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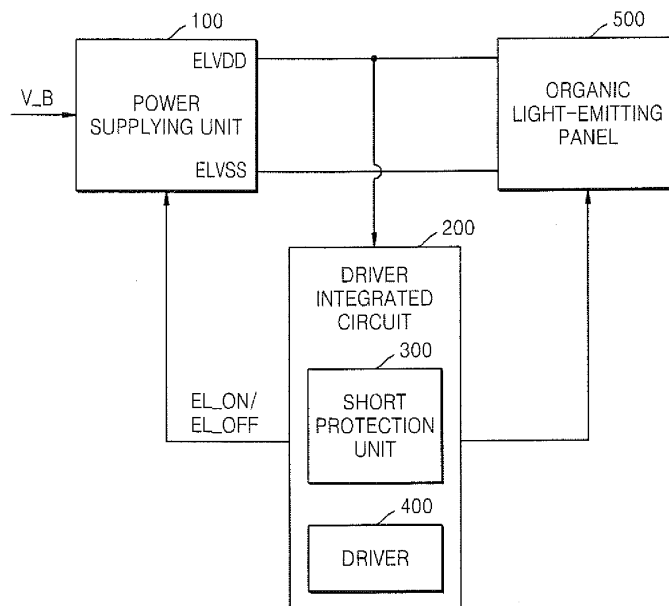
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(54) **Organic light-emitting display apparatus and method of providing power therein**

(57) An organic light-emitting display apparatus and method of providing power in the organic light-emitting display apparatus. The organic light-emitting display apparatus including an organic light-emitting panel (500), a power supplying unit (100) for supplying a first power voltage (ELVDD) and a second power voltage (ELVSS) to the organic light-emitting panel (500), and a driver in-

tegrated circuit (200) comprising a short protection unit (300), wherein the short protection unit (300) detects a short based on at least one of the first power voltage (ELVDD) and the second power voltage (ELVSS) and outputs an enable off signal (EL\_OFF) that blocks the first power voltage (ELVDD) and the second power voltage (ELVSS) from being supplied to the power supplying unit (100).

**FIG. 1**



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## Description

### 1. Field

[0001] The present invention relates to an organic light-emitting display apparatus.

### 2. Description of the Related Art

[0002] Organic light-emitting display apparatuses are often used in portable information terminals including personal computers, mobile phones, PDAs, various information devices, etc. Also, various light emitting display apparatuses having lower weight and volume than those of cathode ray tubes have been developed. In particular, organic light-emitting display apparatuses having excellent light emission efficiency, brightness, and viewing angles and rapid response speeds have been highlighted.

[0003] An organic light-emitting display apparatus includes an organic light-emitting panel, a scan driver, and a source driver. The organic light-emitting panel includes pixels electrically connected to each other between scan lines and data lines that cross the scan lines. The scan driver drives the scan lines, and the source driver drives the data lines. The scan driver sequentially applies scan signals to the organic light-emitting panel through the scan lines and the source driver sequentially applies data signals to the organic light-emitting panel through the data lines. The organic light-emitting panel is electrically connected to the data lines and the scan lines, and thereby receives the data signals and the scan signals so that light is emitted.

### SUMMARY

[0004] The present invention sets out to provide an organic light-emitting display apparatus which may reduce a possibility of a fire starting due to a short between power voltages in an organic light-emitting panel.

[0005] One or more embodiments may provide an organic light-emitting display apparatus including an organic light-emitting panel, a power supplying unit for supplying a first power voltage and a second power voltage to the organic light-emitting panel, and a driver integrated circuit including a short protection unit, wherein the short protection unit detects a short based on at least one of the first power voltage and the second power voltage and outputs an enable off signal that blocks the first power voltage and the second power voltage from being supplied to the power supplying unit.

[0006] The short protection unit may include a signal generating unit for generating a short detection starting signal that starts short detection based on the enable on signal that allows the power supplying unit to supply the first power voltage and the second power voltage to the organic light-emitting panel, a short-detecting unit for detecting the short and generating a short detection signal, and a signal controlling unit for outputting the enable off

signal based on the enable on signal, the short detection starting signal, and the short detection signal.

[0007] The short detection starting signal may be generated after a predetermined time delay from the enable on signal.

[0008] The short-detecting unit may include a voltage distribution unit for distributing the first power voltage and outputting a detected voltage, and a comparing unit for comparing the detected voltage with a reference voltage and detecting a short.

[0009] The comparing unit may determine that there is a short when the detected voltage is less than the reference voltage and outputs the short detection signal.

[0010] The comparing unit may include an operational amplifier in which the reference voltage is input to a non-inverting input terminal thereof and the detected voltage is input to an inverting input terminal thereof.

[0011] The comparing unit may be activated based on the short detection starting signal.

[0012] The voltage distribution unit may include a first resistor connected between the first power voltage and the detected voltage, and a second resistor connected between the detected voltage and ground voltage.

[0013] The signal controlling unit may include a logic gate that logically operates the enable on signal, the short detection starting signal, and the short detection signal. The short-detecting unit may include: a first short-detecting unit for detecting a short based on the first power voltage; and a second short-detecting unit for detecting a short based on the second power voltage.

[0014] The driver integrated circuit may output the enable off signal when the short occurs over a reference time.

[0015] The driver integrated circuit may be shut down at the same time as the output of the enable off signal or after a predetermined time delay.

[0016] One or more embodiments may provide a method of providing power in an organic light-emitting display apparatus including detecting a short in a driver integrated circuit based on at least one of a first power voltage and a second power voltage supplied from a power supplying unit to an organic light-emitting panel, and outputting an enable off signal to the power supplying unit when a short is detected, wherein the enable off signal blocks the first power voltage and the second power voltage being supplied from the driver integrated circuit.

[0017] Detecting the short may include generating a short detection starting signal that starts short detection based on the enable on signal that allows the power supplying unit to supply the first power voltage and the second power voltage to the organic light-emitting panel, and detecting the short and generating a short detection signal.

[0018] The short detection starting signal may be generated after a predetermined time delay from the enable on signal.

[0019] Generating of the short detection signal may include distributing the first power voltage and generating

a detected voltage, comparing the detected voltage with a reference voltage after receiving the short detection starting signal, and generating the short detection signal when the reference voltage is less than the reference voltage.

**[0020]** Outputting of the enable off signal may include outputting the enable off signal when the short occurs over a reference time.

**[0021]** Outputting of the enable off signal may include outputting the enable off signal by logically operating the enable on signal, the short detection starting signal, and the short detection signal.

**[0022]** When a short is detected, the driver integrated circuit may be shut down at the same time as the output of the enable off signal or after a predetermined time delay.

**[0023]** Outputting the short detection signal may include outputting a first short detection signal when the first power voltage is less than first reference voltage, and outputting a second short detection signal when the second power voltage is greater than second reference voltage.

**[0024]** At least some of the above and other features of the invention are set out in the claims.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

**[0025]** The above and other features and advantages will become more apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art upon making reference to the following embodiments of the invention, which are described with reference to the attached drawings, in which:

**[0026]** FIG. 1 illustrates a block diagram of an organic light-emitting display apparatus according to an embodiment of the invention;

**[0027]** FIG. 2 illustrates a schematic diagram of an organic light-emitting panel of FIG. 1, according to an embodiment of the invention;

**[0028]** FIG. 3 illustrates a block diagram of a short protection unit of FIG. 1, according to an embodiment of the invention;

**[0029]** FIGS. 4A through 4C illustrate timing diagrams of an operation of a driver integrated circuit (IC), according to embodiments of the invention;

**[0030]** FIG. 5 illustrates a flowchart of a method of providing power in an organic light-emitting display apparatus, according to an embodiment of the invention;

**[0031]** FIG. 6 illustrates a block diagram of an organic light-emitting display apparatus, according to another embodiment of the invention; and

**[0032]** FIG. 7 illustrates a block diagram of a short protection unit of FIG. 6.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**[0033]** Embodiments of the invention will now be described more fully hereinafter with reference to the accompanying 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 the scope of the invention to those skilled in the art. In the drawings, like reference numerals denote like elements. In the description, the detailed descriptions of well-known technologies and structures may be omitted so as not to hinder understanding.

**[0034]** FIG. 1 illustrates a block diagram of an organic light-emitting display apparatus according to an exemplary embodiment. Referring to FIG. 1, the organic light-emitting display apparatus includes a power supplying unit 100, a driver integrated circuit (IC) 200, and an organic light-emitting panel 500.

**[0035]** The power supplying unit 100 may receive an input voltage V<sub>B</sub> from an external power unit such as a battery and may convert the input voltage V<sub>B</sub> so as to generate a first power voltage ELVDD and a second power voltage ELVSS for a light-emitting device of the organic light-emitting panel 500 to emit light. The first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS may be input to the organic light-emitting panel 500. The power supplying unit 100 may be a direct current-direct current (DC-DC) converter. The power supplying unit 100 may receive an enable on signal EL\_ON from the driver IC 200 in a normal mode and may apply the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS to the organic light-emitting panel 500. When there is a short in the organic light-emitting panel 500, the power supplying unit 100 may receive an enable off signal EL\_OFF from the driver IC 200 and may stop supplying the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS.

**[0036]** The driver IC 200 includes a short protection unit 300 and a driver 400. The driver 400 may supply driving power to the organic light-emitting panel 500. The short protection unit 300 may sense at least one of the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS and may detect the existence of a short in the organic light-emitting panel 500. In FIG. 1, the first power voltage ELVDD may be sensed to detect the existence of a short. When power is turned on, the driver IC 200 may output the enable on signal EL\_ON to the power supplying unit 100. Then, when a short is detected, the driver IC 200 may output the enable off signal EL\_OFF to the power supplying unit 100.

**[0037]** If the organic light-emitting panel 500 is damaged, e.g., as a result of being dropped or an electric shock, a short may occur in a first power voltage ELVDD line and a second power voltage ELVSS line of the organic light-emitting panel 500. When a short occurs and the power supplying unit 100 continuously applies the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS to the organic light-emitting panel 500, excessive current may flow and/or fire may start when a short occurs.

**[0038]** Accordingly, in embodiments of the invention,

when a short occurs, the driver IC 200 may shut down the power supplying unit 100 and may block supply of the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS to the organic light-emitting panel 500. The driver IC 200 may sense that the first power voltage ELVDD is reduced below a reference voltage. More particularly, e.g., the driver IC 200 may detect a short when it determines that the first power voltage ELVDD is below a reference voltage. When a short is detected, the driver IC 200 may output the enable off signal EL\_OFF to the power supplying unit 100. Accordingly, the power supplying unit 100 may be shut down. When a short is detected, supply of the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS to the organic light-emitting panel 500 may be stopped.

**[0039]** The driver IC 200 may output the enable off signal EL\_OFF and may shut down at that same time or after a predetermined time has passed. For example, the power supplying unit 100 may shut down after a corresponding frame is completed so that the driver IC 200 is in a sleep mode. Under such circumstances, as a driving voltage is not applied to the organic light-emitting panel 500, an abnormal screen may be prevented from being displayed. The time when the driver IC 200 enters to the sleep mode may be determined in consideration of stability of a display device.

**[0040]** The driver IC 200 that is shut down may normally operate again by being reset. When the driver IC 200 that is shut down normally operates after a reset, the driver IC 200 may perform a short detecting operation again.

**[0041]** The organic light-emitting panel 500 may receive the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS from the power supplying unit 100 and may supply the received first power voltage ELVDD and second power voltage ELVSS to each pixel. In each pixel, a driving current may flow from to the first power voltage ELVDD to the second power voltage ELVSS through a light-emitting device. The light-emitting device may emit light in correspondence to a data signal applied to the pixel.

**[0042]** FIG. 2 schematically illustrates the organic light-emitting panel 500 of FIG. 1.

**[0043]** Referring to FIG. 2, the organic light-emitting panel 500 includes a plurality of scan lines S1-Sn, a plurality of data lines D1-Dm, and a plurality of pixels P. The plurality of scan lines S1-Sn are spaced apart from each other by a predetermined interval, are arranged in rows, and may each transmit a scan signal. The plurality of data lines D1-Dm are spaced apart from each other by a predetermined interval, are arranged in columns, and may each transmit a data signal. The plurality of scan lines S1-Sn and the plurality of data lines D1-Dm are arranged in the form of matrix and one pixel P is formed at a cross point thereof.

**[0044]** In order to display a color, each pixel P may display its own color from among primary colors or may alternately display primary colors according to time so

that a desired color may be recognized by spatial or temporal integration of the primary colors. Examples of the primary colors may include red R, green G, and blue B. When a color is displayed by a temporal integration, red R, green G, and blue B are alternately and temporarily displayed in one pixel so that only one color is displayed. When a color is displayed by a spatial integration, one color is displayed by a R pixel, a G pixel, and a B pixel. Thus, each of the R pixel, the G pixel, and the B pixel is referred to as a sub-pixel and three sub-pixels are referred to as one pixel. Also, when a color is displayed by a spatial integration, the R pixel, the G pixel, and the B pixel may be alternately arranged in a row direction or a column direction or the three pixels may be arranged to correspond to three apexes of a triangle.

**[0045]** The organic light-emitting panel 500 is connected to a scan driver 410, a source driver 430, and a timing controller 450. The scan driver 410, the source driver 430, and the timing controller 450 may each be directly installed on the organic light-emitting panel 500 in the form of at least one integrated circuit chip or may be integrated on the organic light-emitting panel 500 along with the signal lines S 1 through Sn, the data lines D 1 through Dm, and a thin film transistor. Also, the scan driver 410, the source driver 430, and the timing controller 450 may each be integrated on the organic light-emitting panel 500 in a single chip.

**[0046]** The scan driver 410 is connected to the scan lines S 1 through Sn of the organic light-emitting panel 500 and may apply scan signals including a combination of a gate-on voltage and a gate-off voltage to the scan lines S 1 through Sn. Here, the scan driver 410 may sequentially apply the scan signals to the plurality of scan lines S 1 through Sn. When the scan signals include the gate-on voltage, a switching transistor connected to the corresponding scan line is turned on.

**[0047]** The source driver 430 is connected to the data lines D1 through Dm of the organic light-emitting panel 500 and may apply data signals indicating gray scale to the data lines D1 through Dm. The source driver 430 may convert input image data DATA having gray scale input from the timing controller 450 into data signals in the form of voltage or current.

**[0048]** The timing controller 450 may receive the input image data DATA from an external graphic controller (not illustrated) and input control signals for controlling displaying of the input image data DATA. Examples of the input control signals may include a horizontal synchronization signal Hsync, a vertical synchronization signal Vsync, and a main clock signal MCLK. The timing controller 450 may transmit the input image data DATA to the source driver 430, may generate a scan control signal CONT1 and a data control signal CONT2, and may transmit the generated scan control signal CONT1 and data control signal CONT2 to the scan driver 410 and the source driver 430, respectively. The scan control signal CONT1 may include a scan starting signal SSP for indicating a scan start, and a plurality of clock signals SCLK.

The data control signal CONT2 may include a horizontal synchronization starting signal STH indicating transmission of input image data for a pixel P in one row, and a clock signal.

**[0049]** FIG. 3 illustrates a block diagram of the short protection unit 300 of FIG. 1.

**[0050]** Referring to FIG. 3, the short protection unit 300 includes a first signal generating unit 310, a second signal generating unit 330, a short-detecting unit 350, and a signal controlling unit 370.

**[0051]** The first signal generating unit 310 may generate the enable on signal EL\_ON. The power supplying unit 100 supplies the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS to the organic light-emitting panel 500 due to the enable on signal EL\_ON. When the first signal generating unit 310 receives the input voltage V\_B from a battery, the first signal generating unit 310 generates the enable on signal EL\_ON. The enable on signal EL\_ON may be generated after a predetermined time from when the input voltage V\_B is applied. The enable on signal EL\_ON may be applied to the second signal generating unit 330 and the signal controlling unit 370.

**[0052]** According to the current embodiment, the first signal generating unit 310 is included in the short protection unit 300. However, the first signal generating unit 310 may be separate from the short protection unit 300 and/or may be included in the driver IC 200.

**[0053]** The second signal generating unit 330 may generate a short detection starting signal SCP\_ON that starts short detection. The second signal generating unit 330 may generate the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON after a predetermined time from when the enable on signal EL\_ON is applied. In this regard, the power supplying unit 100 may stably output the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS by the enable on signal EL\_ON and then a short may be detected. The short detection starting signal SCP\_ON may be applied to the short-detecting unit 350 and the signal controlling unit 370.

**[0054]** When the short-detecting unit 350 receives the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON, the short-detecting unit 350 may determine the existence of a short. The short-detecting unit 350 may sense the first power voltage ELVDD and may determine the existence of a short according to whether the first power voltage ELVDD is reduced below a predetermined voltage. When a short is detected, the short-detecting unit 350 may generate a short detection signal SCP\_DET.

**[0055]** The short-detecting unit 350 may include a voltage distribution unit 351 and a comparing unit 355. The voltage distribution unit 351 may include a first resistor R1 and a second resistor R2. The first resistor R1 may be connected between the first power voltage ELVDD and a detected voltage Vx, and the second resistor R2 may be connected between the detected voltage V and a ground voltage. The comparing unit 355 may include an operational amplifier OPAMP. A reference voltage

Vref may be input to a non-inverting input terminal of the operational amplifier OPAMP, and the detected voltage V may be input to an inverting input terminal of the operational amplifier OPAMP. The operational amplifier OPAMP may compare the reference voltage Vref with the detected voltage Vx. When the detected voltage Vx is less than the reference voltage Vref, the operational amplifier OPAMP may determine a short has occurred and generates the short detection signal SCP\_DET.

**[0056]** The signal controlling unit 370 may receive the enable on signal EL\_ON from the first signal generating unit 310. The signal controlling unit 370 may receive the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON from the second signal generating unit 330. The signal controlling unit 370 may receive the short detection signal SCP\_DET from the short-detecting unit 350. The signal controlling unit 370 may be formed of a 3in-1out logic gate by combining at least one from the group consisting of an AND gate, a NAND gate, an OR gate, a NOR gate, and XNOR gate. In FIG. 3, the signal controlling unit 370 includes a NAND gate 371 and an AND gate 375. The NAND gate 371 may receive the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON and the short detection signal SCP\_DET, may perform a NAND operation on the signals, and may output the result to the AND gate 375. The AND gate 375 performs an AND operation on the enable on signal EL\_ON and the signal supplied from the NAND gate 371. As the result of operation, the enable on signal EL\_ON or the enable off signal EL\_OFF may be output. As an example, when the received signals are on signals, that is, in a high-level state, the AND gate 375 may output the enable off signal EL\_OFF.

**[0057]** FIG. 4A illustrates a timing diagram illustrating an operation of the driver IC 200 in a normal mode without a short.

**[0058]** Referring to FIGS. 3 and 4A, the driver IC 200 may receive the input voltage V\_B from a battery, and a mode of the driver IC 200 may be converted from a sleep mode to a driving mode when power is turned on.

**[0059]** The short protection unit 300 may generate the enable on signal EL\_ON after a predetermined time delay EL\_ON\_DELAY from when the input voltage V\_B is applied. The enable on signal EL\_ON may be output to the power supplying unit 100 according to the result of a logic operation of the signal controlling unit 370. Before the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON is generated, only the enable on signal EL\_ON may be generated, and the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON and the short detection signal SCP\_DET may be in an off-state. The signal controlling unit 370 may output the enable on signal EL\_ON according to the result of a logic operation of the enable on signal EL\_ON, the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON being in an off-state, and the short detection signal SCP\_DET. The power supplying unit 100 may receive the enable on signal EL\_ON, may generate the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS based on the input voltage V\_B, and may output the generated first power voltage ELVDD and sec-

ond power voltage ELVSS to the organic light-emitting panel 500.

**[0060]** The short protection unit 300 may generate the enable on signal EL\_ON and generates the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON after a predetermined time delay SCP\_ON\_DELAY. For example, the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON may be generated after the time delay SCP\_ON\_DELAY required to receive the enable on signal EL\_ON by the power supplying unit 100 and may generate the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS.

**[0061]** The short protection unit 300 may start short detection via the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON. When a short is not detected, the short detection signal SCP\_DET may be in an off-state. Accordingly, the enable on signal EL\_ON may be maintained in a high state according to the result of a logic operation of the enable on signal EL\_ON in the signal controlling unit 370, the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON, and the short detection signal SCP\_DET in an off-state.

**[0062]** In addition, when power of the driver IC 200 is turned off, a mode thereof may be converted to a sleep mode, and the enable on signal EL\_ON and the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON may change to an off-state.

**[0063]** FIG. 4B illustrates a timing diagram of an operation of the driver IC 200 in a short mode.

**[0064]** Referring to FIGS. 3 and 4B, the driver IC 200 may receive the input voltage V\_B from a battery and a mode of the driver IC 200 may be converted from a sleep mode to a driving mode when power is turned on.

**[0065]** The short protection unit 300 may generate the enable on signal EL\_ON after a predetermined time delay EL\_ON\_DELAY from when the input voltage V\_B is applied. The enable on signal EL\_ON may be output to the power supplying unit 100 according to the result of a logic operation of the signal controlling unit 370. Before the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON is generated, only the enable on signal EL\_ON is generated, and the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON and the short detection signal SCP\_DET are in an off-state. The signal controlling unit 370 may output the enable on signal EL\_ON according to the result of a logic operation of the enable on signal EL\_ON, the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON being in an off-state, and the short detection signal SCP\_DET. The power supplying unit 100 may receive the enable on signal EL\_ON, may generate the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS based on the input voltage V\_B, and may output the generated first power voltage ELVDD and second power voltage ELVSS to the organic light-emitting panel 500.

**[0066]** The short protection unit 300 may generate the enable on signal EL\_ON and generates the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON after a predetermined time delay SCP\_ON\_DELAY. For example, the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON may be generated after the time delay SCP\_ON\_DELAY required to receive the en-

able on signal EL\_ON by the power supplying unit 100 and may generate the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS.

**[0067]** The short protection unit 300 may start short detection by the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON. When a short is detected, the short detection signal SCP\_DET may be generated. The signal controlling unit 370 may output the enable off signal EL\_OFF to the power supplying unit 100 according to the result of a logic operation of the enable on signal EL\_ON, the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON, and the short detection signal SCP\_DET, each of which are in an on-state.

**[0068]** The driver IC 200 may be shut down after the enable off signal EL\_OFF is output so that power is turned off and a mode thereof may be converted to a sleep mode. Accordingly, the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON may be in an off-state. Conversion to the sleep mode may be accomplished at the same time as the output of the enable off signal EL\_OFF or after the predetermined time delay, for example, at the time of completing a corresponding frame.

**[0069]** In addition, the power supplying unit 100 may receive the enable off signal EL\_OFF and may stop output of the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS.

**[0070]** FIG. 4C illustrates a timing diagram of an operation of the driver IC 200 in a short mode.

**[0071]** Referring to FIG. 4C, the driver IC 200 may receive the input voltage V\_B from a battery and a mode of the driver IC 200 may be converted from a sleep mode to a driving mode when power is turned on.

**[0072]** The short protection unit 300 generates the enable on signal EL\_ON after a predetermined time delay EL\_ON\_DELAY from when the input voltage V\_B is applied. The enable on signal EL\_ON is output to the power supplying unit 100 according to the result of a logic operation of the signal controlling unit 370. Before the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON is generated, only the enable on signal EL\_ON is generated, and the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON and the short detection signal SCP\_DET are in an off-state. The signal controlling unit 370 outputs the enable on signal EL\_ON according to the result of a logic operation of the enable on signal EL\_ON, the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON in an off-state, and the short detection signal SCP\_DET. The power supplying unit 100 receives the enable on signal EL\_ON, generates the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS based on the input voltage V\_B, and outputs the generated first power voltage ELVDD and second power voltage ELVSS to the organic light emitting panel 500.

**[0073]** The short protection unit 300 generates the enable on signal EL\_ON and generates the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON after predetermined time delay SCP\_ON\_DELAY. For example, the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON is generated after the time delay SCP\_ON\_DELAY required to receive the enable on signal EL\_ON by the power supplying unit 100 and generate

the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS.

**[0074]** The short protection unit 300 starts short detection by the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON. When a short is not detected, the short detection signal SCP\_DET is generated. The short protection unit 300 controls output of the enable off signal EL\_OFF according to the duration of the short detection signal SCP\_DET. For example, when the duration Ta of the short detection signal SCP\_DET is less than a reference time, the short protection unit 300 maintains the enable on signal EL\_ON in an on-state and when the duration Tb of the short detection signal SCP\_DET is greater than the reference time, the short protection unit 300 outputs the enable off signal EL\_OFF.

**[0075]** The driver IC 200 is shut down after the enable off signal EL\_OFF is output so that power is turned off and a mode thereof is converted to a sleep mode. Accordingly, the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON is in an off-state. Conversion to the sleep mode may be accomplished at the same time as the output of the enable off signal EL\_OFF or after the predetermined time delay. In addition, the power supplying unit 100 receives the enable off signal EL\_OFF and stops output of the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS.

**[0076]** FIG. 5 is a flowchart illustrating a method of providing power in an organic light-emitting display apparatus, according to an embodiment of the invention.

**[0077]** Referring to FIG. 5, a driver integrated circuit, which receives an input voltage from a battery, generates an enable on signal and outputs the generated enable on signal to a power supplying unit, in operation S501. The enable on signal allows the power supplying unit to apply a first power voltage and a second power voltage to an organic light-emitting panel. Here, in an initial stage of driving, a short detection starting signal and a short detection signal are in on off-state so that the enable on signal is output to the power supplying unit according to the result of a logic operation of the enable on signal, the short detection starting signal in an off-state, and the short detection signal in an off-state. The power supplying unit receives the enable on signal, generates the first power voltage and the second power voltage, and outputs the generated first power voltage and second power voltage.

**[0078]** A driver IC generates a short detection starting signal that starts short detection based on the enable on signal, in operation S503. The short detection starting signal is generated after predetermined time from the enable on signal, that is, time delay that is requested to receive the enable on signal by the power supplying unit and to complete boosting to the first power voltage and the second power voltage based on the input voltage.

**[0079]** The driver IC determines the existence of a short, in operation S505. The driver integrated circuit distributes the first power voltage to compare a detected voltage with a reference voltage. When the reference

voltage is less than the reference voltage, it is determined that a short has occurred. The existence of a short is determined by the short detection starting signal.

**[0080]** When a short is detected, the driver IC generates the short detection signal, in operation S507, and outputs the enable off signal to the power supplying unit, in operation S509. The first power voltage and the second power voltage may be prevented from being supplied from the power supplying unit to the organic light-emitting panel by the enable off signal. Here, since the enable signal, the short detection starting signal, and the short detection signal are in on-state, the enable off signal is generated and output according to the result of a logic operation of the signals. The driver IC is shut down at the same time as the output of the enable off signal or after a predetermined time delay.

**[0081]** When power supply to the organic light-emitting panel is blocked by the enable off signal, an excessive current is blocked and the possibility of a fire occurrence is reduced when a short occurs in the organic light-emitting panel.

**[0082]** The driver IC that is shut down operates again by being reset and repeatedly performs short detection.

**[0083]** FIG. 6 illustrates a block diagram of an organic light-emitting display apparatus, according to a further embodiment of the invention and FIG. 7 illustrates a block diagram of a short protection unit 301 of FIG. 6.

**[0084]** Referring to FIG. 6, the organic light-emitting display apparatus according to this embodiment includes a power supplying unit 101, a driver IC 201, and an organic light-emitting panel 501. The driver IC 201 includes a short protection unit 301 and a driver 401.

**[0085]** The driver IC 201 of FIGS. 6 and 7 is different from the driver IC 200 of FIG. 1 in that the driver IC 201 senses both the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS and detects the existence of a short of the organic light-emitting panel 501. Hereinafter, detailed descriptions that are the same as those with respect to FIG. 1 will not be repeated. Timing diagrams illustrating an operation of the driver IC 201 may be also illustrated in FIGS. 4A through 4C.

**[0086]** When a short occurs in a first power voltage ELVDD line and a second power voltage ELVSS line of the organic light-emitting panel 501, the first power voltage ELVDD supplied to the first power voltage ELVDD line is reduced and the second power voltage ELVSS supplied to the second power voltage ELVSS line is increased. Accordingly, the short protection unit 301 senses that the first power voltage ELVDD is reduced below a first reference voltage and the second power voltage ELVSS is increased above a second reference voltage, thereby detecting a short.

**[0087]** Referring to FIG. 7, the short protection unit 301 includes a first signal generating unit 311, a second signal generating unit 331, a short-detecting unit 360, and a signal controlling unit 380. The short-detecting unit 360 includes a first short-detecting unit 361 and a second short-detecting unit 365. The first signal generating unit

311, which receives the input voltage V<sub>B</sub> from a battery, generates the enable on signal EL\_ON. The enable on signal EL\_ON may be generated after a predetermined time delay from when the input voltage V<sub>B</sub> is applied. The enable on signal EL\_ON may be supplied to the second signal generating unit 331 and the signal controlling unit 380. As a result of a logic operation of the signal controlling unit 380, the enable on signal EL\_ON may be output to the power supplying unit 101. The power supplying unit 101 may receive the enable on signal EL\_ON, may generate the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS, and may output the generated first power voltage ELVDD and second power voltage ELVSS to the organic light-emitting panel 501.

**[0088]** The second signal generating unit 331 may generate the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON that starts short detection after a predetermined time delay from the enable on signal EL\_ON. The short detection starting signal SCP\_ON may be supplied to the short-detecting unit 360 and the signal controlling unit 380. When the short-detecting unit 360 receives the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON, the short-detecting unit 360 may determine the existence of a short. The first short-detecting unit 361 may sense the first power voltage ELVDD and may determine there is a short when the power voltage ELVDD is less than the first reference voltage. When it is determined there is a short, the first short-detecting unit 361 may generate a first short detection signal SCP\_DET1. The second short-detecting unit 365 may sense the second power voltage ELVSS and may determine there is a short when the second power voltage ELVSS is greater than the second reference voltage. When it is determined there is a short, the second short-detecting unit 365 may generate a second short detection signal SCP\_DET2.

**[0089]** The signal controlling unit 380 may receive the enable on signal EL\_ON from the first signal generating unit 311, may receive the short detection starting signal SCP\_ON from the second signal generating unit 331, and may receive the first and second short detection signals SCP\_DET1 and SCP\_DET2 from the short-detecting unit 360. The signal controlling unit 380 may perform an AND operation on the received signals. Since the signals received in the signal controlling unit 380 are in on-state (high-level state), the enable off signal EL\_OFF may output as a result of the operation.

**[0090]** The driver IC 201 may be shut down after the enable off signal EL\_OFF is output so that power is turned off and a mode thereof is converted to a sleep mode. Conversion to the sleep mode may be accomplished at the same time as the output of the enable off signal EL\_OFF or after the predetermined time delay. The power supplying unit 101 may receive the enable off signal EL\_OFF and may be shut down so that output of the first power voltage ELVDD and the second power voltage ELVSS is blocked.

**[0091]** The driver IC 201 that is shut down may operate again by being reset and repeatedly performs short de-

tection.

**[0092]** In one or more embodiments, organic light-emitting display apparatus according to the invention may include a short detection function in the driver IC and may shut down the driver integrated circuit and the power supplying unit when a short occurs. Accordingly, one or more embodiments may reduce and/or prevent a fire due to a short.

**[0093]** Embodiments of the invention 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. Accordingly, it will be understood by those of ordinary skill in the art that various changes in form and details may be made without departing from the scope of the present invention as set forth in the following claims.

## Claims

1. An organic light-emitting display apparatus, comprising:

an organic light-emitting panel;  
a power supplying unit for supplying a first power voltage and a second power voltage to the organic light-emitting panel; and  
a driver integrated circuit including a short protection unit, wherein the short protection unit is configured to detect a short based on at least one of the first power voltage and the second power voltage and output an enable off signal that blocks the first power voltage and the second power voltage from being supplied to the power supplying unit.

2. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the short protection unit comprises:

a signal generating unit configured to generate a short detection starting signal that starts short detection based on an enable on signal that allows the power supplying unit to supply the first power voltage and the second power voltage to the organic light-emitting panel;  
a short-detecting unit configured to detect the short and generate a short detection signal; and  
a signal controlling unit adapted to output the enable off signal based on the enable on signal, the short detection starting signal, and the short detection signal.

3. Apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein signal generating unit is adapted to generate the short detection starting signal after a predetermined time delay from the enable on signal.

4. Apparatus as claimed in claim 2 or 3, wherein the

short-detecting unit comprises:

a voltage distribution unit configured to distribute the first power voltage and output a detected voltage; and  
 a comparing unit configured to compare the detected voltage with a reference voltage and detect a short when the detected voltage is less than the reference voltage and output the short detection signal.

5. Apparatus as claimed in one of claims 2 to 4, wherein the signal controlling unit comprises a logic gate that logically operates the enable on signal, the short detection starting signal, and the short detection signal.

6. Apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the short-detecting unit comprises:

a first short-detecting unit configured to detect a short based on the first power voltage; and  
 a second short-detecting unit configured to detect a short based on the second power voltage.

7. Apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the driver integrated circuit is adapted to output the enable off signal when the short occurs over a reference time.

8. Apparatus as claimed any preceding claim, wherein the driver integrated circuit is adapted to be shut down at the same time as the output of the enable off signal or after a predetermined time delay.

9. A method of providing power in an organic light-emitting display apparatus, the method comprising:

detecting a short in a driver integrated circuit based on at least one of a first power voltage and a second power voltage supplied from a power supplying unit to an organic light-emitting panel; and  
 outputting an enable off signal to the power supplying unit when a short is detected, wherein the enable off signal blocks the first power voltage and the second power voltage being supplied from the driver integrated circuit.

10. A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein detecting the short comprises:

generating a short detection starting signal that starts short detection based on an enable on signal that allows the power supplying unit to supply the first power voltage and the second power voltage to the organic light-emitting panel; and  
 detecting the short and generating a short de-

tection signal.

11. A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the short detection starting signal is generated after a predetermined time delay from the enable on signal.

12. A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein generating the short detection signal comprises:

distributing the first power voltage and generating a detected voltage;  
 comparing the detected voltage with a reference voltage after receiving the short detection starting signal; and  
 generating the short detection signal when the reference voltage is less than the reference voltage.

13. A method as claimed in one of claims 10 to 12, wherein outputting the enable off signal comprises:

outputting the enable off signal by logically operating the enable on signal, the short detection starting signal, and the short detection signal.

14. A method as claimed in one of claims 11 to 13, wherein outputting the enable off signal includes outputting the enable off signal when the short occurs over a reference time.

15. A method as claimed in one of claims 11 to 14, wherein when a short is detected, the driver integrated circuit is shut down at a same time as the output of the enable off signal or after a predetermined time delay.

16. A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein outputting the short detection signal comprises:

outputting a first short detection signal when the first power voltage is less than first reference voltage; and  
 outputting a second short detection signal when the second power voltage is greater than second reference voltage.

FIG. 1

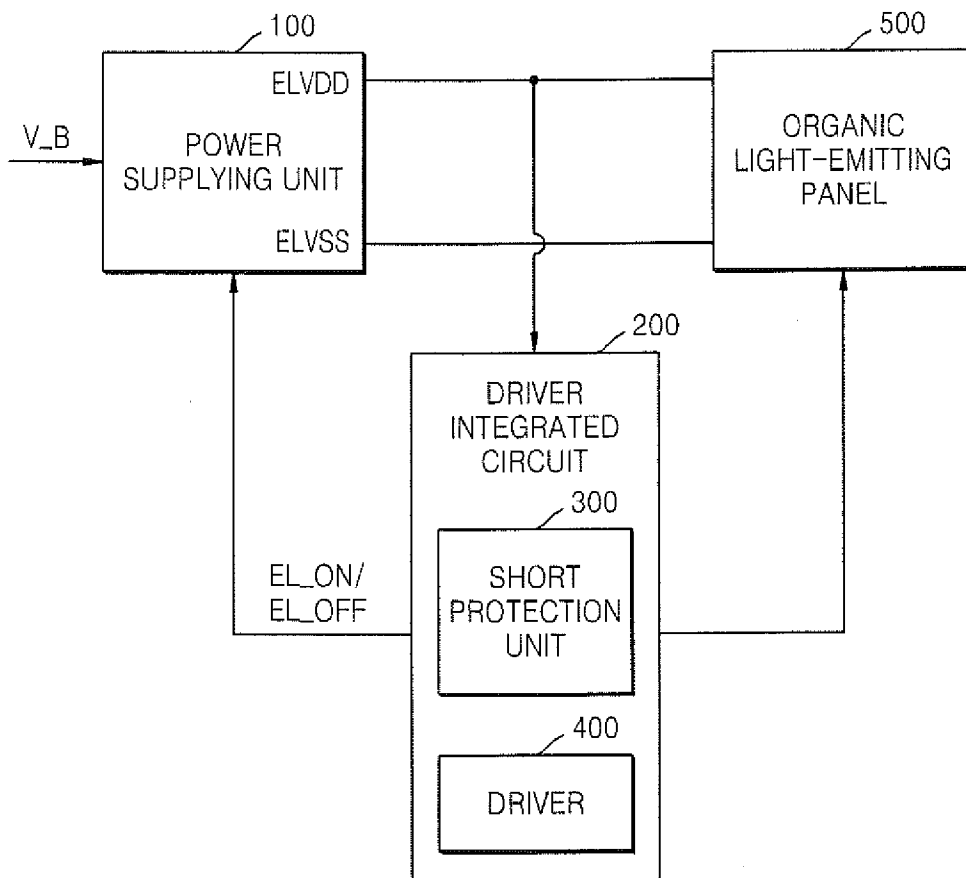


FIG. 2

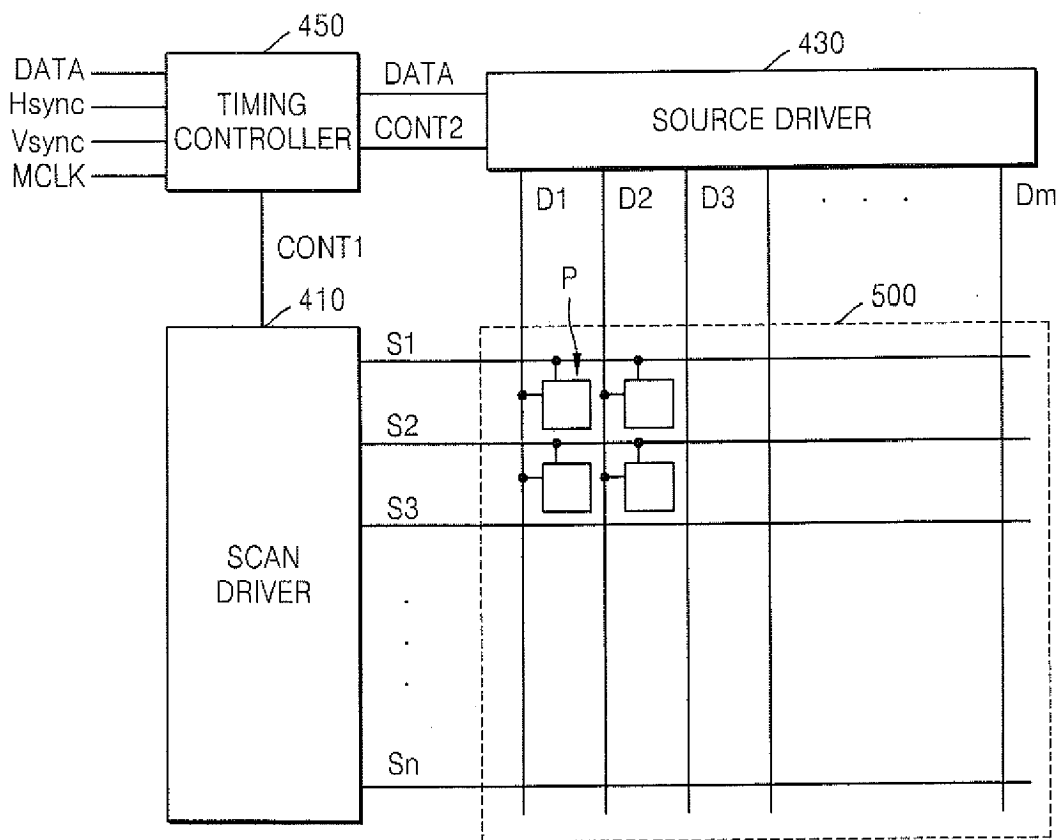


FIG. 3

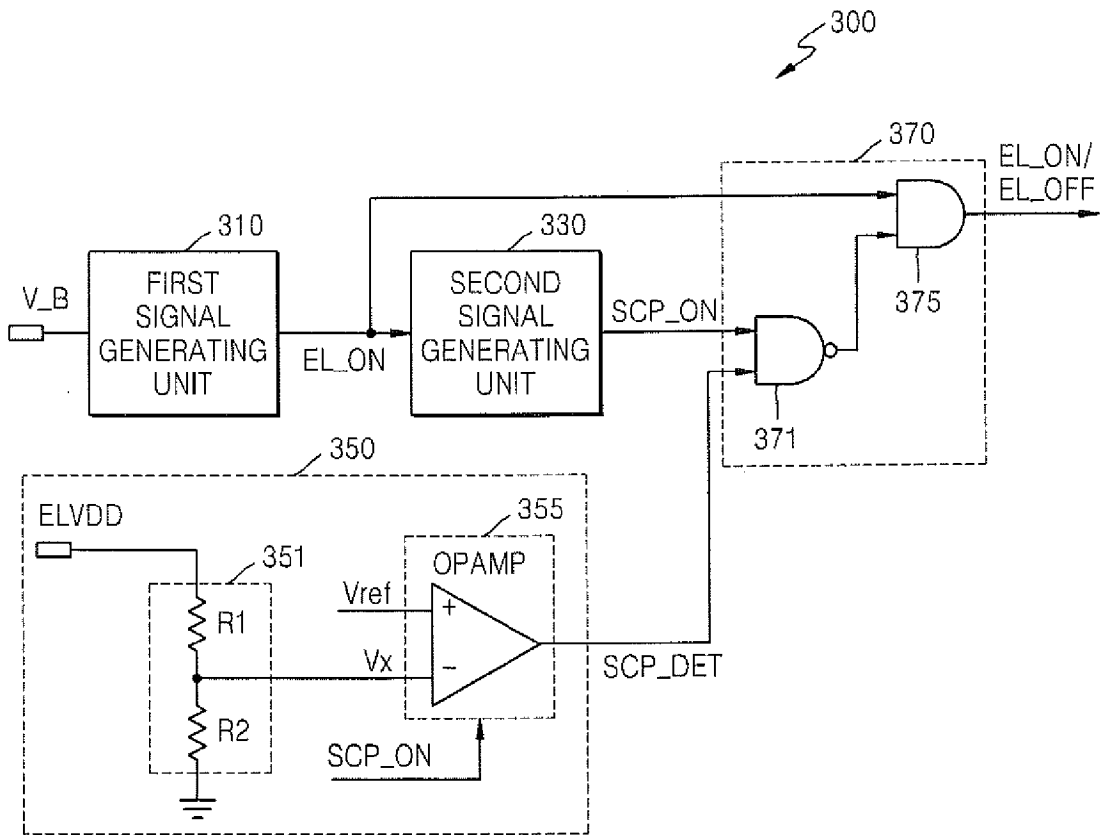


FIG. 4C

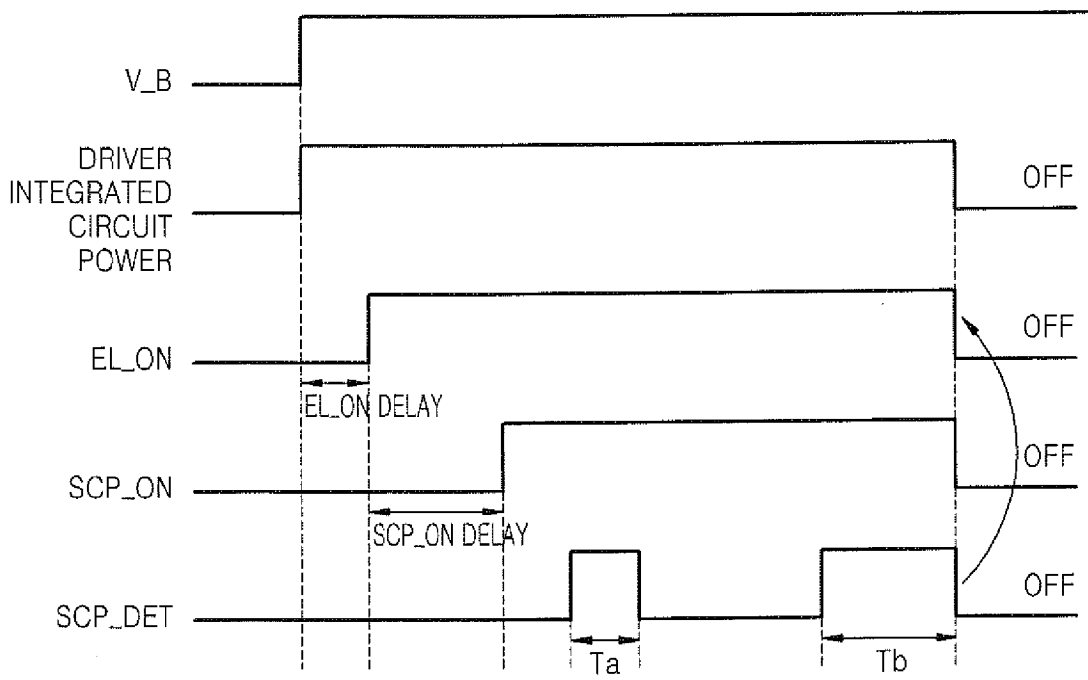


FIG. 4A

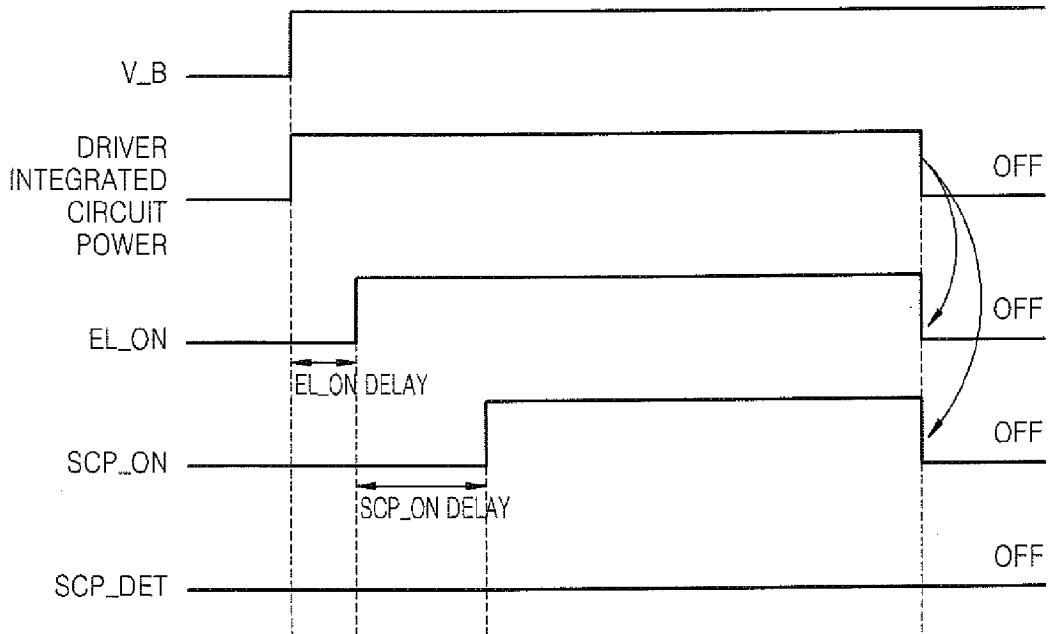


FIG. 4B

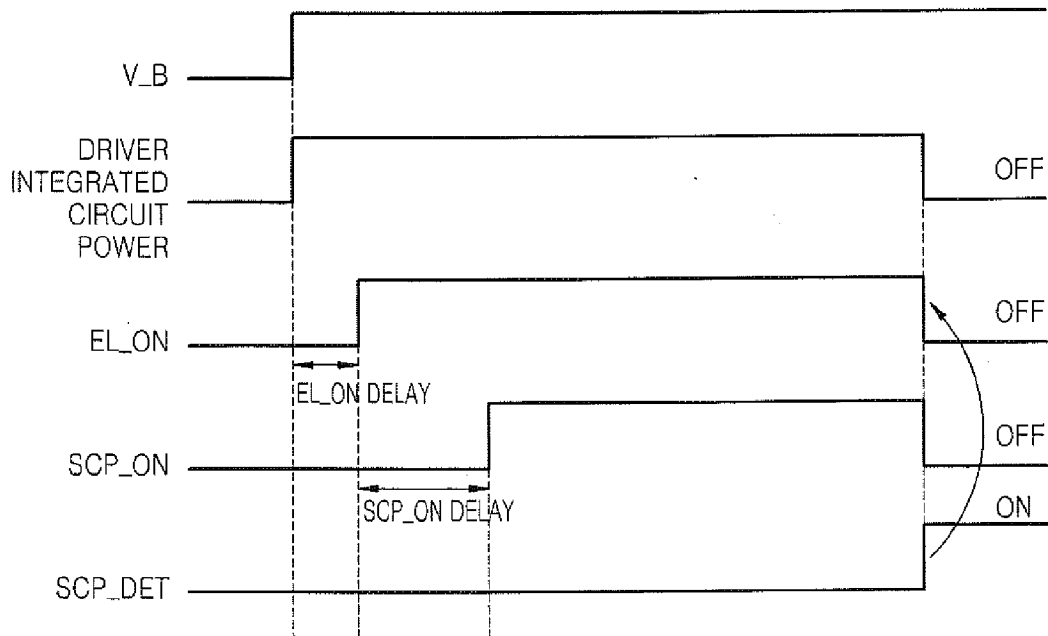


FIG. 5

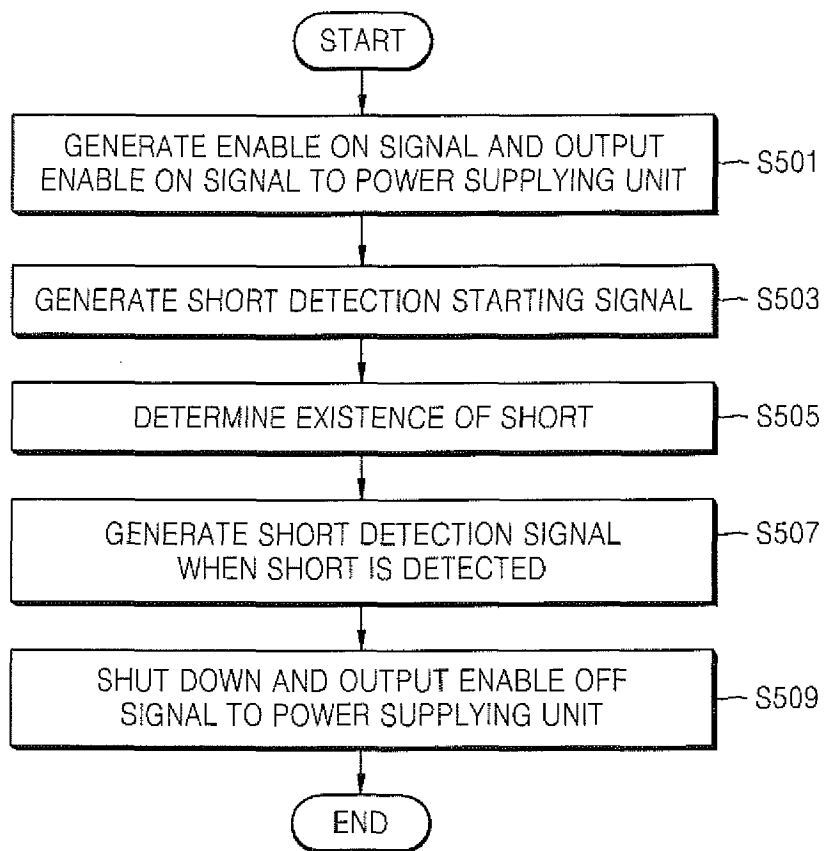


FIG. 6

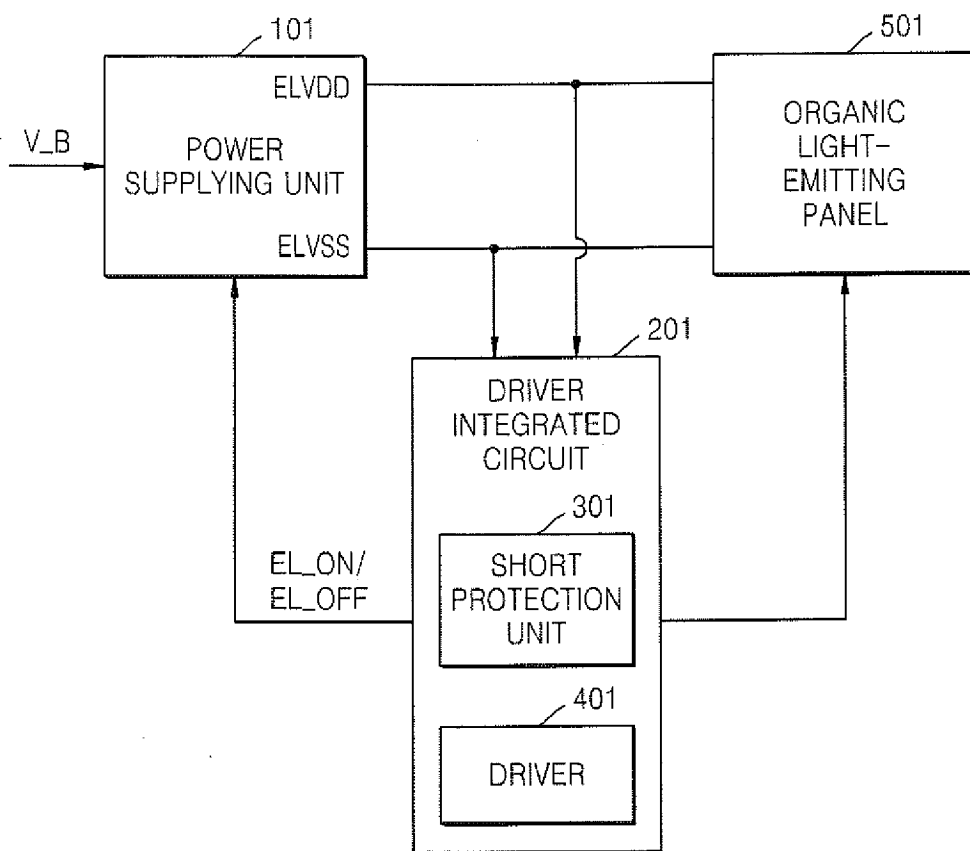
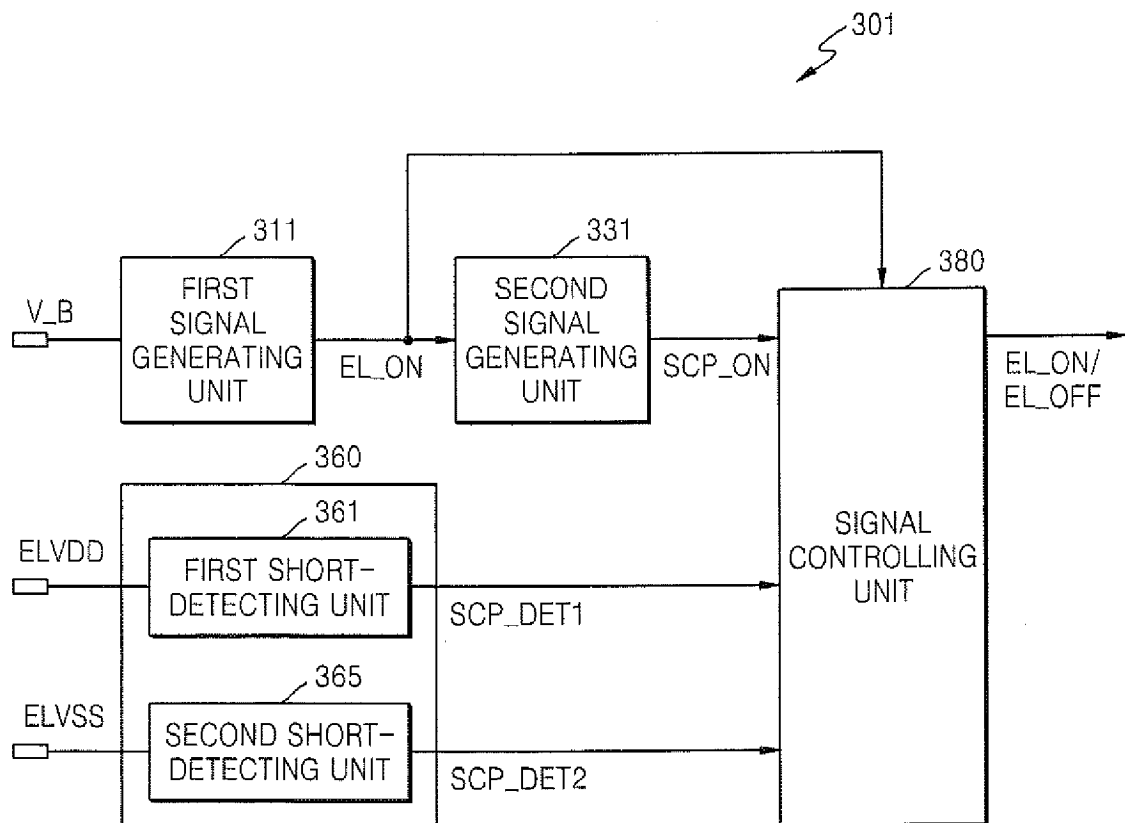


FIG. 7





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 11 17 6855

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 18 November 2011	Examiner Lochhead, Steven
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ----- & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 11 17 6855

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
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Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		18 November 2011	Lochhead, Steven
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone                      Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category                      A : technological background                      O : non-written disclosure                      P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention                      E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date                      D : document cited in the application                      L : document cited for other reasons                      .....                      &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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专利名称(译)	有机发光显示装置和在其中提供电力的方法		
公开(公告)号	<a href="#">EP2416307A1</a>	公开(公告)日	2012-02-08
申请号	EP2011176855	申请日	2011-08-08
[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	三星显示有限公司		
申请(专利权)人(译)	三星移动显示器有限公司.		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	三星DISPLAY CO. , LTD.		
[标]发明人	PARK SUNG CHEON		
发明人	PARK, SUNG-CHEON		
IPC分类号	G09G3/32		
CPC分类号	G09G3/3208 G09G2330/028 G09G2330/04 G09G2330/12		
优先权	1020100075991 2010-08-06 KR		
外部链接	<a href="#">Espacenet</a>		

摘要(译)

一种有机发光显示装置和在有机发光显示装置中提供电力的方法。有机发光显示装置包括有机发光面板(500)，用于向有机发光面板提供第一电源电压(ELVDD)和第二电源电压(ELVSS)的供电单元(100)(500)和包括短路保护单元(300)的驱动器集成电路(200)，其中短路保护单元(300)基于第一电源电压(ELVDD)和第二电源电压中的至少一个来检测短路(ELVSS)并输出使能关断信号(EL\_OFF)，其阻止第一电源电压(ELVDD)和第二电源电压(ELVSS)被提供给供电单元(100)。

FIG. 1

