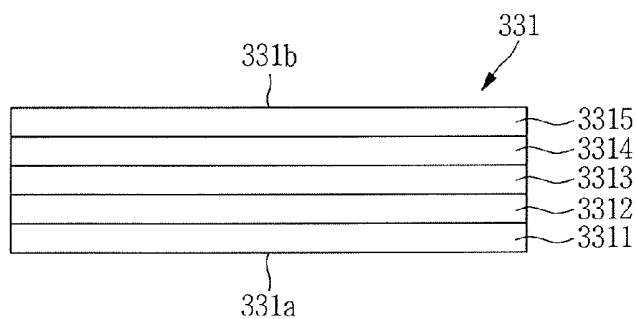


FIG. 8

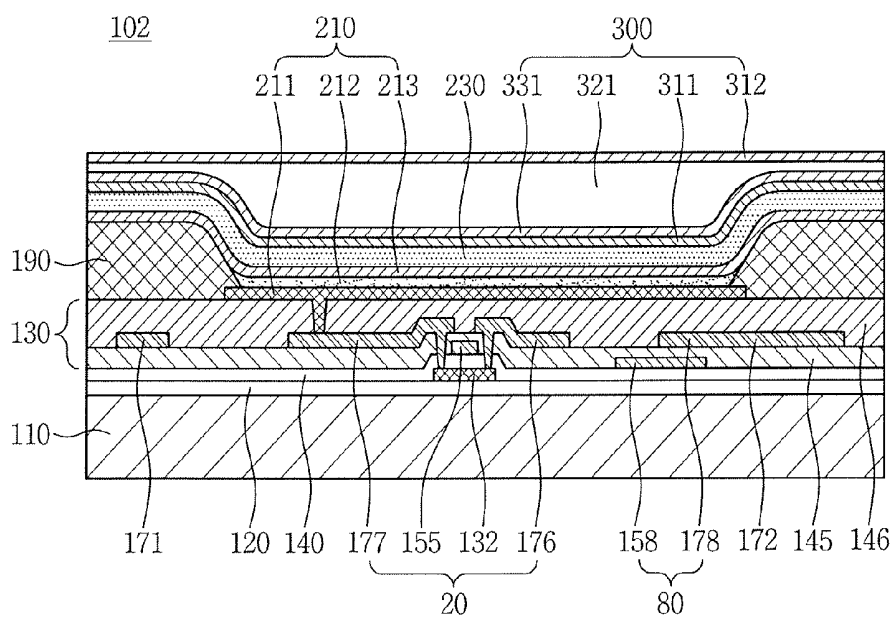


FIG. 9

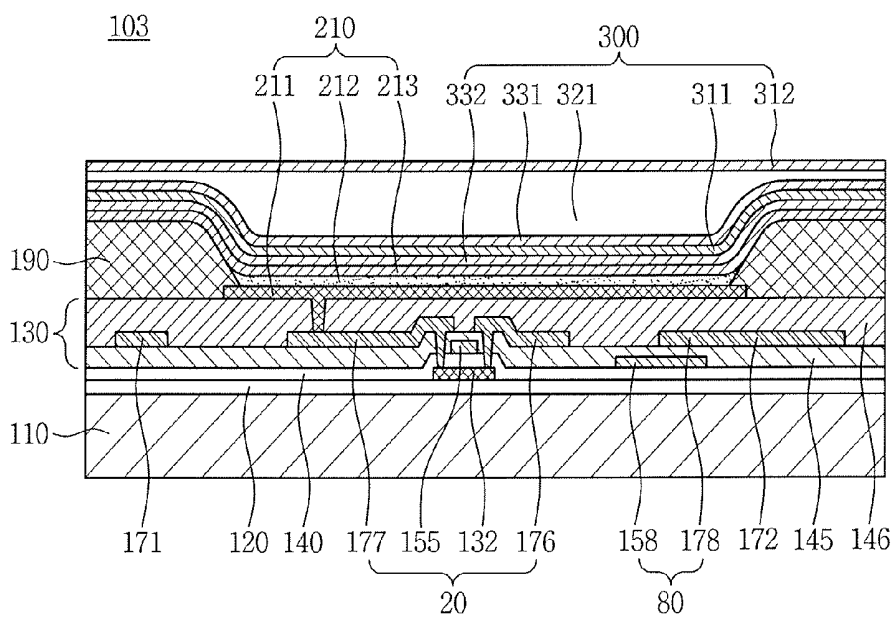
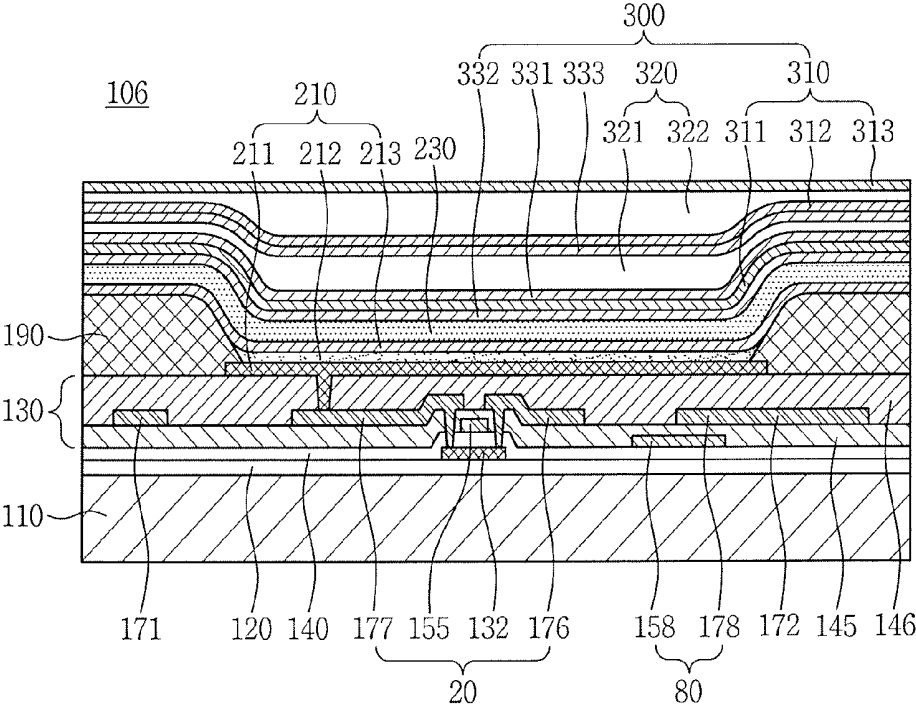


FIG. 12



ORGANIC LIGHT-EMITTING DIODE DISPLAY DEVICE

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 to Korean Patent Application No. 10-2016-0085470, filed on Jul. 6, 2016 in the Korean Intellectual Property Office, the disclosure of which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0002] Exemplary embodiments of the present invention relate to a display device, and more particularly, to an organic light-emitting diode (“OLED”) display device.

DISCUSSION OF RELATED ART

[0003] Organic light-emitting diode (“OLED”) display devices are a self-emission type display device. OLED display devices display an image using an OLED that emits light. The OLED display devices may have characteristics of relatively low power consumption, relatively high luminance, and relatively high response speed.

[0004] The OLED display device may have a multi-layered structure. The multi-layered structure includes an OLED. In the OLED including the multi-layered structure, light may be generated in the OLED is dissipated in a process of being emitted outwards. Thus, the OLED display device may have a relatively low light emission efficiency.

SUMMARY

[0005] Exemplary embodiments of the present invention may be directed to an organic light emitting diode (“OLED”) display device having a relatively low light emission deviation and relatively high light-emitting characteristics.

[0006] One or more exemplary embodiments of the present invention provide a display device including a substrate, an organic light-emitting diode, and a thin film encapsulation layer. The organic light-emitting diode is disposed on the substrate. The thin film encapsulation layer is disposed on the organic light-emitting diode. The thin film encapsulation layer includes at least one inorganic layer, at least one organic layer, and a first refractive-index control layer. The at least one organic layer is alternately disposed with the at least one inorganic layer. The first refractive-index control layer is disposed between one of the at least one inorganic layer and one of the at least one organic layer disposed adjacent to each other. The first refractive-index control layer has a refractive-index variation ratio per unit length ($\Delta n/nm$) from about 0.001/nm to about 0.002/nm along a direction from the organic light-emitting diode toward the thin film encapsulation layer.

[0007] The first refractive-index control layer may have a refractive index from about 1.5 to about 1.8.

[0008] The first refractive-index control layer may have a refractive index decreasing in a gradual manner along a direction from the at least one inorganic layer toward the at least one organic layer.

[0009] The first refractive-index control layer may include a first surface and a second surface. The first surface may face the inorganic layer. The second surface may face the

organic layer. The first surface may have a higher refractive index than a refractive index of the second surface by about 0.1 to about 0.3.

[0010] The first refractive-index control layer may have a thickness of from about 100 nm to about 250 nm.

[0011] The first refractive-index control layer may include at least one relatively low refractive-index material and at least one high refractive-index material. The at least one low refractive-index material may include silicon oxide, magnesium fluoride, acrylic polymer, polyimide, polyamide, or Alq_3 [Tris(8-hydroxyquinolinato)aluminum]. The relatively high refractive-index material may include zinc oxide, titanium oxide, zirconium oxide, niobium oxide, tantalum oxide, tin oxide, nickel oxide, silicon nitride, indium nitride, gallium nitride, poly(3,4-ethylenedioxythiophene) (PEDOT), 4,4'-bis[N-(3-methylphenyl)-N-phenylamino]biphenyl (TPD), 4,4',4''-tris[(3-methylphenyl)phenylamino] triphenylamine (m-MTDATA), 1,3,5-tris [N,N-bis(2-methylphenyl)-amino]benzene (o-MTDAB), 1,3,5-tris[N,N-bis(3-methylphenyl)-amino]benzene (m-MTDAB), 1,3,5-tris [N,N-bis (4-methylphenyl)amino]benzene (p-MTDAB), 4,4'-bis[N,N-bis(3-methylphenyl)-amino]diphenylmethane (BPPM), 4,4-dicarbazoyl-1,1'-biphenyl (CBP), 4,4',4''-tris (N-carbazole) triphenylamine (TCTA), 2,2',2''-(1,3,5-benzenetolyl)tris-[1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol] (TPBI), or 3-(4-biphenyl)-4-phenyl-5-t-butylphenyl-1,2,4-triazole (TAZ).

[0012] The first refractive-index control layer may include a first matching layer and a second matching layer. The first matching layer may be disposed on the inorganic layer. The second matching layer may be disposed on the first matching layer.

[0013] The first matching layer and the second matching layer may have a refractive-index difference from about 0.05 to about 0.1.

[0014] The first matching layer may have a higher refractive index than a refractive index of the second matching layer by about 0.05 to about 0.1.

[0015] The display device may include a third matching layer. The third matching layer may be disposed on the second matching layer. The third matching layer may have a lower refractive index than a refractive index of the second matching layer.

[0016] Each of the first matching layer and the second matching layer may have a thickness of from about 25 nm to about 60 nm.

[0017] The at least one inorganic layer may have a refractive index from about 1.6 to about 2.8.

[0018] The at least one inorganic layer may have a thickness of from about 100 nm to about 1,000 nm.

[0019] The at least one organic layer may have a refractive index from about 1.4 to about 1.6.

[0020] The at least one organic layer may have a thickness of from about 100 nm to about 8,000 nm.

[0021] The display device may further include a capping layer. The capping layer may be disposed between the organic light-emitting diode and the thin film encapsulation layer.

[0022] The thin film encapsulation layer may include a second refractive-index control layer. The second refractive-index control layer may be disposed opposite the first refractive-index control layer with respect to the at least one inorganic layer.

[0023] The thin film encapsulation layer may include a third refractive-index control layer. The third refractive-index control layer may be disposed opposite the first refractive-index control layer with respect to the at least one organic layer.

[0024] The organic light-emitting diode may include a first electrode, an organic light-emitting layer, and a second electrode. The first electrode may be disposed on the substrate. The organic light-emitting layer may be disposed on the first electrode. The second electrode may be disposed on the organic light-emitting layer.

[0025] One or more exemplary embodiments of the present invention provide a display device. The display device includes a substrate, an organic light-emitting diode, and a thin film encapsulation layer. The organic light-emitting diode is disposed on the substrate. The thin film encapsulation layer is disposed on the organic light-emitting diode. The thin film encapsulation layer includes at least one inorganic layer and at least one organic layer. The at least one organic layer is disposed alternately with the at least one inorganic layer. The at least one inorganic layer has a refractive index from about 1.75 to about 2.55. One of the at least one inorganic layer and one of the at least one organic layer have a refractive-index difference of about 0.15 or less.

[0026] The inorganic layer and the at least one organic layer may have a refractive-index difference of about 0.06 or less.

[0027] The at least one organic layer may include poly(3,4-ethylenedioxythiophene) (PEDOT), 4,4'-bis[N-(3-methylphenyl)-N-phenylamino]biphenyl (TPD), 4,4',4"-tris[3-methylphenyl]phenylamino] triphenylamine (m-MTDATA), 1,3,5-tris [N,N-bis(2-methylphenyl)-amino]benzene (o-MTDAB), 1,3,5-tris[N,N-bis(3-methylphenyl)-amino]benzene (m-MTDAB), 1,3,5-tris [N,N-bis (4-methylphenyl) amino]benzene (p-MTDAB), 4,4'-bis[N,N-bis(3-methylphenyl)-amino] diphenylmethane (BPPM), 4,4-dicarbazolyl-1,1'-biphenyl (CBP), 4,4',4"-tris(N-carbazole) triphenylamine (TCTA), 2,2',2"-(1,3,5-benzenetolyl)tris-[1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol] (TPBI), or 3-(4-biphenyl)-4-phenyl-5-t-butylphenyl-1,2,4-triazole (TAZ).

[0028] The thin film encapsulation layer may have a thickness of about 50 μm or less.

[0029] The at least one inorganic layer may have a thickness of from about 100 nm to about 1,000 nm.

[0030] The at least one inorganic layer includes silver, metal oxide, metal oxynitride, silicon oxide, silicon nitride, silicon oxynitride, or any combination thereof.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0031] The above and other features of the present invention will become more apparent by describing in detail exemplary embodiments thereof, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

[0032] FIG. 1 is a plan view illustrating an organic light-emitting diode ("OLED") display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention;

[0033] FIG. 2 is a cross-sectional view taken along a line I-I' of FIG. 1 illustrating an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention;

[0034] FIG. 3 is a cross-sectional view illustrating resonance in an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention;

[0035] FIG. 4 is a light emission spectrum graph of an OLED display device based on wavelength according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention;

[0036] FIGS. 5 and 6 are light emission spectrum graphs of an OLED display device based on thickness of a first inorganic layer according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention;

[0037] FIG. 7 is a cross-sectional view illustrating a first refractive-index control layer according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention;

[0038] FIG. 8 is a cross-sectional view illustrating an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention;

[0039] FIG. 9 is a cross-sectional view illustrating an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention;

[0040] FIG. 10 is a cross-sectional view illustrating an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention;

[0041] FIG. 11 is a cross-sectional view illustrating an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention;

[0042] FIG. 12 is a cross-sectional view illustrating an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention; and

[0043] FIG. 13 is a cross-sectional view illustrating an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE EMBODIMENTS

[0044] Exemplary embodiments of the present invention will be described below in more detail with reference to the accompanying drawings. In this regard, the exemplary embodiments may have different forms and should not be construed as being limited to the exemplary embodiments of the present invention described herein.

[0045] Like reference numerals may refer to like elements throughout the specification and drawings.

[0046] It will be understood that although the terms "first" and "second" may be used herein to describe various components, these components should not be limited by these terms.

[0047] Sizes of elements in the drawings may be exaggerated for clarity of description.

[0048] It will be understood that when a component, such as a layer, a film, a region, or plate, is referred to as being "on" another component, the component may be directly on the other component or intervening components may be present.

[0049] FIG. 1 is a plan view illustrating an organic light-emitting diode ("OLED") display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 2 is a cross-sectional view taken along a line I-I' of FIG. 1 illustrating an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

[0050] Referring to FIGS. 1 and 2, an OLED display device 101 may include a substrate 110, a wiring unit 130, an OLED 210, and a thin film encapsulation layer 300.

[0051] The substrate 110 may include an insulating material. The insulating material may include glass, quartz, ceramic, or plastic. However, exemplary embodiments of

the present invention are not limited thereto. For example, the substrate 110 may include a metal material such as stainless steel.

[0052] The OLED display device 101 may include a buffer layer 120. The buffer layer 120 may be disposed on the substrate 110. The buffer layer 120 may have a single-layered structure. Alternatively, the buffer layer 120 may have a multi-layered structure. The buffer layer 120 may include at least one layer of various inorganic layers or organic layers. The buffer layer 120 may be configured to prevent or reduce an infiltration of impurities, such as foreign elements or moisture, into the wiring unit 130 or the OLED 210. The buffer layer 120 may also planarize a surface of the substrate 110. However, exemplary embodiments of the present invention are not limited thereto and the buffer layer 120 may be omitted.

[0053] The wiring unit 130 may be disposed on the buffer layer 120. The wiring unit 130 may have a structure including a switching thin film transistor (“TFT”) 10, a driving TFT 20, and a capacitor 80. The wiring unit 130 may drive the OLED 210. The OLED 210 may emit light. The OLED 210 may emit light based on a driving signal. The driving signal may be applied from the wiring unit 130. Thus, an image may be displayed.

[0054] FIGS. 1 and 2 illustrate an active matrix-type organic light-emitting diode (AMOLED) display device 101. The AMOLED display device 101 may have a 2Tr-1Cap structure. The 2Tr-1Cap structure may include two TFTs, for example, the switching TFT 10 and the driving TFT 20 disposed in each of a plurality of pixels. The 2Tr-1Cap structure may include at least one capacitor 80 disposed in each pixel. However, exemplary embodiments of the present invention are not limited thereto. For example, the OLED display device 101 may include at least three TFTs and at least two capacitors disposed in each pixel. The OLED display device 101 may include additional wirings. The term “pixel”, as used herein, may refer to a unit for displaying an image. The OLED display device 101 may display an image using a plurality of pixels.

[0055] Each pixel may include the switching TFT 10, the driving TFT 20, the capacitor 80, and the OLED 210. A gate line 151 may be disposed along one direction. A data line 171 may be disposed on the wiring unit 130. A common power line 172 may be disposed on the wiring unit 130. The common power line 172 may be insulated from the gate line 151. The common power line 172 may intersect the gate line 151. Each pixel may be defined by the gate line 151, the data line 171, and the common power line 172. Accordingly, the gate line 151, the data line 171, and the common power line 172 may each serve as a boundary. However, exemplary embodiments of the present invention are not limited thereto. For example, each pixel may be defined by a pixel defining layer 190.

[0056] The capacitor 80 may include a first capacitor plate 158 and a second capacitor plate 178. The OLED display device 101 may also include an insulating interlayer 145. The insulating interlayer 145 may be disposed between the first capacitor plate 158 and the second capacitor plate 178. The insulating interlayer 145 may be a dielectric body. A capacitance of the capacitor 80 may be determined by electric charges accumulated in the capacitor 80 and a voltage across the first capacitor plate 158 and the second capacitor plate 178.

[0057] The switching TFT 10 may include a switching semiconductor layer 131, a switching gate electrode 152, a switching source electrode 173, and a switching drain electrode 174. The driving TFT 20 may include a driving semiconductor layer 132, a driving gate electrode 155, a driving source electrode 176, and a driving drain electrode 177. The OLED display device 101 may include a gate insulating layer 140. The gate insulating layer 140 may insulate the switching semiconductor layer 131 and the driving semiconductor layer 132. The gate insulating layer 140 may insulate the switching gate electrode 152 and the driving gate electrode 155. The gate insulating layer 140 may insulate the switching semiconductor layer 131 from the switching gate electrode 152. The gate insulating layer 140 may insulate the driving semiconductor layer 132 from the driving gate electrode 155.

[0058] The switching TFT 10 may function as a switching element. The switching element may select a pixel to perform light emission. The switching gate electrode 152 may be connected to the gate line 151. The switching source electrode 173 may be connected to the data line 171. The switching drain electrode 174 may be spaced apart from the switching source electrode 173. The switching drain electrode 174 may be connected to the first capacitor plate 158 or the second capacitor plate 178. For example, the switching drain electrode 174 may be connected to the first capacitor plate 158.

[0059] The driving TFT 20 may apply a driving power. The driving power may allow an organic light-emitting layer 212 of the OLED 210 in a selected pixel to emit light. The organic light-emitting layer 212 of the OLED 210 in a selected pixel may emit light to a first electrode 211. The driving gate electrode 155 may be connected to the first capacitor plate 158. The first capacitor plate 158 may be connected to the switching drain electrode 174. The driving source electrode 176 may be connected to the common power line 172. The second capacitor plate 178 may be connected to the common power line 172. The driving drain electrode 177 may be connected to the first electrode 211 of the OLED 210. The driving drain electrode 177 may be connected to the first electrode 211 through a contact hole. The first electrode 211 may be a pixel electrode.

[0060] The switching TFT 10 may be operated based on a gate voltage. The gate voltage may be applied to the gate line 151. The switching TFT 10 may transmit a data voltage applied to the data line 171 to the driving TFT 20. A voltage substantially equivalent to a difference between a common voltage applied to the driving TFT 20 from the common power line 172 and the data voltage transmitted by or from the switching TFT 10 may be stored in the capacitor 80. A current corresponding to the voltage stored in the capacitor 80 may flow to the OLED 210. The current corresponding to the voltage stored in the capacitor 80 may flow to the OLED 210 through the driving TFT 20. Thus, the OLED 210 may emit light.

[0061] A planarization layer 146 may be disposed on the insulating interlayer 145. The planarization layer 146 may include an insulating material. The planarization layer 146 may protect the wiring unit 130. The planarization layer 146 and the insulating interlayer 145 may include substantially a same material.

[0062] The OLED 210 may be disposed on the planarization layer 146. The OLED 210 may include the first electrode 211, the organic light-emitting layer 212, and a second

electrode **213**. The organic light-emitting layer **212** may be disposed on the first electrode **211**. The second electrode **213** may be disposed on the organic light-emitting layer **212**. Holes and electrons may be respectively supplied from the first electrode **211** and the second electrode **213** into the organic light-emitting layer **212**. The holes and electrons may combine with each other in the light-emitting layer **212**. The holes and electrons combined in the light-emitting layer **212** may form excitons. When the excitons fall from an excited state to a ground state, energy may be released. The OLED **210** may emit light by the energy generated when the excitons fall from the excited state to the ground state.

[0063] According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the first electrode **211** may serve as an anode. Thus, the first electrode **211** may inject holes. The second electrode **213** may serve as a cathode. Thus, the second electrode **213** may inject electrons. However, exemplary embodiments of the present invention are not limited thereto. For example, the first electrode **211** may serve as a cathode. The second electrode **213** may serve as an anode.

[0064] According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the first electrode **211** may include a reflective layer. The second electrode **213** may include a transfective layer. Accordingly, light generated in the organic light-emitting layer **212** may pass through the second electrode **213**. Light passing through the second electrode **213** may be emitted. Thus, the OLED display device **101** may have a top-emission type structure.

[0065] The first electrode **211** may have a stacked structure. In the stacked structure, a reflective layer and a transparent conductive layer may be stacked. According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the transparent conductive layer of the first electrode **211** may be disposed between the reflective layer and the organic light-emitting layer **212**.

[0066] The reflective layer may include metal including magnesium (Mg), silver (Ag), gold (Au), calcium (Ca), lithium (Li), chromium (Cr), aluminum (Al), or copper (Cu). The reflective layer may have a thickness of about 200 nm or more.

[0067] The transparent conductive layer may include a transparent conductive oxide (TCO), for example, indium tin oxide (ITO), indium zinc oxide (IZO), zinc oxide (ZnO), aluminum zinc oxide (AZO), or indium oxide (In₂O₃). The transparent conductive layer may have a relatively high work function. Accordingly, the transparent conductive layer may facilitate hole injection. The transparent conductive layer may facilitate hole injection through the first electrode **211**.

[0068] The first electrode **211** may have a triple-layered structure. The triple-layered structure may include a transparent conductive layer, a reflective layer, and a transparent conductive layer. The transparent conductive layer, the reflective layer, and the transparent conductive layer may be sequentially stacked. Alternatively, the first electrode **211** may have a single-layered structure. The single-layered structure may include a transparent conductive layer. According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the first electrode **211** may be a transparent electrode.

[0069] The second electrode **213** may include a transfective layer. The transfective layer may include a metal including magnesium (Mg), silver (Ag), gold (Au), calcium (Ca), lithium (Li), chromium (Cr), aluminum (Al), copper

(Cu), or any combination thereof. The transfective layer may have a thickness of less than about 200 nm. Light transmittance may increase as the thickness of the transfective layer decreases. Light transmittance may decrease as the thickness of the transfective layer increases.

[0070] At least one of a hole injection layer or a hole transport layer may be disposed between the first electrode **211** and the organic-light emitting layer **212**.

[0071] At least one of an electron transport layer and an electron injection layer may be disposed between the organic light-emitting layer **212** and the second electrode **213**.

[0072] A structure including the organic light-emitting layer **212**, the hole injection layer, the hole transport layer, the electron transport layer, and the electron injection layer may be referred to as an organic layer. The organic layer may include a relatively low molecular weight organic material. Alternatively, the organic layer may include a relatively high molecular weight organic material.

[0073] The pixel defining layer **190** may have an aperture. The aperture of the pixel defining layer **190** may expose a portion of the first electrode **211**. The aperture of the pixel defining layer **190** may include the first electrode **211**, the organic light-emitting layer **212**, and the second electrode **213**. The first electrode **211**, the organic light-emitting layer **212**, and the second electrode **213** may be sequentially stacked in the aperture of the pixel defining layer **190**. The second electrode **213** may be disposed on the pixel defining layer **190** and the organic light-emitting layer **212**. At least one of the hole injection layer, the hole transport layer, the electron transport layer, and the electron injection layer may be disposed between the pixel defining layer **190** and the second electrode **213**. The OLED **210** may emit light from the organic light-emitting layer **212** disposed in the aperture of the pixel defining layer **190**. Thus, the pixel defining layer **190** may define a light emission area.

[0074] The thin film encapsulation layer **300** may be disposed on the second electrode **213**. The thin film encapsulation layer **300** may protect the OLED **210**. The thin film encapsulation layer **300** may reduce or prevent an infiltration of external air, such as moisture or oxygen, from entering into the OLED **210**. According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the thin film encapsulation layer **300** may include a first refractive-index control layer **331**.

[0075] As an example, the thin film encapsulation layer **300** may include at least one first inorganic layer **311** and/or at least one second inorganic layer **312**. The thin film encapsulation layer **300** may include at least one organic layer **321**. The organic layer **321** may be alternately disposed with the first inorganic layer **311** and/or the second inorganic layer **312**. Although the thin film encapsulation layer **300** illustrated in FIG. 2 includes two inorganic layers **311** and **312** and one organic layer **321**; exemplary embodiments of the present invention are not limited thereto.

[0076] According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may each have relatively high refractive indexes. The organic layer **321** may have a relatively low refractive index. However, exemplary embodiments of the present invention are not limited thereto. The organic layer **321** may be disposed adjacent to the OLED **210**. The organic layer **321** may have a relatively high refractive index.

[0077] The first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may each have a refractive index from about 1.6 to about

2.8. The first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may each have a thickness of from about 100 nm to about 1,000 nm. The first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may each include silver, metal oxide, metal oxynitride, silicon oxide, silicon nitride, silicon oxynitride, or any combination thereof. The first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may each have substantially a same refractive index as each other. The first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may have substantially a same thickness as each other. The first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may include substantially a same material as each other.

[0078] For example, the first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may include an inorganic material including Al_2O_3 , TiO_2 , ZrO , SiO_2 , AlON , AlN , SiON , Si_3N_4 , ZnO , Ta_2O_5 , or any combination thereof. The first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may each be formed through methods such as a chemical vapor deposition (CVD) method or an atomic layer deposition (ALD) method. However, exemplary embodiments of the present invention are not limited thereto. The first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may be formed using various methods known to those skilled in the art.

[0079] The organic layer **321** may have a refractive index from about 1.4 to about 1.6. The organic layer **321** may have a thickness of from about 100 nm to about 8,000 nm. The organic layer **321** may include at least one of an acrylate resin, a methacrylate resin, a sulfide resin, an epoxy resin, polyimide, or polyethylene.

[0080] For example, the organic layer **321** may include a polymer-based material. The polymer-based material may include, for example, an acrylic resin, an epoxy resin, polyimide, or polyethylene. The organic layer **321** may be formed through a thermal deposition process. The thermal deposition process for forming the organic layer **321** may be performed at a predetermined temperature range. The predetermined temperature range might not damage the OLED **210**. However, exemplary embodiments of the present invention are not limited thereto. The organic layer **321** may be formed using various methods known to those skilled in the art.

[0081] The first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may have a relatively high density thin film. The first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may prevent or reduce infiltration of moisture or oxygen from entering into the OLED **210**. Infiltration of moisture and oxygen into the OLED **210** may be reduced or prevented by the first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312**.

[0082] Moisture and oxygen that have passed through the first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may be blocked by the organic layer **321**. The organic layer **321** may have a relatively low moisture-infiltration preventing efficacy relative to the first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312**. However, the organic layer **321** may also serve as a buffer layer. The organic layer **321** serving as the buffer layer may reduce stress among the first or second inorganic layers **311** and **312** and the organic layer **321**. Since the organic layer **321** may have planarization characteristics, a surface of the thin film encapsulation layer **300** may be planarized by the organic layer **321**. For example, an upper surface of the thin film encapsulation layer **300** may be planarized by the organic layer **321**.

[0083] The thin film encapsulation layer **300** may have a thickness of about 50 μm or less. The thin film encapsulation

layer **300** may have a thickness of about 10 μm or less. Accordingly, the OLED display device **101** may have a relatively small thickness.

[0084] A sealing substrate may be disposed on the thin film encapsulation layer **300**. The sealing substrate may protect the OLED **210**. The sealing substrate may be disposed on a side of the OLED **210** opposite the substrate **110**. The sealing substrate may be disposed on the substrate **110**. The sealing substrate may include a transparent insulating substrate. The transparent insulating substrate may include glass, quartz, ceramic, or plastic. When the sealing substrate is omitted, a flexible characteristic of the OLED display device **101** may be increased.

[0085] FIG. 3 is a cross-sectional view illustrating resonance in an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 3 illustrates a stacked structure of an OLED display device.

[0086] Referring to FIG. 3, an OLED display device may have a multi-layered stacked structure. Light emitted from an organic light-emitting layer **212** may be emitted outwards through the multi-layered stacked structure.

[0087] An organic layer may have a relatively lower refractive index than a refractive index of an inorganic layer. For example, the first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may each have a refractive index of about 1.75. The organic layer **321** may have a refractive index of about 1.5. Accordingly, a refractive-index difference may occur at an interfacial surface between the first or second inorganic layers **311** and **312** and the organic layer **321**. An interfacial surface between two layers that have a relatively large refractive-index difference may become a reflective surface.

[0088] Referring to FIGS. 2 and 3, an inorganic layer of the first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** closest to a lowermost portion of the thin film encapsulation layer **300**, for example, closest to the OLED **210**, may be referred to as the first inorganic layer **311**. Resonance will be described in more detail below with respect to the first inorganic layer **311** and the organic layer **321**.

[0089] Referring to FIG. 3, an interfacial surface **311a** may be disposed between the first inorganic layer **311** and the organic layer **321**. The interfacial surface **311a** may be a reflective layer. In a top emission-type OLED display device, the first electrode **211** may be a reflective electrode. Accordingly, light may be reflected from a surface **211a** of the first electrode **211**.

[0090] When light repeatedly reflects among two reflective surfaces, optical resonance may occur. When optical resonance occurs, energy of light may increase. Light having the increased energy may relatively readily pass through the multi-layered stacked structure and may be emitted outwards. Such a structure allowing light resonance among two reflective layers may be referred to as a resonance structure. A distance among the two reflective layers among which resonance occurs may be referred to as a resonance distance. The resonance distance may vary based on a wavelength of light.

[0091] For example, when a wavelength of light emitted from the organic light-emitting layer **212** is " λ_1 " and a distance between the surface **211a** of the first electrode **211** and the interfacial surface **311a** between the first inorganic layer **311** and the organic layer **321** is " d_1 ," light resonance may occur when the following Formula 1 is satisfied.

[Formula 1]

$$d1=m1\cdot\lambda1$$

[0092] In Formula 1, “m1” may be a natural number.

[0093] According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the first inorganic layer 311 may be formed through methods such as a chemical vapor deposition (CVD) method or an atomic layer deposition (ALD) method. However, a layer thickness may vary due to process errors. For example, a layer thickness may vary based on a position in the first inorganic layer 311.

[0094] When the thickness of the first inorganic layer 311 varies, a wavelength of light resonated between the surface 211a of the first electrode 211 and the interfacial surface 311a between the first inorganic layer 311 and the organic layer 321 may vary.

[0095] FIG. 4 is a light emission spectrum graph of an OLED display device based on wavelength according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

[0096] Referring to FIG. 4, “C1” may denote a relative light emission intensity based on wavelength of light when the thickness of the first inorganic layer 311 is about 1 μm. “C2” may denote a relative light emission intensity based on wavelength of light when the thickness of the first inorganic layer 311 is about 1.05 μm. When the thickness of the first inorganic layer 311 is changed by about 0.05 μm, (i.e., about 50 nm), the light emission intensity based on wavelength of light may vary.

[0097] The OLED display device may include a plurality of pixels. Due to process errors, the first inorganic layer 311 disposed on the OLED 210 may have different thicknesses corresponding to respective pixels. For example, when a thickness of the first inorganic layer 311 on, for example, red OLEDs 210 is not uniform, light emission intensity of a red color may vary corresponding to each pixel, which may be similar to a green pixel or a blue pixel.

[0098] FIGS. 5 and 6 are light emission spectrum graphs of an OLED display device based on thickness of a first inorganic layer according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

[0099] FIG. 5 is a light emission spectrum graph of an OLED display device based on thickness of a first inorganic layer according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention. Referring to FIG. 5, as the thickness of the first inorganic layer 311 varies, light emission intensities of a red color R, a green color G, and a blue color B may vary.

[0100] When the interfacial surface 311a disposed between the first inorganic layer 311 and the organic layer 321 serves as a reflective layer, where the thickness of the first inorganic layer 311 varies, a wavelength of light resonated between the surface 211a of the first electrode 211 and the interfacial surface 311a between the first inorganic layer 311 and the organic layer 321 may vary. A limit in forming a uniform thickness of the first inorganic layer 311 in a manufacturing process and the thickness of the first inorganic layer 311 may vary based on position due to process errors. Accordingly, pixels representing a same color may exhibit different light emission efficiencies based on position.

[0101] According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, a first refractive-index control layer 331 may be disposed among one of the first and second inorganic layers 311 and 312 and the organic layer 321 that are adjacent to each other. The first refractive-index control

layer 331 may be disposed between the first inorganic layer 311 and the organic layer 321. The first refractive-index control layer 331 may have a refractive-index gradient along a thickness direction. The thickness direction may refer to a direction from the OLED 210 toward the thin film encapsulation layer 300.

[0102] Referring to FIG. 2, the first refractive-index control layer 331 may be disposed between the first inorganic layer 311 and the organic layer 321. According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, a direction from the first inorganic layer 311 toward the organic layer 321 may correspond to the thickness direction. However, exemplary embodiments of the present invention are not limited thereto.

[0103] According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, a refractive index of the first refractive-index control layer 331 may decrease in a relatively gradual manner along a direction from the first inorganic layer 311 toward the organic layer 321. The refractive index of the first refractive-index control layer 331 may increase in a relatively gradual manner along a direction from the organic layer 321 toward the first inorganic layer 311.

[0104] Referring to FIG. 2, as the refractive index of the first refractive-index control layer 331 varies in a relatively gradual manner along the direction from the first inorganic layer 311 toward the organic layer 321, a reflective surface might not be formed between the first inorganic layer 311 and the organic layer 321. Accordingly, light resonance might not occur between the first inorganic layer 311 and the organic layer 321. Accordingly, although the thickness of the first inorganic layer 311 may vary based on position due to process errors, a deviation in light emission efficiency due to light resonance might not occur. A deviation in light emission intensity based on the thickness of the first inorganic layer 311 might not occur. Accordingly, the OLED display device 101 may have substantially uniform light emission efficiency based on pixels and position.

[0105] FIG. 6 is a light emission spectrum graph of an OLED display device based on thickness of a first inorganic layer according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention. As an example, the OLED display device 101 will be described in more detail below; however, exemplary embodiments of the present invention are not limited thereto.

[0106] Referring to FIG. 6, although the thickness of the first inorganic layer 311 may vary, the light emission intensities of a red color R, a green color G, and a blue color B do not extensively vary. Thus, a deviation of light emission intensity based on the thickness of the first inorganic layer 311 may be reduced or eliminated.

[0107] The first refractive-index control layer 331 disposed between the first inorganic layer 311 and the organic layer 321 may protect the OLED 210. The first refractive-index control layer 331 may assist in directing the light emitted from the organic light-emitting layer 212 outwards.

[0108] FIG. 7 is a cross-sectional view illustrating a first refractive-index control layer according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

[0109] Referring to FIG. 7, the first refractive-index control layer 331 may include the first surface 331a. The first surface 331a may face toward the first inorganic layer 311. The first refractive-index control layer 331 may also include a second surface 331b. The second surface 331b may face toward the organic layer 321. The first refractive-index

control layer 331 may have a multi-layered structure. Alternatively, the first refractive-index control layer 331 may have a single-layered structure. The first refractive-index control layer 331 may have a refractive-index gradient. The refractive-index gradient may vary in a relatively gradual manner. A refractive index of the first surface 331a of the first refractive-index control layer 331 may be lower than or substantially equal to a refractive index of the first inorganic layer 311. A refractive index of the second surface 331b of the first refractive-index control layer 331 may be higher than or substantially equal to the refractive index of the organic layer 321. The first refractive-index control layer 331 may have a refractive index from about 1.5 to about 1.8.

[0110] The first surface 331a may have a higher refractive index than a refractive index of the second surface 331b. The first surface 331a may have a higher refractive index than a refractive index of the second surface 331b by about 0.1 to about 0.3. Thus, the first refractive-index control layer 331 may have a refractive-index difference from about 0.1 to about 0.3.

[0111] The first refractive-index control layer 331 may have a refractive-index variation ratio per unit length ($\Delta n/\text{nm}$) along the thickness direction. The refractive-index variation ratio per unit length ($\Delta n/\text{nm}$) may range from about 0.001/nm to about 0.002/nm. The refractive-index variation ratio per unit length ($\Delta n/\text{nm}$) may refer to a variation ratio per 1 nm along the thickness direction.

[0112] With respect to the thickness of about 500 Å, the first refractive-index control layer 331 may have a refractive-index variation ratio ($\Delta n/\text{nm}$) from about 0.05/500 Å to about 0.01/500 Å along the thickness direction.

[0113] When the refractive-index variation ratio per unit length ($\Delta n/\text{nm}$) is about 0.001/nm along the thickness direction, the first refractive-index control layer 331 having a thickness of about 250 nm may have a refractive-index gradient of about 0.25. For example, when the refractive index of the first inorganic layer 311 is about 1.75 and the refractive index of the organic layer 321 is about 1.5, a refractive-index gradient may be substantially continuous between the first inorganic layer 311 and the organic layer 321. The refractive-index gradient may be substantially continuous between the first layer 311 and the organic layer 321 due to the first refractive-index control layer 331.

[0114] When the refractive-index variation ratio per unit length ($\Delta n/\text{nm}$) is about 0.002/nm along the thickness direction, the first refractive-index control layer 331 having a thickness of about 125 nm may have a refractive-index gradient of about 0.25.

[0115] When the refractive-index variation ratio per unit length ($\Delta n/\text{nm}$) is from about 0.001/nm to about 0.002/nm along the thickness direction, the first refractive-index control layer 331 having a relatively small thickness from about 125 nm to about 250 nm may have a substantially continuous refractive-index gradient between the first inorganic layer 311 and the organic layer 321.

[0116] According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the first refractive-index control layer 331 may have a thickness of from about 100 nm to about 250 nm. However, exemplary embodiments of the present invention are not limited thereto. For example, the thickness of the first refractive-index control layer 331 may vary.

[0117] The first refractive-index control layer 331 may include at least one of an inorganic material or an organic material. The inorganic material and the organic material

may have a light transmittance. For example, the first refractive-index control layer 331 may include an inorganic layer or an organic layer. Alternatively, the first refractive-index control layer 331 may include an organic layer including an inorganic material.

[0118] The first refractive-index control layer 331 may include at least two materials. The materials included in the first refractive-index control layer 331 may have different refractive indices. For example, a relatively high refractive-index material and a relatively low refractive-index material may be included in the first refractive-index control layer 331.

[0119] The relatively low refractive-index material may have a refractive index from about 1.4 to about 1.6. The relatively high refractive-index material may have a refractive index from about 1.7 to about 2.8.

[0120] For example, the first refractive-index control layer may include low refractive-index material selected from silicon oxide, magnesium fluoride, acrylic polymer, polyimide, polyamide, Alq_3 [Tris(8-hydroxyquinolino)aluminum], or any combination thereof.

[0121] The first refractive-index control layer 331 may include a relatively high refractive-index material. The relatively high refractive-index material may include zinc oxide, titanium oxide, zirconium oxide, niobium oxide, tantalum oxide, tin oxide, nickel oxide, silicon nitride, indium nitride, gallium nitride, poly(3,4-ethylenedioxythiophene) (PEDOT), 4,4'-bis[N-(3-methylphenyl)-N-phenylamino]biphenyl (TPD), 4,4',4''-tris[(3-methylphenyl)phenylamino]triphenylamine (m-MTDATA), 1,3,5-tris [N,N-bis(2-methylphenyl)-amino]benzene (o-MTDAB), 1,3,5-tris [N,N-bis(3-methylphenyl)-amino]benzene (m-MTDAB), 1,3,5-tris [N,N-bis (4-methylphenyl)amino]benzene (p-MTDAB), 4,4'-bis[N,N-bis(3-methylphenyl)-amino]diphenylmethane (BPPM), 4,4-dicarbazoyl-1,1'-biphenyl (CBP), 4,4',4''-tris(N-carbazole) triphenylamine (TCTA), 2,2',2''-(1,3,5-benzenetolyl)tris-[1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol] (TPBI), 3-(4-biphenyl)-4-phenyl-5-t-butylphenyl-1,2,4-triazole (TAZ), or any combination thereof.

[0122] According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the first refractive-index control layer 331 may include at least one relatively low refractive-index material and at least one relatively high refractive-index material.

[0123] However, exemplary embodiments of the present invention are not limited thereto. The first refractive-index control layer 331 may be manufactured by those skilled in the art using various materials known in the art.

[0124] The first refractive-index control layer 331 may be manufactured in methods known in the art. For example, the first refractive-index control layer 331 may be formed using methods such as a chemical vapor deposition (CVD) method or an atomic layer deposition (ALD) method.

[0125] As an example, in a deposition process to form the first refractive-index control layer 331, a relatively high refractive-index material and a relatively low refractive-index material may be used together. As an amount of deposition or a deposition ratio of the relatively high refractive-index material and the relatively low refractive-index material is adjusted, the first refractive-index control layer 331 may be manufactured to have a refractive-index gradient along the thickness direction.

[0126] The first refractive-index control layer 331 may include substantially a same material as a material included

in the first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312**. The first refractive-index control layer **331** may be manufactured through a process which is substantially continuously performed subsequent to forming the first inorganic layer **311**. For example, when the first inorganic layer **311** is manufactured through a deposition method, after the first inorganic layer **311** is formed, the first refractive-index control layer **331** may be manufactured through further deposition methods.

[0127] Although a boundary between the first refractive-index control layer **331** and the first inorganic layer **311** is illustrated in FIG. 2; exemplary embodiments of the present invention are not limited thereto. The first refractive-index control layer **331** and the first inorganic layer **311** may have a substantially continuous refractive-index gradient omitting the boundary. The boundary between the first refractive-index control layer **331** and the first inorganic layer **311** as used herein may refer to an area in which the first refractive-index control layer **331** and the first inorganic layer **311** are in contact with each other. For example, an upper surface of the first inorganic layer **311** may be in direct contact with a bottom surface of the first refractive-index control layer **331**.

[0128] Referring to FIG. 7, the first refractive-index control layer **331** may have a multi-layered structure. For example, the first refractive-index control layer **331** may include a first matching layer **3311** and a second matching layer **3312**. The first matching layer **3311** may be disposed on the first inorganic layer **331**. The second matching layer **3312** may be disposed on the first matching layer **3311**.

[0129] The first matching layer **3311** and the second matching layer **3312** may have a refractive-index difference from about 0.05 to about 0.1. For example, the first matching layer **3311** may have a refractive index that is relatively higher than a refractive index of the second matching layer **3312**. The first matching layer **3311** may have a refractive index that is relatively higher than a refractive index of the second matching layer **3312** by about 0.05 to about 0.1.

[0130] The first refractive-index control layer **331** may be disposed on the second matching layer **3312**. The first refractive-index control layer **331** may include a third matching layer **3313**. The third matching layer **3313** may have a relatively lower refractive index than a refractive index of the second matching layer **3312**. Referring to FIG. 7, the first refractive-index control layer **331** may have a structure including a fourth matching layer **3314** and/or a fifth matching layer **3315**. The fourth matching layer **3314** may be disposed on the third matching layer **3313**. The fifth matching layer **3315** may be disposed on the fourth matching layer **3314**. According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the fourth matching layer **3314** may have a relatively lower refractive index than a refractive index of the third matching layer **3313**. The fifth matching layer **3315** may have a relatively lower refractive index than a refractive index of the fourth matching layer **3314**.

[0131] The structure of the first refractive-index control layer **331** is not limited to the structure illustrated in FIG. 7. The structure of the first refractive-index control layer **331** may be modified. For example, the first refractive-index control layer **331** may have a structure of double layers, triple layers, or quadruple layers. The first refractive-index control layer **331** may have a multi-layered structure of more than six layers. The first refractive-index control layer **331**

may have a monolayer structure. The monolayer structure may have a refractive-index gradient varying in a relatively gradual manner.

[0132] Referring to FIG. 7, when a refractive-index difference among each corresponding pair of the matching layers **3311**, **3312**, **3313**, **3314**, and **3315**, included in the first refractive-index control layer **331**, is about 0.05, the first surface **331a** and the second surface **331b** of the first refractive-index control layer **331** may have a refractive-index difference of about 0.25.

[0133] For example, when the first inorganic layer **311** has a refractive index of about 1.75, the organic layer **321** may have a refractive index of about 1.5. The first refractive-index control layer **331** may be disposed between the first inorganic layer **311** and the organic layer **321**. An interfacial surface having a refractive-index difference of about 0.1 or higher might not exist between the first inorganic layer **311** and the organic layer **321**. Accordingly, light might not be reflected while passing through the first inorganic layer **311**, the first refractive-index control layer **331**, and the organic layer **321**. Accordingly, a deviation of light emission efficiency due to a thickness deviation of the first inorganic layer **311** might not occur.

[0134] Each of the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth matching layers **3311**, **3312**, **3313**, **3314**, and **3315** may have a thickness of from about 25 nm to about 60 nm.

[0135] For example, each of the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth matching layers **3311**, **3312**, **3313**, **3314**, and **3315** may have a thickness of about 50 nm. Alternatively, each of the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth matching layers **3311**, **3312**, **3313**, **3314**, and **3315** may have a thickness of about 40 nm.

[0136] FIG. 8 is a cross-sectional view illustrating an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention. Descriptions pertaining to configurations previously described may be omitted.

[0137] An OLED display device **102** may include a capping layer **230**. The capping layer **230** may be disposed between the OLED **210** and the thin film encapsulation layer **300**. Referring to FIG. 8, the capping layer **230** may be disposed between the second electrode **213** and the first inorganic layer **311**.

[0138] The capping layer **230** may transmit light. The capping layer **230** may protect the OLED **210**. The capping layer **230** may allow light emitted from the organic light-emitting layer **212** to be emitted outwards.

[0139] The capping layer **230** may include an inorganic material and/or an organic material. The inorganic material and the organic material may transmit light. Thus, the capping layer **230** may include an inorganic layer or an organic layer. Alternatively, the capping layer **230** may include an organic layer including inorganic particles.

[0140] The capping layer **230** may include at least two different materials. The materials included in the capping layer **230** may have different refractive indices from each other. For example, the capping layer **230** may include a relatively high refractive-index material and a relatively low refractive-index material. The relatively high refractive-index material and the relatively low refractive-index material may each be an organic material or an inorganic material.

[0141] The capping layer **230** may have a thickness of from about 80 nm to about 300 nm. Alternatively, the capping layer **230** may have a thickness of about 300 nm or

greater. For example, the capping layer 230 may have a thickness of about 300 nm to about 900 nm or more. As the capping layer 230 has a greater thickness, the OLED 210 may be increasingly protected. However, when the capping layer 230 is relatively thick, the OLED display device 102 may experience difficulty in achieving a thin film structure. [0142] The capping layer 230 may be manufactured through methods known in the pertinent art. For example, the capping layer 230 may be manufactured through deposition. In a deposition process for manufacturing the capping layer 230, a relatively high refractive-index material and a relatively low refractive-index material may be used together. As an amount of deposition or a deposition ratio of the relatively high refractive-index material and the relatively low refractive-index material is adjusted, a refractive index of the capping layer 230 may be adjusted.

[0143] FIG. 9 is a cross-sectional view illustrating an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

[0144] An OLED display device 103 may include a second refractive-index control layer 332. The second refractive-index control layer may be disposed between the OLED 210 and the first inorganic layer 311. The thin film encapsulation layer 300 may include the second refractive-index control layer 332. The second refractive-index control layer 332 may be disposed opposite to the first refractive-index control layer 331 with respect to the first inorganic layer 311. For example, as illustrated in FIG. 9, the first refractive-index control layer 331 may be disposed above the first inorganic layer 311. The second refractive-index control layer 332 may be disposed below the first inorganic layer 311.

[0145] The second refractive-index control layer 332 may include substantially a same material as a material included in the first refractive-index control layer 331. The second refractive-index control layer 332 may have a refractive-index variation ratio per unit length ($\Delta n/nm$) from about 0.001/nm to about 0.002/nm along a thickness direction. According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the second refractive-index control layer 332 may have a refractive index between a refractive index of a second electrode 213 and a refractive index of the first inorganic layer 311.

[0146] The second refractive-index control layer 332 may have a multi-layered structure. The multi-layered structure may include a plurality of matching layers. According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, respective layers of the matching layers may have different refractive indices from each other. The second refractive-index control layer 332 may have a monolayer structure. The monolayer structure may have a refractive-index gradient varying in a relatively gradual manner.

[0147] FIG. 10 is a cross-sectional view illustrating an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

[0148] An OLED display device 104 may include a capping layer 230 disposed between the OLED 210 and the second refractive-index control layer 332.

[0149] FIG. 11 is a cross-sectional view illustrating an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

[0150] An OLED display device 105 may include the thin film encapsulation layer 300. The thin film encapsulation layer 300 may include a plurality of inorganic layers 310, a

plurality of organic layers 320, and a plurality of refractive-index control layers 331 and 333.

[0151] As an example, the thin film encapsulation layer 300 may include at least three inorganic layers 311, 312, and 313 and at least two organic layers 321 and 322. The organic layers 321 and 322 may be disposed alternately with the three inorganic layers 311, 312, and 313. One of the two organic layers 321 and 322 that is closer to an OLED 210 (e.g., the organic layer 321 adjacent to the first inorganic layer 311), may be referred to as a first organic layer.

[0152] The thin film encapsulation layer 300 may include the first refractive-index control layer 331. The first refractive-index control layer 331 may be disposed between the first inorganic layer 311 and the organic layer 321. The thin film encapsulation layer 300 may include a third refractive-index control layer 333. The third refractive-index control layer 333 may be disposed opposite to the first refractive-index control layer 331 with respect to the organic layer 321. For example, the third refractive-index control layer 333 may be disposed above the first inorganic layer 321. The first refractive-index control layer 331 may be disposed below the first inorganic layer 321.

[0153] The third refractive-index control layer 333 may include substantially a same material as a material included in the first refractive-index control layer 331. The third refractive-index control layer 333 may have a refractive-index variation ratio per unit length ($\Delta n/nm$) from about 0.001/nm to about 0.002/nm along a thickness direction. The third refractive-index control layer 333, dissimilar to the first refractive-index control layer 331, may have a refractive index increasing along a thickness direction from the adjacent organic layer 321 toward the second inorganic layer 312.

[0154] According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the third refractive-index control layer 333 may have a refractive index between a refractive index of the adjacent organic layer 321 and a refractive index of the second inorganic layer 312.

[0155] The third refractive-index control layer 333 may have a multi-layered structure. The multi-layered structure may include a plurality of matching layers. According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, respective layers of the matching layers may have different refractive indices from each other. A refractive index of each of the matching layers may increase along the thickness direction from the adjacent organic layer 321 toward the second inorganic layer 312. The third refractive-index control layer 333 may have a monolayer structure. The monolayer structure may have a refractive-index gradient varying in a relatively gradual manner.

[0156] FIG. 12 is a cross-sectional view illustrating an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

[0157] An OLED display device 106 may include a capping layer 230 and a second refractive-index control layer 332 disposed between the OLED 210 and the first inorganic layer 311.

[0158] FIG. 13 is a cross-sectional view illustrating an OLED display device according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

[0159] Referring to FIG. 13, an OLED display device 107 may include the substrate 110, the OLED 210, and the thin film encapsulation layer 300. The OLED 210 may be disposed on the substrate 110. The thin film encapsulation

layer **300** may be disposed on the OLED **210**. The thin film encapsulation layer **300** may include the first inorganic layer **311** and/or the second inorganic layer **312** and at least one organic layer **321**. The organic layer **321** may be alternately disposed with the first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312**. The OLED display device **107** may include a capping layer **230**. The capping layer **230** may be disposed between the OLED **210** and the thin film encapsulation layer **300**.

[0160] According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may have a refractive index. The refractive index may range from about 1.75 to about 2.55. The first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** may also have a refractive-index difference. The refractive-index difference between at least one of the first and second inorganic layers **311** and **312** and the organic layer **321** may be about 0.15. For example, the first inorganic layer **311** and the organic layer **321** may have substantially a same refractive index. The first inorganic layer **311** and the organic layer **321** may each have a refractive-index difference of about 0.15 or less.

[0161] According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the organic layer **321** may have a relatively high refractive index. For example, the first inorganic layer **311** and the organic layer **321** may have a refractive-index difference of about 0.06 or less. According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention, light reflection might not occur at an interfacial surface between the first inorganic layer **311** and the organic layer **321**.

[0162] For example, the organic layer **321** may have a refractive index from about 1.6 to about 2.4.

[0163] The organic layer **321** may include an organic material. The organic material may have a relatively high refractive-index. For example, the organic layer **321** may include at least one of poly(3,4-ethylenedioxythiophene) (PEDOT), 4,4'-bis[N-(3-methylphenyl)-N-phenylamino]biphenyl (TPD), 4,4',4"-tris[(3-methylphenyl)phenylamino]triphenylamine (m-MTDATA), 1,3,5-tris [N,N-bis(2-methylphenyl)-amino]benzene (o-MTDAB), 1,3,5-tris[N,N-bis(3-methylphenyl)-amino]benzene (m-MTDAB), 1,3,5-tris [N,N-bis (4-methylphenyl)amino]benzene (p-MTDAB), 4,4'-bis[N,N-bis(3-methylphenyl)-amino] diphenylmethane (BPPM), 4,4-dicarbazoyl-1,1'-biphenyl (CBP), 4,4',4"-tris (N-carbazole) triphenylamine (TCTA), 2,2',2"-(1,3,5-benzenetolyl)tris-[1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol] (TPBI), or 3-(4-biphenyl)-4-phenyl-5-t-butylphenyl-1,2,4-triazole (TAZ).

[0164] According to one or more exemplary embodiments of the present invention, an OLED display device may include a refractive-index control layer. Accordingly, a light emission deviation of an OLED may be reduced. Thus, light emitting characteristics of the OLED display device may increase.

[0165] While the present invention has been shown and described with reference to the exemplary embodiments thereof, it will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art that various changes in form and detail may be made thereto without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A display device, comprising:

a substrate;

an organic light-emitting diode disposed on the substrate; and

a thin film encapsulation layer disposed on the organic light-emitting diode,

wherein the thin film encapsulation layer comprises:

at least one inorganic layer;

at least one organic layer alternately disposed with the at least one inorganic layer; and

a first refractive-index control layer disposed between one of the at least one inorganic layer and one of the at least one organic layer disposed adjacent to each other,

wherein the first refractive-index control layer has a refractive-index variation ratio per unit length ($\Delta n/nm$) from about 0.001/nm to about 0.002/nm along a direction from the organic light-emitting diode toward the thin film encapsulation layer.

2. The display device of claim 1, wherein the first refractive-index control layer has a refractive index from about 1.5 to about 1.8.

3. The display device of claim 1, wherein the first refractive-index control layer has a refractive index gradually decreasing along a direction from the at least one inorganic layer toward the at least one organic layer.

4. The display device of claim 1, wherein the first refractive-index control layer comprises:

a first surface facing the at least one inorganic layer; and a second surface facing the at least one organic layer, wherein

the first surface has a higher refractive index than a refractive index of the second surface by about 0.1 to about 0.3.

5. The display device of claim 1, wherein the first refractive-index control layer has a thickness of from about 100 nm to about 250 nm.

6. The display device of claim 1, wherein the first refractive-index control layer comprises:

at least one low refractive-index material including silicon oxide, magnesium fluoride, acrylic polymer, polyimide, polyamide, or Alq_3 [Tris(8-hydroxyquinolino)aluminum]; and

at least one high refractive-index material including zinc oxide, titanium oxide, zirconium oxide, niobium oxide, tantalum oxide, tin oxide, nickel oxide, silicon nitride, indium nitride, gallium nitride, poly(3,4-ethylenedioxythiophene) (PEDOT), 4,4'-bis[N-(3-methylphenyl)-N-phenylamino]biphenyl (TPD), 4,4',4"-tris [(3-methylphenyl)phenylamino]triphenylamine (m-MTDATA), 1,3,5-tris [N,N-bis(2-methylphenyl)-amino]benzene (o-MTDAB), 1,3,5-tris[N,N-bis(3-methylphenyl)-amino]benzene (m-MTDAB), 1,3,5-tris [N,N-bis(4-methylphenyl)amino]benzene (p-MTDAB), 4,4'-bis [N,N-bis(3-methylphenyl)-amino] diphenylmethane (BPPM), 4,4-dicarbazoyl-1,1'-biphenyl (CBP), 4,4',4"-tris (N-carbazole) triphenylamine (TCTA), 2,2',2"-(1,3,5-benzenetolyl)tris-[1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol] (TPBI), or 3-(4-biphenyl)-4-phenyl-5-t-butylphenyl-1,2,4-triazole (TAZ).

7. The display device of claim 1, wherein the first refractive-index control layer comprises:

a first matching layer disposed on the inorganic layer; and a second matching layer disposed on the first matching layer.

8. The display device of claim 7, wherein the first matching layer and the second matching layer have a refractive-index difference from about 0.05 to about 0.1.

9. The display device of claim 7, wherein the first matching layer has a higher refractive index than a refractive index of the second matching layer by about 0.05 to about 0.1.

10. The display device of claim 7, further comprising a third matching layer disposed on the second matching layer, wherein the third matching layer has a lower refractive index than a refractive index of the second matching layer.

11. The display device of claim 7, wherein each of the first matching layer and the second matching layer has a thickness of from about 25 nm to about 60 nm.

12. The display device of claim 1, wherein the at least one inorganic layer has a refractive index from about 1.6 to about 2.8.

13. The display device of claim 1, wherein the at least one inorganic layer has a thickness of from about 100 nm to about 1,000 nm.

14. The display device of claim 1, wherein the at least one organic layer has a refractive index from about 1.4 to about 1.6.

15. The display device of claim 1, wherein the at least one organic layer has a thickness of from about 100 nm to about 8,000 nm.

16. The display device of claim 1, further comprising a capping layer disposed between the organic light-emitting diode and the thin film encapsulation layer.

17. The display device of claim 1, wherein the thin film encapsulation layer further comprises a second refractive-index control layer disposed opposite the first refractive-index control layer with respect to the at least one inorganic layer.

18. The display device of claim 1, wherein the thin film encapsulation layer further comprises a third refractive-index control layer disposed opposite the first refractive-index control layer with respect to the at least one organic layer.

19. The display device of claim 1, wherein the organic light-emitting diode comprises:

- a first electrode disposed on the substrate;
- an organic light-emitting layer disposed on the first electrode; and
- a second electrode disposed on the organic light-emitting layer.

20. A display device, comprising:

- a substrate;
 - an organic light-emitting diode disposed on the substrate; and
 - a thin film encapsulation layer disposed on the organic light-emitting diode,
- wherein the thin film encapsulation layer comprises:
- at least one inorganic layer; and
 - at least one organic layer disposed alternately with the at least one inorganic layer,
- wherein the at least one inorganic layer has a refractive index from about 1.75 to about 2.55, and
- wherein one of the at least one inorganic layer and one of the at least one organic layer have a refractive-index difference of about 0.15 or less.

21. The display device of claim 20, wherein the at least one inorganic layer and the at least one organic layer have a refractive-index difference of about 0.06 or less.

22. The display device of claim 20, wherein the at least one organic layer comprises:

- poly(3,4-ethylenedioxythiophene) (PEDOT), 4,4'-bis[N-(3-methylphenyl)-N-phenylamino]biphenyl (TPD), 4,4',4''-tris[(3-methylphenyl)phenylamino] triphenylamine (m-MTDATA), 1,3,5-tris [N,N-bis(2-methylphenyl)-amino]benzene (o-MTDAB), 1,3,5-tris[N,N-bis(3-methylphenyl)-amino]benzene (m-MTDAB), 1,3,5-tris [N,N-bis (4-methylphenyl)amino]benzene (p-MTDAB), 4,4'-bis[N,N-bis(3-methylphenyl)-amino] diphenylmethane (BPPM), 4,4-dicarbazolyl-1,1'-biphenyl (CBP), 4,4',4''-tris(N-carbazole) triphenylamine (TCTA), 2,2',2''-(1,3,5-benzenetolyl)tris-[1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol] (TPBI), or 3-(4-biphenyl)-4-phenyl-5-t-butylphenyl-1,2,4-triazole (TAZ).

23. The display device of claim 20, wherein the thin film encapsulation layer has a thickness of about 50 μm or less.

24. The display device of claim 20, wherein the at least one inorganic layer has a thickness of from about 100 nm to about 1,000 nm.

25. The display device of claim 20, wherein the at least one inorganic layer includes silver, metal oxide, metal oxynitride, silicon oxide, silicon nitride, silicon oxynitride, or any combination thereof.

* * * * *

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摘要(译)

一种显示装置，包括基板，有机发光二极管和薄膜封装层。有机发光二极管设置在基板上。薄膜封装层设置在有机发光二极管上。薄膜封装层包括至少一个无机层，至少一个有机层和第一折射率控制层。所述至少一个有机层与所述至少一个无机层交替设置。第一折射率控制层设置在至少一个无机层中的一个与彼此相邻设置的至少一个有机层中的一个之间。第一折射率控制层沿着从有机发光二极管朝向薄膜封装层的方向具有约0.001 / nm至约0.002 / nm的每单位长度的折射率变化率 ($\Delta n / \text{nm}$) 。

