



US009412969B2

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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,412,969 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Aug. 9, 2016**

(54) **ORGANIC ELECTRO-LUMINESCENT
DISPLAY AND METHOD OF FABRICATING
THE SAME**

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

- (71) Applicant: **Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.**,
Suwon-si, Gyeonggi-do (KR)
- (72) Inventors: **Joonghyuk Kim**, Seoul (KR); **Sunggyu
Kang**, Suwon-si (KR); **Jaewoo Chung**,
Seoul (KR); **Youngki Hong**, Anyang-si
(KR)
- (73) Assignee: **SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO.,
LTD.** (KR)

6,369,507	B1 *	4/2002	Arai	313/506
6,689,632	B2	2/2004	Kim et al.	
7,535,169	B2	5/2009	Kobayashi	
2004/0012058	A1 *	1/2004	Aoki	257/414
2005/0266763	A1 *	12/2005	Kimura et al.	445/24
2005/0285509	A1 *	12/2005	Funamoto et al.	313/504
2006/0223221	A1 *	10/2006	Ishii	438/99
2006/0273314	A1 *	12/2006	Lee	257/59
2010/0252857	A1 *	10/2010	Nakatani et al.	257/100

(Continued)

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

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

JP	2009-272277	A	11/2009
JP	4547038	B2	7/2010

(Continued)

(21) Appl. No.: **14/594,247**

(22) Filed: **Jan. 12, 2015**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2016/0020424 A1 Jan. 21, 2016

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Jul. 16, 2014 (KR) 10-2014-0089899

(51) **Int. Cl.**

H01L 51/52 (2006.01)
H01L 27/32 (2006.01)
H01L 51/56 (2006.01)
H01L 51/00 (2006.01)

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

CPC **H01L 51/5253** (2013.01); **H01L 27/3246**
(2013.01); **H01L 51/0004** (2013.01); **H01L**
51/56 (2013.01); **H01L 2227/323** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC H01L 24/29
See application file for complete search history.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Chesterfield, et al., "Solution-Coating Technology for AMOLED
Displays", Information Display, SID, 2011, pp. 24-30.

(Continued)

Primary Examiner — Mohammad Islam

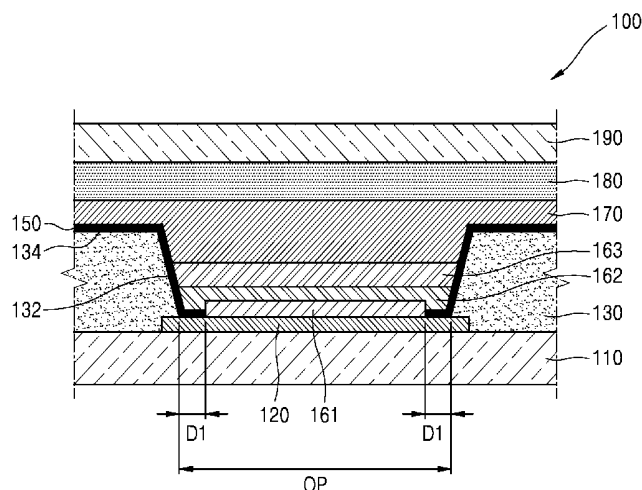
Assistant Examiner — Ankush Singal

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Cantor Colburn LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An organic electro-luminescent display includes an anode
electrode disposed in a pixel region, on a substrate, a bank
adjacent to an edge of the anode electrode, on the substrate, to
define the pixel region, a hole injection layer on the anode
electrode, to be separated from a sidewall of the bank by a first
distance, a hole transport layer and an emissive layer sequen-
tially disposed on the hole injection layer, in the pixel region,
and a cathode electrode disposed on the emissive layer.

7 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets



(56)

References Cited

2015/0221709 A1* 8/2015 Shimamura et al.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

2010/0289728 A1* 11/2010 Nakatani et al. 345/76
2011/0121301 A1* 5/2011 Kim et al. 257/59
2011/0221789 A1* 9/2011 Ota 345/690
2012/0132935 A1* 5/2012 Isobe et al. 257/88
2012/0228590 A1* 9/2012 Matsumi 257/40
2012/0305952 A1* 12/2012 Takei 257/89
2014/0077202 A1 3/2014 Zhou et al.
2014/0138658 A1* 5/2014 Aonuma 257/40
2014/0154818 A1* 6/2014 Shimamura et al. 438/4
2015/0132878 A1* 5/2015 Kawanami et al. 438/46

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

JP 2011-249089 A 12/2011
JP 2012-074225 A 4/2012
KR 10-0437533 B1 6/2004

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Chen et al., "Evaporation evolution of volatile liquid droplets in nanoliter wells", Sensors and Actuators, A 130-131, 2006, pp. 12-19.

* cited by examiner

FIG. 1

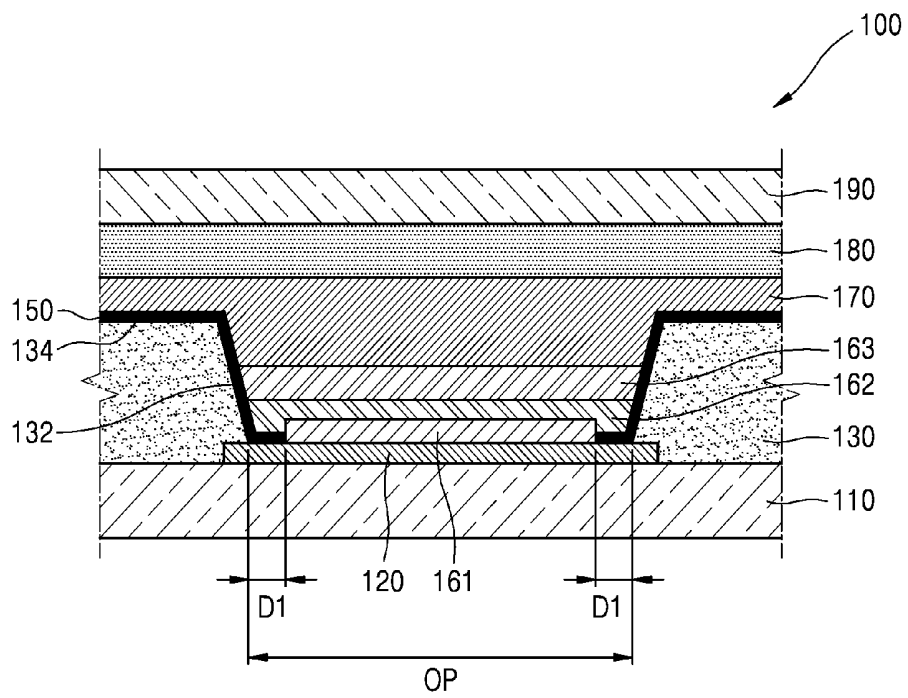


FIG. 2A

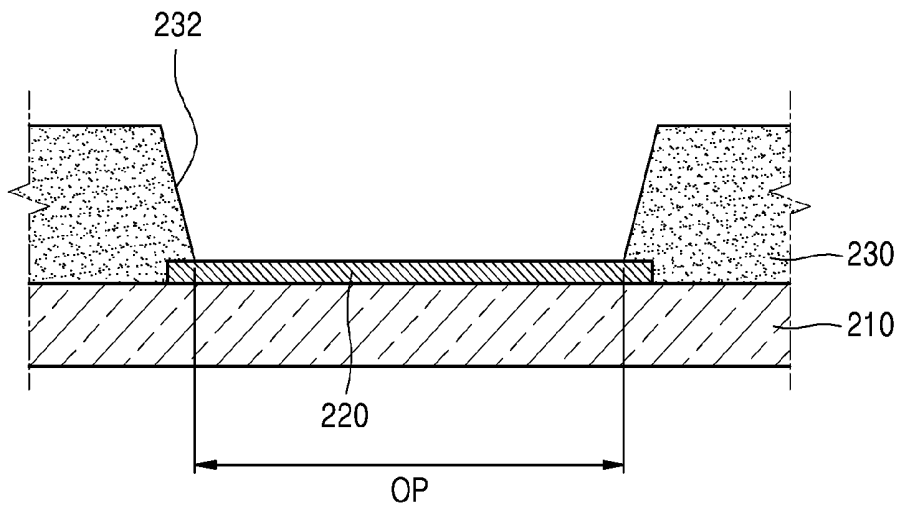


FIG. 2B

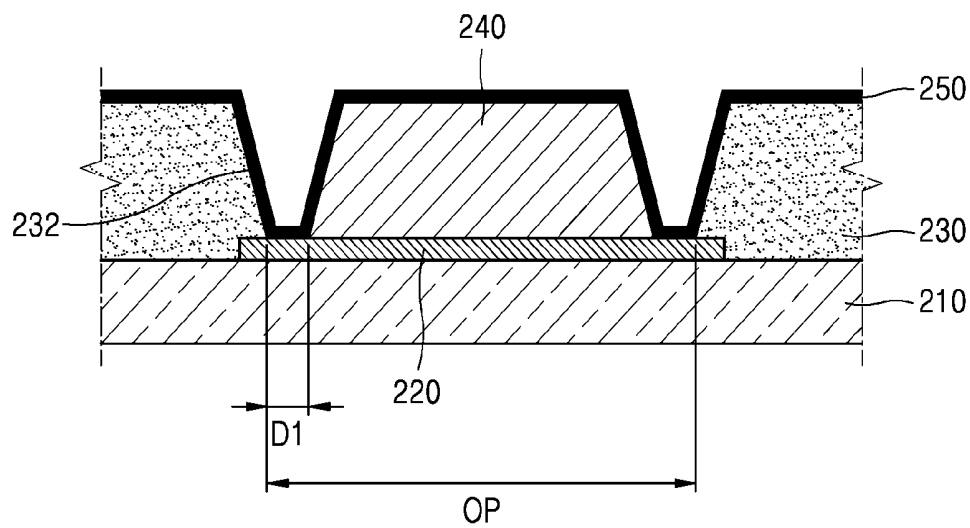


FIG. 2C

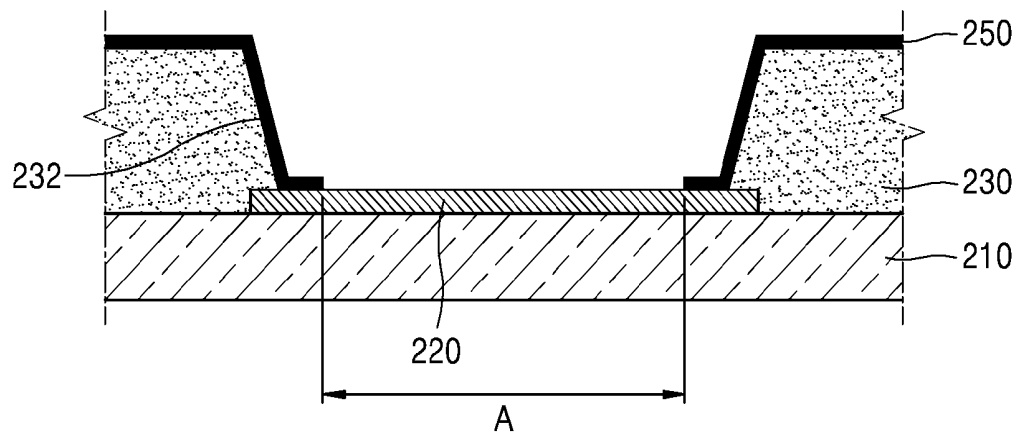


FIG. 2D

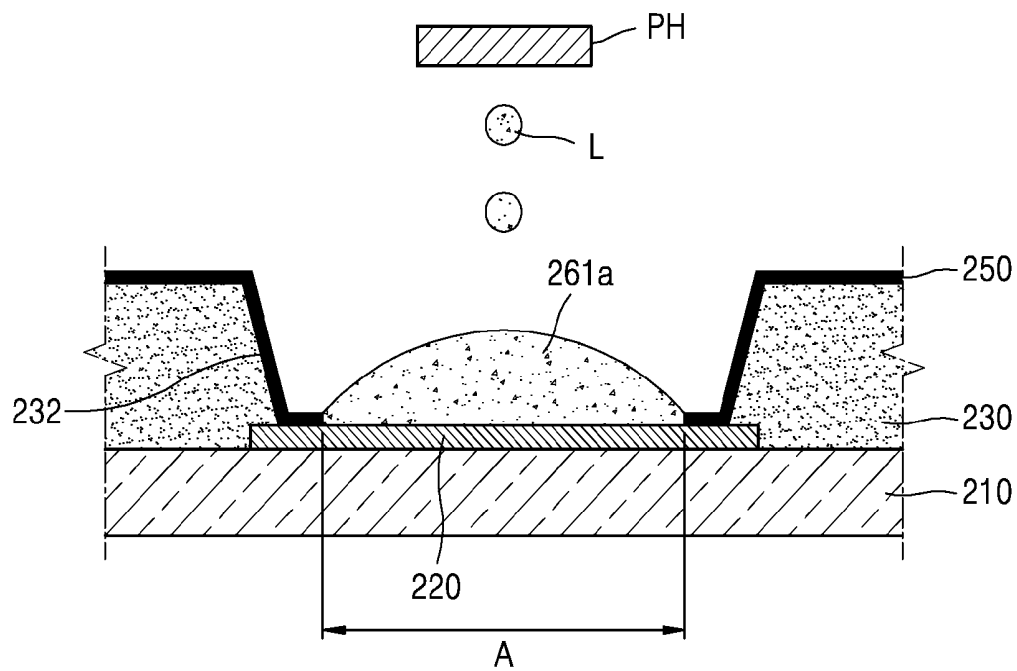


FIG. 2E

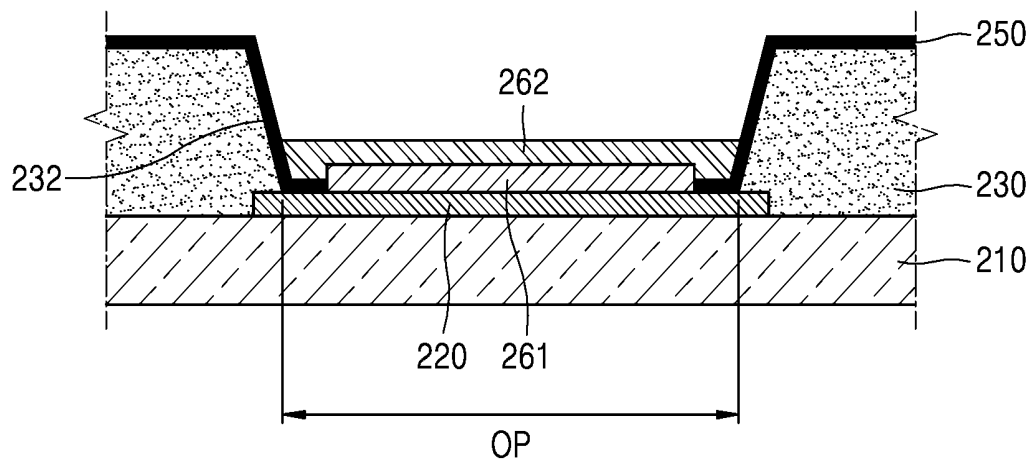


FIG. 2F

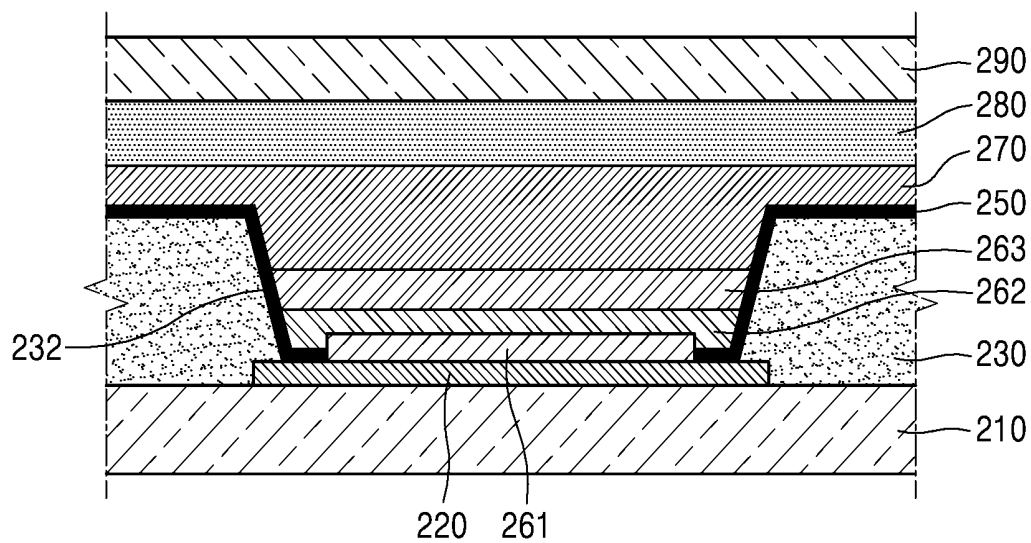


FIG. 3A

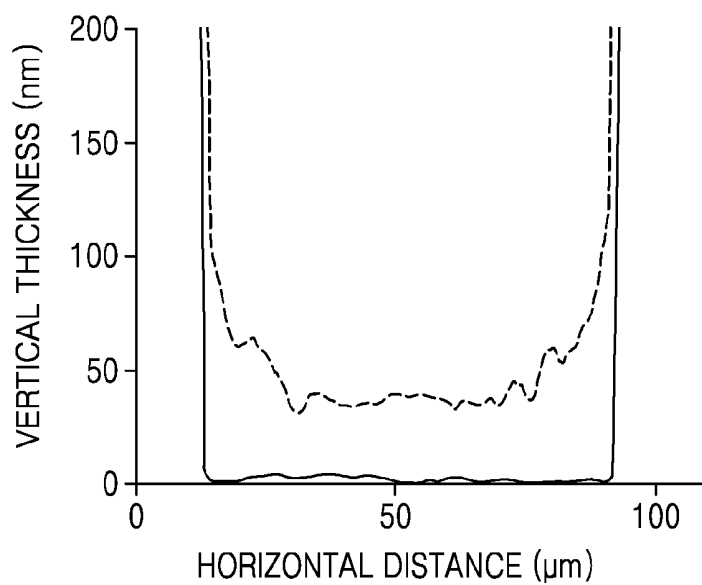


FIG. 3B

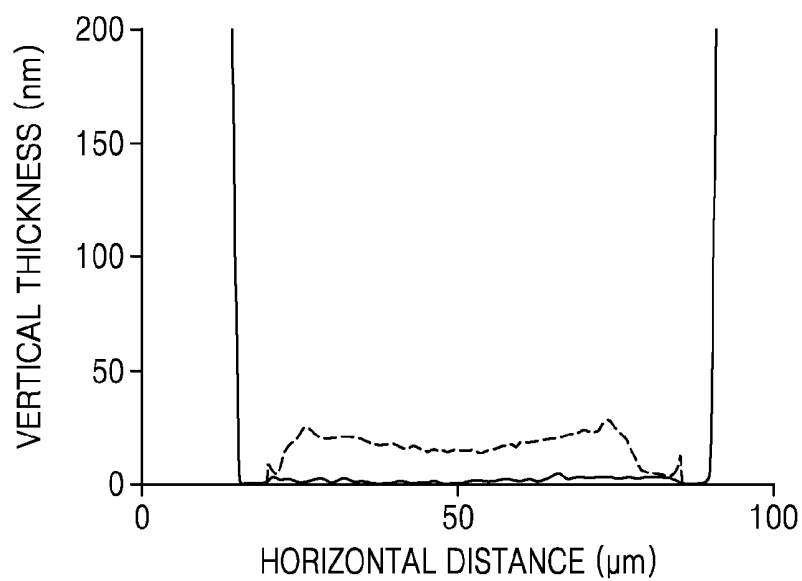


FIG. 4A

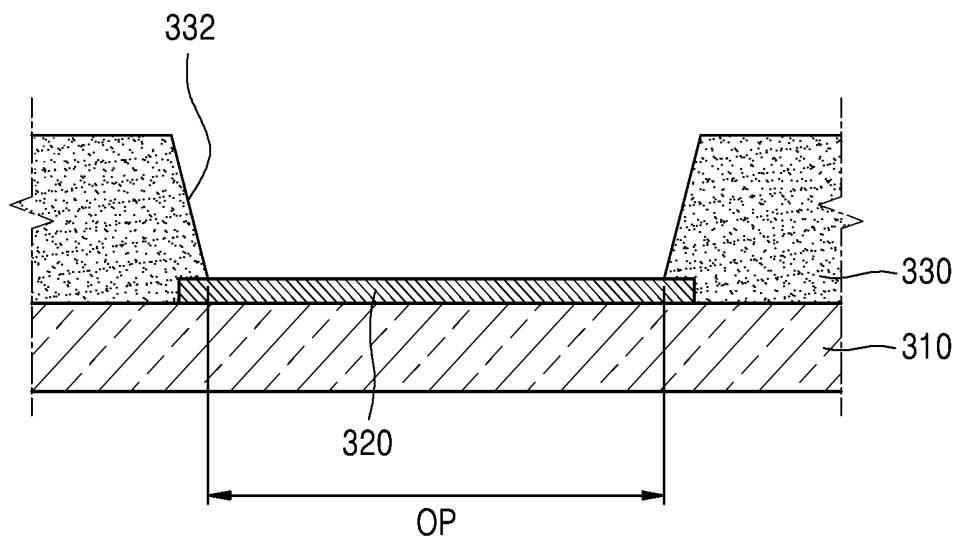


FIG. 4B

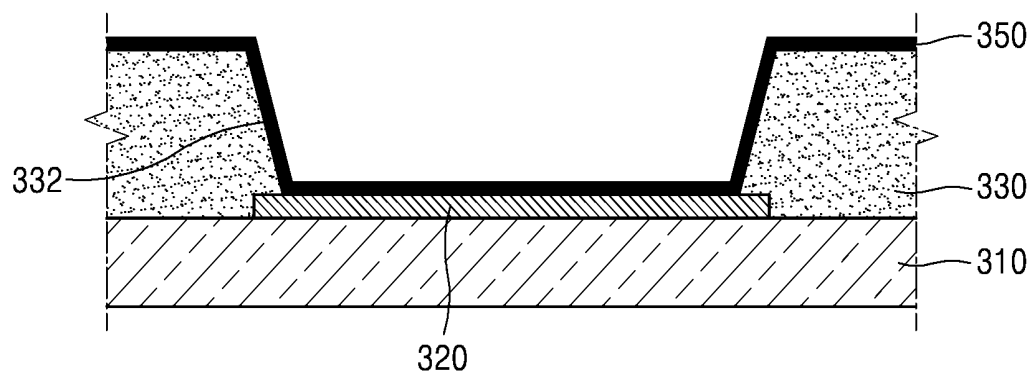


FIG. 4C

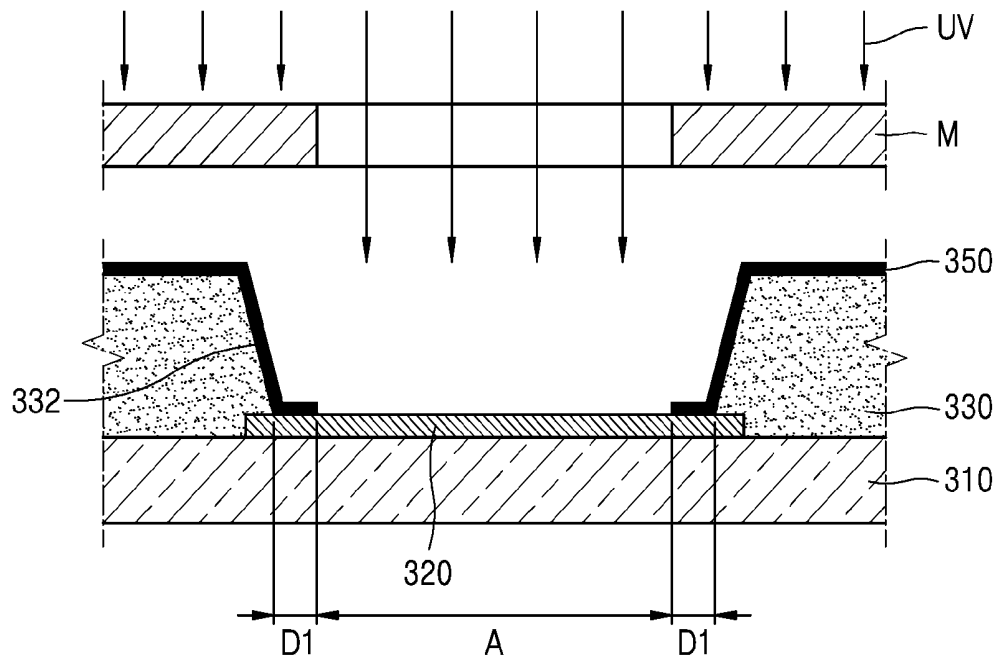


FIG. 4D

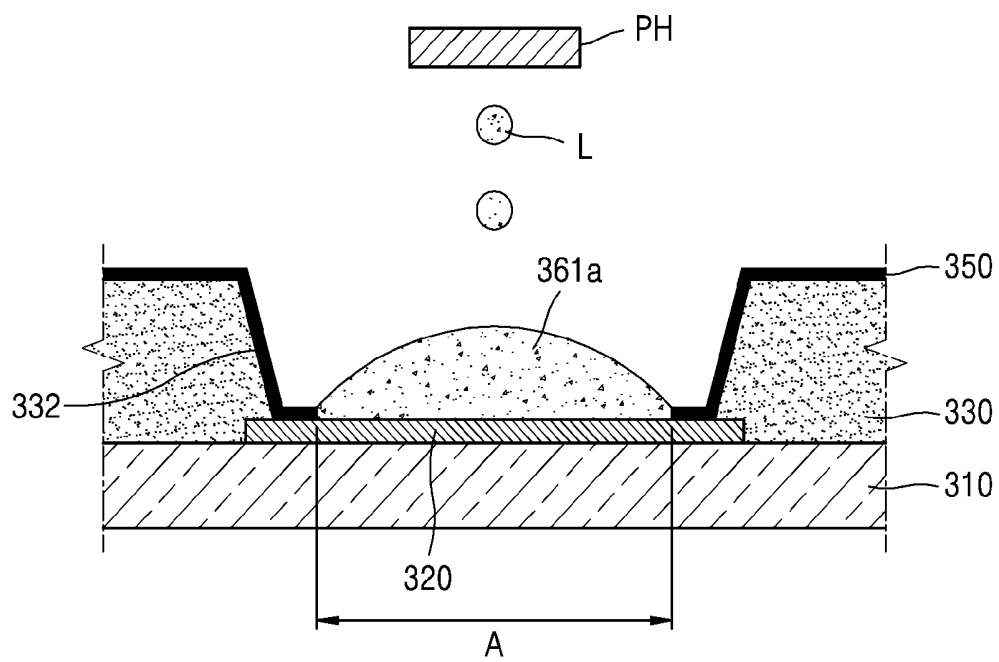


FIG. 4E

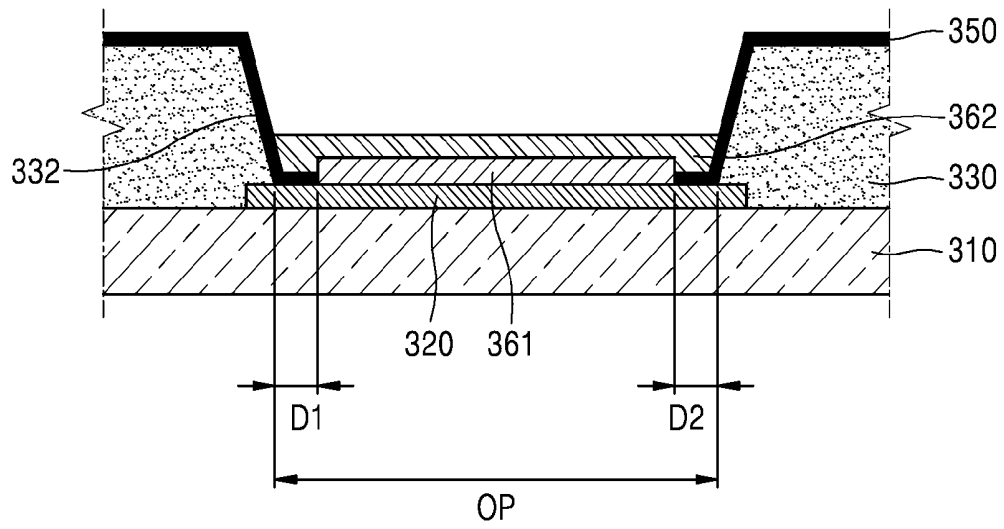
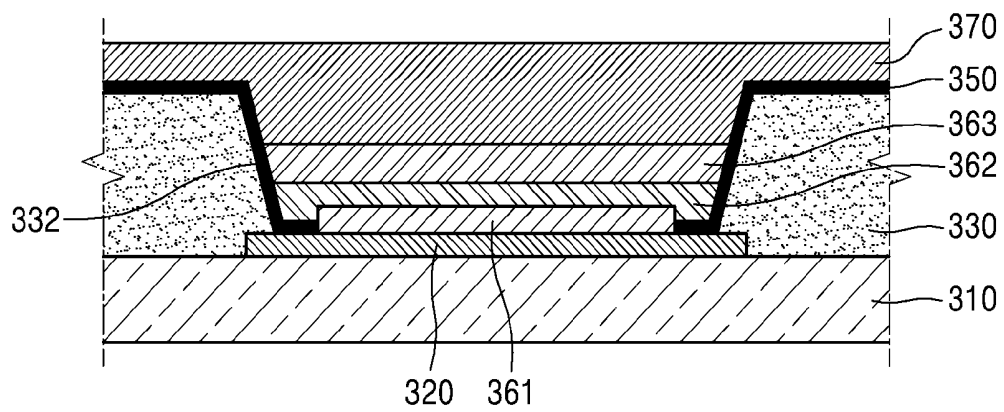


FIG. 4F



1

ORGANIC ELECTRO-LUMINESCENT DISPLAY AND METHOD OF FABRICATING THE SAME

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority to Korean Patent Application No. 10-2014-0089899, filed on Jul. 16, 2014, and all the benefits accruing therefrom under 35 U.S.C. §119, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein in its entirety by reference.

BACKGROUND

1. Field

Provided are organic electro-luminescent displays and methods of fabricating the same using an inkjet printing method.

2. Description of the Related Art

An inkjet printing apparatus prints a predetermined image by ejecting relatively fine ink droplets on a desired location of a printing medium. The application of the inkjet printing apparatus is extended to various fields, for example, flat panel display device fields, such as liquid crystal displays ("LCDs") and organic light-emitting device ("OLED") displays, flexible display device fields such as including electronic paper ("E-paper"), printed electronics fields such as including metal wirings, and organic thin film transistors ("OTFTs").

When a film is formed by droplets ejected by the inkjet printing apparatus, the shape of droplets that initially attach to a printing medium on which an image is printed such as a substrate may vary according a surface energy between the ink and the substrate. A solute of the ink may agglomerate in a ring shape due to pinning that occurs at edges of the ink that is attached to the substrate while the ink is drying, or the solute of the ink may concentrate in the center of the ink droplet without pinning.

SUMMARY

Relating to display devices including an organic light-emitting layer, when a hole injection layer is formed along a bank sidewall, an electric short circuit between an anode electrode and a cathode electrode within a display device may occur, and a thickness of the organic light-emitting layer is not uniform. Thus, brightness of the organic light-emitting layer in the display device may not be uniform and the lifetime of the organic light-emitting layer and/or the display device may be undesirably reduced. Therefore, there remains a need for an improved display device which reduces an electric short circuit between an anode electrode and a cathode electrode therein, and increases uniformity of an organic light-emitting layer, to therefore have increased brightness and life span.

Provided are organic electro-luminescent displays including a hole injection layer that is separated from a sidewall of a bank by a first distance, and methods of fabricating the same.

Additional embodiments will be set forth in part in the description which follows and, in part, will be apparent from the description, or may be learned by practice of the example embodiments.

According to an embodiment, an organic electro-luminescent display includes: an anode electrode disposed in a pixel region, on a substrate; a bank adjacent to an edge of the anode electrode, on the substrate to define the pixel region; a hole

2

injection layer on the anode electrode, to be separated from a sidewall of the bank by a first distance; a hole transport layer and an emissive layer sequentially disposed on the hole injection layer, in the pixel region; and a cathode electrode disposed on the emissive layer.

The sidewall of the bank may include a lyophobic coating, and the sidewall lyophobic coating may extend to cover a portion of the first distance between the hole injection layer and the sidewall of the bank.

The sidewall lyophobic coating may be disposed between a remainder of the bank and the hole transport layer, and between the remainder of the bank and the emissive layer.

The lyophobic coating may include a material having a surface energy lower than a surface energy of an upper surface of the anode electrode.

A thickness of the lyophobic coating may be in a range from about 1 nanometer (nm) to about 10 nanometers (nm).

The extended lyophobic coating which covers the portion of the first distance between the hole injection layer and the sidewall of the bank, may contact an edge of the hole injection layer.

The first distance may be in a range from about 1 micrometer (μm) to about 10 micrometers (μm).

The bank may overlap an edge of the anode electrode.

According to an embodiment, a method of fabricating an organic electro-luminescent display includes: forming an anode electrode in a pixel region, on a substrate; forming a bank adjacent to the anode electrode, on the substrate, where a sidewall of the bank defines an opening portion which defines the pixel region; forming the sidewall of the bank to include a lyophobic coating, where the sidewall lyophobic coating extends outwards to overlap the bank and extends inwards from the bank by a first distance; forming a hole injection layer on the anode electrode, to be disposed on an inner side of the extended lyophobic coating which is extended inwards from the bank by the first distance; sequentially forming a hole transport layer and an emissive layer on the hole injection layer; and forming a cathode electrode on the emissive layer, to cover the bank.

The forming the sidewall of the bank to include the lyophobic coating may include: forming a photoresist pattern to be separated from the sidewall of the bank by the first distance; forming the lyophobic coating to overlap the bank and the photoresist pattern on the substrate; and removing the lyophobic coating overlapping the photoresist pattern by removing the photoresist pattern.

The forming the sidewall of the bank to include the lyophobic coating may include: forming the lyophobic coating on the substrate, to overlap the bank and the pixel region; and removing a portion of the lyophobic coating overlapping the pixel region and a portion extended further than the first distance from the bank, by irradiating an ultraviolet ray through a mask opening corresponding to the opening portion, onto the portion of the lyophobic coating overlapping the pixel region and the portion extended further than the first distance from the bank.

The forming the hole injection layer may include removing the lyophobic coating by heating the substrate.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

These and/or other features will become more readily appreciated from the following description of the embodiments, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which:

These and/or other features will become more readily appreciated from the following description of the embodiments, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a schematic cross-sectional view of a pixel structure of an organic electro-luminescent display according to an embodiment;

FIGS. 2A through 2F are schematic cross-sectional views illustrating a method of fabricating an organic electro-luminescent display according to an embodiment;

FIG. 3A is a graph showing cross-sectional (e.g., vertical) thicknesses in nanometers (nm) with respect to horizontal distances in micrometers (μm) of a hole injection layer formed without using a lyophobic coating, and FIG. 3B is a graph showing cross-sectional thicknesses with respect to horizontal distances of a hole injection layer formed by using a lyophobic coating, according to embodiments; and

FIGS. 4A through 4F are cross-sectional views illustrating a method of fabricating an organic electro-luminescent display according to another embodiment.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Reference will now be made in detail to embodiments, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings. In the drawings, the thicknesses of layers and regions are exaggerated for clarity. This invention may, however, be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein.

It will also be understood that when an element is referred to as being "above" or "on" another element, it can be directly on the other element or intervening layers may also be present. Like reference numerals in the drawings denote like elements throughout the specification, and thus their description will be omitted.

It will be understood that, although the terms "first," "second," "third" etc. may be used herein to describe various elements, components, regions, layers and/or sections, these elements, components, regions, layers and/or sections should not be limited by these terms. These terms are only used to distinguish one element, component, region, layer or section from another element, component, region, layer or section. Thus, "a first element," "component," "region," "layer" or "section" discussed below could be termed a second element, component, region, layer or section without departing from the teachings herein.

The terminology used herein is for the purpose of describing particular embodiments only and is not intended to be limiting. As used herein, the singular forms "a," "an," and "the" are intended to include the plural forms, including "at least one," unless the content clearly indicates otherwise. "Or" means "and/or." As used herein, the term "and/or" includes any and all combinations of one or more of the associated listed items. It will be further understood that the terms "comprises" and/or "comprising," or "includes" and/or "including" when used in this specification, specify the presence of stated features, regions, integers, steps, operations, elements, and/or components, but do not preclude the presence or addition of one or more other features, regions, integers, steps, operations, elements, components, and/or groups thereof.

Furthermore, relative terms, such as "lower" or "bottom" and "upper" or "top," may be used herein to describe one element's relationship to another elements as illustrated in the Figures. It will be understood that relative terms are intended to encompass different orientations of the device in addition to the orientation depicted in the Figures. For example, if the

device in one of the figures is turned over, elements described as being on the "lower" side of other elements would then be oriented on "upper" sides of the other elements. The exemplary term "lower," can therefore, encompasses both an orientation of "lower" and "upper," depending on the particular orientation of the figure. Similarly, if the device in one of the figures is turned over, elements described as "below" or "beneath" other elements would then be oriented "above" the other elements. The exemplary terms "below" or "beneath" can, therefore, encompass both an orientation of above and below.

"About" or "approximately" as used herein is inclusive of the stated value and means within an acceptable range of deviation for the particular value as determined by one of ordinary skill in the art, considering the measurement in question and the error associated with measurement of the particular quantity (i.e., the limitations of the measurement system). For example, "about" can mean within one or more standard deviations, or within $\pm 30\%$, 20% , 10% , 5% of the stated value.

Unless otherwise defined, all terms (including technical and scientific terms) used herein have the same meaning as commonly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to which this disclosure belongs. It will be further understood that terms, such as those defined in commonly used dictionaries, should be interpreted as having a meaning that is consistent with their meaning in the context of the relevant art and the present disclosure, and will not be interpreted in an idealized or overly formal sense unless expressly so defined herein.

Exemplary embodiments are described herein with reference to cross section illustrations that are schematic illustrations of idealized embodiments. As such, variations from the shapes of the illustrations as a result, for example, of manufacturing techniques and/or tolerances, are to be expected. Thus, embodiments described herein should not be construed as limited to the particular shapes of regions as illustrated herein but are to include deviations in shapes that result, for example, from manufacturing. For example, a region illustrated or described as flat may, typically, have rough and/or nonlinear features. Moreover, sharp angles that are illustrated may be rounded. Thus, the regions illustrated in the figures are schematic in nature and their shapes are not intended to illustrate the precise shape of a region and are not intended to limit the scope of the present claims.

FIG. 1 is a schematic cross-sectional view of a pixel structure of an organic electro-luminescent display 100 according to an embodiment. The organic electro-luminescent display 100 may include a plurality of pixels. However, in FIG. 1, only one pixel is shown for convenience as an example, and thus, descriptions of the other pixels are omitted.

Referring to FIG. 1, the organic electro-luminescent display 100 includes a first substrate 110 and a second substrate 190 that are disposed in parallel, facing each other. The first substrate 110 may include glass or plastic, such as polyethylene naphthalate ("PEN"), polyimide ("PI") or polyethylene terephthalate ("PET"). The second substrate 190 may include a transparent material, for example, glass or plastic, such as PEN, PI or PET.

An anode electrode 120 is disposed on a pixel region of a pixel, on the first substrate 110. In an embodiment of manufacturing the organic electro-luminescent display 100, the anode electrode 120 may be formed by patterning an anode material layer to a pixel size. The anode electrode 120 may include indium tin oxide ("ITO"). The aforementioned pixel region may be a sub-pixel region of a pixel, that emits a single color.

A bank **130** is disposed adjacent to the anode electrode **120**, and may be disposed around the anode electrode **120** in a top plan view of the organic electro-luminescent display **100**. Portions of the bank **130** define an opening portion OP therein. The opening portion OP may define the pixel region but the invention is not limited thereto. In an embodiment of manufacturing the organic electro-luminescent display **100**, the bank **130** may be formed by patterning a material layer including PI, and also, may be formed of silicon oxide or silicon nitride.

As depicted in FIG. 1, a bottom surface of the bank **130** may cover (e.g., overlap) an edge of the anode electrode **120**. In an embodiment, the bottom surface of the bank **130** may be disposed separated from an edge of the anode electrode **120**. As depicted in FIG. 1, a sidewall **132** of the bank **130** may be slanted or inclined at a predetermined angle with respect to the bottom surface of the bank **130**.

A hole injection layer **161** is disposed on the anode electrode **120**. The hole injection layer **161** is disposed separated from the sidewall **132** of the bank **130** by a first distance D1. The first distance D1 may be approximately in a range from about 1 micrometers (μm) to about 10 μm .

A lyophobic coating layer **150** (otherwise referred to as "lyophobic coating") may be disposed on the bank **130**. The lyophobic coating **150** may have a thickness in a direction normal to a surface of the bank **130** in a range from about 1 nanometer (nm) to about 10 nanometers (nm). The lyophobic coating **150** includes a material having a lyophobic characteristic with respect to ink of an organic light-emitting device. In an embodiment, for example, the lyophobic coating **150** may include a self-assembled monolayer ("SAM"), such as octadecyltrichlorosilane (ODTS) or n-octadecyltrichlorosilane, or an organic material that includes fluorine and has relatively low surface energy, for example, EGC-1700 of 3MTM company.

The lyophobic coating **150** covers an upper surface **134** and extends to the sidewall **132** of the bank **130**. The sidewall **132** portion of the lyophobic coating **150** may be further extended to cover a portion of the anode electrode **120** between the hole injection layer **161** and the sidewall **132**. The extended portion of the lyophobic coating **150** may be disposed on the anode electrode **120** so as to surround the hole injection layer **161** in the top plan view. However, the invention is not limited thereto, and the lyophobic coating **150** may be omitted in an alternative embodiment.

A hole transport layer **162** and an emissive layer **163** may be sequentially disposed on the anode electrode **120** to cover the hole injection layer **161**. The hole transport layer **162** may be disposed to cover (e.g., overlap) a space defined between the hole injection layer **161** and the sidewall **132** of the bank **130**.

Where the organic electro-luminescent display **100** does not include the lyophobic coating **150**, the hole transport layer **162** and the emissive layer **163** may be disposed to contact the sidewall **132** of the bank **130**. In the absence of the lyophobic coating **150**, the hole transport layer **162** may fill the space defined between the hole injection layer **161** and the sidewall **132** of the bank **130**. Where the organic electro-luminescent display **100** includes the lyophobic coating **150**, the lyophobic coating **150** may be disposed between the sidewall **132** of the bank **130** and the hole transport layer **162**, and between the sidewall **132** of the bank **130** and the emissive layer **163**.

An electron transport layer (not shown) and an electron injection layer (not shown) may further be sequentially disposed on the emissive layer **163**. In an embodiment, where the organic electro-luminescent display **100** does not include the lyophobic coating **150**, the electron transport layer and then

electron injection layer may be disposed to contact the sidewall **132** of the bank **130**. Where the organic electro-luminescent display **100** includes the lyophobic coating **150**, the lyophobic coating **150** may be disposed between the sidewall **132** of the bank **130** and the electron transport layer and/or between the sidewall **132** of the bank **130** and the electron injection layer.

A cathode electrode **170** that covers the emissive layer **163** may further be disposed on the bank **130**. The cathode electrode **170** may be a common electrode of a display device. The cathode electrode **170** may include ITO.

An insulating layer **180** may be disposed to fill an area between the cathode electrode **170** and the second substrate **190**. The insulating layer **180** may include a polymer material, such as PI resin. The insulating layer **180** may cover an entire region of the first substrate **110** and may reduce or effectively prevent degradation of the emissive layer **163** from gas and/or moisture.

In the organic electro-luminescent display **100** according to the embodiment, the hole injection layer **161** is separated from the sidewall **132** of the bank **130** to increase a distance to the cathode electrode **170**. As such, a short circuit between the anode electrode **120** and the cathode electrode **170** may be reduced or effectively prevented.

Hereinafter, a method of fabricating the organic electro-luminescent display **100**, according to the embodiment, will be described.

FIGS. 2A through 2F are schematic cross-sectional views illustrating a method of fabricating an organic electro-luminescent display according to an embodiment.

Referring to FIG. 2A, a first substrate **210** is prepared. The first substrate **210** may be formed of glass or plastic such as PEN, PI or PET.

An anode electrode **220** is formed on a pixel region of the organic electro-luminescent display such as by patterning an electrode material on the first substrate **210**. The anode electrode **220** may be formed of ITO. The aforementioned pixel region may be a sub-pixel region of a pixel, that emits a single color.

An ultraviolet ("UV") ray may be irradiated onto an upper surface of the anode electrode **220** in order to increase a work function of the upper surface of the anode electrode **220** and to remove impurities therefrom. The upper surface of the anode electrode **220** may be O₂ plasma-processed. Accordingly, a surface energy of the upper surface of the anode electrode **220** may be increased.

A bank **230** is formed to be disposed around the anode electrode **220**. Portions of the bank **230** define an opening portion OP therein. The opening portion OP may define the pixel region. The bank **230** may be formed by patterning PI. The bank **230** may also be formed of silicon oxide or silicon nitride. A bottom surface of the bank **230** may cover an edge of the anode electrode **220**. In an embodiment, the bottom surface of the bank **230** may be disposed separated from (e.g., non-overlapping) an edge of the anode electrode **220**. As depicted in FIG. 2A, a sidewall **232** of the bank **230** may be formed slanted at a predetermined angle with respect to the bottom surface of the bank **230**.

Referring to FIG. 2B, a photoresist pattern **240** is formed inside the opening portion OP and disposed separated from the sidewall **232** of the bank **230** by a first distance D1. The photoresist pattern **240** may be formed by using a photolithography method. The photoresist pattern **240** may be formed of a different material from the material used to form the bank **230** so that the bank **230** is not removed in a lift-off process which will be described below. The first distance D1 may be in a range from about 1 μm to about 10 μm .

A lyophobic coating **250** is formed on the first substrate **210**. The lyophobic coating **250** may be formed by using a dip coating method. The lyophobic coating **250** may be formed to have a thickness in a direction normal to a surface of the bank **230**, in a range from about 1 μm to about 10 μm . The lyophobic coating **250** is formed of a material having a lyophobic characteristic with respect to ink of an organic electro-luminescent display. In an embodiment, for example, the lyophobic coating **250** may be formed of an SAM, such as ODTS or n-octadecyltrichlorosilane, or an organic material that includes fluorine and has low surface energy, for example, EGC-1700 of 3MTM company.

Referring to FIG. 2C, the photoresist pattern **240** is removed such as by using the lift-off process. Accordingly, in the region (region A) where the photoresist pattern **240** is removed, the lyophobic coating **250** that was formed on photoresist pattern **240** in the region A is also removed. The upper surface of the anode electrode **220** exposed in the region A has a higher surface energy than an upper surface of the anode electrode **220** in remaining regions thereof which are covered by the lyophobic coating **250**.

Referring to FIG. 2D, ink **261a** for a hole injection layer **261** is printed on the region A such as by using an inkjet process. Droplets L ejected such as from an inkjet print head PH are relatively well adsorbed on a portion of the anode electrode **220** in the region A having the relatively high surface energy. When a surface tension of the ink **261a** of the hole injection layer **261** is approximately 30 millinewtons per meter (mN/m), the ink **261a** for the hole injection layer **261** may form a contact angle in a range from about 0 degrees ($^{\circ}$) to about 15 $^{\circ}$ with the region A that is treated with ultraviolet rays or plasma, and may form a contact angle in a range from about 30 $^{\circ}$ to about 70 $^{\circ}$ where the lyophobic coating **250** is formed. Accordingly, as depicted in FIG. 2D, the formation of the ink **261a** for the hole injection layer **261** may be limited to the region A.

Referring to FIG. 2E, a solvent of the ink **261a** is removed such as by a vacuum process and a heat treatment. The ink **261a** may be dried by such process and treatment. The hole injection layer **261**, on which a drying process has been performed, is flat. The hole injection layer **261** is formed separated from the sidewall **232** of the bank **230** by a first distance D1. When the heat treatment is performed at a higher temperature than about 200 degrees Celsius ($^{\circ}\text{C}$.), the lyophobic coating **250** may be removed.

Next, a hole transport layer **262** is formed in the opening portion OP to cover the hole injection layer **261**. The hole transport layer **262** may be formed to contact the sidewall **332** of the bank **330** or the lyophobic coating **250** that is formed on the sidewall **232** of the bank **230**. Accordingly, the hole transport layer **262** may reduce or effectively prevent a short circuit between the anode electrode **220** and a cathode electrode **270** which will be described below.

Referring to FIG. 2F, an emissive layer **263** is formed on the hole transport layer **262** in the opening portion OP. An electron transport layer (not shown) and an electron injection layer (not shown) may further be sequentially formed on the emissive layer **263**. The hole transport layer **262** and the emissive layer **263** may be formed by using an inkjet process, a spin process or a deposition process.

The cathode electrode **270** that covers the emissive layer **263** may further be formed on the bank **230**. The cathode electrode **270** may be a common electrode. The cathode electrode **270** may be formed of ITO.

An insulating layer **280** and a second substrate **290** are further formed on the cathode electrode **270**. The processes of

forming the insulating layer **280** and the second substrate **290** are well known in the art, and thus, the descriptions thereof will be omitted.

FIG. 3A is a graph showing cross-sectional thicknesses (e.g., vertical) thicknesses in nm with respect to horizontal distances in μm of a hole injection layer formed without using a lyophobic coating, and FIG. 3B is a graph showing cross-sectional thicknesses with respect to horizontal distances of a hole injection layer formed by using the lyophobic coating, according to embodiments. A solid line curve indicates a cross-sectional profile of the bank, and a dashed line curve indicates a cross-sectional profile of the hole injection layer.

In preparing the samples represented in FIGS. 3A and 3B, a nozzle diameter of an inkjet printer was 9.5 μm , a volume of the droplet was 5 petaliters (pl), and a dimension of a pixel region was 210 μm $\times$ 80 μm . FIGS. 3A and 3B represents cross-sectional views along a short side of the pixel region.

Referring to FIG. 3A, the hole injection layer is upwardly disposed along a sidewall of the bank, which allows a short circuit between the anode electrode and the cathode electrode. Also, it is seen that the hole injection layer is not flat.

However, referring to FIG. 3B, the hole injection layer is disposed separated from the walls of the bank, and thus, a distance of the hole injection layer from the cathode electrode is increased so as to reduce or effectively prevent a short circuit between the anode electrode and the cathode electrode. Also, the hole injection layer is disposed to be relatively flat, and thus, the light emitting characteristics of an organic electro-luminescent display that includes the hole injection layer may be good.

FIGS. 4A through 4F are cross-sectional views illustrating a method of fabricating an organic electro-luminescent display, according to another embodiment.

Referring to FIG. 4A, a first substrate **310** is prepared. The first substrate **310** may be formed of glass or plastic such as PEN, PI or PET.

An anode electrode **320** is formed on a pixel region of the organic electro-luminescent display such as by patterning an electrode material on the first substrate **310**. The anode electrode **320** may be formed of ITO. The aforementioned pixel region may be a sub-pixel region of a pixel, that emits a single color.

An ultraviolet ("UV") ray may be irradiated onto an upper surface of the first electrode **320** in order to increase a work function of the upper surface of the anode electrode **320** and to remove impurities from the upper surface of the anode electrode **320**. The upper surface of the anode electrode **320** may be O₂ plasma-processed. Accordingly, a surface energy of the upper surface of the anode electrode **320** may be increased.

A bank **330** is formed to be disposed around the anode electrode **320** and portions of the bank **330** define an opening portion OP therein. The opening portion OP may define the pixel region. The bank **330** may be formed by patterning PI. The bank **330** may also be formed of silicon oxide or silicon nitride. A bottom surface of the bank **330** may cover an edge of the anode electrode **320**. In an embodiment, the bottom surface of the bank **330** may be disposed separated from an edge of the anode electrode **320**. As depicted in FIG. 4A, a sidewall **332** of the bank **330** may be formed slanted at a predetermined angle with respect to the bottom surface of the bank **330**.

Referring to FIG. 4B, a lyophobic coating **350** is formed on the first substrate **310** to cover the anode electrode **320** and the bank **330**. The lyophobic coating **350** may contact the anode electrode **320** exposed by the opening portion OP. The lyophobic coating **350** may be formed by using a dip coating

method. The lyophobic coating **350** may be formed to have a thickness in a direction normal to a surface of the bank **330**, in a range from about 1 μm to about 10 μm . The lyophobic coating **350** may be formed of a material having a lyophobic characteristic with respect to ink of an OLED. In an embodiment, for example, the lyophobic coating **350** may be formed of an SAM such as ODTS or n-octadecyltrichlorosilane, or an organic material that includes fluorine and has low surface energy, for example, EGC-1700 of 3M™ company.

Referring to FIG. 4C, after irradiating an ultraviolet ray to the exposed lyophobic coating **350** by using a mask M, the lyophobic coating **350** that is formed on the pixel region where the UV is irradiated is removed. The region A where the lyophobic coating **350** is removed is separated from the sidewall **332** of the bank **330** by a first distance D1. The first distance D1 may be in a range from about 1 μm to about 10 μm . A portion of the anode electrode **320** in the region A has a lower surface energy than that of a portion in a remaining region thereof covered by the lyophobic coating **350**.

Referring to FIG. 4D, ink **361a** for a hole injection layer **361** is printed on the region A such as by using an inkjet process. Droplets L ejected from an inkjet print head PH are relatively well adsorbed on a portion of the anode electrode **320** in the region A having the relatively low surface energy. When a surface tension of the ink **361a** for the hole injection layer **361** is approximately 30 mN/m, the ink **361a** for the hole injection layer **361** may form a contact angle in the region A that is treated with UV or plasma in a range from about 0° to about 15°, and may form a contact angle in a range from about 30° to about 70° where the lyophobic coating **350** is formed. Accordingly, as depicted in FIG. 4D, the formation of the ink **361a** for the hole injection layer **361** may be limited to the region A.

Referring to FIG. 4E, a solvent of the ink **361a** is removed such as by a vacuum process and a heat treatment. The ink **361a** may be dried by such process and treatment. The hole injection layer **361**, on which a drying process has been performed, is flat. The hole injection layer **361** is formed separated from the sidewall **332** of the bank **330** by the first distance D1. When the heat treatment is performed at a higher temperature than about 200° C., the lyophobic coating **350** may be removed.

A hole transport layer **362** is formed in the opening portion OP to cover the hole injection layer **361**. The hole transport layer **362** may be formed to contact the sidewall **332** of the bank **330** or to contact the lyophobic coating **350** on the sidewall **332** of the bank **330**. Accordingly, the hole transport layer **362** may reduce or effectively prevent a short circuit between the anode electrode **320** and a cathode electrode **370** which will be described below.

Referring to FIG. 4F, an emissive layer **363** is formed on the hole transport layer **362** in the opening portion OP. An electron transport layer (not shown) and an electron injection layer (not shown) may further be sequentially formed on the emissive layer **363**. The hole transport layer **362** and the emissive layer **363** may be formed by using an inkjet process, a spin process or a deposition process.

The cathode electrode **370** may be formed on the bank **330** and covers the emissive layer **363**. The cathode electrode **370** may be a common electrode. The cathode electrode **370** may be formed of ITO.

Referring to FIG. 1, an insulating layer and a second substrate are further formed on the cathode electrode **370**. The processes of forming the insulating layer (refer to **180** of FIG. 1) and the second substrate (refer to **190** of FIG. 1) on the cathode electrode **370** are well known in the art, and thus, the descriptions thereof will be omitted.

One or more organic electro-luminescent display according to embodiments of the invention includes the hole injection layer disposed separated from the sidewall of the bank to be disposed further from the cathode electrode. Thus, distance between the hole injection layer and the cathode electrode is reduced or effectively prevented to avoid a short circuit between the anode electrode and the cathode electrode.

Also, since the hole injection layer is disposed to be relatively flat in the cross-sectional direction, the light emission characteristics of an organic electro-luminescent display that includes the relatively flat hole injection layer may be improved.

While one or more embodiments have been described with reference to the figures, it will be understood by those of ordinary skill in the art that various changes in form and details may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. An organic electro-luminescent display comprising: an anode electrode disposed in a pixel region, on a substrate;
- a bank adjacent to an edge of the anode electrode, on the substrate, to define the pixel region;
- a hole injection layer on the anode electrode, to be separated from a sidewall of the bank by a first distance;
- a lyophobic coating covering at least a portion of the first distance between the hole injection layer and the sidewall of the bank;
- a hole transport layer and an emissive layer sequentially disposed on the hole injection layer, in the pixel region; and
- a cathode electrode disposed on the emissive layer.
2. The organic electro-luminescent display of claim 1, wherein the lyophobic coating is extended to be disposed between the sidewall of the bank and the hole transport layer, and between the sidewall of the bank and the emissive layer.
3. The organic electro-luminescent display of claim 2, wherein the lyophobic coating comprises a material having a surface energy lower than a surface energy of an upper surface of the anode electrode.
4. The organic electro-luminescent display of claim 3, wherein a thickness of the lyophobic coating is in a range from about 1 nanometer to about 10 nanometers.
5. The organic electro-luminescent display of claim 1, wherein the lyophobic coating contacts an edge of the hole injection layer.
6. The organic electro-luminescent display of claim 1, wherein the first distance is in a range from about 1 micrometer to about 10 micrometers.
7. The organic electro-luminescent display of claim 1, wherein the bank overlaps an edge of the anode electrode.

* * * * *

专利名称(译)	有机电致发光显示器及其制造方法		
公开(公告)号	US9412969	公开(公告)日	2016-08-09
申请号	US14/594247	申请日	2015-01-12
[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	三星电子株式会社		
申请(专利权)人(译)	SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO. , LTD.		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO. , LTD.		
[标]发明人	KIM JOONGHYUK KANG SUNGGYU CHUNG JAEWOO HONG YOUNGKI		
发明人	KIM, JOONGHYUK KANG, SUNGGYU CHUNG, JAEWOO HONG, YOUNGKI		
IPC分类号	H01L51/52 H01L51/00 H01L27/32 H01L51/56		
CPC分类号	H01L51/5056 H01L51/5253 H01L27/3246 H01L51/56 H01L51/0004 H01L2227/323		
代理机构(译)	康托科尔伯恩LLP		
审查员(译)	伊斯兰教，穆罕默德		
优先权	1020140089899 2014-07-16 KR		
其他公开文献	US20160020424A1		
外部链接	Espacenet USPTO		

摘要(译)

一种有机电致发光显示器，包括设置在像素区域中的阳极，基板，与阳极电极的边缘相邻的堤，在基板上，以限定像素区域，阳极电极上的空穴注入层，在像素区域中，在空穴注入层上依次设置空穴传输层和发光层，以及设置在发光层上的阴极电极。

