

(43) **Pub. Date:** **Nov. 8, 2018**

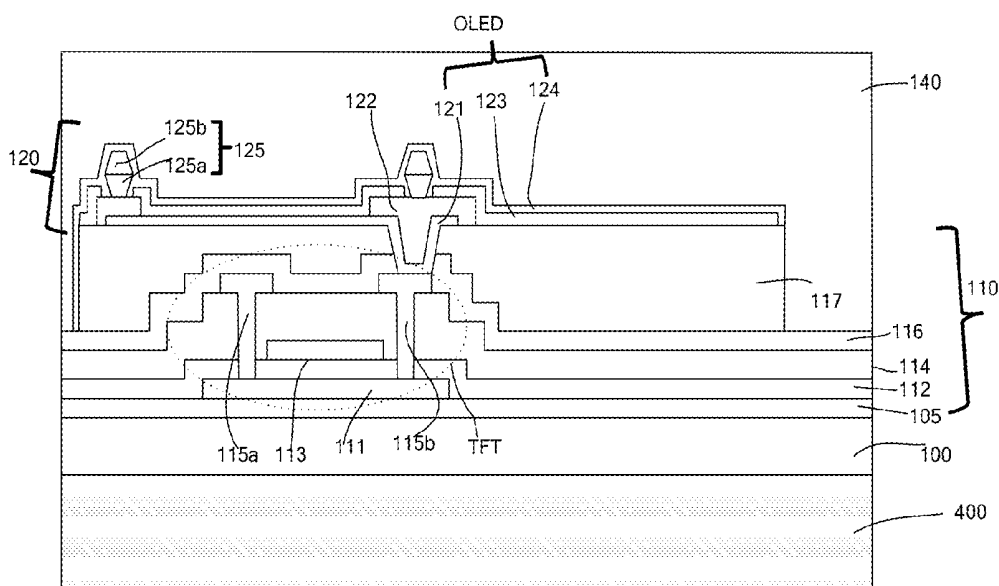


FIG. 1

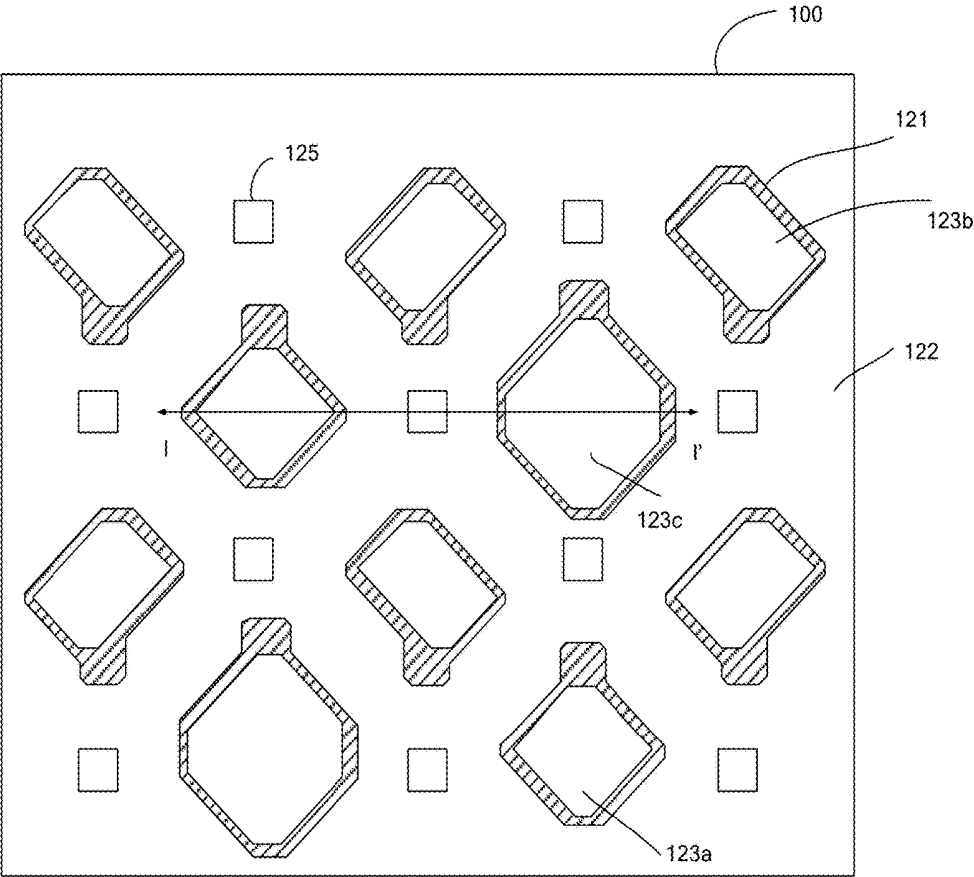


FIG. 4

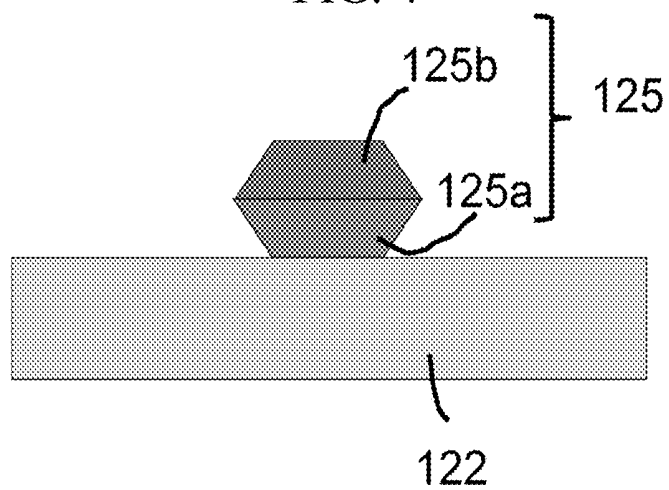


FIG. 5

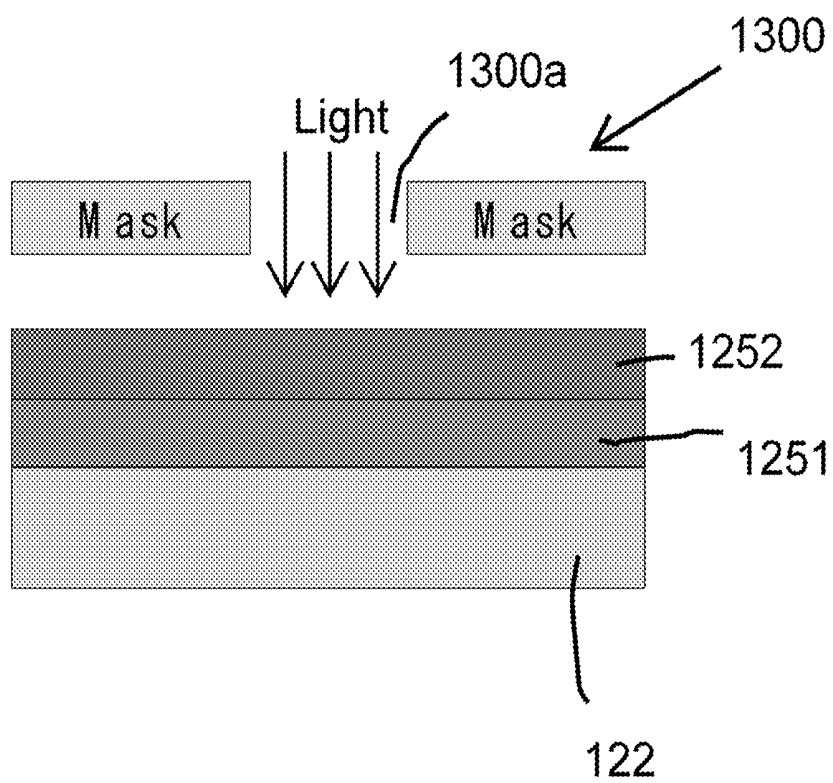


FIG. 6A

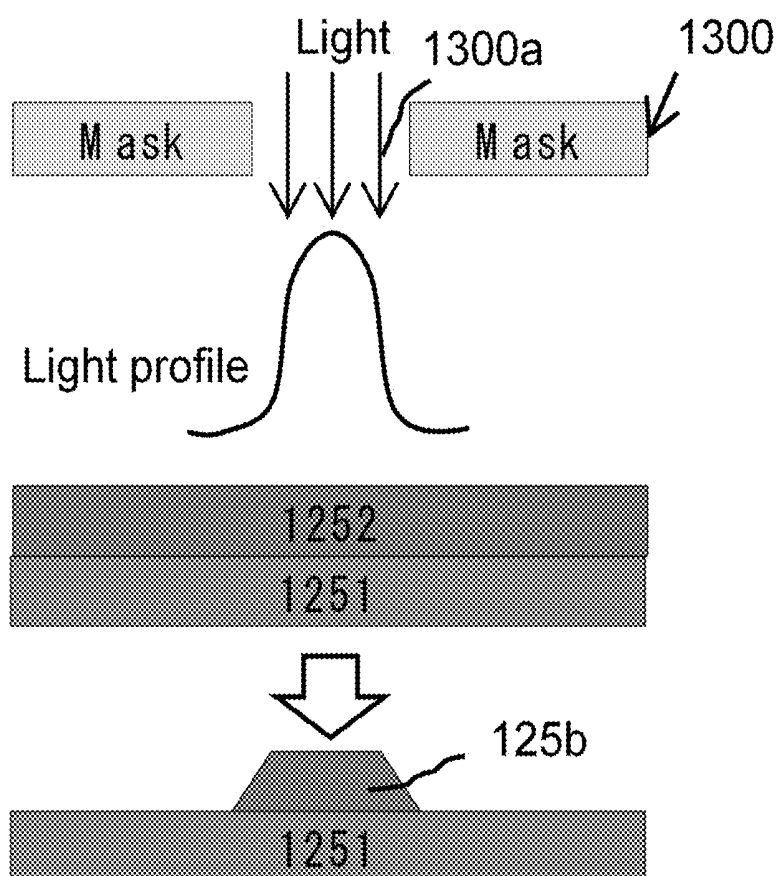


FIG. 6B

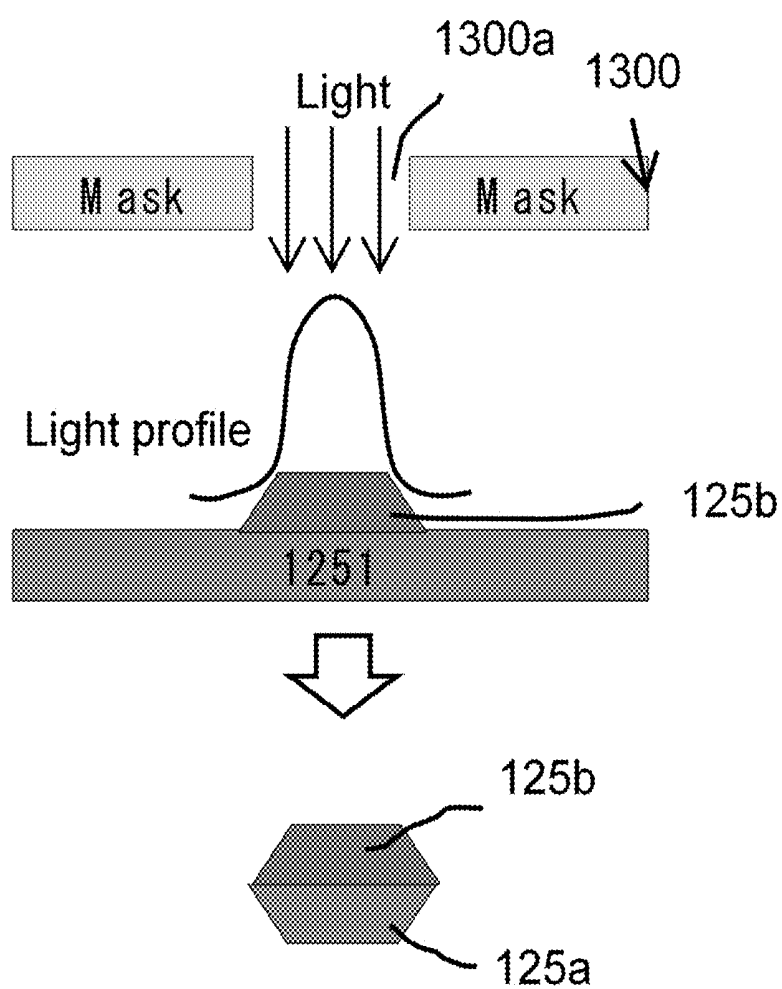


FIG. 7A

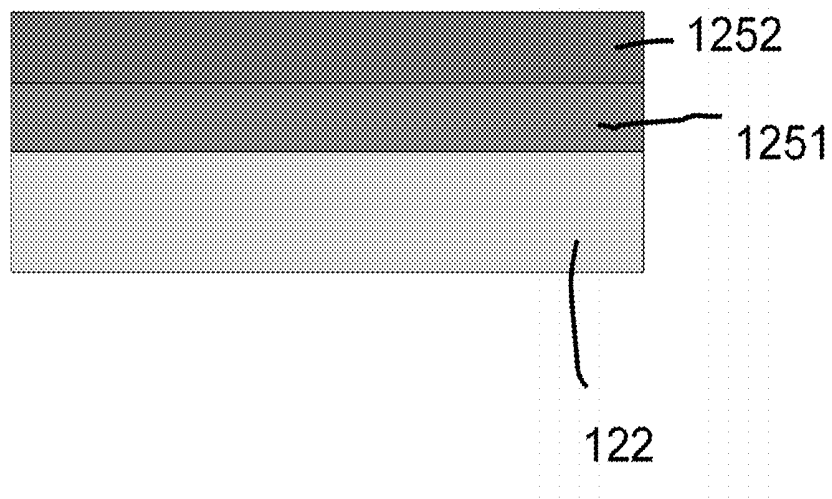


FIG. 7B

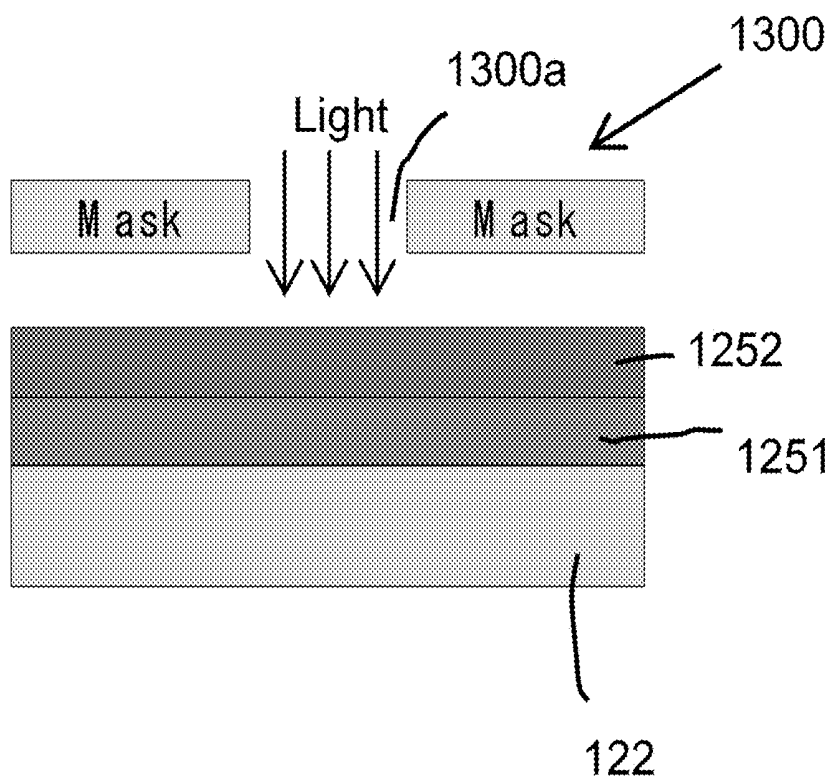


FIG. 7C

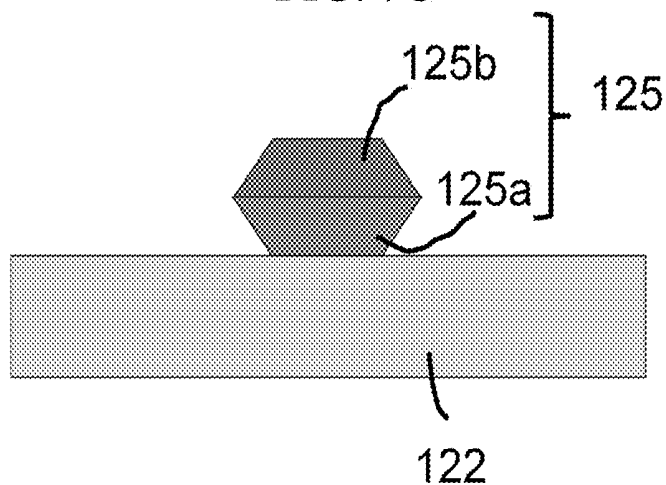
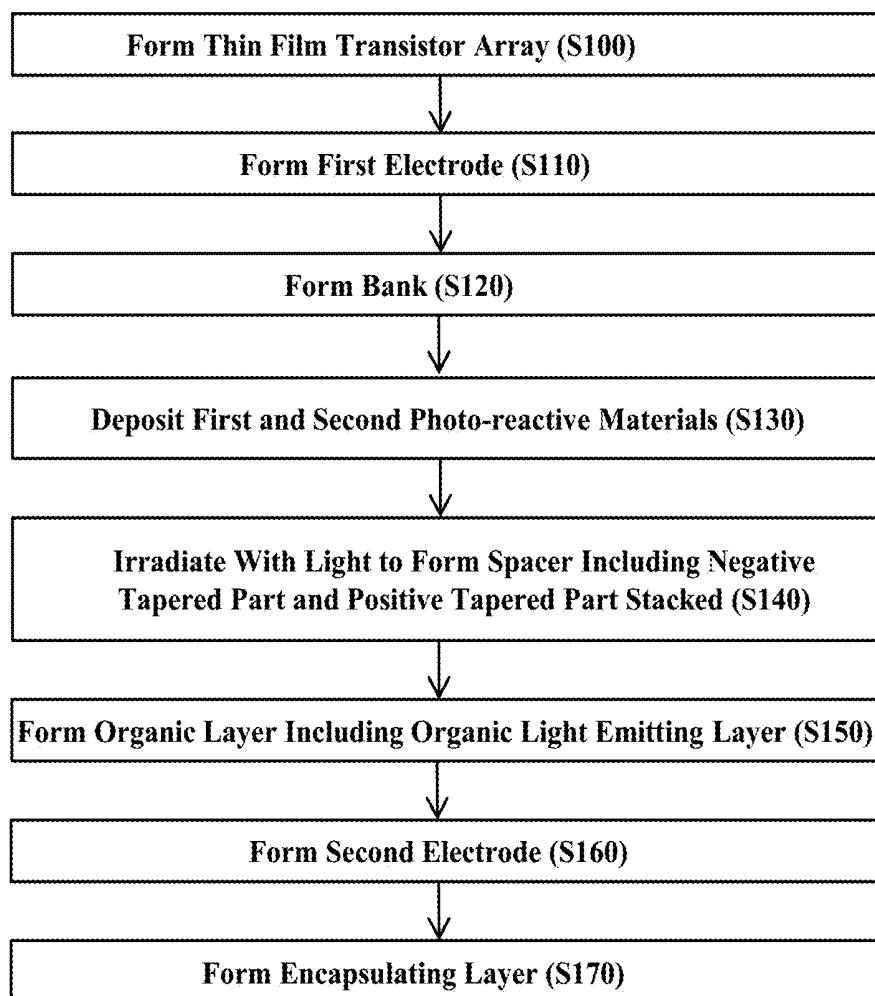


FIG. 8



**ORGANIC LIGHT EMITTING DISPLAY
DEVICE AND METHOD OF
MANUFACTURING THE SAME**

[0001] This application is a divisional of the U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/393,495, filed Dec. 29, 2016, which claims the priority benefit of Korean Patent Application No. 10-2015-0190213, filed on Dec. 30, 2015, both which are incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth herein.

BACKGROUND

Field of the Invention

[0002] The present invention relates to a display device, and more particularly, to an organic light emitting display device and a method of manufacturing the same.

Discussion of the Related Art

[0003] As examples of flat display devices, there are a liquid crystal display device (LCD), an organic light emitting display (OLED) device, a plasma display panel (PDP) device, a quantum dot display device, a field emission display (FED) device, an electrophoretic display (EPD) device, etc. Each of these flat display devices includes a flat display panel for displaying an image in which a pair of transparent insulating substrates facing each other is bonded to each other, with an intrinsic light emitting layer, a polarizing layer, or other optical material layers interposed therebetween.

[0004] Recently, various demands for a flat display device having low spatial occupation have increased as the size of display devices has increased. Further, there is a need for a flexible type flat display device. Particularly, a separate light source is omitted at the organic light emitting display device because the organic light emitting display device is self-luminous. Therefore, the organic light emitting display device may be used as a flexible display device.

[0005] However, the organic light emitting display device uses a metallic mask having an opening corresponding to a deposition part upon deposition of an organic material. When the metallic mask is in contact with a bank defining pixels, bank deflection of particles may occur. To this end, a spacer is formed on the bank such that a surface of the metallic mask does not directly contact with the bank.

[0006] However, the flexible organic light emitting display device is subject to repeated folding and unfolding motions. But, when the spacer is provided, there are defects caused by the spacer during folding motions.

SUMMARY

[0007] Accordingly, the present invention is directed to a an organic light emitting display device and a method of manufacturing the same that substantially obviates one or more problems due to limitations and disadvantages of the related art.

[0008] An object of the present invention is to provide an organic light emitting display device in which a shape of a spacer on a bank is changed to prevent a metallic mask from directly affecting a pixel area upon deposition of an organic material and a contact area between the spacer and the metallic mask is adjusted to prevent defects due to particles, and a method of manufacturing the same.

[0009] Additional features and advantages of the invention will be set forth in the description that follows, and in

part will be apparent from the description, or may be learned by practice of the invention. The objectives and other advantages of the invention will be realized and attained by the structure particularly pointed out in the written description and claims hereof as well as the appended drawings.

[0010] To achieve these objects and other advantages and in accordance with the purpose of the invention, as embodied and broadly described herein, an organic light emitting display device comprises a substrate including a plurality of pixels defined thereon; a first electrode disposed at each pixel; a bank exposing the first electrode of each pixel; a spacer including, sequentially on the bank, a first layer of a first negative photoreactive acryl and a second layer of a second negative photoreactive acryl having a greater photoreactivity than a photoreactivity of the first negative photoreactive acryl, wherein the first layer has a negative taper and the second layer has a positive taper; an organic layer on the bank and the first electrode, the organic layer including an organic light emitting layer; and a second electrode disposed on the bank, the spacer, and the organic layer.

[0011] In another aspect, a method of manufacturing an organic light emitting display device comprises providing a substrate including a plurality of pixels defined thereon; forming a first electrode at each pixel; forming a bank exposing the first electrode of each pixel; sequentially depositing, on the bank, a first layer of a first negative photoreactive acryl and a second layer of a second negative photoreactive acryl having a greater photoreactivity than a photoreactivity of the first negative photoreactive acryl; forming a spacer including the first layer having a negative taper and the second layer having a positive taper by applying a mask over the second layer, the mask having an open portion to open a predetermined portion of the bank; forming an organic layer including an organic light emitting layer on the bank and the first electrode; and forming a second electrode on the bank, the spacer, and the organic layer.

[0012] It is to be understood that both the foregoing general description and the following detailed description are exemplary and explanatory and are intended to provide further explanation of the invention as claimed.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0013] The accompanying drawings, which are included to provide a further understanding of the invention and are incorporated in and constitute a part of this specification, illustrate embodiments of the invention and together with the description serve to explain the principles of the invention. In the drawings:

[0014] FIG. 1 is a plan view of an organic light emitting display device in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

[0015] FIG. 2 is a cross-sectional view of FIG. 1;

[0016] FIG. 3 is a cross-sectional view illustrating an organic light emitting display device in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention in detail;

[0017] FIG. 4 is a cross-sectional view illustrating a bank and a spacer of an organic light emitting display device in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

[0018] FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view illustrating a material and a mask used to form the spacer of FIG. 4;

[0019] FIGS. 6A and 6B are cross-sectional views illustrating the photoreactivity of the first and second layers

constituting the spacer with respect to the same mask upon formation of the spacer of an embodiment of the present invention;

[0020] FIGS. 7A to 7C are cross-sectional views illustrating a method of manufacturing the spacer of an embodiment of the present invention; and

[0021] FIG. 8 is a flowchart of the organic light emitting display device in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0022] Reference will now be made in detail to embodiments of the invention, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings. Wherever possible, the same reference numbers will be used throughout the drawings to refer to the same or like parts. It will be paid attention that detailed description of known arts will be omitted if it is determined that the arts can mislead the embodiments of the invention. Names of components used in the following description may be selected in consideration of facility of specification preparation. Thus, the names of the components may be different from names of components used in a real product.

[0023] FIG. 1 is a plan view illustrating an organic light emitting display device in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 2 is a cross-sectional view of FIG. 1. FIG. 3 is a cross-sectional view illustrating the organic light emitting display device in detail.

[0024] As illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2, the organic light emitting display device may include a substrate 100 having a plurality of pixels arranged in a matrix, a first electrode 121 disposed at each pixel, a bank 122 exposing the first electrode 121, a spacer 125 including a first layer 125a formed of a first photoreactive negative photo acryl while having a negative tapered shape and a second layer 125b formed of a second photoreactive negative photo acryl having greater photoreactivity than photoreactivity of the first layer 125a while having a positive tapered shape, which are sequentially stacked on the bank 122. Organic layers 123a, 123b, and 123c formed on the bank 122 and the first electrode 121. Each organic layer includes an organic light emitting layer. A second electrode 124 is disposed on the bank 122, the spacer 125, and the organic layers 123a, 123b, and 123c.

[0025] The pixels illustrated in FIG. 1 are arranged on a plane in a diagonal direction. The organic layers 123a, 123b, and 123c in each of the pixels have different shapes with respect to colors. As luminous efficacy of the organic layers 123a, 123b, and 123c are decreased, sizes of the organic layers 123a, 123b, and 123c are increased. For example, the organic layer 123c having the largest rhombus shape is a blue light emitting layer. The organic layer 123a having a smaller rhombus shape than the organic layer 123c is a red light emitting layer. The organic layer 123b extending in a horizontal direction is a green light emitting layer. Herein, the green light emitting layer 123b has a parallelogram shape. However, it may usually be desired to have a rhombus shape similar to the red light emitting layer 123a. Meanwhile, when the pixels are arranged in a diagonal direction and the spacer 125 is in contact with a deposition mask upon deposition of an organic material, a kind of symmetric force is applied to the entire panel, thereby preventing particles that are concentrated in a specific part and uniformizing luminance distribution.

[0026] Herein, each pixel includes an organic light emitting diode (OLED) including a first electrode 121, an organic layer 123 including an organic light emitting layer, and a second electrode 124. Each pixel includes a circuit configuration including at least two thin film transistors and at least one capacitor for separately driving each organic light emitting display.

[0027] In addition, the circuit configuration of each pixel is referred to as a thin film transistor array 110. As illustrated in FIG. 3, the thin film transistor array 110 is arranged below the organic light emitting display. Namely, a TFT buffer layer 105 is disposed on the substrate 100. The thin film transistor array 110 includes a gate line and a data line that intersect each other to divide the pixels, and at least two thin film transistors TFT at each pixel.

[0028] A thin film transistor TFT in the pixel of the thin film transistor array 110 includes an active layer 111 on the TFT buffer layer 105, a gate insulating layer 112 formed on the TFT buffer layer 105 to cover the active layer 111, a gate electrode 113 overlapping with the active layer 111, an interlayer insulating layer 114 formed on the gate electrode 113 and the gate insulating layer 112, and a source electrode 115a and a drain electrode 115b passing through the interlayer insulating layer 114 and the gate insulating layer 112 to contact both sides of the active layer 112. Herein, the gate electrode 113 may be disposed at the same level as the gate line. The source electrode 115a and the drain electrode 115b may be disposed at the same level as the data line. In a peripheral region of the thin film transistor array 110, pad electrodes for the gate line and the data line and second electrode pad electrode for the second electrode of an organic light emitting display array 120 are provided to be grounded or to allow a certain voltage to be applied thereto.

[0029] Furthermore, the organic light emitting display OLED disposed at each sub-pixel of the organic light emitting display array 120 includes a first electrode 121 connected to the drain electrode 115b, the organic layer 123 including the organic light emitting layer formed in the bank 122 defining a light emitting region, and a second electrode 124 covering the organic layer 123.

[0030] Herein, the spacer 125 is disposed on the bank 122. In a deposition process of the organic light emitting material, the spacer 125 prevents the deposition mask formed of metallic elements while having a certain opening from directly being in contact with the bank 122. Thus, collapse of the bank 122 defining the light emitting region may be prevented.

[0031] FIG. 4 is a cross-sectional view illustrating the bank and the spacer of the organic light emitting display device in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

[0032] As illustrated in FIG. 4, the spacer 125 on the bank is formed having a bi-level structure. The first layer 125a of a lower part of the spacer 125 is formed of a first photoreactive negative photo acryl while having a negative tapered shape. In addition, the second layer 125b of an upper part of the spacer 125 is formed of a second photoreactive negative photo acryl having a greater photoreactivity than a photoreactivity of the first layer 125a while having a positive tapered shape. The first and second layers 125a and 125b are defined to have different shapes by one exposure because of different photoreactivity. Furthermore, because the first and second layers 125a and 125b are formed of negative photo acryl, a part receiving light remains. An edge part of one of

the first and second layers **125a** and **125b** is has a different shape than an edge part of the other one of the first and second layers **125a** and **125b** due to different profiles of light exposure.

[0033] Meanwhile, the first electrode **121** is a reflective electrode, and the second electrode **124** is a transparent electrode. When external light is incident, external light passes through the organic light display OLED and is reflected at the first electrode **121**. Upon reflection, external light passes through the transparent second electrode **124**. In addition, an encapsulating layer **140** is formed on the organic light emitting display array **120** to cover an upper part and a side part of the organic light emitting display OLED.

[0034] A polarizing plate is formed at an outermost layer of the organic light emitting display device to prevent visibility of external light. For example, as illustrated, an organic light emitting display device is used as the display device. However, another panel may adhere to an upper part of the encapsulating layer **140** in which a separate adhesion layer is interposed between another panel and the encapsulating layer **140**. For example, a touch sensing array panel may be used as the adhered panel. In this case, the polarizing plate is included in the touch sensing array panel or is included at the outermost touch sensing array panel.

[0035] Meanwhile, the substrate **100** may include at least one polymeric compound selected from a group consisting of polyester or a copolymer including polyester, polyimide or a copolymer including polyimide, an olefin copolymer, polyacrylic acid or a copolymer including polyacrylic acid, polystyrene or a copolymer including polystyrene, polysulfate or a copolymer including polysulfate, polycarbonate or a copolymer including polycarbonate, polyamic acid or a copolymer including polyamic acid, polyamine or a copolymer including polyamine, polyvinyl alcohol, and poly(allyamine). A thickness of the substrate **100** may be 5 μm to 100 μm . This allows the organic light emitting display device to be folded and to be flexible. When the touch sensing array panel is added, the touch sensing array panel may be formed of the same material as the substrate **100** or be formed of a material similar to the substrate **100**. Furthermore, in a top emission configuration, the substrate **100** may use a colored material.

[0036] Meanwhile, as illustrated, the organic layers **123** including the organic light emitting layers may be spaced from one another in each pixel with respect to the spacer **125**. Particularly, in the organic layers **123**, the organic light emitting layers between the first and second electrodes **121** and **124** are spaced from each other with respect to the pixels to prevent color mixing and to independently drive color with respect to the pixels. The organic layer **123** may be formed by the same deposition mask as the organic light emitting layer. Alternatively, the organic light emitting layer may use the deposition mask and the remaining organic layer may be entirely deposited without the deposition mask. However, in any case, when the spacer **125** has the negative tapered lower part and the positive tapered upper part, and the organic layer **123** is deposited, there is interference between an opening of the deposition mask and the edge part of the spacer **125**. Although the organic material corresponds to the edge part of the spacer **125**, the first layer **125a** of the spacer **125** has a negative tapered shape such that the organic materials may be accumulated at the negative tapered first layer **125a** and may be spaced with respect to the pixels.

Thus, color mixing due to overlapping of the organic light emitting materials between the pixels may be prevented.

[0037] Furthermore, because the second layer **125b**, which is the upper layer of the spacer **125**, has a positive tapered shape, when the deposition mask of the organic material is in contact with a surface of the second layer **125b**, the contact area is small. Therefore, particles generated at the contact area may be significantly reduced and the organic layer **123** including the organic light emitting layer adjacent to the first layer **125a** may be protected.

[0038] In addition, because the spacer **125** has a bi-level structure, when an external force is applied, such as when the device is folded, the force is dispersed by a forming unit of the spacer **125**. Thus, the device has an increased tolerance to folding. As a result, lighting defects due to repeated folding and unfolding motions may be prevented.

[0039] Furthermore, because the second layer **125b** disposed at the upper part of the spacer **125** has a positive tapered shape and the first layer **125a** disposed at the lower part of the spacer **125** has a negative tapered shape, the organic material is separated between the first and second layers **125a** and **125b** even after deposition of the organic material. At the same time, an inside of the negative tapered first layer **125a** has high adhesion of the organic material, thereby being stable upon repeated folding and unfolding motions functioning as external force. That is, when the organic material is entirely deposited and folding motions are performed, detachment of the organic material occurs at a part to which external force is locally applied and detachment is spread. However, because the organic layers including each organic light emitting layer are separately disposed at the inside of the negative tapered first layer **125a** such that detachment of a part of the organic material does not affect the entire panel. Accordingly, as adhesion of the organic material for each pixel is increased, the organic light emitting display device is stable in spite of repeated folding and unfolding motions.

[0040] Meanwhile, as illustrated, the pixels may be arranged in a diagonal direction of the substrate. Furthermore, each pixel may have a rhombus shape. The pixels may have different sizes with respect to the colors of the organic light emitting layers.

[0041] The sizes of the light emitting layers may be variable according to luminous efficacy. The organic light emitting layer having low luminous efficacy is formed to be a large pixel and the organic light emitting layer having high luminance efficacy is formed to be a small pixel. The size of each organic light emitting layer may be determined by the bank.

[0042] Hereinafter, a method of manufacturing the organic light emitting display device will be explained.

[0043] FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view illustrating a material and a mask used to form the spacer of FIG. 4. FIGS. 6A and 6B are cross-sectional views illustrating photoreactivity of the first and second layers constituting the spacer with respect to the same mask upon formation of the spacer of an embodiment of the present invention. FIGS. 7A to 7C are cross-sectional views illustrating a method of manufacturing the spacer in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

[0044] As illustrated in FIGS. 5 and 7A, first, a first layer **1251** formed of a first photoreactive negative photo acrylic and a second layer **1252** formed of a second photoreactive

negative photo acryl having greater photoreactivity than the first layer **1251** are sequentially deposited on the bank **122**.

[0045] Then, as illustrated in FIG. 7B, the negative tapered first layer **125a** and the positive tapered second layer **125b** on the first layer **125a** are simultaneously formed using a mask **1300** having an opening **1300a** exposing a certain part on the bank **122** while being disposed above the second layer **1252**, thereby forming the spacer **125**.

[0046] Herein, when there is the opening **1300a** of the general mask **1300**, exposure is performed through the opening **1300a**. Intensity of light passing through a central part of the opening **1300a** is high and intensity of light passing through an edge part of the opening **1300a** is low. Thus, a photoresist material corresponding to the opening **1300a** of the mask **1300** is exposed. A final pattern shape is variable according to photoreactivity of the photoresist material.

[0047] When the spacer is manufactured, a negative photoresist material where an exposed part remains is used for the first and second layers **1251** and **1252**. As illustrated in FIGS. 5A and 5B, the first layer **1251** is formed of a low photoreactive negative photoresist material and the second layer **1252** is formed of a high photoreactive negative photoresist material such that the first and second layers **1251** and **1252** may have different tapered shapes after exposure. That is, the lower first layer **1251** has a negative tapered shape after exposure and the upper second layer **1252** has a positive tapered shape after exposure such that stress may be reduced upon folding motions and the defects due to the particles may be prevented upon deposition of the organic material because a contact area between the spacer and the deposition mask is reduced.

[0048] Particularly, the negative photoresist material of the spacer **125** may include negative photo acryl. For example, the high photoreactive second layer **1252** may use HDN-300 and the low photoreactive first layer **1251** may use ZPN-2464.

[0049] After exposure, as illustrated in FIG. 6C, the first and second layers **1251** and **1252** are patterned such that the first and second layers **125a** and **125b** have a negative tapered shape and a positive tapered shape, respectively. The spacer **125** includes the first and second layers **125a** and **125b**.

[0050] FIG. 8 is a flowchart illustrating a method of manufacturing the organic light emitting display device in accordance of an embodiment of the present invention. With reference to FIGS. 3 and 8, the method of manufacturing the organic light emitting display device will be explained.

[0051] First, the substrate **100** having a flexible material is formed on a glass substrate (not shown). The thin film transistor array **110** including at least two thin film transistors and at least one capacitor as illustrated in FIG. 3 at each of the plural pixels that are arranged in a matrix is formed (S100).

[0052] Then, the first electrode **121** connected to a driving thin film transistor disposed at each pixel of the thin film transistor array **110** is formed (S110). Sequentially, the bank **122** defining a formation area of the organic light emitting layer is formed at a boundary of each pixel (S120).

[0053] As illustrated in FIG. 6A, the first layer **1251** formed of the first photoreactive negative photo acryl and the second layer **1252** formed of the second photoreactive

negative photo acryl having greater photoreactivity than the first layer **1251** are sequentially deposited on the bank **122** (S130).

[0054] As illustrated in FIG. 6B, the mask having the opening exposing the certain portion of the second layer **1252** corresponding to the bank **122** is disposed above the second layer **1252**. As illustrated in FIG. 6C, the second layer **1252** is exposed using the mask such that the first layer **125a** having the negative tapered shape and the second layer **125b** having the positive tapered shape on the first layer **125a** are simultaneously formed to form the spacer **125** (S140).

[0055] Then, the organic layer **123** including the organic light emitting layer is formed on the bank **122** and the first electrode **121** (S150). Subsequently, the second electrode **124** is formed on the bank **122**, the spacer **125** and the organic layer **123** (S160). The encapsulating layer **140** is formed at the entire second electrode **124** to complete a process of the organic light emitting display device.

[0056] As described, a spacer of an organic light emitting display device in accordance with example embodiments of the present invention is formed with a bi-level structure having different tapered shapes. In detail, after the materials having different photoreactivity are deposited, one exposure is performed to form the spacer, thereby reducing the number of masks. Because the upper part of the spacer has the positive tapered shape, the contact area between the spacer and the deposition mask may be reduced, thereby reducing the particles. At the same time, because the lower part of the spacer has a negative tapered shape, detachment of the organic material during repeated folding and unfolding motion may be reduced.

[0057] As is apparent from the above description, according to example embodiments of the present invention, there are advantages such as those discussed below.

[0058] First, the shape of the spacer on the bank is changed to prevent the metallic mask from directly affecting the pixel area upon deposition of the organic material.

[0059] Second, the spacer has a positive tapered upper part to reduce the contact area of the deposition mask, thereby preventing the defects due to the particles. At the same time, the spacer has a negative taper lower part to prevent detachment of the organic material due to repeated folding and unfolding motion.

[0060] Third, after the negative photoresist materials having different photoreactivity are deposited to have a bi-level structure, one exposure is performed to form the spacer having the bi-level structure which has different tapered shapes. As a result, a number of masks may be reduced.

[0061] It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various modifications and variations can be made in the present invention without departing from the spirit or scope of the inventions. Thus, it is intended that the present invention covers the modifications and variations of this invention provided they come within the scope of the appended claims and their equivalents.

What is claimed is:

1. A method of manufacturing an organic light emitting display device, comprising:

- providing a substrate including a plurality of pixels defined thereon;
- forming a first electrode at each pixel;
- forming a bank exposing the first electrode of each pixel;

sequentially depositing, on the bank, a first layer of a first negative photoreactive acryl and a second layer of a second negative photoreactive acryl having a greater photoreactivity than a photoreactivity of the first negative photoreactive acryl;

forming a spacer including the first layer having a negative taper and the second layer having a positive taper by applying a mask over the second layer, the mask having an open portion to open a predetermined portion of the bank;

forming an organic layer including an organic light emitting layer on the bank and the first electrode; and

forming a second electrode on the bank, the spacer, and the organic layer.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the organic layer includes a plurality of organic light emitting layers that are respectively disposed at each pixel to be spaced from each other with respective spacers therebetween.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the pixels are arranged in a diagonal direction on the substrate.

4. The method according to claim 3, wherein each pixel has a rhombus shape, and wherein the pixels have sizes that differ according to colors of the respective organic light emitting layers.

* * * * *

专利名称(译)	有机发光显示装置及其制造方法		
公开(公告)号	US20180323245A1	公开(公告)日	2018-11-08
申请号	US16/036603	申请日	2018-07-16
[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	乐金显示有限公司		
申请(专利权)人(译)	LG DISPLAY CO. , LTD.		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	LG DISPLAY CO. , LTD.		
[标]发明人	KIM MI SEONG LEE JOUNG WOO CHO SE JUN KUK SEUNG HEE		
发明人	KIM, MI-SEONG LEE, JOUNG-WOO CHO, SE-JUN KUK, SEUNG-HEE		
IPC分类号	H01L27/32		
CPC分类号	H01L2227/323 H01L27/3216 H01L27/3218 H01L27/3246 H01L51/0011 H01L51/56		
优先权	1020150190213 2015-12-30 KR		
其他公开文献	US10418429		
外部链接	Espacenet USPTO		

摘要(译)

一种有机发光显示装置，包括：基板，包括限定在其上的多个像素；第一电极设置在每个像素处；暴露每个像素的第一电极的堤岸；间隔包括依次在堤岸上的第一负性光反应性丙烯酸的第一层和第二负性光反应性丙烯酸的第三层，其具有比第一负性光反应性丙烯酸的光反应性更大的光反应性，其中第一层具有负的锥度第二层具有正锥度；堤岸上的有机层和第一电极，有机层包括有机发光层；和堤上的第二电极，间隔物和有机层。

