



US010658441B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Cheon et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 10,658,441 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **May 19, 2020**

(54) **ORGANIC LIGHT-EMITTING DIODE DISPLAYS WITH REFLECTORS**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

None

See application file for complete search history.

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **16/114,039**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

(22) Filed: **Aug. 27, 2018**

A display may have an array of pixels formed from organic light-emitting diodes and thin-film transistor circuitry. Each pixel may include organic layers interposed between an anode and a cathode. The organic layers may emit out-coupled light that escapes the display and waveguided light that is waveguided within the organic layers. A reflector may be placed at the edge of the organic layers to reflect the waveguided light out of the display. The reflector may be located within a pixel definition layer and may be formed from metal or may be formed from one or more interfaces between high-refractive-index material and low-refractive-index material. The reflector may be formed from an extended portion of the pixel anode. The reflector may be formed from light-reflecting particles that are suspended in the pixel definition layer.

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2019/0067394 A1 Feb. 28, 2019

Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Provisional application No. 62/551,140, filed on Aug. 28, 2017.

(51) **Int. Cl.**

H01L 27/32 (2006.01)

H01L 51/50 (2006.01)

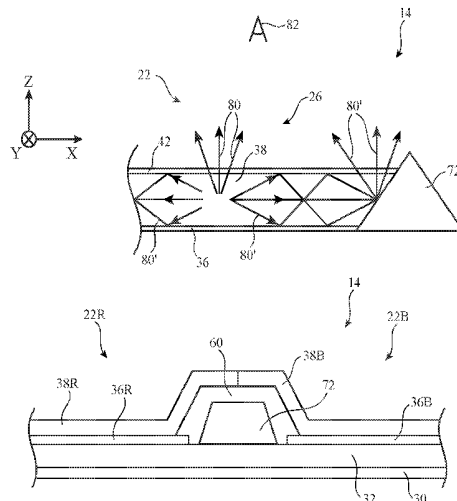
(Continued)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **H01L 27/3246** (2013.01); **G09G 3/3225** (2013.01); **H01L 27/323** (2013.01);

(Continued)

16 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets



(51)	Int. Cl. <i>G09G 3/3225</i> (2016.01) <i>H01L 51/56</i> (2006.01) <i>H01L 51/52</i> (2006.01)	2012/0032582 A1* 2/2012 Chang H01L 27/3269 313/504 2013/0140597 A1* 6/2013 Kim H01L 51/0013 257/98 2014/0061605 A1 3/2014 Kim et al. 2018/0033355 A1* 2/2018 Lee G09G 3/20 2020/0035770 A1* 1/2020 Jiang H01L 27/3246
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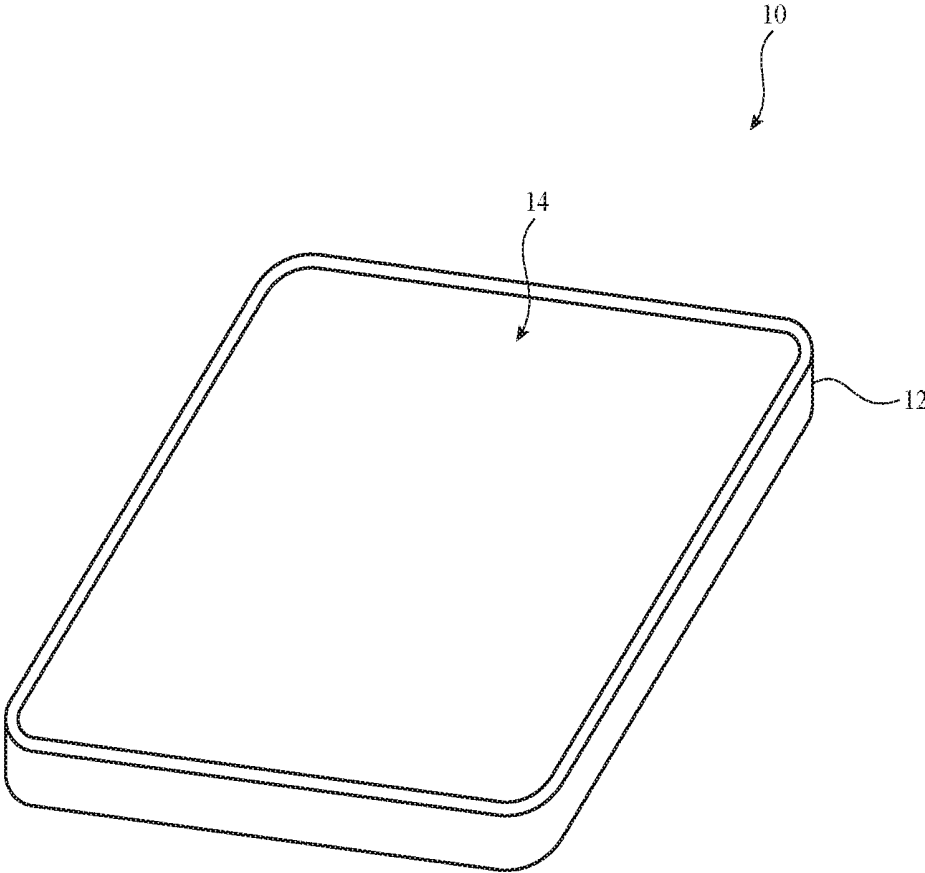


FIG. 1

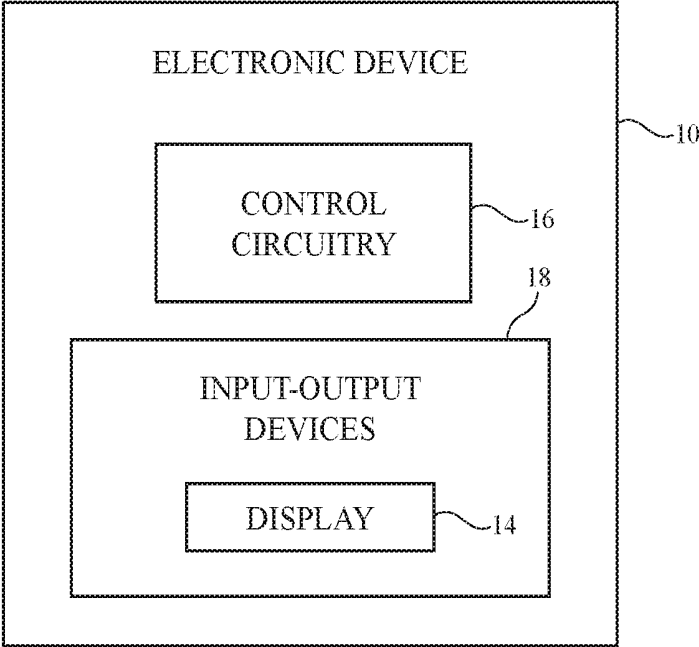


FIG. 2

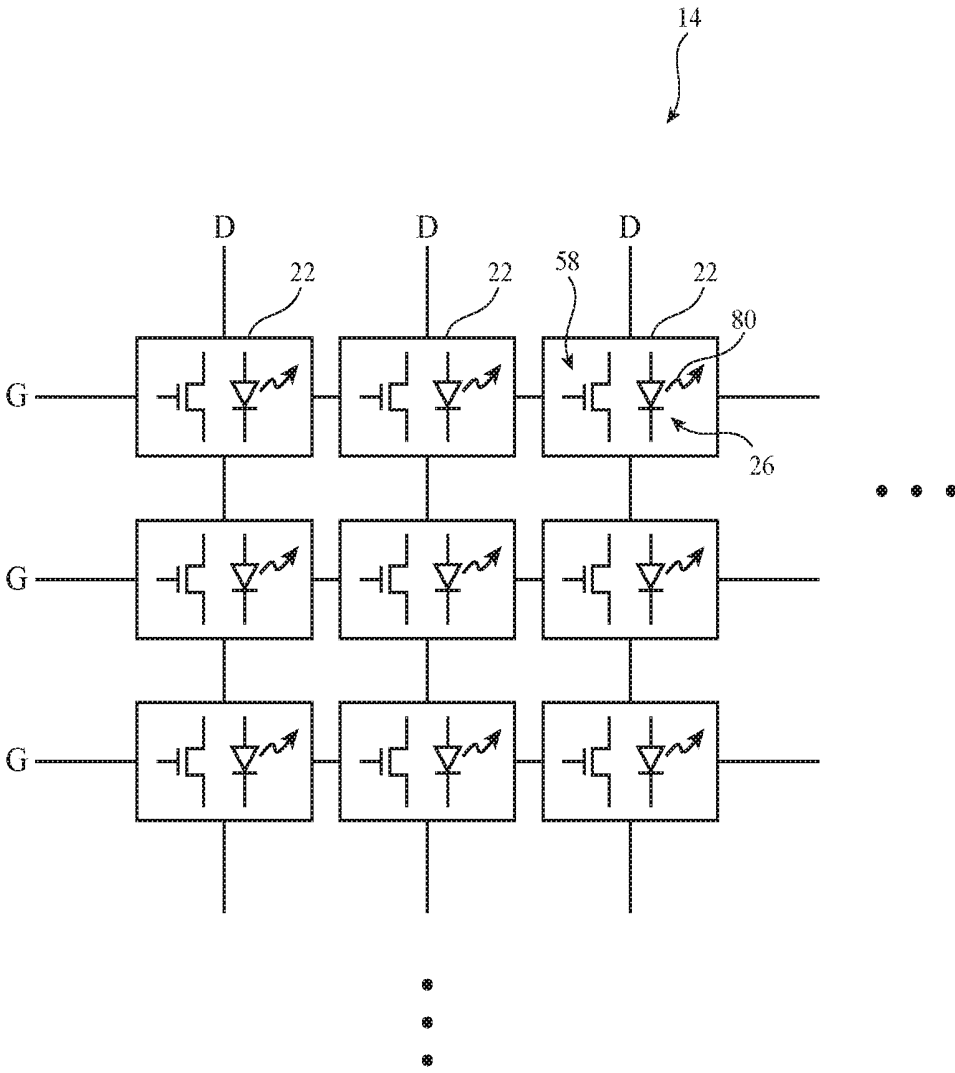


FIG. 3

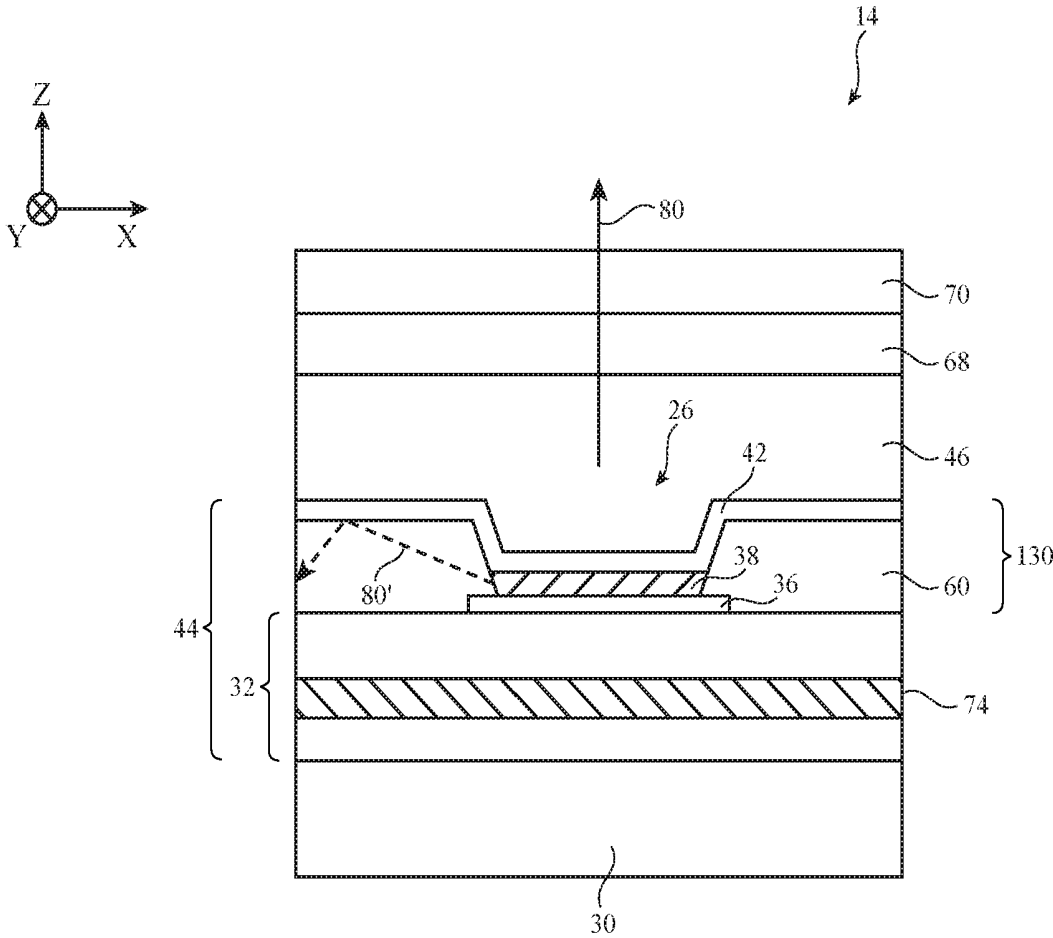


FIG. 4

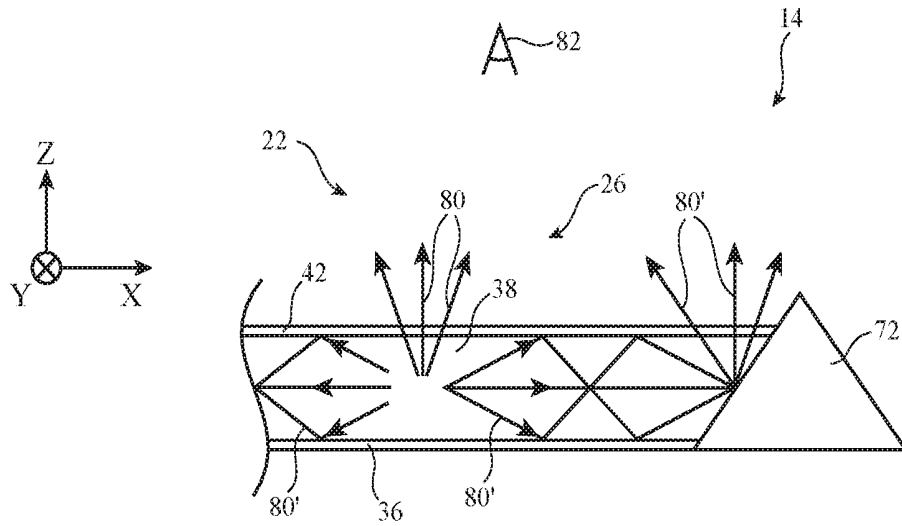


FIG. 5

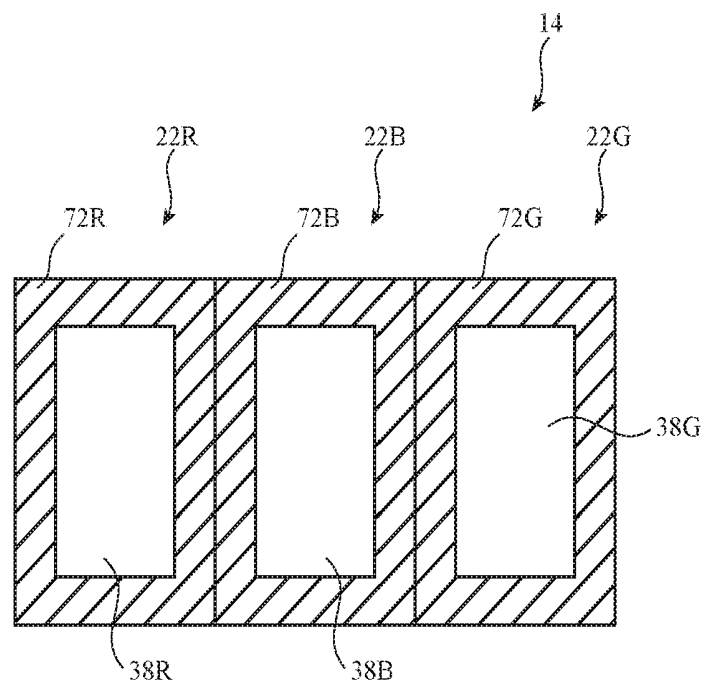


FIG. 6

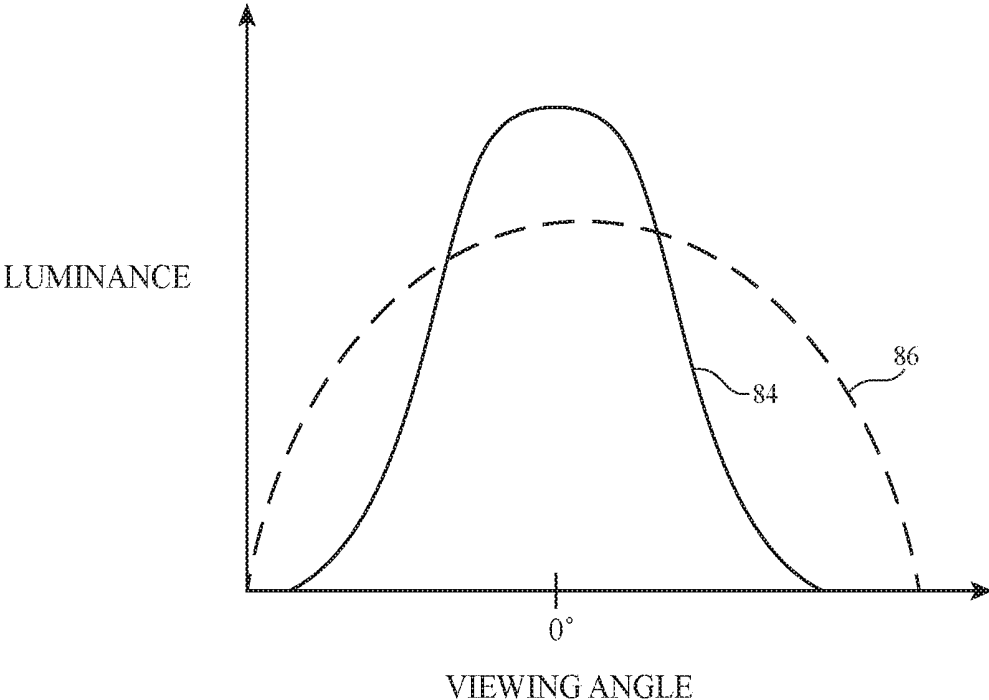


FIG. 7

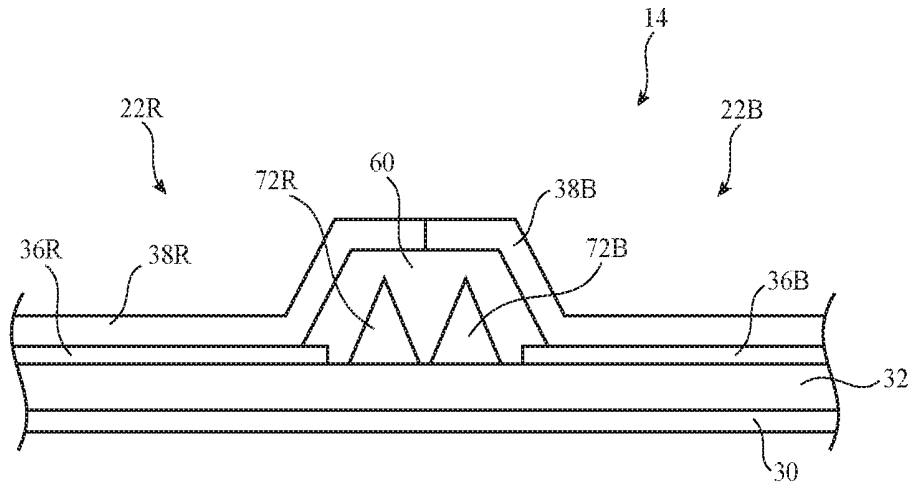


FIG. 8

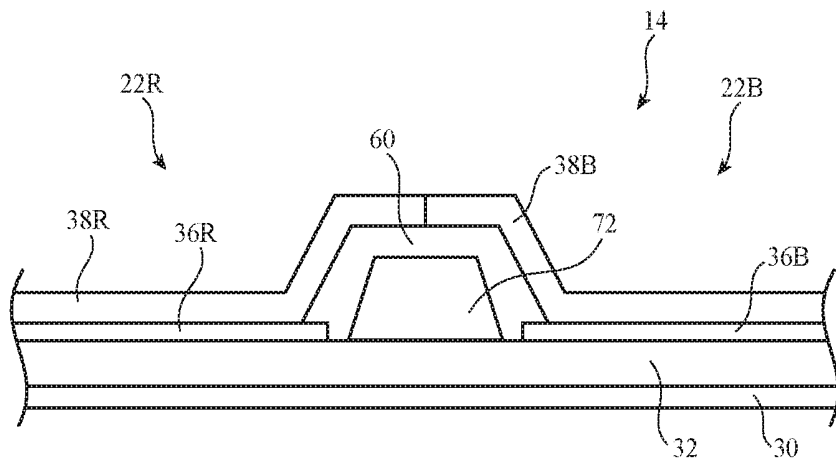


FIG. 9

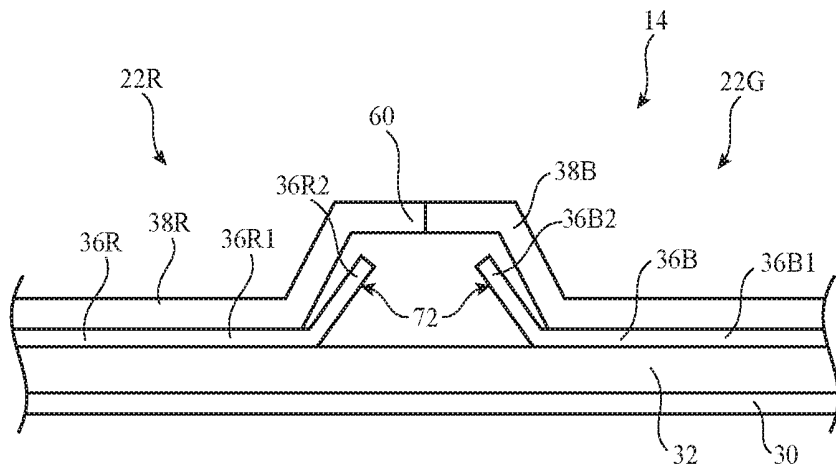


FIG. 10

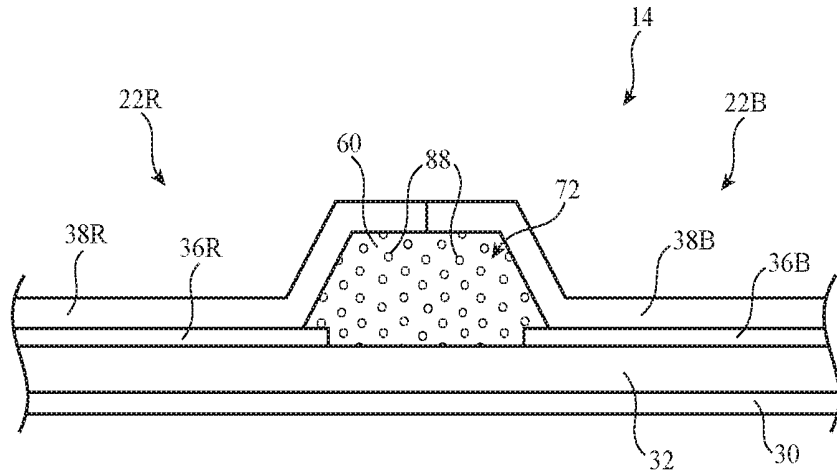


FIG. 11

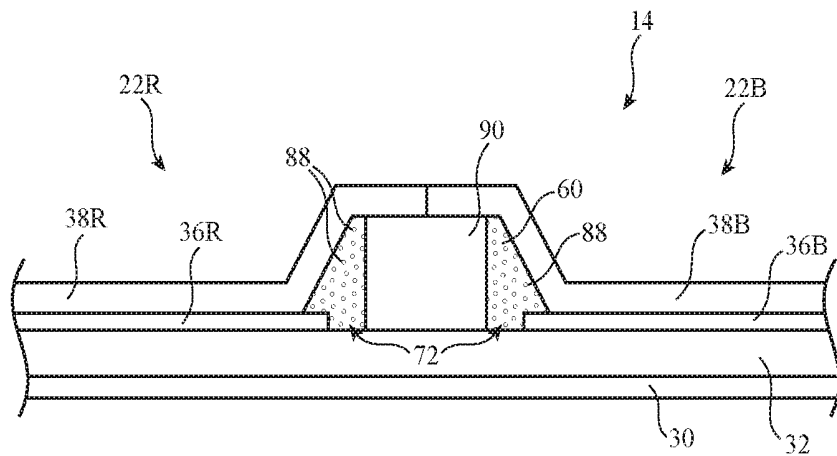


FIG. 12

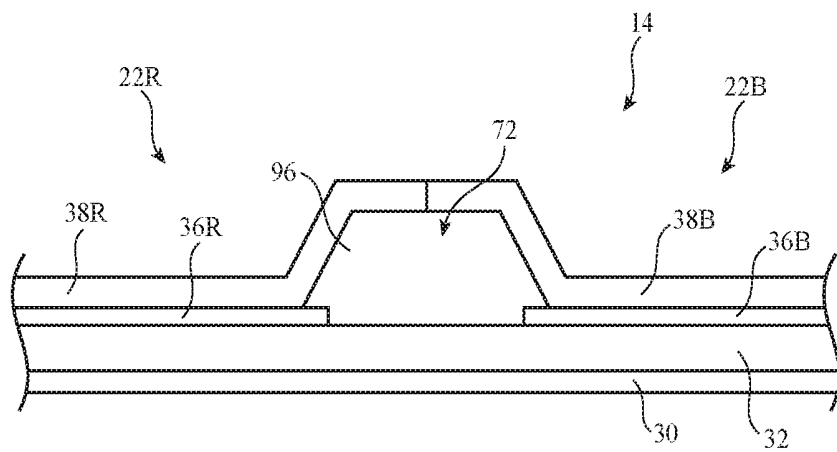


FIG. 13

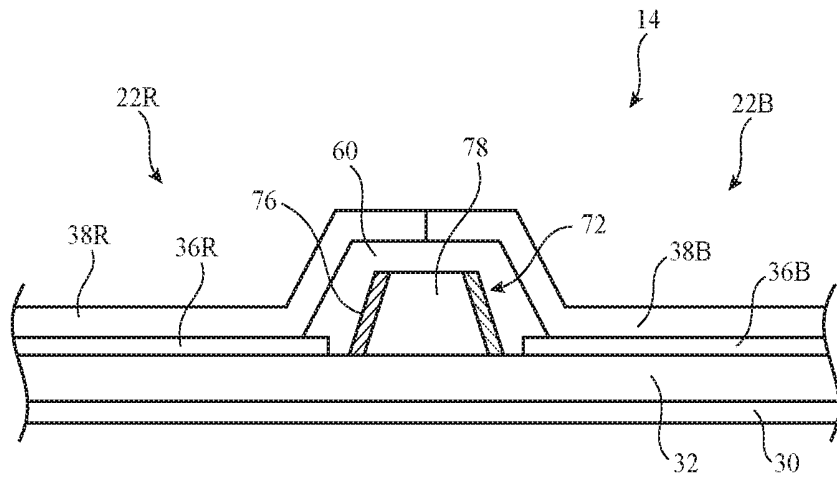


FIG. 14

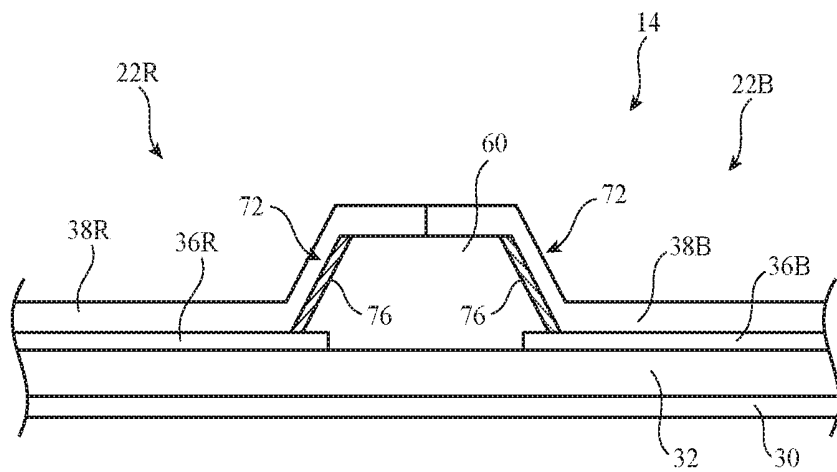


FIG. 15

ORGANIC LIGHT-EMITTING DIODE DISPLAYS WITH REFLECTORS

This application claims the benefit of provisional patent application No. 62/551,140, filed Aug. 28, 2017, which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

BACKGROUND

This relates generally to electronic devices with displays and, more particularly, to electronic devices with organic light-emitting diode displays.

Electronic devices often include displays. Displays such as organic light-emitting diode displays include arrays of pixels that emit light to display images for a user. The pixels of a display may include subpixels of different colors to provide the display with the ability to display color images. The organic light-emitting diodes are controlled by thin-film transistor circuitry.

It can be challenging to achieve high efficiency from an organic light-emitting diode display without sacrificing off-axis viewing quality. Typically, higher on-axis efficiency results in worse off-axis color variation. Off-axis color variation can be reduced, but usually this is at the expense of on-axis efficiency.

It would therefore be desirable to be able to provide improved organic light-emitting diode displays.

SUMMARY

A display may have an array of pixels on a substrate. The display may be an organic light-emitting diode display and the pixels may include organic light-emitting diodes of different colors. The display may include thin-film transistor circuitry that controls the organic light-emitting diode pixels.

Each organic light-emitting diode may have an anode, a cathode, and organic layers between the anode and cathode. The organic layers may emit out-coupled light that escapes the display and waveguided light that is waveguided within the organic layers. A reflector may be placed at the edge of the organic layers to reflect the waveguided light out of the display. The reflector may completely or partially surround each organic light-emitting diode in the display.

The reflector may be located within a pixel definition layer or may replace a pixel definition layer in the display. The reflector may be formed from metal or may be formed from one or more interfaces between high-refractive-index material and low-refractive-index material. The reflector may be formed from an extended portion of the pixel anode. The reflector may be formed from light-reflecting particles that are suspended in the pixel definition layer. An opaque portion of the pixel definition layer may be used to prevent color mixing between adjacent pixels.

By reflecting the waveguided light out of the organic layers, the reflector may help increase the overall extraction efficiency of the display. Additionally, the reflector may help mitigate cavity effects at wide viewing angles by increasing off-axis efficiency and reducing off-axis color variation.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of an illustrative electronic device having a display in accordance with an embodiment.

FIG. 2 is a schematic diagram of an illustrative electronic device having a display in accordance with an embodiment.

FIG. 3 is a top view of an illustrative display in an electronic device in accordance with an embodiment.

FIG. 4 is a cross-sectional side view of a portion of an illustrative organic light-emitting diode display in accordance with an embodiment.

FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional side view of a portion of an illustrative organic light-emitting diode subpixel having a reflector in accordance with an embodiment.

FIG. 6 is a top view of illustrative subpixels having reflectors that surround the organic layers of the subpixels in accordance with an embodiment.

FIG. 7 is a graph showing how recycling the waveguide mode light of an organic light-emitting diode subpixel increases efficiency at wide viewing angles in accordance with an embodiment.

FIG. 8 is a cross-sectional side view of a portion of an illustrative display including first and second angled reflectors between first and second light-emitting diodes in accordance with an embodiment.

FIG. 9 is a cross-sectional side view of a portion of an illustrative display including an angled reflector between first and second light-emitting diodes in accordance with an embodiment.

FIG. 10 is a cross-sectional side view of a portion of an illustrative display including first and second reflectors formed from angled anodes between first and second light-emitting diodes in accordance with an embodiment.

FIG. 11 is a cross-sectional side view of a portion of an illustrative display including light-scattering particles between first and second light-emitting diodes in accordance with an embodiment.

FIG. 12 is a cross-sectional side view of a portion of an illustrative display including light-scattering particles on opposing sides of a light-blocking material between first and second light-emitting diodes in accordance with an embodiment.

FIG. 13 is a cross-sectional side view of a portion of an illustrative display including low-refractive-index material between first and second light-emitting diodes in accordance with an embodiment.

FIG. 14 is a cross-sectional side view of a portion of an illustrative display including reflective coatings within a pixel definition layer between first and second light-emitting diodes in accordance with an embodiment.

FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional side view of a portion of an illustrative display including reflective coatings on a pixel definition layer between first and second light-emitting diodes in accordance with an embodiment.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

An illustrative electronic device of the type that may be provided with a display is shown in FIG. 1. Electronic device 10 may be a computing device such as a laptop computer, a tablet computer, a cellular telephone, a media player, or other handheld or portable electronic device, a smaller device such as a wrist-watch device, a pendant device, a headphone or earpiece device, a device embedded in eyeglasses or other equipment worn on a user's head, or other wearable or miniature device, a computer monitor or other display containing an embedded computer or other electronic equipment, a computer display or other monitor that does not contain an embedded computer, a gaming device, a navigation device, an embedded system such as a system in which electronic equipment with a display is mounted in a kiosk or automobile, equipment that implements the functionality of two or more of these devices, or

other electronic equipment. In the illustrative configuration of FIG. 1, device **10** is a portable device such as a cellular telephone, media player, tablet computer, wrist device, or other portable computing device. Other configurations may be used for device **10** if desired. The example of FIG. 1 is merely illustrative.

In the example of FIG. 1, device **10** includes a display such as display **14** mounted in housing **12**. Housing **12**, which may sometimes be referred to as an enclosure or case, may be formed of plastic, glass, ceramics, fiber composites, metal (e.g., stainless steel, aluminum, etc.), other suitable materials, or a combination of any two or more of these materials. Housing **12** may be formed using a unibody configuration in which some or all of housing **12** is machined or molded as a single structure or may be formed using multiple structures (e.g., an internal frame structure, one or more structures that form exterior housing surfaces, etc.).

Display **14** may be a touch screen display that incorporates a layer of conductive capacitive touch sensor electrodes or other touch sensor components (e.g., resistive touch sensor components, acoustic touch sensor components, force-based touch sensor components, light-based touch sensor components, etc.) or may be a display that is not touch-sensitive. Capacitive touch screen electrodes may be formed from an array of indium tin oxide pads or other transparent conductive structures. A touch sensor may be formed using electrodes or other structures on a display layer that contains a pixel array or on a separate touch panel layer that is attached to the pixel array (e.g., using adhesive).

Display **14** may include an array of pixels formed from liquid crystal display (LCD) components, an array of electrophoretic pixels, an array of plasma pixels, an array of organic light-emitting diode pixels or other light-emitting diodes, an array of electrowetting pixels, or pixels based on other display technologies. Configurations in which display **14** is an organic light-emitting diode display are sometimes described herein as an example. The use of organic light-emitting diode pixels to form display **14** is merely illustrative. Display **14** may, in general, be formed using any suitable type of pixels.

Display **14** may be protected using a display cover layer such as a layer of transparent glass or clear plastic. Openings may be formed in the display cover layer. For example, an opening may be formed in the display cover layer to accommodate a button, a speaker port, or other component. Openings may be formed in housing **12** to form communications ports (e.g., an audio jack port, a digital data port, etc.), to form openings for buttons, etc.

FIG. 2 is a schematic diagram of device **10**. As shown in FIG. 2, electronic device **10** may have control circuitry **16**. Control circuitry **16** may include storage and processing circuitry for supporting the operation of device **10**. The storage and processing circuitry may include storage such as hard disk drive storage, nonvolatile memory (e.g., flash memory or other electrically-programmable-read-only memory configured to form a solid state drive), volatile memory (e.g., static or dynamic random-access-memory), etc. Processing circuitry in control circuitry **16** may be used to control the operation of device **10**. The processing circuitry may be based on one or more microprocessors, microcontrollers, digital signal processors, baseband processors, power management units, audio chips, application specific integrated circuits, etc.

Input-output circuitry in device **10** such as input-output devices **18** may be used to allow data to be supplied to device **10** and to allow data to be provided from device **10**

to external devices. Input-output devices **18** may include buttons, joysticks, scrolling wheels, touch pads, key pads, keyboards, microphones, speakers, tone generators, vibrators, cameras, sensors, light-emitting diodes and other status indicators, data ports, etc. A user can control the operation of device **10** by supplying commands through input-output devices **18** and may receive status information and other output from device **10** using the output resources of input-output devices **18**. Input-output devices **18** may include one or more displays such as display **14**.

Control circuitry **16** may be used to run software on device **10** such as operating system code and applications. During operation of device **10**, the software running on control circuitry **16** may display images on display **14** using an array of pixels in display **14**.

Display **14** may have a rectangular shape (i.e., display **14** may have a rectangular footprint and a rectangular peripheral edge that runs around the rectangular footprint) or may have other suitable shapes. Display **14** may be planar or may have a curved profile.

A top view of a portion of display **14** is shown in FIG. 3. As shown in FIG. 3, display **14** may have an array of pixels **22**. Pixels **22** may receive data signals over signal paths such as data lines **D** and may receive one or more control signals over control signal paths such as horizontal control lines **G** (sometimes referred to as gate lines, scan lines, emission control lines, etc.). There may be any suitable number of rows and columns of pixels **22** in display **14** (e.g., tens or more, hundreds or more, or thousands or more). Each pixel **22** may have a light-emitting diode **26** that emits light **80** under the control of a pixel control circuit formed from transistor circuitry such as thin-film transistors **58** and thin-film capacitors). Transistors **58** may be polysilicon thin-film transistors, semiconducting-oxide thin-film transistors such as indium gallium zinc oxide transistors, or transistors formed from other semiconductors.

A cross-sectional side view of a portion of an illustrative organic light-emitting diode display in the vicinity of one of light-emitting diodes **26** is shown in FIG. 4. As shown in FIG. 4, display **14** may include a substrate layer such as substrate layer **30**. Substrate **30** may be formed from polymer, glass, sapphire, a semiconductor material such as silicon, or other suitable materials.

Thin-film transistor circuitry **44** may be formed on substrate **30**. Thin-film transistor circuitry **44** may include layers **32**. Layers **32** may include inorganic layers such as inorganic buffer layers, barrier layers (e.g., barrier layers to block moisture and impurities), gate insulator, passivation, inter-layer dielectric, and other inorganic dielectric layers. Layers **32** may also include organic dielectric layers such as a polymer planarization layer. Metal layers and semiconductor layers may also be included within layers **32**. For example, semiconductors such as silicon, semiconducting-oxide semiconductors, or other semiconductor materials may be used in forming semiconductor channel regions for thin-film transistors **58** (FIG. 3). Metal in layers **32** such as metal traces **74** may be used in forming transistor gate terminals, transistor source-drain terminals, capacitor electrodes, and metal interconnects.

As shown in FIG. 4, thin-film transistor circuitry **44** may include diode anode structures such as anode **36**. Anode **36** may be formed from a layer of conductive material such as metal on the surface of layers **32** (e.g., on the surface of a planarization layer that covers underlying thin-film transistor structures). Light-emitting diode **26** may be formed within an opening in pixel definition layer **60**. Pixel definition layer **60** may be formed from a patterned photoimage-

able polymer such as polyimide and/or may be formed from one or more inorganic layers such as silicon nitride, silicon dioxide, or other suitable materials.

In each light-emitting diode, layers of organic material **38** may be interposed between a respective anode **36** and cathode **42**. Anodes **36** may be patterned from a layer of metal (e.g., silver, aluminum, or other suitable metal) and/or one or more other conductive layers such as a layer of indium tin oxide, molybdenum oxide (MoOx), titanium nitride (TiNx), or other transparent conductive material. Cathode **42** may be formed from a common conductive layer that is deposited on top of pixel definition layer **60**. Cathode **42** may be formed from a thin metal layer (e.g., a layer of metal such as a magnesium silver layer) and/or indium tin oxide or other transparent conductive material. Cathode **42** is preferably sufficiently transparent to allow light **80** to exit light-emitting diode **26**.

Anode **36** may be formed from one or more layers of non-conducting materials (e.g., silicon oxide (SiOx), silicon nitride (SiNx), or polymers) with a top layer of conductive transparent material (e.g., indium tin oxide, indium gallium zinc oxide, etc.) and a bottom layer of reflective metal (e.g., silver, aluminum, a compound of reflective metals, etc.).

The example of FIG. **4** in which the anode of diode **26** is formed from a patterned conductive layer and the cathode of diode **26** is formed from a blanket conductive layer is merely illustrative. If desired, anode **36** may be formed from a blanket conductive layer and cathode **42** may be formed from a blanket conductive layer. The configuration of display **14** in which a transparent blanket cathode layer **42** covers diodes that have individually patterned anodes **36** allows light **80** to be emitted from the top of display **14** (i.e., the example of FIG. **4** in which display **14** is a "top emission" organic light-emitting diode display) is also merely illustrative. Display **14** may be implemented using a bottom emission configuration if desired. Layers such as layers **36**, **38**, and **42** are used in forming organic light-emitting diodes such as diode **26** of FIG. **4**, so this portion of display **14** is sometimes referred to as an organic light-emitting diode layer (see, e.g., layer **130** of FIG. **4**).

Metal interconnect structures may be used to interconnect transistors and other components in circuitry **44**. Metal interconnect lines may also be used to route signals to capacitors, to data lines D and gate lines G, to contact pads (e.g., contact pads coupled to gate driver circuitry), and to other circuitry in display **14**. As shown in FIG. **4**, layers **32** may include one or more layers of patterned metal for forming interconnects such as metal traces **74** (e.g., traces **74** may be used in forming data lines D, gate lines G, power supply lines, clock signal lines, and other signal lines).

If desired, display **14** may have a protective outer display layer such as cover layer **70**. The outer display layer may be formed from a material such as sapphire, glass, plastic, clear ceramic, or other transparent material. Protective layer **46** may cover cathode **42**. Layer **46**, which may sometimes be referred to as a thin film encapsulation layer, may include moisture barrier structures, encapsulant materials such as polymers, adhesive, and/or other materials to help protect thin-film transistor circuitry.

Functional layers **68** may be interposed between layer **46** and cover layer **70**. Functional layers **68** may include a touch sensor layer, a circular polarizer layer, and other layers. A circular polarizer layer may help reduce light reflections from reflective structures such as anodes **36** and cathode **42**. A touch sensor layer may be formed from an array of capacitive touch sensor electrodes on a flexible polymer substrate. The touch sensor layer may be used to gather

touch input from the fingers of a user, from a stylus, or from other external objects. Layers of optically clear adhesive may be used to attach cover layer **70** (e.g., a layer of glass, sapphire, polymer, or other suitable material) and functional layers **68** to underlying display layers such as layer **46**, thin-film transistor circuitry **44**, and substrate **30**.

Organic layers **38** may include an organic emissive layer (e.g., a red emissive layer in red diodes **26** that emits red light, a green emissive layer in green diodes **26** that emits green light, a blue emissive layer in blue diodes **26** that emits blue light, a combination of red, green, and blue emissive materials that emit white light, etc.). The emissive material may be a material such as a phosphorescent material or fluorescent material that emits light during diode operation. The emissive material in layer **38** may be sandwiched between additional diode layers such as hole injection layers, hole transport layers, electron injection layers, and electron transport layers.

During operation, holes and electrons are injected into organic layers **38** from anode **36** and cathode **42**, respectively. When an electron meets a hole, an electron-hole pair is formed and photons are released. The photons generated in organic layers **38** may be emitted at different angles. Some of the light generated in organic layers **38** such as light **80** will be emitted parallel to (or within a given angle of) the z-axis of FIG. **4** and will escape display **14**. This type of light is sometimes referred to as "air mode" light or "out-coupled mode" light. Other light generated in organic layers **38** such as light **80'** may be emitted at a non-zero angle relative to the z-axis of FIG. **4** and may be reflected when it strikes an interface between a low-refractive-index layer and a high-refractive-index layer at a certain angle. Light that bounces back and forth within the organic layers of an organic light-emitting diode is sometimes referred to as "waveguide mode" light because the light is waveguided within the organic layers.

If care is not taken, waveguide mode light may become trapped and absorbed within the light-emitting diode device and may be unable to escape the display, thereby sacrificing light extraction efficiency (i.e., the ratio of photons generated in a light-emitting diode to photons escaping the display).

To increase the light extraction efficiency of display **14**, reflective structures may be used to help extract the waveguide mode light from display **14**. FIG. **5** is a cross-sectional side view of a portion of display **14** illustrating how a reflective structure may be used to help extract waveguide mode light from display **14**. As shown in FIG. **5**, light-emitting diode **26** may include organic layers **38** interposed between cathode **42** and anode **36**. Light-emitting diode **26** may emit light in different directions. Light **80** that is emitted within a given angle of the z-axis is extracted from display **14** as air mode light. Light **80'** that is emitted at wider angles, however, may be reflected at interfaces between low-refractive-index materials and a high-refractive-index materials and may be guided within device **26** via total internal reflection. To help extract waveguide mode light **80'**, a reflector such as reflector **72** may be placed at one or more edges of organic layers **38**. Reflector **72** may have an angled surface relative to the z-axis (i.e., angled relative to the surface normal of substrate **30** of FIG. **4**) such that waveguide mode light **80'** is directed out of display **14** towards viewer **82**. Reflector **72** may, for example, be angled between 25 and 35 degrees from the z-axis, between 20 degrees and 45 degrees from the z-axis, between 0 and 90

degrees from the z-axis, about 30 degrees from the z-axis, less than 30 degrees from the z-axis, or more than 30 degrees from the z-axis.

Reflector **72** may be formed from metal that has been deposited and patterned, sheet metal (e.g., stamped sheet metal), metallized polymer film, a thin-film metal on a plastic carrier, a dielectric thin-film stack that forms a dielectric mirror (a thin-film interference mirror) on a polymer film or molded plastic carrier, an interface between a high-refractive-index material and a low-refractive index material, a white reflective film (e.g., a glossy white polymer sheet formed from a white ink layer or other white layer on a polymer carrier covered with a glossy coating such as a glossy polymer coating), or other suitable reflector structure. Reflector **72** may have a rectangular ring-shaped outline (e.g., a rectangular footprint when viewed from above) or may have other suitable shapes.

By reflecting waveguide mode light **80'** out of organic layers **38**, reflector **72** may help increase the overall extraction efficiency of display **14**. Additionally, whereas air mode light **80** may be subject to spectrum narrowing and color variation at wide viewing angles (e.g., due to cavity effects), waveguide mode light **80'** has a broader spectrum and less sensitivity to viewing angle. As such, not only does reflector **72** increase the overall extraction efficiency of display **14**, but it also mitigates cavity effects at wide viewing angles (sometimes referred to as off-axis viewing angles) by increasing off-axis efficiency and reducing off-axis color variation.

FIG. **6** is a top view of illustrative pixels in display **14**. Pixels in display **14** may include color pixels (sometimes referred to as subpixels) such as red pixel **22R**, blue pixel **22B**, and green pixel **22G**. As shown in FIG. **6**, each pixel may include an organic light-emitting diode surrounded by an associated reflector. For example, red pixel **22R** may include light-emitting diode **26R** surrounded by reflector **72R**, blue pixel **22B** may include light-emitting diode **26B** surrounded by reflector **72B**, and green pixel **22G** may include light-emitting diode **26G** surrounded by reflector **72G**. The example of FIG. **6** in which reflectors **72** completely surround light-emitting diodes **26** is merely illustrative. If desired, reflectors **72** may only partially surround light-emitting diodes **26**, reflectors **72** may be located on one, two, three, or four sides of light-emitting diodes **26**, a reflector **72** on one side of light-emitting diode **26** need not contact a reflector **72** on an adjacent side of light-emitting diode **26**, reflectors **72** in one pixel need not contact reflectors **72** in an adjacent pixel, etc. Reflectors **72** may be located in the non-emitting portion of each pixel **22** (sometimes referred to as the inactive area of pixels **22**). Reflectors **72** may have the same structure for all pixels in display **14** or reflectors **72** may have different structures for different pixels. For example, reflectors **72** may have a different shape, size, and/or structure for different color pixels, if desired.

FIG. **7** is a graph showing how off-axis viewing of display **14** may be improved using a reflector such as reflector **72** to extract waveguide mode light from organic layers **38**. Curve **84** represents air mode light (e.g., light **80** of FIG. **5**) emitted from display **14**, and curve **86** represents waveguide mode light (e.g., light **80'** of FIG. **5**) emitted from display **14**. For on-axis viewing (e.g., around 0°), air mode light is highly efficient and therefore achieves relatively high luminance. In arrangements where the light-emitting diodes of display **14** include micro-cavities (e.g., in which light is reflected up and down within the pixel layers before exiting display **14**), a spectral narrowing can occur that causes off-axis efficiency

to decrease and color variation to increase at wide viewing angles. The recycling of waveguide mode light **80'** (curve **86**) mitigates these affects by adding broader spectrum light with less color variation at wide viewing angles.

FIGS. **8-15** show cross-sectional side views of illustrative reflectors **72** that may be used to recycle waveguide mode light **80'** as discussed in connection with FIGS. **5-7**. In these examples, reflectors **72** are located between red pixel **22R** and blue pixel **72B**. However, it should be understood that this is merely illustrative and that the reflectors of FIGS. **8-15** may be used between any suitable pair of pixels in display **14**. It should also be understood that any one of the embodiments shown in FIGS. **8-15** may be combined with any one or more of the other embodiments shown in FIGS. **8-15**, if desired.

In the example of FIG. **8**, reflectors **72R** and **72B** are located in pixel definition layer **60**. Reflector **72R** may be used to reflect waveguide mode light within organic layers **38R** out of display **14**, and reflector **72B** may be used to reflect waveguide mode light within organic layers **38B** out of display **14**. As discussed in connection with FIG. **5**, reflector **72** may be formed from sheet metal (e.g., stamped sheet metal), metallized polymer film, a thin-film metal on a plastic carrier, a dielectric thin-film stack that forms a dielectric mirror (a thin-film interference mirror) on a polymer film or molded plastic carrier, an interface between a high-refractive-index material and a low-refractive index material, a white reflective film (e.g., a glossy white polymer sheet formed from a white ink layer or other white layer on a polymer carrier covered with a glossy coating such as a glossy polymer coating), or other suitable reflector structure. In arrangements where reflector **72** is formed from an interface between a high-refractive-index material and a low-refractive index material, reflector **72** may be formed from a material that has a lower or higher refractive index than surrounding pixel definition layer **60**. For example, if pixel definition layer **60** has a refractive index of about 1.7, reflectors **72R** and **72B** may have a lower refractive index at about 1.4, or may have a higher refractive index at about 2.3. Materials having other refractive indices may be used, if desired. These examples are merely illustrative.

In the example of FIG. **9**, reflector **72** between adjacent pixels **22R** and **22B** is formed from a single structure (rather than the two separate structures shown in FIG. **8**). The structure may have a first angled surface that reflects waveguide mode light from organic layers **38R** out of display **14** and a second opposing angled surface that reflects waveguide mode light from organic layers **38B** out of display **14**.

In the example of FIG. **10**, reflectors **72** are formed from extended portions of the anodes in pixels **22**. Anode **36R** of red pixel **22R** has a first portion **36R1** that is parallel to substrate **30** and a second portion **36R2** that is angled relative to substrate **30**. Anode **36B** of blue pixel **22B** has a first portion **36B1** that is parallel to substrate **30** and a second portion **36B2** that is angled relative to substrate **30**. Because anodes **36R** and **36B** are reflective (e.g., around 95% reflective), extended portion **36R2** may reflect waveguide mode light from organic layers **38R** out of display **14** and extended portion **36B2** may reflect waveguide mode light from organic layers **38B** out of display **14**.

In the example of FIG. **11**, reflector **72** is formed from light-reflective particles **88** within pixel definition layer **60**. Particles **88** may be titanium dioxide particles, silica composite particles, other ceramic particles, or other reflective particles. In the example of FIG. **11**, particles **88** are suspended in pixel definition layer **60**. If desired, particles **88** may be suspended in other materials (e.g., particles **88** may

be suspended within a matrix such as a matrix formed from epoxy, acrylic, silicone, or other polymer materials within or on layer 60).

In the example of FIG. 12, reflector 72 is formed from light-reflective particles 88 on opposing sides of a light-blocking structure such as light-blocking structure 90. Light-blocking structure 90 may be an opaque (e.g., black) portion of pixel definition layer 60 or may be other suitable light-blocking structure or opaque coating. Light-blocking structure 90 may help prevent color mixing between adjacent pixels.

In the example of FIG. 13, reflector 72 is formed from a low-refractive-index material 96. The difference in refractive index between organic layers 38 and low-refractive index material 96 may cause waveguide mode light out of diode 26. Low-refractive-index material 96 may have a refractive index that is less than 1.6, for example, or may have other suitable refractive index that is lower than the refractive index of organic layers 38R and 38B. If desired, low-refractive index material 96 may replace pixel definition layer 60.

In the example of FIG. 14, reflector 72 is formed from reflective coatings 76 on structure 78. Structure 78 may be formed from polymer, metal, or other suitable material. If desired, structure 78 may be formed from the same material as pixel definition layer 60. Coating 76 may be metallized polymer film, a thin-film metal, a dielectric thin-film stack that forms a dielectric mirror (a thin-film interference mirror) on a polymer film or molded plastic carrier, an interface between a high-refractive-index material and a low-refractive index material, a white reflective film (e.g., a glossy white polymer sheet formed from a white ink layer or other white layer on a polymer carrier covered with a glossy coating such as a glossy polymer coating), or may be a coating of reflective particles suspended in a matrix.

In the example of FIG. 15, reflectors 72 are formed from reflective coatings 76 that are formed on opposing outer surfaces of pixel definition layer 60 (rather than being formed within pixel definition layer 60 as in the example of FIG. 14).

The foregoing is merely illustrative and various modifications can be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the scope and spirit of the described embodiments. The foregoing embodiments may be implemented individually or in any combination.

What is claimed is:

1. An organic light-emitting diode display, comprising: a substrate having an upper surface; first and second light-emitting diodes on the substrate each comprising organic layers interposed between a reflective electrode and a transparent electrode; a pixel definition layer between the first and second light-emitting diodes; and a reflector embedded within the pixel definition layer, wherein the reflector is separate from the reflective electrode and has a surface that reflects light from the organic layers out of the display through the transparent electrode, and wherein the surface is angled with respect to the upper surface of the substrate.
2. The organic light-emitting diode display defined in claim 1 wherein the reflective electrode and the transparent electrode comprise an anode and a cathode, respectively.
3. The organic light-emitting diode display defined in claim 1 wherein the reflector comprises metal.
4. The organic light-emitting diode display defined in claim 1 wherein the reflector surrounds the first light-emitting diode.

5. The organic light-emitting diode display defined in claim 4 further comprising an additional reflector in the pixel definition layer.

6. The organic light-emitting diode display defined in claim 5 wherein the additional reflector surrounds the second light-emitting diode.

7. The organic light-emitting diode display defined in claim 1 wherein the reflector comprises light-reflective particles suspended in the pixel definition layer.

8. The organic light-emitting diode display defined in claim 7 further comprising a light-blocking layer in the pixel definition layer, wherein a first group of the light-reflective particles are located on a first side of the light-blocking layer and are configured to reflect light emitted from the first light-emitting diode out of the display, and wherein a second group of the light-reflective particles are located on a second side of the light-blocking layer and are configured to reflect light emitted from the second light-emitting diode out of the display.

9. The organic light-emitting diode display defined in claim 1 wherein the pixel definition layer has a refractive index below 1.6.

10. A display, comprising:

- a substrate having an upper surface;
- a pixel definition layer having an array of openings;
- an array of organic light-emitting diodes in the openings, wherein each of the organic light-emitting diodes comprises a transparent electrode; and
- a reflector surrounding each organic light-emitting diode in the display, wherein the reflector is located within the pixel definition layer and has a surface that reflects light out of the display through the transparent electrode, wherein the surface is angled with respect to the upper surface of the substrate.

11. The display defined in claim 10 wherein the reflector comprises light-reflective particles.

12. The display defined in claim 10 wherein each organic light-emitting diode has an anode, wherein the anode has a first portion that is parallel to the substrate and a second portion that is angled relative to the substrate, and wherein the second portion forms the reflector.

13. The display defined in claim 10 wherein the transparent electrode comprises a cathode, wherein each organic light-emitting diode has organic layers interposed between an anode and the cathode, and wherein the pixel definition layer has a refractive index that is lower than a refractive index of the organic layers.

14. An organic light-emitting diode pixel, comprising:

- a cathode;
- an anode having an upper surface;
- organic layers between the cathode and the anode, wherein the organic layers emit out-coupled light that escapes the organic light-emitting diode pixel and waveguided light that is waveguided within the organic layers;
- a reflector at the edge of the organic layers having a surface that reflects the waveguided light out of the organic light-emitting diode pixel, wherein the surface is angled with respect to the anode; and
- a pixel definition layer surrounding the organic light-emitting diode, wherein the reflector is located within the pixel definition layer and is separated from the anode by the pixel definition layer.

15. The organic light-emitting diode pixel defined in claim 14, wherein the reflector comprises metal.

16. The organic light-emitting diode pixel defined in claim 14 wherein the reflector comprises light-reflecting

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particles suspended in the pixel definition layer, wherein the pixel definition layer has an opaque portion, and wherein the light-reflecting particles are interposed between the opaque portion and the organic layers.

* * * * *

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专利名称(译)	带有反射镜的有机发光二极管显示器		
公开(公告)号	US10658441	公开(公告)日	2020-05-19
申请号	US16/114039	申请日	2018-08-27
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申请(专利权)人(译)	苹果公司.		
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IPC分类号	H01L27/32 H01L51/52 H01L51/56 G09G3/3225 H01L51/50		
CPC分类号	H01L51/56 H01L27/3246 H01L51/5209 H01L27/3283 H01L51/5212 H01L51/5271 H01L51/5237 H01L27/323 H01L51/5092 H01L51/5056 G09G3/3225 H01L27/3211 H01L2251/5369		
优先权	62/551140 2017-08-28 US		
其他公开文献	US20190067394A1		
外部链接	Espacenet		
摘要(译)			

显示器可以具有由有机发光二极管和薄膜晶体管电路形成的像素阵列。每个像素可包括置于阳极和阴极之间的有机层。有机层可以发射出逃逸显示器的出耦合光和在有机层内波导的波导光。可以在有机层的边缘放置反射器，以将波导光反射出显示器。反射器可以位于像素限定层内，并且可以由金属形成或者可以由高折射率材料与低折射率材料之间的一个或多个界面形成。反射器可以由像素阳极的延伸部分形成。反射器可以由悬浮在像素限定层中的光反射颗粒形成。

