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KIM et al.(10) **Pub. No.: US 2018/0005573 A1**(43) **Pub. Date: Jan. 4, 2018**(54) **STAGE AND ORGANIC LIGHT EMITTING
DISPLAY DEVICE USING THE SAME**(52) **U.S. Cl.**CPC *G09G 3/3233* (2013.01); *G09G 3/3275*
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(57)

ABSTRACT

A stage includes first, second, and third outputs and first and second signal processors. The first output supplies a scan signal to a first output terminal based on signals to first and second input terminals and the voltage of a first node. The second output is connected to a first power source and supplies an emission control signal to a second output terminal based on signals to the first input terminal, the first output terminal, and a third input terminal. The third output is connected to the first power source and supplies an inverted emission control signal to a third output terminal based on signals to the first input terminal and second output terminal. The first signal processor controls the first node voltage based on a signal to a fourth input terminal. The second signal processor controls the first node voltage based on the signal to the second input terminal.

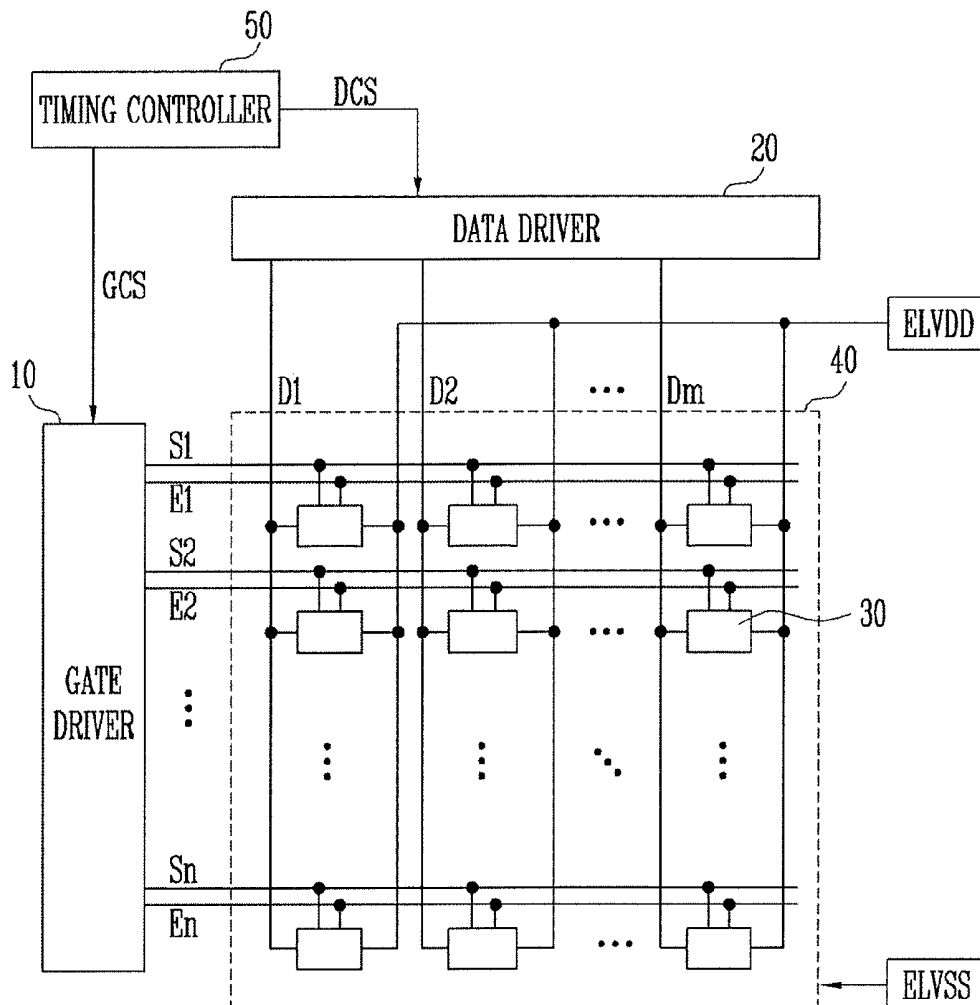


FIG. 1

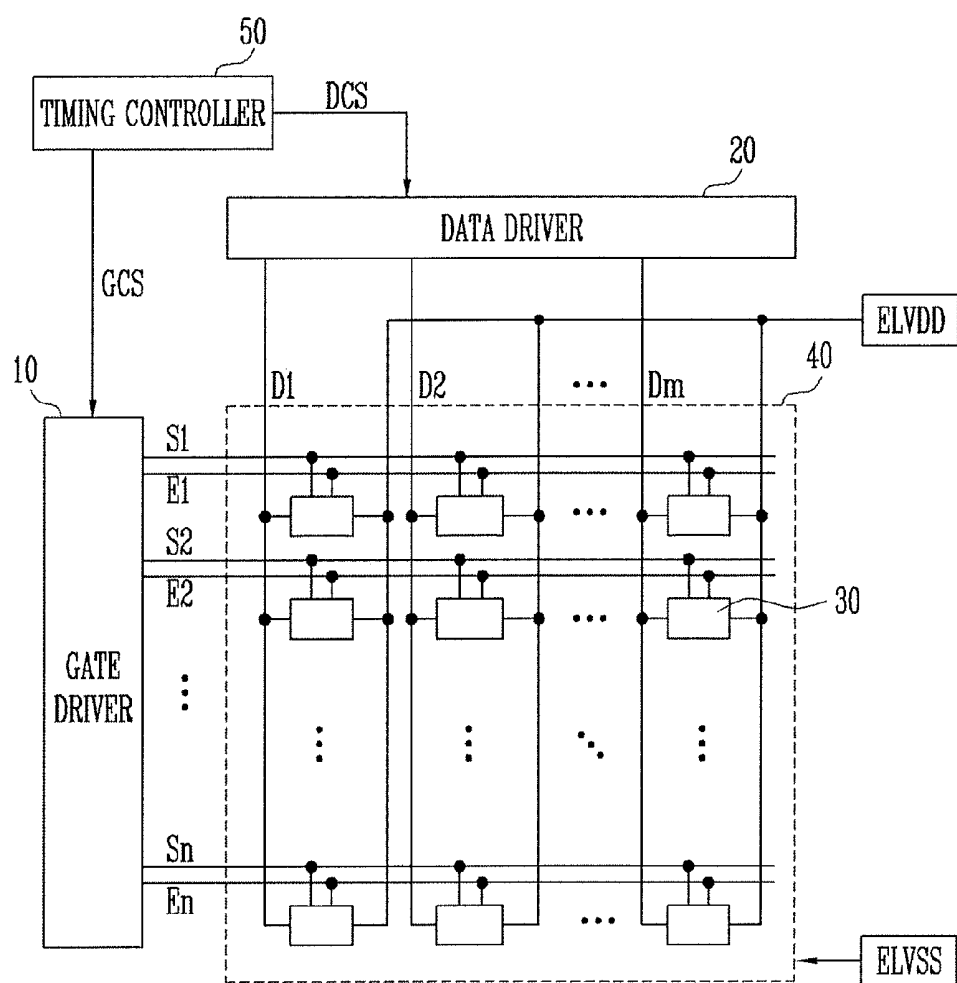


FIG. 2

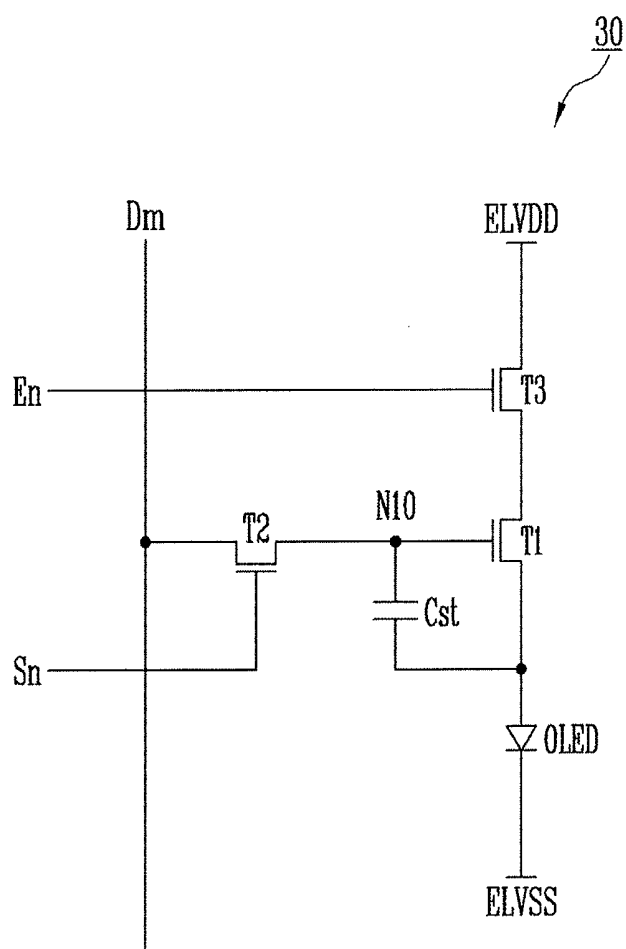


FIG. 3

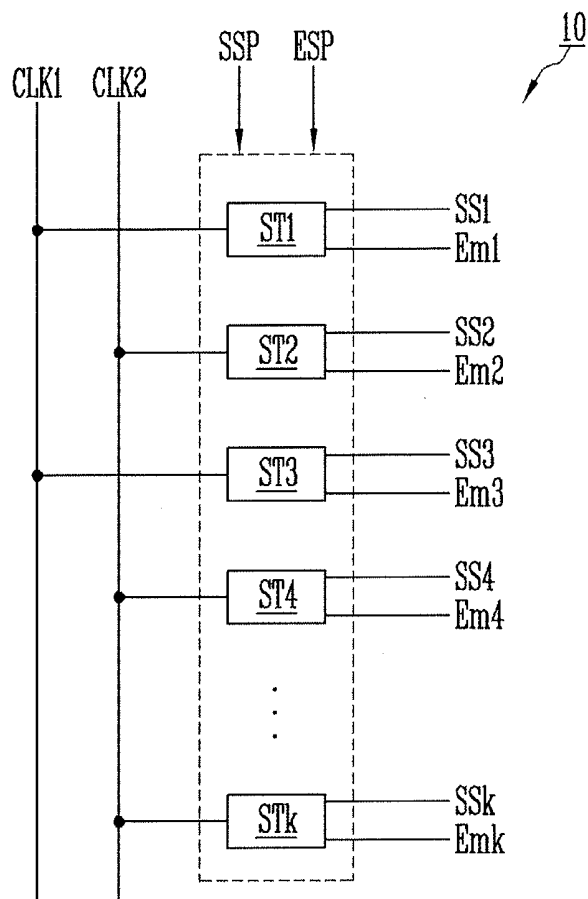


FIG. 4

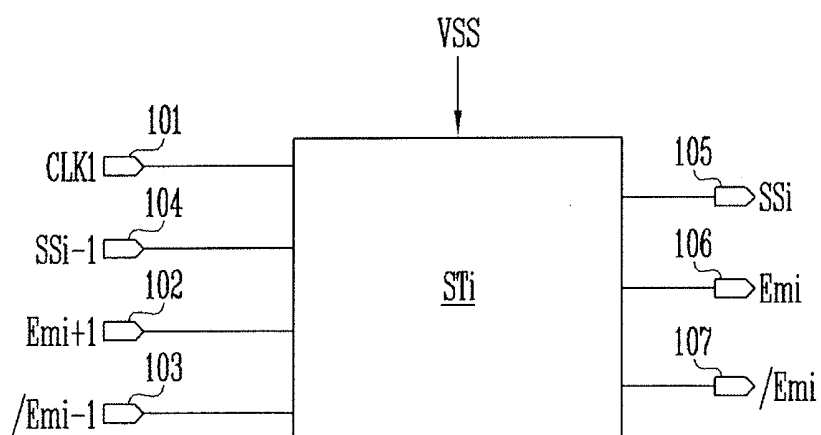


FIG. 5

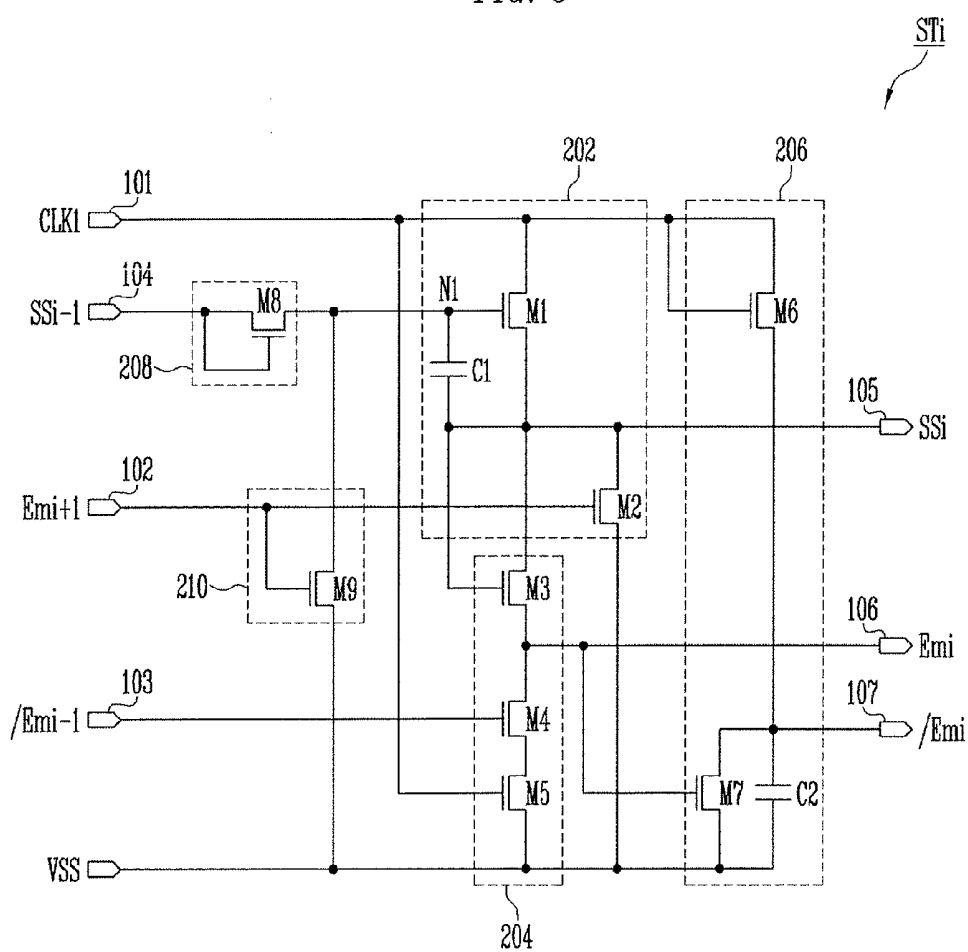
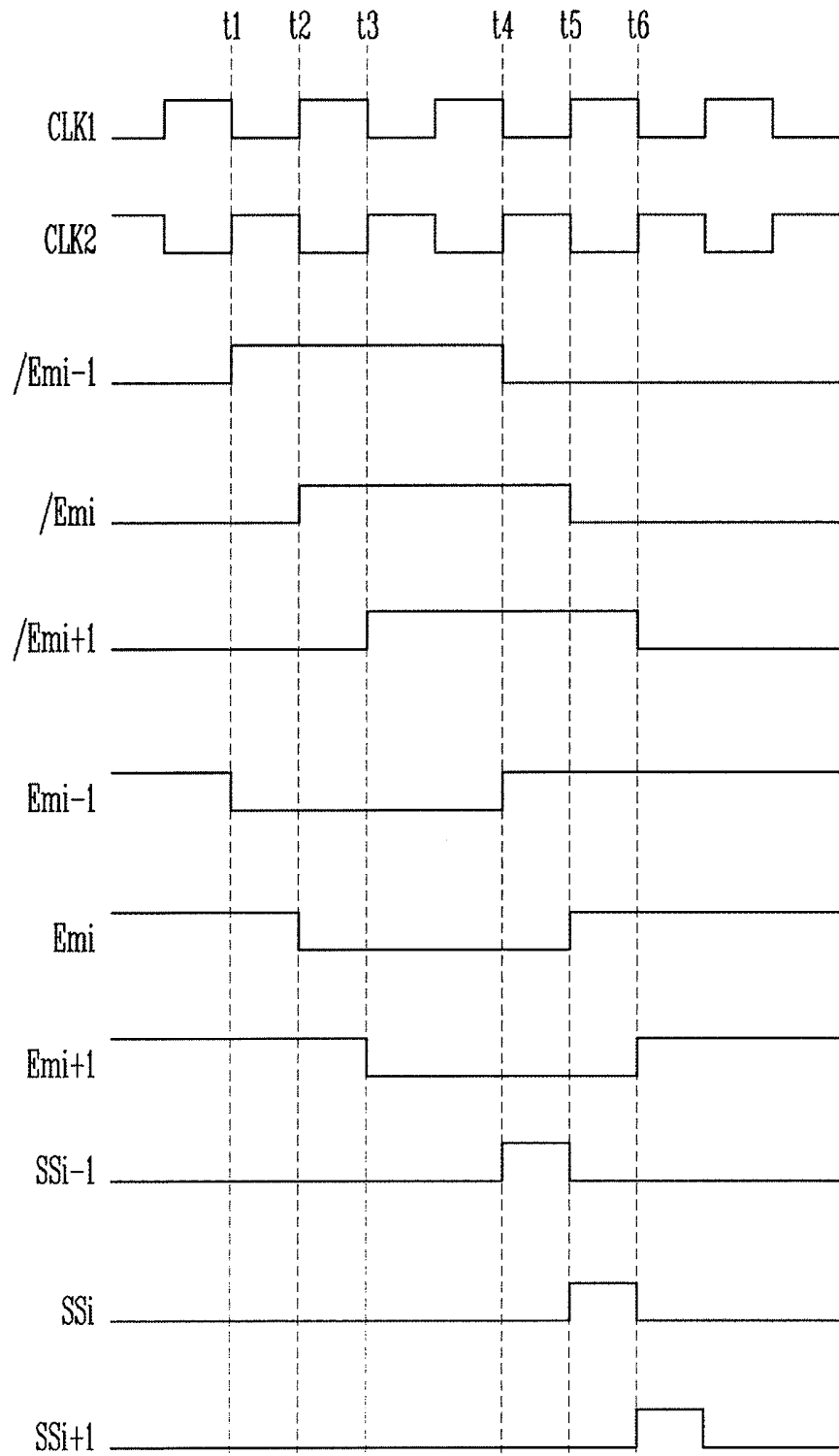


FIG. 6



STAGE AND ORGANIC LIGHT EMITTING DISPLAY DEVICE USING THE SAME

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] Korean Patent Application No. 10-2016-0082656, filed on Jun. 30, 2016, and entitled, "Stage and Organic Light Emitting Display Device Using the Same," is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

BACKGROUND

1. Field

[0002] One or more embodiments described herein relate to a stage and an organic light emitting display device using a stage.

2. Description of the Related Art

[0003] A variety of displays have been developed. Examples include liquid crystal displays and organic light emitting displays. An organic light emitting display generates an image based on light emitted from an organic light emitting diode in each pixel. The light is generated based on a recombination of electrons and holes in an active layer of the diode. Such a display has high response speed and low power consumption.

[0004] In operation, a data driver supplies data signals to data lines, a scan driver supplies a scan signal to scan lines, an emission driver supplies an emission control signal to emission control lines. The data lines, scan lines, and emission control lines are connected to the pixels.

[0005] The pixels are selected when a scan signal is supplied to the scan line. The selected pixels then receive data signals from the data lines. Light emitted from the pixels have luminances based on the data signals. The emission time of the pixels are controlled by the emission control signal from the emission driver.

[0006] The scan lines and emission control lines may be driven by different stages. As a result, dead space is increased. For example, a stage for driving the scan lines and a stage for driving the emission control lines are mounted in a panel. This may increase dead space. Also, the stages for driving the scan lines and emission control lines include a plurality of transistors and a plurality of capacitors. This increases circuit complexity and power consumption. Also, the stages for driving the scan lines and the emission control lines are driven by a plurality of signal lines, which further increases dead space and power consumption.

SUMMARY

[0007] In accordance with one or more embodiments, a stage including a first output to supply a scan signal to a first output terminal based on a signal supplied to a first input terminal, a signal supplied to a second input terminal, and a voltage of a first node; a second output, connected to a first power source, to supply an emission control signal to a second output terminal based on signals supplied to the first input terminal, the first output terminal, and a third input terminal; a third output, connected to the first power source, to supply an inverted emission control signal to a third output terminal based on signals supplied to the first input terminal and the second output terminal; a first signal processor to control a voltage of the first node based on a

signal supplied to a fourth input terminal; and a second signal processor to control the voltage of the first node based on the signal supplied to the second input terminal. The first power source may be set with a gate off voltage.

[0008] The first input terminal may receive a first clock signal, and the emission control signal may have a width of one or more periods of the first clock signal. The scan signal may have a width less than one period of the first clock signal and is to have a gate-on voltage. The inverted emission control signal may have an inverted form of the emission control signal. When the emission control signal has a gate-off voltage, the inverted emission control signal may have a gate-on voltage.

[0009] The second input terminal may receive an emission control signal of a next stage, the third input terminal may receive an emission start signal or an inverted emission control signal of a previous stage, and the fourth input terminal may receive a scan start signal or a scan signal of a previous stage.

[0010] The first output may include a first transistor connected between the first input terminal and the first output terminal, the first transistor including a gate electrode connected to the first node; a second transistor connected between the first output terminal and the first power source, the second transistor including a gate electrode connected to the second input terminal; and a first capacitor connected between the first node and the first output terminal.

[0011] The second output may include a third transistor connected between the first output terminal and the second output terminal, the third transistor including a gate electrode connected to the first output terminal; and a fourth transistor and a fifth transistor serially connected between the second output terminal and the first power source, a gate electrode of the fourth transistor is connected to the third input terminal, and a gate electrode of the fifth transistor is connected to the first input terminal.

[0012] The third output may include a sixth transistor connected between the first input terminal and the third output terminal, the sixth transistor including a gate electrode connected to the first input terminal; a seventh transistor connected between the third output terminal and the first power source, the seventh transistor including a gate electrode connected to the second output terminal; and a second capacitor connected between the third output terminal and the first power source.

[0013] The first signal processor may include an eighth transistor connected between the fourth input terminal and the first node, and the eighth transistor may include a gate electrode connected to the fourth input terminal. The second signal processor may include a ninth transistor connected between the first node and the first power source, and the ninth transistor may include a gate electrode connected to the second input terminal. Each of the first output, the second output, the third output, the first signal processor, and the second signal processor may include at least one NMOS transistor.

[0014] In accordance with one or more other embodiments, an organic light emitting display device includes a plurality of pixels connected with scan lines, data lines, and emission control lines; a data driver to supply data signals to the data lines; and a gate driver including a plurality of stages to supply a scan signal to the scan lines and an emission control signal to the emission control lines. Each of the stages include a first output to supply a scan signal to a

first output terminal based on a signal supplied to a first input terminal, a signal supplied to a second input terminal, and a voltage of a first node; a second output, connected to a first power source, to supply an emission control signal to a second output terminal based on signals supplied to the first input terminal, the first output terminal, and a third input terminal; a third output, connected to the first power source, to supply an inverted emission control signal to a third output terminal based on signals supplied to the first input terminal and the second output terminal; a first signal processor to control a voltage of the first node based on a signal supplied to a fourth input terminal; and a second signal processor to control the voltage of the first node based on the signal supplied to the second input terminal, and wherein the first power source is to have a gate-off voltage.

[0015] A first clock signal may be supplied to the first input terminals of the stages in one or more odd numbered horizontal lines, and a second clock signal may be supplied to the first input terminals of stages in one or more even numbered horizontal lines. The first clock signal and second clock signal may have a same period and inverted phases.

[0016] The second input terminal may receive an emission control signal of a next stage, the third input terminal may receive an emission start signal or an inverted emission control signal of a previous stage, and the fourth input terminal may receive a scan start signal or a scan signal of a previous stage.

[0017] The first output may include a first transistor connected between the first input terminal and the first output terminal, the first transistor including a gate electrode connected to the first node; a second transistor connected between the first output terminal and the first power source, the second transistor including a gate electrode connected to the second input terminal; and a first capacitor connected between the first node and the first output terminal.

[0018] The second output may include a third transistor connected between the first output terminal and the second output terminal, the third transistor including a gate electrode connected to the first output terminal; and a fourth transistor and a fifth transistor serially connected between the second output terminal and the first power source, a gate electrode of the fourth transistor is connected to the third input terminal, and a gate electrode of the fifth transistor is connected to the first input terminal.

[0019] The third output may include a sixth transistor connected between the first input terminal and the third output terminal, the sixth transistor including a gate electrode connected to the first input terminal; a seventh transistor connected between the third output terminal and the first power source, the seventh transistor including a gate electrode connected to the second output terminal; and a second capacitor connected between the third output terminal and the first power source.

[0020] The first signal processor may include an eighth transistor connected between the fourth input terminal and the first node, the eighth transistor including a gate electrode connected to the fourth input terminal, and the second signal processor may include a ninth transistor connected between the first node and the first power source, the ninth transistor including a gate electrode connected to the second input terminal.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0021] Features will become apparent to those of skill in the art by describing in detail exemplary embodiments with reference to the attached drawings in which:

[0022] FIG. 1 illustrates an embodiment of an organic light emitting display device;

[0023] FIG. 2 illustrates an embodiment of a pixel;

[0024] FIG. 3 illustrates an embodiment of a gate driver;

[0025] FIG. 4 illustrates an embodiment of a stage;

[0026] FIG. 5 illustrates another embodiment of a stage; and

[0027] FIG. 6 illustrates waveforms corresponding to an embodiment of a method for driving a stage.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0028] Example embodiments are described with reference to the drawings; however, they may be embodied in different forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein. Rather, these embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will be thorough and complete, and will fully convey exemplary implementations to those skilled in the art. The embodiments (or portions thereof) may be combined to form additional embodiments.

[0029] In the drawings, the dimensions of layers and regions may be exaggerated for clarity of illustration. It will also be understood that when a layer or element is referred to as being “on” another layer or substrate, it can be directly on the other layer or substrate, or intervening layers may also be present. Further, it will be understood that when a layer is referred to as being “under” another layer, it can be directly under, and one or more intervening layers may also be present. In addition, it will also be understood that when a layer is referred to as being “between” two layers, it can be the only layer between the two layers, or one or more intervening layers may also be present. Like reference numerals refer to like elements throughout.

[0030] When an element is referred to as being “connected” or “coupled” to another element, it can be directly connected or coupled to the another element or be indirectly connected or coupled to the another element with one or more intervening elements interposed therebetween. In addition, when an element is referred to as “including” a component, this indicates that the element may further include another component instead of excluding another component unless there is different disclosure.

[0031] FIG. 1 illustrates an embodiment of an organic light emitting display device which includes a gate driver 10, a data driver 20, a pixel unit 40, and a timing controller 50. The timing controller 50 generates a data driving control signal DCS and a gate driving control signal GCS based on synchronization signals from an external source. The data driving control signal DCS generated by the timing controller 50 is supplied to the data driver 20. The gate driving control signal GCS generated by the timing controller 50 is supplied to the data driver 10.

[0032] The data driving control signal DCS includes a source start signal and clock signals. The source start signal controls a sampling start time of data. The clock signals control a sampling operation.

[0033] The gate driving control signal GCS includes a scan start signal, an emission start signal, and clock signals. The scan start signal controls the first timing of the scan signal. The emission start signal controls the first timing of

the emission control signal. The clock signals may be used to invert the scan start signal and emission start signal.

[0034] The gate driver **10** receives the gate driving control signal GCS from the timing controller **50**. The gate driver **10** receiving the gate driving control signal GCS supplies a scan signal to scan lines **S1** to **Sn**, and supplies an emission control signal to emission control lines **E1** to **En**.

[0035] For example, the gate driver **10** may sequentially supply a scan signal to the scan lines **S1** to **Sn**. When the scan signal is sequentially supplied to the scan lines **S1** to **Sn**, the pixels **30** are selected in units of horizontal lines. Further, the gate driver **10** may sequentially supply an emission control signal to the emission control lines **E1** to **En**. When the emission control signal is sequentially supplied to the emission control lines **E1** to **En**, the pixels **30** do not emit light in units of horizontal lines. For example, a specific pixel **30** that receives the emission control signal is set to a non-emissive state during a period of a supply of the emission control signal and is set to an emissive state during other periods.

[0036] The emission control signal is set with a gate-off voltage (e.g., a low voltage) to turn off transistors in the pixels **30**. The scan signal may be set with a gate-on voltage (e.g., a high voltage) to turn on transistors in the pixels **30**.

[0037] The gate driver **10** includes a plurality of stages. Each stage may be connected to one of the scan lines **S1** to **Sn** and one of the emission control lines **E1** to **En**.

[0038] The data driver **20** receives the data driving control signal DCS from the timing controller **50**. The data driver **20** supplies data signals to the data lines **D1** to **Dm** based on the data driving control signal DCS. The data signals supplied to the data lines **D1** to **Dm** are supplied to pixels **30** selected by the scan signal. The data driver **20** may supply the data signals to the data lines **D1** to **Dm** in synchronization with the scan signal.

[0039] The pixel unit **40** includes the pixels **30** which are connected to the scan lines **S1** to **Sn**, the data lines **D1** to **Dm**, and the emission control lines **E1** to **En**. The pixel unit **40** may receive a first driving power source **ELVDD** and a second driving power source **ELVSS** from an external source.

[0040] Each of the pixels **30** includes a driving transistor and an organic light emitting diode. The driving transistor controls the quantity of current flowing from the first driving power source **ELVDD** to the second driving power source **ELVSS**, via the organic light emitting diode, based on the data signal. In FIG. 1, *n* scan lines **S1** to **Sn** and *n* emission control lines **E1** to **En** are illustrated. In one embodiment, one or more dummy scan lines and dummy emission control lines may be additionally formed in the pixel unit **40** based on a circuit structure of the pixels **30**.

[0041] FIG. 2 illustrates an embodiment of a pixel, which may be representative of the pixels **30** in FIG. 1. For illustrative purposes, the pixel in FIG. 2 is connected with an *n*th scan line **Sn** and an *m*th data line **Dm**.

[0042] Referring to FIG. 2, pixel **30** may include an organic light emitting diode **OLED**, a first transistor **T1** (driving transistor), a second transistor **T2**, a third transistor **T3**, and a storage capacitor **Cst**. The organic light emitting diode **OLED** has an anode electrode connected to a second electrode of the first transistor **T1** and a cathode electrode connected to the second driving power source **ELVSS**. The

organic light emitting diode **OLED** may generate light with predetermined luminance based on the quantity of current from the first transistor **T1**.

[0043] The first transistor **T1** has a first electrode connected to the first driving power source **ELVDD** via the third transistor **T3**, a second electrode connected to the anode electrode of the organic light emitting diode **OLED**, and a gate electrode connected to a tenth node **N10**. The first transistor **T1** controls the quantity of current flowing from the first driving power source **ELVDD** to the second driving power source **ELVSS**, via the third transistor **T3** and the organic light emitting diode **OLED**, based on a voltage of the tenth node **N10**.

[0044] The second transistor **T2** includes a first electrode connected to the data line **Dm**, a second electrode connected to the tenth node **N10**, and a gate electrode connected to scan line **Sn**. The second transistor **T2** is turned on when the scan signal is supplied to the scan line **Sn**, to supply the data signal supplied through the data line **Dm** to the tenth node **N10**.

[0045] The third transistor **T3** includes a first electrode connected to the first driving power source **ELVDD**, a second electrode connected to the first electrode of the first transistor **T1**, and a gate electrode connected to the emission control line **En**. The third transistor **T3** is turned off when the emission control signal is supplied to the emission control line **En** and is turned on when the emission control signal is not supplied.

[0046] When the third transistor **T3** is turned off, the first transistor **T1** and the first driving power source **ELVDD** are electrically blocked. Thus, the pixel **30** is set in the non-emissive state. When the third transistor **T3** is turned on, the first transistor **T1** and the first driving power source **ELVDD** are electrically connected. Thus, the pixel **30** is set in the emissive state.

[0047] The storage capacitor **Cst** is connected between the tenth node **N10** and the anode electrode of the organic light emitting diode **OLED**. The storage capacitor **Cst** stores a voltage of the tenth node **N10**.

[0048] The pixel **30** may have a different structure and operation in another embodiment. For example, the pixel **30** may be implemented in various circuit forms having a different number of transistors and/or capacitors and/or which operates based on an emission period is controllable by the emission control signal.

[0049] FIG. 3 illustrates an embodiment of the gate driver **10** in FIG. 1. Referring to FIG. 3, the gate driver **10** includes *k* stages **ST1** to **STk**, where *k* is a natural number. Each of the stages **ST1** to **STk** generates a scan signal **SS** and an emission control signal **Emi** based on a first clock signal **CLK1** or a second clock signal **CLK2**.

[0050] The gate driver **10** receives a scan start signal **SSP** and an emission start signal **ESP** from the timing controller **50**. The scan start signal **SSP** controls the first timing of the scan signal. The emission start signal **ESP** controls the first timing of the emission control signal. The scan start signal **SSP** and the emission start signal **ESP** may be supplied to the first stage **ST1**.

[0051] Each of the stages **ST1** to **STk** is connected to any one scan line **S** and emission control line **E**. A scan signal **SSi** and emission control signal **Emi** generated in an *i*th stage **STi** (*i* is a natural number smaller than *k*) may be supplied to the scan line **S** and the emission control line **E** in different horizontal lines. For example, the *i*th scan line **SS1** may be

supplied to the i^{th} scan line S_i , and the i^{th} emission control line EM_i may be supplied to the $i+2^{th}$ emission control line E_{i+2} . For example, the i^{th} scan line SS_i and the i^{th} emission control signal Em_i may be supplied to the scan line S and the emission control line E in different horizontal lines based on the circuit structure of the pixel 30.

[0052] The odd (or even) numbered stages $ST_1, ST_3, \dots$ receive the first clock signal CLK_1 . The even (or odd) numbered stages $ST_2, ST_4, \dots$ receive the second clock signal CLK_2 . The first clock signal CLK_1 and the second clock signal CLK_2 may be set to have the same period and inverted phases.

[0053] FIG. 4 illustrates an embodiment of the stage in FIG. 3. For illustrative purposes, the i^{th} stage ST_i is illustrated, and it is assumed that the i^{th} stage is the odd-numbered stage that receives the first clock signal CLK_1 .

[0054] Referring to FIG. 4, the i^{th} stage ST_i includes a first input terminal 101, a second input terminal 102, a third input terminal 103, a fourth input terminal 104, a first output terminal 105, a second output terminal 106, and a third output terminal 107. The first input terminal 101 receives the first clock signal CLK_1 . The second clock signal CLK_2 is supplied to the first input terminal 101 of the $i+1^{th}$ stage ST_{i+1} .

[0055] The second input terminal 102 receives an emission control signal Em_{i+1} of the next stage ST_{i+1} .

[0056] The third input terminal 103 receives an inverted emission control signal $/Em_{i-1}$ of the previous stage ST_{i-1} . When the i^{th} stage ST_i is set as the first stage, the emission start signal ESP is supplied to the third input terminal 103. The emission start signal ESP may be set to have, for example, the width of one period or more of the first clock signal CLK_1 . Then, the emission control signal corresponding to the emission start signal ESP may also be set to have, for example, the width of one period or more of the first clock signal CLK_1 .

[0057] The fourth input terminal 104 receives a scan signal SS_{i-1} from the stage ST_{i-1} . When the i^{th} stage ST_i is the first stage, the scan start signal SSP is supplied to the fourth input terminal 104. The scan start signal SSP may have a width less than one period of the first clock signal CLK_1 . Then, the scan signal corresponding to the scan start signal SSP may also have a width less than one period of the first clock signal.

[0058] The first output terminal 105 outputs a scan signal SS_i . The scan signal SS_i supplied to the first output terminal 105 is supplied to the scan line S electrically connected with the first output terminal 105. The scan signal SS_i output to the first output terminal 105 is supplied to the fourth input terminal 104 of the next stage ST_{i+1} .

[0059] The second output terminal 106 outputs an emission control signal Em_i . The emission control signal Em_i supplied to the second output terminal 106 is supplied to the emission control line E electrically connected with the second output terminal 106. The emission control signal Em_i output to the second output terminal 106 is supplied to the second input terminal 102 of the previous stage ST_{i-1} .

[0060] The third output terminal 107 outputs an inverted emission control signal $/Em_i$. The inverted emission control signal $/Em_i$ may correspond to a signal obtained by inverting the emission control signal Em_i . The inverted emission control signal $/Em_i$ output to the third input terminal 103 is supplied to the third input terminal 103 of the next stage

ST_{i+1} . The stage ST_i receives a first power source VSS , which may have, for example, a gate-off voltage (e.g., a low voltage).

[0061] FIG. 5 illustrates another embodiment of a stage, which, for example, may be a more detailed version of the stage ST_i in FIG. 4. Referring to FIG. 5, the stage ST_i includes a first output unit 202, a second output unit 204, a third output unit 206, a first signal processing unit 208, and a second signal processing unit 210. Each of the first output unit 202, the second output unit 204, the third output unit 206, the first signal processing unit 208, and the second signal processing unit 210 may be formed of NMOS transistors based on the pixel 30 formed of the NMOS transistors T_1 to T_3 .

[0062] The first output unit 202 supplies the scan signal SS_i to the first output terminal 105 based on the signals supplied to the first input terminal 101 and the second input terminal 102 and a voltage of a first node N_1 . The first output unit 202 includes a first transistor M_1 , a second transistor M_2 , and a first capacitor C_1 .

[0063] The first transistor M_1 is connected between the first input terminal 101 and the first output terminal 105. A gate electrode of the first transistor M_1 is connected to the first node N_1 . The first transistor M_1 is turned on or turned off based on the voltage of the first node N_1 .

[0064] The second transistor M_2 is connected between the first output terminal 105 and the first power source VSS . A gate electrode of the second transistor M_2 is connected to the second input terminal 102. The second transistor M_2 is turned off when the $i+1^{th}$ emission control signal Em_{i+1} is supplied to the second input terminal 102, and is turned on in other cases.

[0065] The first capacitor C_1 is connected between the first node N_1 and the first output terminal 105. The first capacitor C_1 stores the voltage of the first node N_1 and serves as a boosting capacitor for increasing the voltage of the first node N_1 based on a voltage of the first output terminal 105. The voltage of the first node N_1 is increased based on the voltage of the first output terminal 105. Thus, the first transistor M_1 is stably maintained in the turn-on state.

[0066] The second output unit 204 is connected to the first power source VSS and supplies the emission control signal Em_i to the second output terminal 106 based on the signals supplied to the first input terminal 101, the third input terminal 103, and the first output terminal 105. The second output unit 204 includes a third transistor M_3 , a fourth transistor M_4 , and a fifth transistor M_5 .

[0067] The third transistor M_3 is connected between the first output terminal 105 and the second output terminal 106. A gate electrode of the third transistor M_3 is connected to the first output terminal 105. The third transistor M_3 is connected in the form of a diode and supplies the voltage of first output terminal 105 to second output terminal 106.

[0068] The fourth transistor M_4 and the fifth transistor M_5 are serially connected between the second output terminal 106 and the first power source VSS . A gate electrode of the fourth transistor M_4 is connected to the third input terminal 103. The fourth transistor M_4 is turned on when the $i-1^{th}$ inverted emission control signal $/Em_{i-1}$ is supplied to the third input terminal 103, and is turned off in other cases.

[0069] The fifth transistor M_5 has a gate electrode connected to the first input terminal 101. The fifth transistor M_5

is turned on when the first clock signal CLK1 is supplied to the first input terminal 101 and is turned off in other cases.

[0070] The third output unit 206 is connected to the first power source and supplies the inverted emission control signal /Emi to the third output terminal 107 based on the signals supplied to the first input terminal 101 and the second output terminal 106. The third output unit 206 includes a sixth transistor M6, a seventh transistor M7, and a second capacitor C2.

[0071] The sixth transistor M6 is connected between the first input terminal 101 and the third output terminal 107. A gate electrode of the sixth transistor M6 is connected to the first input terminal 101. The sixth transistor M6 is connected in the form of a diode and supplies the voltage of the first input terminal 101 to the third output terminal 107.

[0072] The seventh transistor M7 is connected between the third output terminal 107 and first power source VSS. The seventh transistor M7 has a gate electrode connected to the second input terminal 106. The seventh transistor M7 is turned on or turned off based on a voltage of the second output terminal 106.

[0073] The second capacitor C2 is connected between the third output terminal 107 and the first power source VSS.

[0074] The first signal processing unit 208 controls the voltage of the first node N1 based on a signal supplied to the fourth input terminal 104. The first signal processing unit 208 includes an eighth transistor M8.

[0075] The eighth transistor M8 is connected between the fourth input terminal 104 and the first node N1. The eighth transistor M8 has a gate electrode connected to the fourth input terminal 104. The eighth transistor M8 is connected in the form of a diode and supplies the voltage of the fourth input terminal 104 to the first node N1.

[0076] The second signal processing unit 210 controls the voltage of the first node N1 based on a signal supplied to the second input terminal 102. The second signal processing unit 210 includes a ninth transistor M9.

[0077] The ninth transistor M9 is connected between the first node N1 and the first power source VSS. The ninth transistor M9 has a gate electrode connected to the second input terminal 102. The ninth transistor M9 is turned off when the $i+1^{th}$ emission control signal Emi+1 is supplied to the second input terminal 102 and is turned on in other cases.

[0078] The remaining stages may be implemented with the same circuit as i^{th} stage STi.

[0079] FIG. 6 illustrates a waveform corresponding to an embodiment of a method for driving a stage, for example, as illustrated in FIG. 5. Referring to FIG. 6, the first clock signal CLK1 and the second clock signal CLK2 may be set to have the same period and inverted phases. When the first clock signal CLK1 (or the second clock signal CLK2) is supplied to the first input terminal 101, the first input terminal 101 may be set with the gate-on voltage. When the first clock signal CLK1 (or the second clock signal CLK2) is not supplied to the first input terminal 101, the first input terminal 101 may be set with the gate-off voltage, for example, a voltage of the first power source VSS.

[0080] When the $i+1^{th}$ emission control signal Emi+1 is supplied to the second input terminal 102, the second input terminal 102 is set with the gate-off voltage and is set with the gate-on voltage in other cases.

[0081] When the $i-1^{th}$ inverted emission control signal /Emi-1 is supplied to the third input terminal 103, the third

input terminal is set with the gate-on voltage and is set with the gate-off voltage in other cases.

[0082] When the $i-1^{th}$ scan signal SSi-1 is supplied to the fourth input terminal 104, the fourth input terminal 104 is set with the gate-on voltage and is set with the gate-off voltage in other cases.

[0083] In operation, first, the $i-1^{th}$ inverted emission control signal /Emi-1 is supplied to the third input terminal 103 at a first time t1. When the i^{th} stage STi is set as the first stage, the emission start signal ESP is supplied to the third input terminal 103. When the $i-1^{th}$ inverted emission control signal /Emi-1 is supplied to the third input terminal 103, the fourth transistor M4 is turned on. The fourth transistor M4 maintains a turn-on state during a period, between the first time t1 and the fourth time t4, during which the $i-1^{th}$ inverted emission control signal /Emi-1 is supplied. When the fourth transistor M4 is turned on, the fifth transistor M5 and the second output terminal 106 are electrically connected. Since the fifth transistor M5 is set in the turn-off state, the second output terminal 106 maintains a voltage of a previous period.

[0084] At a second time t2, the first clock signal CLK1 is supplied to the first input terminal 101. When the first clock signal CLK1 is supplied to the first input terminal 101, the fifth transistor M5 and the sixth transistor M6 are turned on.

[0085] When the fifth transistor M5 is turned on, the voltage of the first power source VSS is supplied to the second output terminal 106. The voltage of the first power source VSS supplied to the second output terminal 106 is supplied to a specific emission control line as the emission control signal Emi. When the first power source VSS is supplied to the second output terminal 106, the seventh transistor M7 is turned off.

[0086] When the sixth transistor M6 is turned on, the first clock signal CLK1 is supplied to the third output terminal 107. The third output terminal 107 outputs a high voltage, e.g., an inverted emission control signal /Emi. The voltage of the first clock signal CLK1 supplied to third output terminal 107 is stored in the second capacitor C2.

[0087] At a third time t3, the supply of the first clock signal CLK1 to the first input terminal 101 is stopped. When the first clock signal CLK1 is stopped, the fifth transistor M5 and the sixth transistor M6 are turned off.

[0088] When the fifth transistor M5 is turned off, an electric connection of the fourth transistor M4 and the first power source VSS is blocked. The second output terminal 106 maintains a voltage of a previous period.

[0089] The second output terminal 106 is electrically connected with the emission control line. The emission control line is formed in the pixel unit 40 in a horizontal direction and includes a parasitic capacitor. Accordingly, at the third time t3, the first output terminal 106 maintains the voltage of the previous period (e.g., the voltage of the first power source VSS) by the parasitic capacitor of the emission control line.

[0090] When the sixth transistor M6 is turned off, an electric connection of the first input terminal 101 and the third output terminal 107 is blocked. The third output terminal 107 maintains the voltage of the previous period by the second capacitor C2. The third output terminal 107 outputs a voltage of the inverted emission control signal /Emi.

[0091] At the third time t3, the $i+1^{th}$ emission control signal Emi+1 is supplied to the second input terminal 102.

When the $i+1^{th}$ emission control signal $Emi+1$ is supplied to the second input terminal **102**, the second transistor **M2** is turned off. Then, an electric connection between the first output terminal **105** and first power source **VSS** is blocked.

[0092] At a fourth time t_4 , the $i-1^{th}$ scan signal $SSi-1$ is supplied to the fourth input terminal **104** and the supply of the $i-1^{th}$ inverted emission control signal $/Emi-1$ to the third input terminal **103** is stopped. When the supply of the $i-1^{th}$ inverted emission control signal $/Emi-1$ is stopped, the fourth transistor **M4** is turned off. When the $i-1^{th}$ scan signal $SSi-1$ is supplied to the fourth input terminal **104**, the eighth transistor **M8** is turned on.

[0093] When the eighth transistor **M8** is turned on, a voltage of the $i-1^{th}$ scan signal $SSi-1$ (e.g., a high voltage) is supplied to the first node **N1**. When the high voltage is supplied to the first node **N1**, the first transistor **M1** is turned on. Since the first clock signal **CLK1** is not supplied to the first output terminal **101**, the first output terminal **105** maintains the voltage of the previous period. The high voltage supplied to the first node **N1** is stored in the first capacitor **C1**. Accordingly, the first transistor **M1** maintains the turn-on state.

[0094] At a fifth time t_5 , the first clock signal **CLK1** is supplied to the first input terminal **101**. When the first clock signal **CLK1** is supplied to the first input terminal **101**, the fifth transistor **M5** and the sixth transistor **M6** are turned on. Then, the first transistor **M1** maintains the turn-on state by the voltage charged in the first capacitor **C1** at the fifth time t_5 .

[0095] Since the first transistor **M1** is set in the turn-on state, the first clock signal **CLK1** supplied to the first input terminal **101** is supplied to the first output terminal **105**. The first clock signal **CLK1** supplied to the first output terminal **105** is supplied to the scan line connected with the first output terminal **105** as the scan signal **SSi**. When the first clock signal **CLK1** is supplied to the first output terminal **105**, the voltage of the first node **N1** is increased by the boosting of the first capacitor **C1**. Accordingly, the first transistor **M1** stably maintains the turn-on state.

[0096] When the first clock signal **CLK1** is supplied to the first input terminal **105**, the third transistor **M3** is turned on. When the third transistor **M3** is turned on, the voltage of the first clock signal **CLK1** is supplied to the second output terminal **106**. Then, the supply of the emission control signal **Emi** to the second output terminal **106** is stopped. Further, when the voltage of the first clock signal **CLK1** is supplied to the second output terminal **106**, the seventh transistor **M7** is turned on.

[0097] When the seventh transistor **M7** is turned on, the voltage of the first power source **VSS** is supplied to the third output terminal **107**. Then, the supply of the inverted emission control signal $/Emi$ to the third output terminal **107** is stopped. Further, the first clock signal **CLK1** supplied to the third output terminal **107** by the turn-on of the sixth transistor **M6** is supplied to the first power source **VSS** via the seventh transistor **M7**. As a result, the third output terminal **107** stably maintains the voltage of the first power source **VSS**.

[0098] The first clock signal **CLK1** is supplied to the third output terminal **107** via the sixth transistor **M6**, which is connected in the form of a diode. Then, the first power source **VSS** is supplied to the third output terminal **107** via the seventh transistor **M7**, which is set in the turn-on state. Even though W/L of the sixth transistor **M6** and the seventh

transistor **M7** are similarly set, the third output terminal **107** is set with the voltage of the first power source **VSS**.

[0099] At a sixth time t_6 , the $i+1^{th}$ emission control signal $Emi+1$ is stopped. When the supply of the $i+1^{th}$ emission control signal $Emi+1$ to the second input terminal **102** is stopped, the second transistor **M2** and the ninth transistor **M9** are turned on. When the second transistor **M2** is turned on, the voltage of the first power source **VSS** is supplied to the first output terminal **105**, and supply of the scan signal **SSi** to the first output terminal **105** is stopped.

[0100] When the ninth transistor **M9** is turned on, the voltage of the first power source **VSS** is supplied to the first node **N1**. When the voltage of the first power source **VSS** is supplied to the first node **N1**, the first transistor **M1** is set in the turn-off state. Then, the first capacitor **C1** stores the voltage of the first node **N1**.

[0101] The stages **ST1** to **STk** may output the scan signal **SS** and the emission control signal **Emi** in accordance with the aforementioned process. For example, the $i+1^{th}$ stage **STi** may output the scan signal $SSi+1$ and the emission control signal $Emi+1$ while repeating the aforementioned process based on the second clock signal **CLK2**.

[0102] In addition, the stages **ST1** to **STk** may control the width of the emission control signal based on the width of the emission start signal **ESP**. In this case, the $i-1^{th}$ inverted emission control signal $/Emi-1$ may be, for example, the emission start signal **ESP**.

[0103] When the width of the emission start signal **ESP** is increased, the width between the time t_1 to the time t_4 is increased. Then, the width of the emission control signal **Emi** is increased based on the emission start signal **ESP**. For example, in stages **ST1** to **STk**, the width of the emission control signal is controlled based on the width of the emission start signal **ESP**. Thus, it is possible to freely control emission times of the pixels **30** based on the width of the emission start signal **ESP**.

[0104] The methods, processes, and/or operations described herein may be performed by code or instructions to be executed by a computer, processor, controller, or other signal processing device. The computer, processor, controller, or other signal processing device may be those described herein or one in addition to the elements described herein. Because the algorithms that form the basis of the methods (or operations of the computer, processor, controller, or other signal processing device) are described in detail, the code or instructions for implementing the operations of the method embodiments may transform the computer, processor, controller, or other signal processing device into a special-purpose processor for performing the methods herein.

[0105] The processors, drivers, controllers, and other processing features of the disclosed embodiments may be implemented in logic which, for example, may include hardware, software, or both. When implemented at least partially in hardware, the processors, drivers, controllers, and other processing features may be, for example, any one of a variety of integrated circuits including but not limited to an application-specific integrated circuit, a field-programmable gate array, a combination of logic gates, a system-on-chip, a microprocessor, or another type of processing or control circuit.

[0106] When implemented in at least partially in software, the processors, drivers, controllers, and other processing features may include, for example, a memory or other storage device for storing code or instructions to be

executed, for example, by a computer, processor, microprocessor, controller, or other signal processing device. The computer, processor, microprocessor, controller, or other signal processing device may be those described herein or one in addition to the elements described herein. Because the algorithms that form the basis of the methods (or operations of the computer, processor, microprocessor, controller, or other signal processing device) are described in detail, the code or instructions for implementing the operations of the method embodiments may transform the computer, processor, controller, or other signal processing device into a special-purpose processor for performing the methods herein.

[0107] Example embodiments have been disclosed herein, and although specific terms are employed, they are used and are to be interpreted in a generic and descriptive sense only and not for purpose of limitation. In some instances, as would be apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art as of the filing of the present application, features, characteristics, and/or elements described in connection with a particular embodiment may be used singly or in combination with features, characteristics, and/or elements described in connection with other embodiments unless otherwise indicated. Accordingly, it will be understood by those of skill in the art that various changes in form and details may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention as set forth in the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A stage, comprising:
 - a first output to supply a scan signal to a first output terminal based on a signal supplied to a first input terminal, a signal supplied to a second input terminal, and a voltage of a first node;
 - a second output, connected to a first power source, to supply an emission control signal to a second output terminal based on signals supplied to the first input terminal, the first output terminal, and a third input terminal;
 - a third output, connected to the first power source, to supply an inverted emission control signal to a third output terminal based on signals supplied to the first input terminal and the second output terminal;
 - a first signal processor to control a voltage of the first node based on a signal supplied to a fourth input terminal; and
 - a second signal processor to control the voltage of the first node based on the signal supplied to the second input terminal.
2. The stage as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first power source is to have a gate-off voltage.
3. The stage as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
 - the first input terminal is to receive a first clock signal, and
 - the emission control signal has a width of one or more periods of the first clock signal.
4. The stage as claimed in claim 3, wherein the scan signal has a width less than one period of the first clock signal and is to have a gate-on voltage.
5. The stage as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
 - the inverted emission control signal has an inverted form of the emission control signal, and
 - when the emission control signal has a gate-off voltage, the inverted emission control signal has a gate-on voltage.
6. The stage as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
 - the second input terminal is to receive an emission control signal of a next stage,
 - the third input terminal is to receive an emission start signal or an inverted emission control signal of a previous stage, and
 - the fourth input terminal is to receive a scan start signal or a scan signal of a previous stage.
7. The stage as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first output includes:
 - a first transistor connected between the first input terminal and the first output terminal, the first transistor including a gate electrode connected to the first node;
 - a second transistor connected between the first output terminal and the first power source, the second transistor including a gate electrode connected to the second input terminal; and
 - a first capacitor connected between the first node and the first output terminal.
8. The stage as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second output includes:
 - a third transistor connected between the first output terminal and the second output terminal, the third transistor including a gate electrode connected to the first output terminal; and
 - a fourth transistor and a fifth transistor serially connected between the second output terminal and the first power source,
- a gate electrode of the fourth transistor is connected to the third input terminal, and
 - a gate electrode of the fifth transistor is connected to the first input terminal.
9. The stage as claimed in claim 1, wherein the third output includes:
 - a sixth transistor connected between the first input terminal and the third output terminal, the sixth transistor including a gate electrode connected to the first input terminal;
 - a seventh transistor connected between the third output terminal and the first power source, the seventh transistor including a gate electrode connected to the second output terminal; and
 - a second capacitor connected between the third output terminal and the first power source.
10. The stage as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
 - the first signal processor includes an eighth transistor connected between the fourth input terminal and the first node, and
 - the eighth transistor including a gate electrode connected to the fourth input terminal.
11. The stage as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
 - the second signal processor includes a ninth transistor connected between the first node and the first power source, and
 - the ninth transistor including a gate electrode connected to the second input terminal.
12. The stage as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
 - each of the first output, the second output, the third output, the first signal processor, and the second signal processor includes at least one NMOS transistor.
13. An organic light emitting display device, comprising:
 - a plurality of pixels connected with scan lines, data lines, and emission control lines;

- a data driver to supply data signals to the data lines; and
 a gate driver including a plurality of stages to supply a scan signal to the scan lines and an emission control signal to the emission control lines, wherein each of the stages includes:
- a first output to supply a scan signal to a first output terminal based on a signal supplied to a first input terminal, a signal supplied to a second input terminal, and a voltage of a first node;
 - a second output, connected to a first power source, to supply an emission control signal to a second output terminal based on signals supplied to the first input terminal, the first output terminal, and a third input terminal;
 - a third output, connected to the first power source, to supply an inverted emission control signal to a third output terminal based on signals supplied to the first input terminal and the second output terminal;
 - a first signal processor to control a voltage of the first node based on a signal supplied to a fourth input terminal; and
 - a second signal processor to control the voltage of the first node based on the signal supplied to the second input terminal, and wherein the first power source is to have a gate-off voltage.
- 14.** The organic light emitting display device as claimed in claim **13**, wherein:
- a first clock signal is to be supplied to the first input terminals of the stages in one or more odd numbered horizontal lines, and
 - a second clock signal is to be supplied to the first input terminals of the stages in one or more even numbered horizontal lines.
- 15.** The organic light emitting display device as claimed in claim **14**, wherein the first clock signal and the second clock signal have the same period and inverted phases.
- 16.** The organic light emitting display device as claimed in claim **13**, wherein:
- the second input terminal is to receive an emission control signal of a next stage,
 - the third input terminal is to receive an emission start signal or an inverted emission control signal of a previous stage, and
 - the fourth input terminal is to receive a scan start signal or a scan signal of a previous stage.
- 17.** The organic light emitting display device as claimed in claim **13**, wherein the first output includes:

- a first transistor connected between the first input terminal and the first output terminal, the first transistor including a gate electrode connected to the first node;
 - a second transistor connected between the first output terminal and the first power source, the second transistor including a gate electrode connected to the second input terminal; and
 - a first capacitor connected between the first node and the first output terminal.
- 18.** The organic light emitting display device as claimed in claim **13**, wherein the second output includes:
- a third transistor connected between the first output terminal and the second output terminal, the third transistor including a gate electrode connected to the first output terminal; and
 - a fourth transistor and a fifth transistor serially connected between the second output terminal and the first power source,
- a gate electrode of the fourth transistor is connected to the third input terminal, and
- a gate electrode of the fifth transistor is connected to the first input terminal.
- 19.** The organic light emitting display device as claimed in claim **13**, wherein the third output includes:
- a sixth transistor connected between the first input terminal and the third output terminal, the sixth transistor including a gate electrode connected to the first input terminal;
 - a seventh transistor connected between the third output terminal and the first power source, the seventh transistor including a gate electrode connected to the second output terminal; and
 - a second capacitor connected between the third output terminal and the first power source.
- 20.** The organic light emitting display device as claimed in claim **13**, wherein:
- the first signal processor includes an eighth transistor connected between the fourth input terminal and the first node, the eighth transistor including a gate electrode connected to the fourth input terminal, and
 - the second signal processor includes a ninth transistor connected between the first node and the first power source, the ninth transistor including a gate electrode connected to the second input terminal.

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摘要(译)

级包括第一，第二和第三输出以及第一和第二信号处理器。第一输出基于到第一和第二输入端子的信号以及第一节点的电压将扫描信号提供给第一输出端子。第二输出连接到第一电源，并基于到第一输入端子，第一输出端子和第三输入端子的信号将发射控制信号提供给第二输出端子。第三输出连接到第一电源，并基于到第一输入端子和第二输出端子的信号将反相发射控制信号提供给第三输出端子。第一信号处理器基于到第四输入端的信号控制第一节点电压。第二信号处理器基于到第二输入端子的信号控制第一节点电压。

