

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
14 December 2006 (14.12.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/130981 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:

G09G 3/20 (2006.01) *G09G 3/32* (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/CA2006/000941

(22) International Filing Date: 8 June 2006 (08.06.2006)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

2,508,972	8 June 2005 (08.06.2005)	CA
2,537,173	20 February 2006 (20.02.2006)	CA
2,542,678	10 April 2006 (10.04.2006)	CA

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **IGNIS INNOVATION INC.**, [CA/CA]; 55 Culpepper Drive, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 5K8 (CA).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **NATHAN, Arokia** [CA/CA]; c/o Ignis Innovation Inc., 55 Culpepper Drive, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 5K8 (CA). **CHAJI, Reza, G.** [CA/CA]; 507-196 Westmount Rd. N., Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G5 (CA).

(74) Agents: **HARRIS, John, D.** et al.; Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP, 160 Elgin Street, Suite 2600, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1C3 (CA).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

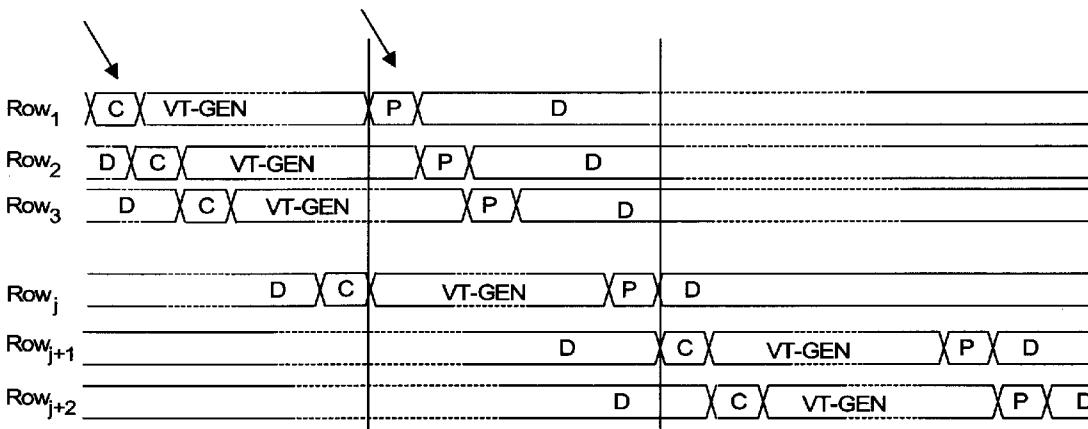
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DRIVING A LIGHT EMITTING DEVICE DISPLAY



(57) Abstract: A method and system for driving a light emitting device display is provided. The system provides a timing schedule which increases accuracy in the display. The system may provide the timing schedule by which an operation cycle is implemented consecutively in a group of rows. The system may provide the timing schedule by which an aging factor is used for a plurality of frames.

WO 2006/130981 A1

Method and System for Driving A Light Emitting Device Display

FIELD OF INVENTION

[0001] The present invention relates to display technologies, more specifically a method and system for driving light emitting device displays.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] Recently active-matrix organic light-emitting diode (AMOLED) displays with amorphous silicon (a-Si), poly-silicon, organic, or other driving backplane have become more attractive due to advantages over active matrix liquid crystal displays. An AMOLED display using a-Si backplanes, for example, has the advantages that include low temperature fabrication that broadens the use of different substrates and makes flexible displays feasible, and its low cost fabrication. Also, OLED yields high resolution displays with a wide viewing angle.

[0003] The AMOLED display includes an array of rows and columns of pixels, each having an organic light-emitting diode (OLED) and backplane electronics arranged in the array of rows and columns. Since the OLED is a current driven device, the pixel circuit of the AMOLED should be capable of providing an accurate and constant drive current.

[0004] Figure 1 illustrates conventional operation cycles for a conventional voltage-programmed AMOLED display. In Figure 1, “Row*i*” (*i*=1, 2, 3) represents a *i*th row of the matrix pixel array of the AMOLED display. In Figure 1, “C” represents a compensation voltage generation cycle in which a compensation voltage is developed across the gate-source terminal of a drive transistor of the pixel circuit, “VT-GEN” represents a V_T -generation cycle in which the threshold voltage of the drive transistor, V_T , is generated, “P” represents a current-regulation cycle where the pixel current is regulated by applying a programming voltage to the gate of the drive transistor, and “D” represents a driving cycle in which the OLED of the pixel circuit is driven by current controlled by the drive transistor.

[0005] For each row of the AMOLED display, the operating cycles include the compensation voltage generation cycle “C”, the V_T -generation cycle “VT-GEN”, the

current-regulation cycle “P”, and the driving cycle “D”. Typically, these operating cycles are performed sequentially for a matrix structure, as shown in Figure 1. For example, the entire programming cycles (i.e., “C”, “VT-GEN”, and “P”) of the first row (i.e., Row₁) are executed, and then the second row (i.e., Row₂) is programmed.

5 [0006] However, since the V_T-generation cycle “VT-GEN” requires a large timing budget to generate an accurate threshold voltage of a drive TFT, this timing schedule cannot be adopted in large-area displays. Moreover, executing two extra operating cycles (i.e., “C” and “VT-GEN”) results in higher power consumption and also requires extra controlling signals leading to higher implementation cost.

10 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0007] It is an object of the invention to provide a method and system that obviates or mitigates at least one of the disadvantages of existing systems.

15 [0008] In accordance with an aspect of the present invention there is provided a display system which includes: a pixel array including a plurality of pixel circuits arranged in row and column. The pixel circuit has a light emitting device, a capacitor, a switch transistor and a drive transistor for driving the light emitting device. The pixel circuit includes a path for programming, and a second path for generating the threshold of the drive transistor. The system includes: a first driver for providing data for the programming to the pixel array; and a second driver for controlling the generation of the threshold of the drive transistor for one or more drive transistors. The first driver and the second driver drives the pixel array to implement the programming and generation operations independently.

20 [0009] In accordance with a further aspect of the present invention there is provided a method of driving a display system. The display system includes: a pixel array including a plurality of pixel circuits arranged in row and column. The pixel circuit has a light emitting device, a capacitor, a switch transistor and a drive transistor for driving the light emitting device. The pixel circuit includes a path for programming, and a second path for generating the threshold of the drive transistor. The method includes the steps of: controlling the generation of the threshold of the drive transistor for one or

more drive transistors, providing data for the programming to the pixel array, independently from the step of controlling.

[0010] In accordance with a further aspect of the present invention there is provided a display system which includes: a pixel array including a plurality of pixel circuits arranged in row and column. The pixel circuit has a light emitting device, a capacitor, a switch transistor and a drive transistor for driving the light emitting device. The system includes: a first driver for providing data to the pixel array for programming; and a second driver for generating and storing an aging factor of each pixel circuit in a row into the corresponding pixel circuit, and programming and driving the pixel circuit in the row for a plurality of frames based on the stored aging factor. The pixel array is divided into a plurality of segments. At least one of signal lines driven by the second driver for generating the aging factor is shared in a segment.

[0011] In accordance with a further aspect of the present invention there is provided a method of driving a display system. The display system includes: a pixel array including a plurality of pixel circuits arranged in row and column. The pixel circuit has a light emitting device, a capacitor, a switch transistor and a drive transistor for driving the light emitting device. The pixel array is divided into a plurality of segments. The method includes the steps of: generating an aging factor of each pixel circuit using a segment signal and storing the aging factor into the corresponding pixel circuit for each row, the segment signal being shared by each segment; and programming and driving the pixel circuit in the row for a plurality of frames based on the stored aging factor.

[0012] This summary of the invention does not necessarily describe all features of the invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0013] These and other features of the invention will become more apparent from the following description in which reference is made to the appended drawings wherein:

[0014] Figure 1 illustrates conventional operating cycles for a conventional AMOLED display;

[0015] Figure 2 illustrates an example of a segmented timing schedule for stable operation of a light emitting light display, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

5 [0016] Figure 3 illustrates an example of a parallel timing schedule for stable operation of a light emitting light display, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

[0017] Figure 4 illustrates an example of an AMOLED display array structure for the timing schedules of Figures 2 and 3;

10 [0018] Figure 5 illustrates an example of a voltage programmed pixel circuit to which the segmented timing schedule and the parallel timing schedule are applicable;

[0019] Figure 6 illustrates an example of a timing schedule applied to the pixel circuit of Figure 5;

[0020] Figure 7 illustrates another example of a voltage programmed pixel circuit to which the segmented timing schedule and the parallel timing schedule are applicable;

15 [0021] Figure 8 illustrates an example of a timing schedule applied to the pixel circuit of Figure 7;

[0022] Figure 9 illustrates an example of a shared signaling addressing scheme for a light emitting display, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

20 [0023] Figure 10 illustrates an example of a pixel circuit to which the shared signaling addressing scheme is applicable;

[0024] Figure 11 illustrates an example of a timing schedule applied to the pixel circuit of Figure 10;

[0025] Figure 12 illustrates the pixel current stability of the pixel circuit of Figure 10;

25 [0026] Figure 13 illustrates another example of a pixel circuit to which the shared signaling addressing scheme is applicable;

[0027] Figure 14 illustrates an example of a timing schedule applied to the pixel circuit of Figure 13;

[0028] Figure 15 illustrates an example of an AMOLED display array structure for the pixel circuit of Figure 10;

5 [0029] Figure 16 illustrates an example of an AMOLED display array structure for the pixel circuit of Figure 13;

[0030] Figure 17 illustrates a further example of a pixel circuit to which the shared signaling addressing scheme is applicable;

10 [0031] Figure 18 illustrates an example of a timing schedule applied to the pixel circuit of Figure 17;

[0032] Figure 19 illustrates an example of an AMOLED display array structure for the pixel circuit of Figure 17;

[0033] Figure 20 illustrates a further example of a pixel circuit to which the shared signaling addressing scheme is applicable;

15 [0034] Figure 21 illustrates an example of a timing schedule applied to the pixel circuit of Figure 20; and

[0035] Figure 22 illustrates an example of an AMOLED display array structure for the pixel circuit of Figure 20.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

20 [0036] Embodiments of the present invention are described using a pixel circuit having a light emitting device, such as an organic light emitting diode (OLED), and a plurality of transistors, such as thin film transistors (TFTs), arranged in row and column, which form an AMOLED display. The pixel circuit may include a pixel driver for OLED. However, the pixel may include any light emitting device other than OLED, and the pixel may include any transistors other than TFTs. The transistors in the pixel circuit may be n-type transistors, p-type transistors or combinations thereof. The transistors in the pixel may be fabricated using amorphous silicon, nano/micro crystalline silicon,

5

poly silicon, organic semiconductors technologies (e.g. organic TFT), NMOS/PMOS technology or CMOS technology (e.g. MOSFET). In the description, “pixel circuit” and “pixel” may be used interchangeably. The pixel circuit may be a current-programmed pixel or a voltage-programmed pixel. In the description below, “signal” and “line” may be used interchangeably.

10

[0037] The embodiments of the present invention involve a technique for generating an accurate threshold voltage of a drive TFT. As a result, it generates a stable current despite the shift of the characteristics of pixel elements due to, for example, the pixel aging, and process variation. It enhances the brightness stability of the OLED. Also it may reduce the power consumption and signals, resulting in low implementation cost.

15

[0038] A segmented timing schedule and a parallel timing schedule are described in detail. These schedules extend the timing budget of a cycle for generating the threshold voltage V_T of a drive transistor. As described below, the rows in a display array are segmented and the operating cycles are divided into a plurality of categories, e.g., two categories. For example, the first category includes a compensation cycle and a V_T -generation cycle, while the second category includes a current-regulation cycle and a driving cycle. The operating cycles for each category are performed sequentially for each segment, while the two categories are executed for two adjacent segments. For example, while the current regulation and driving cycles are performed for the first segment sequentially, the compensation and V_T -generation cycles are executed for the second segment.

20

[0039] Figure 2 illustrates an example of the segmented timing schedule for stable operation of a light emitting display, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. In Figure 2, “Row_k” ($k=1, 2, 3, \dots, j, j+1, j+2$) represents a k th row of a display array, an arrow shows an execution direction.

25

[0040] For each row, the timing schedule of Figure 2 includes a compensation voltage generation cycle “C”, a V_T -generation cycle “VT-GEN”, a current-regulation cycle “D”, and a driving cycle “P”.

30

[0041] The timing schedule of Figure 2 extends the timing budget of the V_T -generation cycle “VT-GEN” without affecting the programming time. To achieve this, the rows of

the display array to which the segmented addressing scheme of Figure 2 is applied are categorized as few segments. Each segment includes rows in which the V_T -generation cycle is carried out consequently. In Figure 2, Row₁, Row₂, Row₃, ..., and, Row_j are in one segment in a plurality of rows of the display array.

5 [0042] The programming of each segment starts with executing the first and second operating cycles “C” and “VT-GEN”. After that, the current-calibration cycle “P” is preformed for the entire segment. As a result, the timing budget of the V_T -generation cycle “VT-GEN” is extended to $j \cdot \tau_p$ where j is the number of rows in each segment, and τ_p is the timing budget of the first operating cycle “C” (or current regulation cycle).

10 [0043] Also, the frame time τ_F is $Z \times n \times \tau_p$ where n is the number of rows in the display, and Z is a function of number of iteration in a segment. For example, in Figure 2, the V_T generation starts from the first row of the segment and goes to the last row (the first iteration) and then the programming starts from the first row and goes to the last row (the second iteration). Accordingly, Z is set to 2. If the number of iteration increases, 15 the frame time will become $Z \times n \times \tau_p$ in which Z is the number of iteration and may be greater than 2.

20 [0044] Figure 3 illustrates an example of the parallel timing schedule for stable operation of a light emitting light display, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. In Figure 3, “Row_k” ($k=1, 2, 3, \dots, j, j+1$) represents a k th row of a display array.

[0045] Similar to Figure 2, the timing schedule of Figure 4 includes the compensation voltage generation cycle “C”, the V_T -generation cycle “VT-GEN”, the current-regulation cycle “P”, and the driving cycle “D”, for each row.

25 [0046] The timing schedule of Figure 3 extends the timing budget of the V_T -generation cycle “VT-GEN”, whereas τ_p is preserved as τ_F/n , where τ_p is the timing budget of the first operating cycle “C”, τ_F is a frame time, and n is the number of rows in the display array. In Figure 3, Row₁ to Row_j are in a segment in a plurality of rows of the display array.

5

[0047] According to the above addressing scheme, the current-regulation cycle “P” of each segment is performed in parallel with the first operating cycles “C” of the next segment. Thus, the display array is designed to support the parallel operation, i.e., having capability of carrying out different cycles independently without affecting each other, e.g., compensation and programming, V_T -generation and current regulation.

10

[0048] Figure 4 illustrates an example of an example of an AMOLED display array structure for the the timing schedules of Figures 2 and 3. In Figure 4, SEL[a] (a=1, ..., m) represents a select signal to select a row, CTRL[b] (b=1, ..., m) represents a controlling signal to generate the threshold voltage of the drive TFT at each pixel in the row, and VDATA[c] (c=1, ..., n) represents a data signal to provide a programming data. The AMOLED display 10 of Figure 4 includes a plurality of pixel circuits 12 which are arranged in row and column, an address driver 14 for controlling SEL[a] and CTRL[b], and a data driver 16 for controlling VDATA[c]. The rows of the pixel circuits 12 (e.g., Row₁, ..., Row_{m-h} and Row_{m-h+1}, ..., Row_m) are segmented as described above. To implement certain cycles in parallel, the AMOLED display 10 is designed to support the parallel operation.

15

[0049] Figure 5 illustrates an example of a pixel circuit to the segmented timing schedule and parallel timing schedule are applicable. The pixel circuit 50 of Figure 5 includes an OLED 52, a storage capacitor 54, a drive TFT 56, and switch TFTs 58 and 60. A select line SEL1 is connected to the gate terminal of the switch TFT 58. A select line SEL2 is connected to the gate terminal of the switch TFT 60. The first terminal of the switch TFT 58 is connected to a data line VDATA, and the second terminal of the switch TFT 58 is connected to the gate of the drive TFT 56 at node A1. The first terminal of the switch TFT 60 is connected to node A1, and the second terminal of the switch TFT 60 is connected to a ground line. The first terminal of the drive TFT 56 is connected to a controllable voltage supply VDD, and the second terminal of the drive TFT 56 is connected to the anode electrode of the OLED 52 at node B1. The first terminal of the storage capacitor 54 is connected to node A1, and the second terminal of the storage capacitor 54 is connected to node B1. The pixel circuit 50 can be used with the segmented timing schedule, the parallel timing schedule, and a combination thereof.

20

25

30

[0050] V_T -generation occurs through the transistors 56 and 60, while current regulation is performed by the transistor 58 through the VDATA line. Thus, this pixel is capable of implementing the parallel operation.

5 [0051] Figure 6 illustrates an example of a timing schedule applied to the pixel circuit 50. In Figure 7, "X11", "X12", "X13", and "X14" represent operating cycles. X11 corresponds to "C" of Figures 2 and 3, X12 corresponds to "VT-GEN" of Figures 2 and 3, X13 corresponds to "P" of Figures 2 and 3, and X14 corresponds to "D" of Figures 2 and 3.

10 [0052] Referring to Figures 5 and 6, the storage capacitor 54 is charged to a negative voltage ($-V_{comp}$) during the first operating cycle X11, while the gate voltage of the drive TFT 56 is zero. During the second operating cycle X12, node B1 is charged up to $-V_T$ where V_T is the threshold of the drive TFT 56. This cycle X12 can be done without 15 affecting the data line VDATA since it is preformed through the switch transistor 60, not the switch transistor 58, so that the other operating cycle can be executed for the other rows. During the third operating cycle X13, node A1 is charged to a programming voltage V_P , resulting in $V_{GS} = V_P + V_T$ where V_{GS} represents a gate-source voltage of the drive TFT 56.

20 [0053] Figure 7 illustrates another example of a pixel circuit to the segmented timing schedule and the parallel timing schedules are applicable. The pixel circuit 70 of Figure 7 includes an OLED 72, storage capacitors 74 and 76, a drive TFT 78, and switch TFTs 25 80, 82 and 84. A first select line SEL1 is connected to the gate terminal of the switch TFTs 80 and 82. A second select line SEL2 is connected to the gate terminal of the switch TFT 84. The first terminal of the switch TFT 80 is connected to the cathode of the OLED 72, and the second terminal of the switch TFT 80 is connected to the gate terminal of the drive TFT 78 at node A2. The first terminal of the switch TFT 82 is connected to node B2, and the second terminal of the switch TFT 82 is connected to a ground line. The first terminal of the switch TFT 84 is connected to a data line VDATA, and the second terminal of the switch TFT 84 is connected to node B2. The first 30 terminal of the storage capacitor 74 is connected to node A2, and the second terminal of the storage capacitor 74 is connected to node B2. The first terminal of the storage capacitor 76 is connected to node B2, and the second terminal of the storage capacitor

76 is connected to a ground line. The first terminal of the drive TFT 78 is connected to the cathode electrode of the OLED 72, and the second terminal of the drive TFT 78 is coupled to a ground line. The anode electrode of the OLED 72 is coupled to a controllable voltage supply VDD. The pixel circuit 70 has the capability of adopting the segmented timing schedule, the parallel timing schedule, and a combination thereof.

[0054] V_T -generation occurs through the transistors 78, 80 and 82, while current regulation is performed by the transistor 84 through the VDATA line. Thus, this pixel is capable of implementing the parallel operation.

[0055] Figure 8 illustrates an example of a timing schedule applied to the pixel circuit 70. In Figure 8, "X21", "X22", "X23", and "X24" represent operating cycles. X21 corresponds to "C" of Figures 2 and 3, X22 corresponds to "VT-GEN" of Figures 2 and 3, X23 corresponds to "P" of Figures 2 and 3, and X24 corresponds to "D" of Figures 2 and 3.

[0056] Referring to Figures 7 and 8, the pixel circuit 70 employs bootstrapping effect to add a programming voltage to the stored V_T where V_T is the threshold voltage of the drive TFT 78. During the first operating cycle x21, node A2 is charged to a compensating voltage, $VDD - V_{OLED}$ where V_{OLED} is a voltage of the OLED 72, and node B2 is discharged to ground. During the second operating cycle X22, voltage at node A2 is changed to the V_T of the drive TFT 78. The current regulation occurs in the third operating cycle X23 during which node B2 is charged to a programming voltage V_P so that node A2 changes to $V_P + V_T$.

[0057] The segmented timing schedule and the parallel timing schedule described above provide enough time for the pixel circuit to generate an accurate threshold voltage of the drive TFT. As a result, it generates a stable current despite the pixel aging, process variation, or a combination thereof. The operating cycles are shared in a segment such that the programming cycle of a row in the segment is overlapped with the programming cycle of another row in the segment. Thus, they can maintain high display speed, regardless of the size of the display.

[0058] A shared signaling addressing scheme is described in detail. According to the shared signaling addressing scheme, the rows in the display array are divided into few

segments. The aging factor (e.g., threshold voltage of the drive TFT, OLED voltage) of the pixel circuit is stored in the pixel. The stored aging factor is used for a plurality of frames. One or more signals required to generate the aging factor are shared in the segment.

5 [0059] For example, the threshold voltage V_T of the drive TFT is generated for each segment at the same time. After that, the segment is put on the normal operation. All extra signals besides the data line and select line required to generate the threshold voltage (e.g., VSS of Figure 10) are shared between the rows in each segment.

10 Considering that the leakage current of the TFT is small, using a reasonable storage capacitor to store the V_T results in less frequent compensation cycle. As a result, the power consumption reduces dramatically.

15 [0060] Since the V_T -generation cycle is carried out for each segment, the time assigned to the V_T -generation cycle is extended by the number of rows in a segment leading to more precise compensation. Since the leakage current of a-Si: TFTs is small (e.g., the order of 10^{-14}), the generated V_T can be stored in a capacitor and be used for several other frames. As a result, the operating cycles during the next post-compensation frames are reduced to the programming and driving cycles. Consequently, the power consumption associated with the external driver and with charging/discharging the parasitic capacitances is divided between the same few frames.

20 [0061] Figure 9 illustrates an example of the shared signaling addressing scheme for a light emitting light display, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. The shared signaling addressing scheme reduces the interface and driver complexity.

25 [0062] A display array to which the shared signaling addressing scheme is applied is divided into few segments, similar to those for Figures 2 and 3. In Figure 9, “Row [j, k]” ($k=1, 2, 3, \dots, h$) represents the k^{th} row in the j^{th} segment, “ h ” is the number of row in each segment, and “ L ” is the number of frames that use the same generated V_T . In Figure 9, “Row [j, k]” ($k=1, 2, 3, \dots, h$) is in a segment, and “Row [j-1, k]” ($k=1, 2, 3, \dots, h$) is in another segment.

30 [0063] The timing schedule of Figure 9 includes compensation cycles “C & VT-GEN” (e.g. 301 of Figure 9), a programming cycle “P”, and a driving cycle “D”. A

5

compensation interval 300 includes a generation frame cycle 302 in which the threshold voltage of the drive TFT is generated and stored inside the pixel, compensation cycles “C & VT-GEN” (e.g. 301 of Figure 9), besides the normal operation of the display, and L-1 post compensation frames cycles 304 which are the normal operation frame. The generation frame cycle 302 includes one programming cycle “P” and one driving cycle “D”. The L-1 post compensation frames cycle 304 includes a set of the programming cycle “P” and the driving cycle “D”, in series.

10

[0064] As shown in Figure 9, the driving cycle of each row starts with a delay of τ_p from the previous row where τ_p is the timing budget assigned to the programming cycle “P”. The timing of the driving cycle “D” at the last frame is reduced for each rows by $i * \tau_p$ where “i” is the number of rows before that row in the segment (e.g., (h-1) for Row [j, h]).

15

[0065] Since τ_p (e.g., the order of 10 μ s) is much smaller than the frame time (e.g., the order of 16 ms), the latency effect is negligible. However, to minimize this effect, the programming direction may be changed each time, so that the average brightness lost due to latency becomes equal for all the rows or takes into consideration this effect in the programming voltage of the frames before and after the compensation cycles. For example, the sequence of programming the row may be changed after each V_T -generation cycle (i.e., programming top-to-bottom and bottom-to-top iteratively),

20

25

[0066] Figure 10 illustrates an example of a pixel circuit to which the shared signaling addressing scheme is applicable. The pixel circuit 90 of Figure 10 includes an OLED 92, storage capacitors 94 and 96, a drive TFT 98, and switch TFTs 100, 102 and 104. The pixel circuit 90 is similar to the pixel circuit 70 of Figure 7. The drive TFT 98, the switch TFT 100, and the first storage capacitor 94 are connected at node A3. The switch TFTs 102 and 104, and the first and second storage capacitors 94 and 96 are connected at node B3. The OLED 92, the drive TFT 98 and the switch TFT 100 are connected at node C3. The switch TFT 102, the second storage capacitor 96, and the drive TFT 98 are connected to a controllable voltage supply VSS.

30

[0067] Figure 11 illustrates an example of a timing schedule applied to the pixel circuit 90. In Figure 11, “X31”, “X32”, “X33”, “X34”, and “X35” represent operating cycles.

X31, X32 and X33 correspond to the compensation cycles (e.g. 301 of Figure 9), X34 corresponds to “P” of Figure 9, and X35 correspond to “D” of Figure 9.

[0068] Referring to Figures 10 and 11, the pixel circuit 90 employs a bootstrapping effect to add the programming voltage to the generated V_T where V_T is the threshold voltage of the drive TFT 98. The compensation cycles (e.g. 301 of Figure 9) include the first three cycles X31, X32, and X33. During the first operating cycle X31, node A3 is charged to a compensation voltage, $VDD - V_{OLED}$. The timing of the first operating cycle X31 is small to control the effect of unwanted emission. During the second operating cycle X32, VSS goes to a high positive voltage $V1$ (for example, $V1 = 20$ V), and thus node A3 is bootstrapped to a high voltage, and also node C3 goes to $V1$, resulting in turning off the OLED 92. During the third operating cycle X33, the voltage at node A3 is discharged through the switch TFT 100 and the drive TFT 98 and settles to $V2 + V_T$ where V_T is the threshold voltage of the drive TFT 98, and $V2$ is, for example, 16 V. VSS goes to zero before the current-regulation cycle, and node A3 goes to V_T . A programming voltage V_{PG} is added to the generated V_T by bootstrapping during the fourth operating cycle X34. The current regulation occurs in the fourth operating cycle X34 during which node B3 is charged to the programming voltage V_{PG} (for example, $V_{PG} = 6$ V). Thus the voltage at node A3 changes to $V_{PG} + V_T$ resulting in an overdrive voltage independent of V_T . The current of the pixel circuit during the fifth cycle X35 (driving cycle) becomes independent of V_T shift. Here, the first storage capacitor 94 is used to store the V_T during the V_T -generation interval.

[0069] Figure 12 illustrates the pixel current stability of the pixel circuit 90 of Figure 10. In Figure 12, “ ΔV_T “ represents the shift in the threshold voltage of the drive TFT (e.g., 98 of Figure 10), and “Error in I_{pixel} (%)" represents the change in the pixel current causing by ΔV_T . As shown in Figure 12, the pixel circuit 90 of Figure 10 provides a highly stable current even after a 2-V shift in the V_T of the drive TFT.

[0070] Figure 13 illustrates another example of a pixel circuit to which the shared signaling addressing scheme is applicable. The pixel circuit 110 of Figure 13 is similar to the pixel circuit 90 of Figure 10, and, however, includes two switch TFTs. The pixel circuit 110 includes an OLED 112, storage capacitors 114 and 116, a drive TFT 118, and switch TFTs 120 and 122. The drive TFT 118, the switch TFT 120, and the first

5

storage capacitor 114 are connected at node A4. The switch TFTs 122 and the first and second storage capacitors 114 and 116 are connected at node B4. The cathode of the OLED 112, the drive TFT 118 and the switch TFT 120 are connected to node C4. The second storage capacitor 116 and the drive TFT 118 are connected to a controllable voltage supply VSS.

10

[0071] Figure 14 illustrates an example of a timing schedule applied to the pixel circuit 110. In Figure 15, "X41", "X42", "X43", "X44", and "X45" represent operating cycles. X41, X42, and X43 correspond to compensation cycles (e.g. 301 of Figure 9), X44 corresponds to "P" of Figure 9, and X45 corresponds to "D" of Figure 9.

15

20

25

[0072] Referring to Figures 13 and 14, the pixel circuit 110 employs a bootstrapping effect to add the programming voltage to the generated V_T . The compensation cycles (e.g. 301 of Figure 9) include the first three cycles X41, X42, and X43. During the first operating cycle X41, node A4 is charged to a compensation voltage, $VDD - V_{OLED}$. The timing of the first operating cycle X41 is small to control the effect of unwanted emission. During the second operating cycle X42, VSS goes to a high positive voltage $V1$ (for example, $V1 = 20$ V), and so node A4 is bootstrapped to a high voltage, and also node C4 goes to $V1$, resulting in turning off the OLED 112. During the third operating cycle X43, the voltage at node A4 is discharged through the switch TFT 120 and the drive TFT 118 and settles to $V2 + V_T$ where V_T is the threshold voltage of the drive TFT 118 and $V2$ is, for example, 16 V. VSS goes to zero before the current-regulation cycle, and thus node A4 goes to V_T . A programming voltage V_{PG} is added to the generated V_T by bootstrapping during the fourth operating cycle X44. The current regulation occurs in the fourth operating cycle X44 during which node B4 is charged to the programming voltage V_{PG} (for example, $V_{PG} = 6$ V). Thus the voltage at node A4 changes to $V_{PG} + V_T$ resulting in an overdrive voltage independent of V_T . The current of the pixel circuit during the fifth cycle X45 (driving cycle) becomes independent of V_T shift. Here, the first storage capacitor 114 is used to store the V_T during the V_T -generation interval.

30

[0073] Figure 15 illustrates an example of an AMOLED display structure for the pixel circuit of Figure 10. In Figure 15, GSEL[a] ($a=1, \dots, k$) corresponds to SEL2 of Figure 10, SEL1[b] ($b=1, \dots, m$) corresponds to SEL1 of Figure 10, GVSS[c] ($c=1, \dots, k$)

corresponds to VSS of Figure 10, VDATA[d] (d=1, ..., n) corresponds to VDATA of Figure 10. The AMOLED display 200 of Figure 15 includes a plurality of pixel circuits 90 which are arranged in row and column, an address driver 204 for controlling GSEL[a], SEL1[b] and GVSS[c], and a data driver 206 for controlling VDATA[s]. The rows of the pixel circuits 90 are segmented as described above. In Figure 15, segment [1] and segment [k] are shown as examples.

[0074] Referring to Figures 10 and 15, SEL2 and VSS signals of the rows in one segment are connected together and form GSEL and GVSS signals.

[0075] Figure 16 illustrates an example of an AMOLED display structure for the pixel circuit of Figure 14. In Figure 17, GSEL[a] (a=1, ..., k) corresponds to SEL2 of Figure 14, SEL1[b] (b=1, ..., m) corresponds to SEL1 of Figure 14, GVSS[c] (c=1, ..., k) corresponds to VSS of Figure 14, VDATA[d] (d=1, ..., n) corresponds to VDATA of Figure 14. The AMOLED display 210 of Figure 16 includes a plurality of pixel circuits 110 which are arranged in row and column, an address driver 214 for controlling GSEL[a], SEL1[b] and GVSS[c], and a data driver 216 for controlling VDATA[s]. The rows of the pixel circuits 110 are segmented as described above. In Figure 15, segment [1] and segment [k] are shown as examples.

[0076] Referring to Figures 14 and 16, SEL2 and VSS signals of the rows in one segment are connected together and form GSEL and GVSS signals.

[0077] Referring to Figures 15 and 16, the display arrays can diminish its area by sharing VSS and GSEL signals between physically adjacent rows. Moreover, GVSS and GSEL in the same segment are merged together and form the segment GVSS and GSEL lines. Thus, the controlling signals are reduced. Further, the number of blocks driving the signals is also reduced resulting in lower power consumption and lower implementation cost.

[0078] Figure 17 illustrates a further example of a pixel circuit to which the shared signaling addressing scheme is applicable. The pixel circuit of Figure 17 includes an OLED 132, storage capacitors 134 and 136, a drive TFT 138, and switch TFTs 140, 142 and 144. A first select line SEL is connected to the gate terminal of the switch TFT 142. A second select line GSEL is connected to the gate terminal of the switch TFT 144. A

5

10

15

20

25

30

GCOMP signal line is connected to the gate terminal of the switch TFT 140. The first terminal of the switch TFT 140 is connected to node A5, and the second terminal of the switch TFT 140 is connected to node C5. The first terminal of the drive TFT 138 is connected to node C5 and the second terminal of the drive TFT 138 is connected to the anode of the OLED 132. The first terminal of the switch TFT 142 is connected to a data line VDATA, and the second terminal of the switch TFT 142 is connected to node B5. The first terminal of the switch TFT 144 is connected to a voltage supply VDD, and the second terminal of the switch TFT 144 is connected to node C5. The first terminal of the first storage capacitor 134 is connected to node A5, and the second terminal of the first storage capacitor 134 is connected to node B5. The first terminal of the second storage capacitor 136 is connected to node B5, and the second terminal of the second storage capacitor 136 is connected to VDD.

[0079] Figure 18 illustrates an example of a timing schedule applied to the pixel circuit 130. In Figure 18, operating cycles X51, X52, X53, and X54 form a generating frame cycle (e.g., 302 of Figure 9), the second operating cycles X53 and X54 form a post-compensation frame cycle (e.g., 304 of Figure 9). X53 and X54 are the normal operation cycles whereas the rest are the compensation cycles.

[0080] Referring to Figures 17 and 18, the pixel circuit 130 employs bootstrapping effect to add a programming voltage to the generated V_T where V_T is the threshold voltage of the drive TFT 138. The compensation cycles (e.g. 301 of Figure 9) include the first two cycles X51 and X52. During the first operating cycle X51, node A5 is charged to a compensation voltage, and node B5 is charged to V_{REF} through the switch TFT 142 and VDATA. The timing of the first operating cycle X51 is small to control the effect of unwanted emission. During the second operating cycle X52, GSEL goes to zero and thus it turns off the switch TFT 144. The voltage at node A5 is discharged through the switch TFT 140 and the drive TFT 138 and settles to $V_{OLED}+V_T$ where V_{OLED} is the voltage of the OLED 132, and V_T is the threshold voltage of the drive TFT 138. During the programming cycle, i.e., the third operating cycle X53, node B5 is charged to $V_P + V_{REF}$ where V_P is a programming voltage. Thus the gate voltage of the drive TFT 138 becomes $V_{OLED}+V_T+V_P$. Here, the first storage capacitor 134 is used to store the V_T+V_{OLED} during the compensation interval.

[0081] Figure 19 illustrates an example of an AMOLED display array structure for the pixel circuit 130 of Figure 17. In Figure 19, GSEL[a] (a=1, ..., k) corresponds to GSEL of Figure 17, SEL[b] (b=1, ..., m) corresponds to SEL1 of Figure 17, GCMP[c] (c=1, ..., k) corresponds to GCOMP of Figure 17, VDATA[d] (d=1, .., n) corresponds to VDATA of Figure 17. The AMOLED display 220 of Figure 19 includes a plurality of pixel circuits 130 which are arranged in row and column, an address driver 224 for controlling SEL[a], GSEL[b], and GCMP[c], and a data driver 226 for controlling VDATA[c]. The rows of the pixel circuits 130 are segmented (e.g., segment [1] and segment [k]) as described above.

[0082] As shown in Figures 17 and 19, GSEL and GCOMP signals of the rows in one segment are connected together and form GSEL and GCOMP lines. GSEL and GCOMP signals are shared in the segment. Moreover, GVSS and GSEL in the same segment are merged together and form the segment GVSS and GSEL lines. Thus, the controlling signals are reduced. Further, the number of blocks driving the signals is also reduced resulting in lower power consumption and lower implementation cost.

[0083] Figure 20 illustrates a further example of a pixel circuit to which the shared addressing scheme is applicable. The pixel circuit 150 of Figure 20 is similar to the pixel circuit 130 of Figure 17. The pixel circuit 150 includes an OLED 152, storage capacitors 154 and 156, a drive TFT 158, and switch TFTs 160, 162, and 164. The gate terminal of the switch TFT 164 is connected to a controllable voltage supply VDD, rather than GSEL. The drive TFT 158, the switch TFT 162 and the first storage capacitor 154 are connected at node A6. The switch TFT 162 and the first and second storage capacitors 154 and 156 are connected at node B6. The drive TFT 158 and the switch TFTs 160 and 164 are connected to node C6.

[0084] Figure 21 illustrates an example of a timing schedule applied to the pixel circuit 150. In Figure 21, operating cycles X61, X62, X63, and X64 form a generating frame cycle (e.g., 302 of Figure 9), the second operating cycles X63 and X64 form a post-compensation frame cycle (e.g., 304 of Figure 9).

[0085] Referring to Figures 20 and 21, the pixel circuit 150 employs bootstrapping effect to add a programming voltage to the generated V_T where V_T is the threshold

5

10

20

25

30

voltage of the drive TFT 158. The compensation cycles (e.g. 301 of Figure 9) include the first two cycles X61 and X62. During the first operating cycle X61, node A6 is charged to a compensation voltage, and node B6 is charged to V_{REF} through the switch TFT 162 and VDATA. The timing of the first operating cycle x61 is small to control the effect of unwanted emission. During the second operating cycle x62, VDD goes to zero and thus it turns off the switch TFT 164. The voltage at node A6 is discharged through the switch TFT 160 and the drive TFT 158 and settles to $V_{OLED} + V_T$ where V_{OLED} is the voltage of the OLED 152, and V_T is the threshold voltage of the drive TFT 158. During the programming cycle, i.e., the third operating cycle x63, node B6 is charged to $V_P + V_{REF}$ where V_P is a programming voltage. It has been identified Thus the gate voltage of the drive TFT 158 becomes $V_{OLED} + V_T + V_P$. Here, the first storage capacitor 154 is used to store the $V_T + V_{OLED}$ during the compensation interval.

[0086] Figure 22 illustrates an example of an AMOLED display array structure for the pixel circuit 150 of Figure 20. In Figure 22, SEL[a] (a=1, ..., m) corresponds to SEL of Figure 22, GCOMP[b] (b=1, ..., K) corresponds to GCOMP of Figure 22, GVDD[c] (c=1, ..., k) corresponds to VDD of Figure 22, and VDATA[d] (d=1, .., n) corresponds to VDATA of Figure 22. The AMOLED display 230 of Figure 22 includes a plurality of pixel circuits 150 which are arranged in row and column, an address driver 234 for controlling SEL[a], GCOMP[b], and GVDD[c], and a data driver 236 for controlling VDATA[c]. The rows of the pixel circuits 230 are segmented (e.g., segment [1] and segment [k]) as described above.

[0087] Referring to Figures 20 and 22, VDD and GCOMP signals of the rows in one segment are connected together and form GVDD and GCOMP lines. GVDD and GCOMP signals are shared in the segment. Moreover, GVDD and GCOMP in the same segment are merged together and form the segment GVDD and GCOMP lines. Thus, the controlling signals are reduced. Further, the number of blocks driving the signals is also reduced resulting in lower power consumption and lower implementation cost.

[0088] According to the embodiments of the present invention, the operating cycles are shared in a segment to generate an accurate threshold voltage of the drive TFT. It reduces the power consumption and signals, resulting in lower implementation cost. The operating cycles of a row in the segment are overlapped with the operating cycles

of another row in the segment. Thus, they can maintain high display speed, regardless of the size of the display.

[0089] The accuracy of the generated VT depends on the time allocated to the VT-generation cycle. The generated V_T is a function of the storage capacitance and drive TFT parameters, as a result, the special mismatch affects the generated VT associated within the mismatch in the storage capacitor for a given threshold voltage of the drive transistor. Increasing the time of the VT-generation cycle reduces the effect of special mismatch on the generated V_T . According to the embodiments of the present invention, the timing assigned to V_T is extendable without either affecting the frame rate or reducing the number of rows, thus, it is capable of reducing the imperfect compensation and spatial mismatch effect, regardless of the size of the panel.

[0090] The V_T -generation time is increased to enable high-precision recovery of the threshold voltage V_T of the drive TFT across its gate-source terminals. As a result, the uniformity over the panel is improved. In addition, the pixel circuits for the addressing schemes have the capability of providing a predictably higher current as the pixel ages and so as to compensate for the OLED luminance degradation.

[0091] According to the embodiments of the present invention, the addressing schemes improve the backplane stability, and also compensate for the OLED luminance degradation. The overhead in power consumption and implementation cost is reduced by over 90% compared to the existing compensation driving schemes.

[0092] Since the shared addressing scheme ensures the low power consumption, it is suitable for low power applications, such as mobile applications. The mobile applications may be, but not limited to, Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs), cell phones, etc.

[0093] All citations are hereby incorporated by reference.

[0094] The present invention has been described with regard to one or more embodiments. However, it will be apparent to persons skilled in the art that a number of variations and modifications can be made without departing from the scope of the invention as defined in the claims.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**1. A display system comprising:**

5 a pixel array including a plurality of pixel circuits arranged in row and column, the pixel circuit having a light emitting device, a capacitor, a switch transistor and a drive transistor for driving the light emitting device, the pixel circuit including a path for programming, and a second path for generating the threshold of the drive transistor;

10 a first driver for providing data for the programming to the pixel array; and

15 a second driver for controlling the generation of the threshold of the drive transistor for one or more drive transistors, the first driver and the second driver driving the pixel array to implement the programming and generation operations independently.

20 **2. A display system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pixel circuits are divided into a plurality of segments, the first driver and the second driver driving the pixel array to implement the programming operation to a segment and the generation operation to another segment.**

25 **3. A display system as claimed in claim 2, wherein each segment includes a plurality of rows, the generation operation for each row in the segment is carried out consecutively.**

30 **4. A display system as claimed in claim 1, the pixel circuits are divided into a plurality of segments, each segment including a plurality of rows, the generation operation for each row in the segment being carried out consecutively.**

35 **5. A display system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the switch transistor includes a first switch transistor and a second switch transistor, the gate terminal of the first switch transistor being connected to a first select line, the gate terminal of the second switch transistor being connected to a second select line, the first and second select lines being driven by the second driver, the first terminal of the second switch transistor being connected to the gate terminal of the drive transistor, the first terminal of the first switch transistor being connected to a data line and the second terminal of the first switch transistor being connected to the gate of the drive transistor, the data line being**

driven by the first driver, the capacitor being connected to the gate of the drive transistor and the light emitting device.

6. A display system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the capacitor includes a first capacitor and a second capacitor, the switch transistor includes a first switch transistor, a second switch transistor and a third switch transistor, the gate terminal of the first and second switch transistors being connected to a first select line, the gate terminal of the third switch transistor being connected to a second select line, the first and second select lines being driven by the second driver, the first terminal of the third switch transistor being connected to a data line driven by the first driver and the second terminal of the third switch transistor being connected to the first and second capacitors, the first terminal of the second switch transistor being connected to the first and second capacitors, the first terminal of the first switch transistor being connected to the drive transistor and the light emitting device and the second terminal of the first switch transistor being connected to the gate of the drive transistor, the first and second capacitors being connected to the gate of the drive transistor in series.

7. A method of driving a display system, the display system comprising a pixel array including a plurality of pixel circuits arranged in row and column, the pixel circuit having a light emitting device, a capacitor, a switch transistor and a drive transistor for driving the light emitting device, the pixel circuit including a path for programming and a second path for generating the threshold of the drive transistor, the method comprising the steps of:

controlling the generation of the threshold of the drive transistor for one or more drive transistors,

providing data for the programming to the pixel array, independently from the step of controlling.

8. A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the pixel circuits are divided into a plurality of segments, each segment including a plurality of rows, the step of controlling executes the generation operation for each row in the segment consecutively.

9. A display system comprising:

a pixel array including a plurality of pixel circuits arranged in row and column, the pixel circuit having a light emitting device, a capacitor, a switch transistor and a drive transistor for driving the light emitting device;

5 a first driver for providing data to the pixel array for programming; and

a second driver for generating and storing an aging factor of each pixel circuit in a row into the corresponding pixel circuit, and programming and driving the pixel circuit in the row for a plurality of frames based on the stored aging factor,

10 the pixel array being divided into a plurality of segments, at least one of signal lines driven by the second driver for generating the aging factor being shared in a segment.

15 10. A display system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the sequence of programming rows in the segment is changeable under the control of the first and second drivers.

11. A display system as claimed in claim 10, wherein a compensation interval is assigned to each segment for displaying, the compensation interval including a compensation cycle, a generation frame cycle for generating the aging factor, and a post compensation frames cycles for normal operation based on the aging factor generated in the generation frame cycle, the post compensation frames cycles having (L-1) cycles where L represents the number of frames in the compensation interval.

20 25 12. A display system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the capacitor includes a first capacitor and a second capacitor, the switch transistor includes a first switch transistor, a second switch transistor and a third switch transistor, the gate terminal of the first and second switch transistors being connected to a first select line, the gate terminal of the third switch transistor being connected to a second select line, the first and second select lines being driven by the second driver, the first terminal of the third switch transistor being connected to a data line driven by the first driver and the second terminal of the third switch transistor being connected to the first and second capacitors, the first terminal of the second switch transistor being connected to the first and second capacitors and the second terminal of the second switch transistor being connected to a

controllable voltage line driven by the second driver, the first terminal of the first switch transistor being connected to the first terminal of the drive transistor and the light emitting device and the second terminal of the first switch transistor being connected to the gate of the drive transistor, the first and second capacitors being connected to the gate of the drive transistor and the controllable voltage line in series, the second terminal of the drive transistor being connected to the controllable voltage line, at least one of the select lines and the controllable voltage line being shared by the segment.

5

10

15

20

25

30

13. A display system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the capacitor includes a first capacitor and a second capacitor, the switch transistor includes a first switch transistor and a second switch transistor, the gate terminal of the first switch transistor being connected to a first select line, the gate terminal of the second switch transistor being connected to a second select line, the first and second select lines being driven by the second driver, the first terminal of the second switch transistor being connected to a data line driven by the first driver and the second terminal of the second switch transistor being connected to the first and second capacitors, the first terminal of the first switch transistor being connected to the first terminal of the drive transistor and the light emitting device and the second terminal of the first switch transistor being connected to the gate of the drive transistor, the first and second capacitors being connected to the gate of the drive transistor and a controllable voltage line driven by the second driver in series, the second terminal of the drive transistor being connected to the controllable voltage line, at least one of the select lines and the controllable voltage line being shared by the segment.

14. A display system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the capacitor includes a first capacitor and a second capacitor, the switch transistor includes a first switch transistor, a second switch transistor and a third switch transistor, the gate terminal of the first switch transistor being connected to a signal line, the gate terminal of the second switch transistor being connected to a first select line, the gate terminal of the third switch transistor being connected to a second select line, the first and second select lines and the signal line being driven by the second driver, the first terminal of the first transistor being connected to the first capacitor and the second terminal of the first switch transistor being connected to the first terminal of the drive transistor, the first terminal of the second switch transistor being connected to a data line driven by the first driver

5

and the second terminal of the second switch transistor being connected to the first and second capacitors, the first terminal of the third switch transistor being connected to the first terminal of the drive transistor, the first and second capacitors being connected to the gate of the drive transistor in series, at least one of the select lines and the signal line being shared by the segment.

10

15. A display system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the voltage line is controllable by the second driver, the second select line being the controllable voltage line, at least one of the signal line and the controllable voltage line being shared by the segment.

16. A method of driving a display system comprising a pixel array including a plurality of pixel circuits arranged in row and column, the pixel circuit having a light emitting device, a capacitor, a switch transistor and a drive transistor for driving the light emitting device, the pixel array being divided into a plurality of segments, the method comprising the steps of:

15

generating an aging factor of each pixel circuit using a segment signal and storing the aging factor into the corresponding pixel circuit for each row, the segment signal being shared by each segment; and

programming and driving the pixel circuit in the row for a plurality of frames based on the stored aging factor.

20

17. A method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising the step of changing the sequence of programming rows in the segment.

25

18. A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein a compensation interval is assigned to each segment for displaying, the compensation interval including a compensation cycle, a generation frame cycle for generating the aging factor, and a post compensation frames cycles for normal operation using the aging factor generated in the generation frame cycle, the post compensation frames cycles having $(L-1)$ cycles where L represents the number of frames in the compensation interval.

19. A display system as claimed in claim 1 or 9, wherein at least one of the transistors is fabricated using amorphous silicon, nano/micro crystalline silicon, poly silicon, organic semiconductor including organic transistor, NMOS/PMOS technology or CMOS technology including MOSFET, a p-type material, or n-type material.

5 20. A pixel driver for a light emitting device, comprising:

a capacitor, a switch transistor and a driver transistor defined by any one of claims 5, 6, 12, 13, 14, and 15.

10 21. A pixel driver as claimed in claim 20, wherein at least one of the transistors is fabricated using amorphous silicon, nano/micro crystalline silicon, poly silicon, organic semiconductor including organic transistor, NMOS/PMOS technology or CMOS

technology including MOSFET, a p-type material or n-type material.

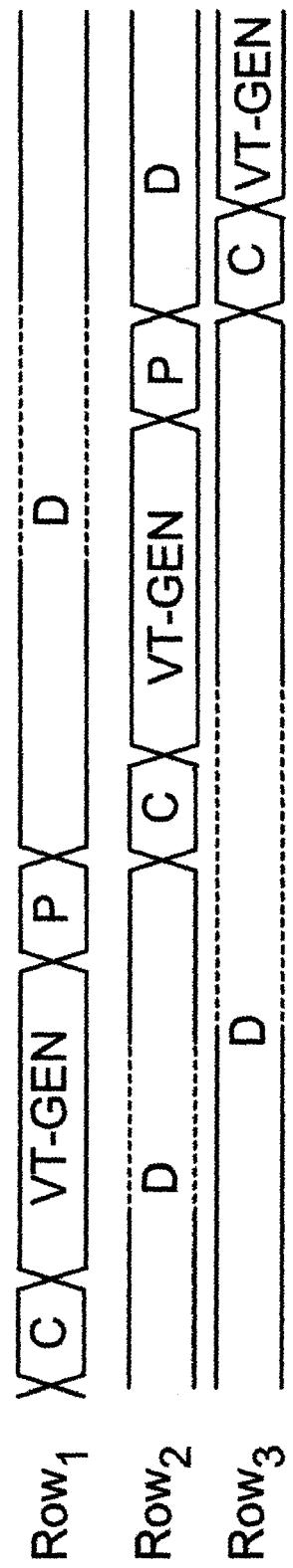


FIG. 1

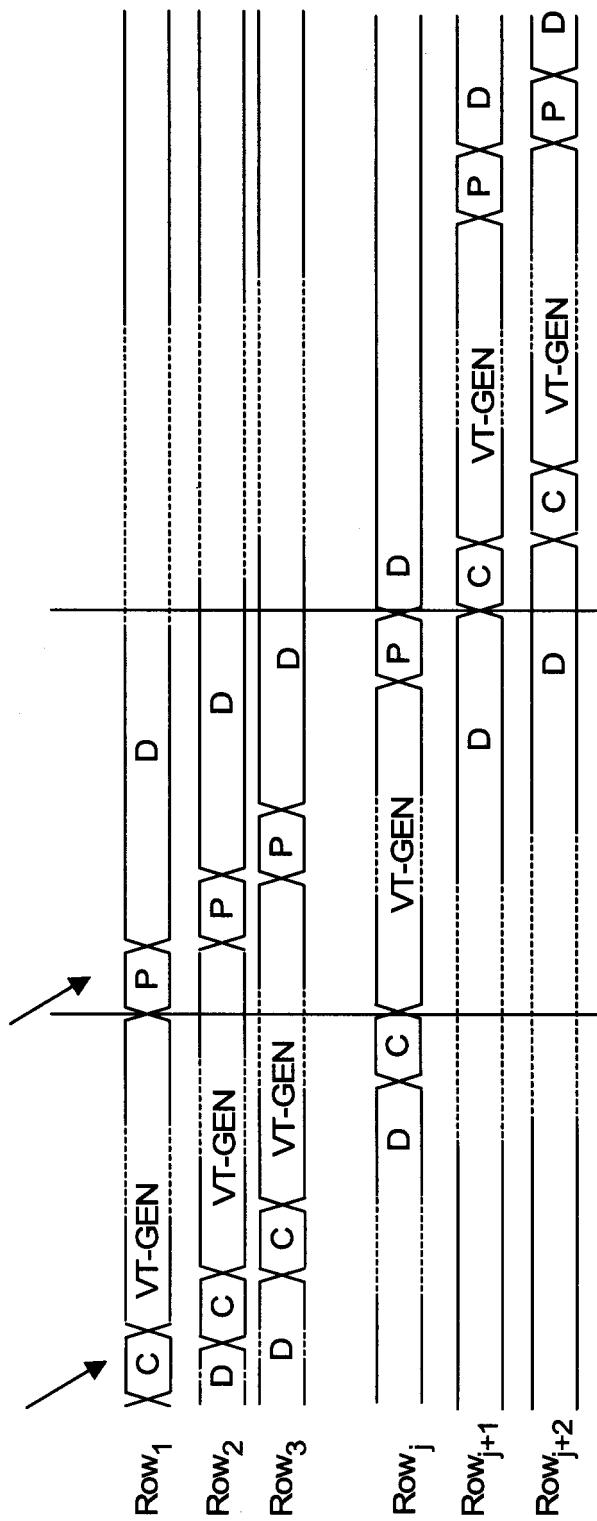


FIG. 2

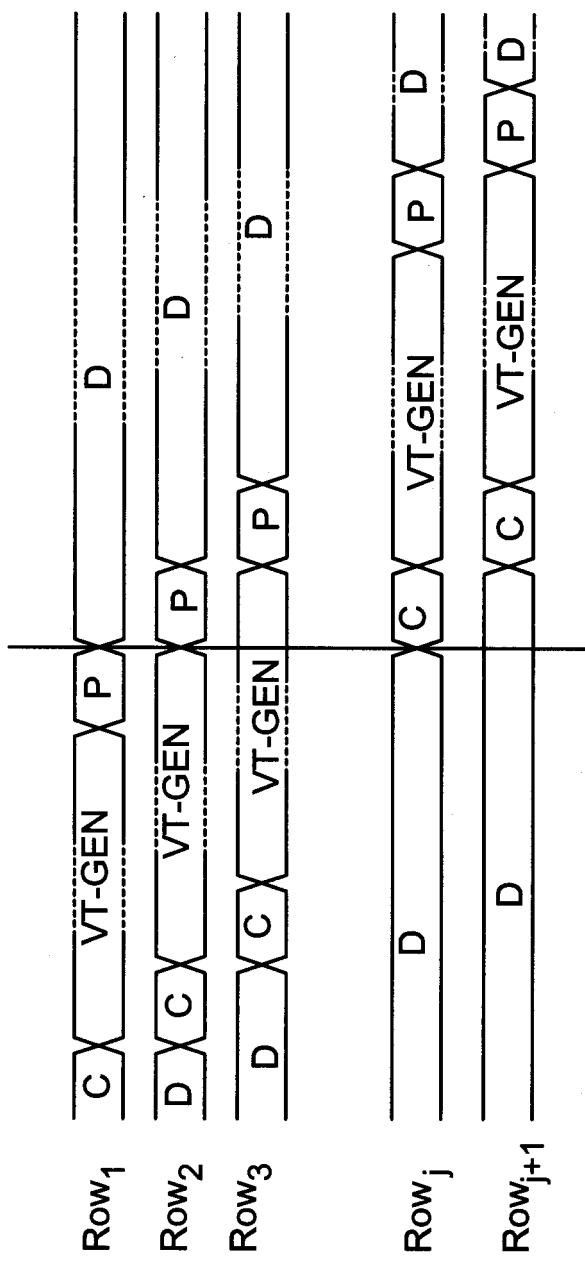


FIG. 3

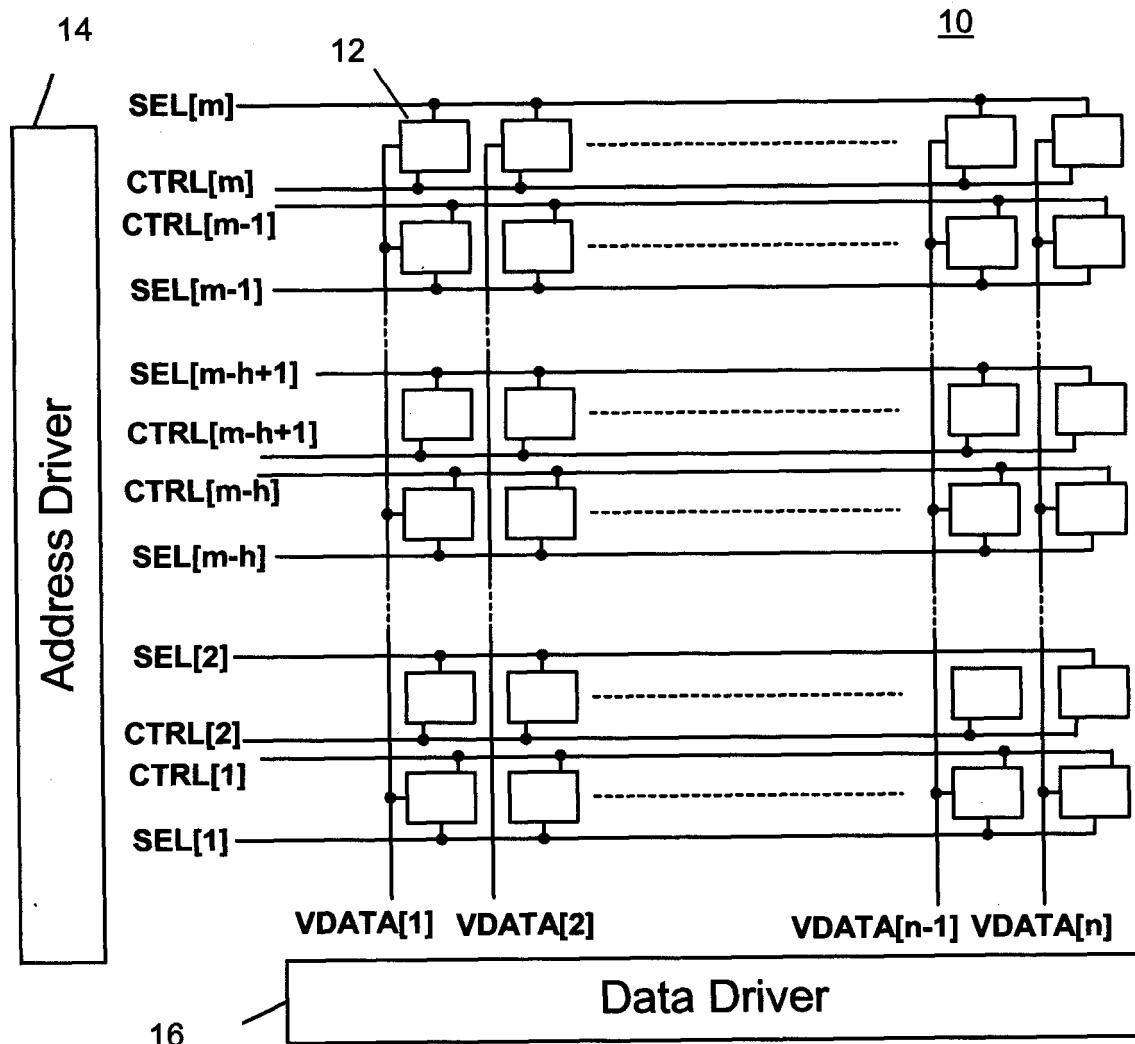


FIG. 4

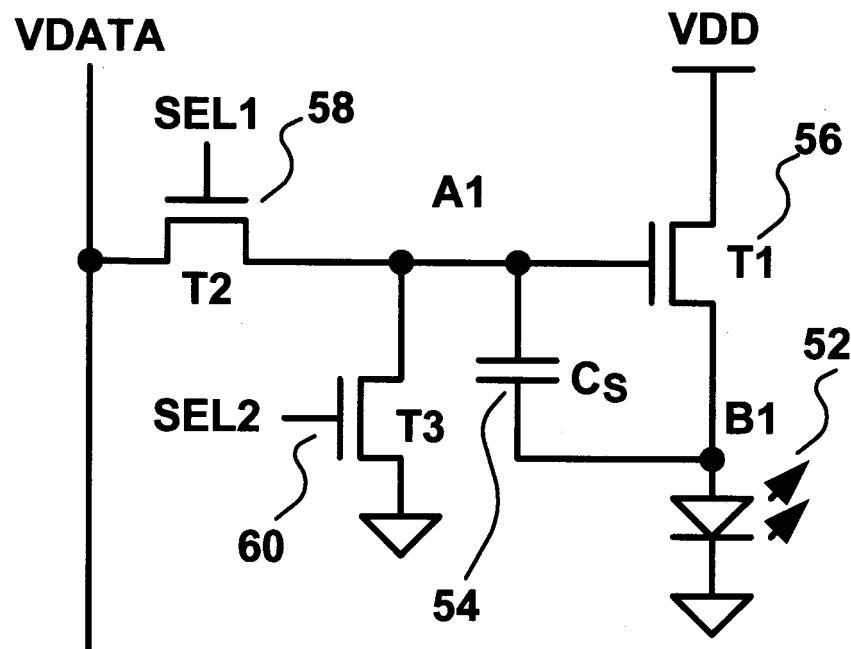
50

FIG. 5

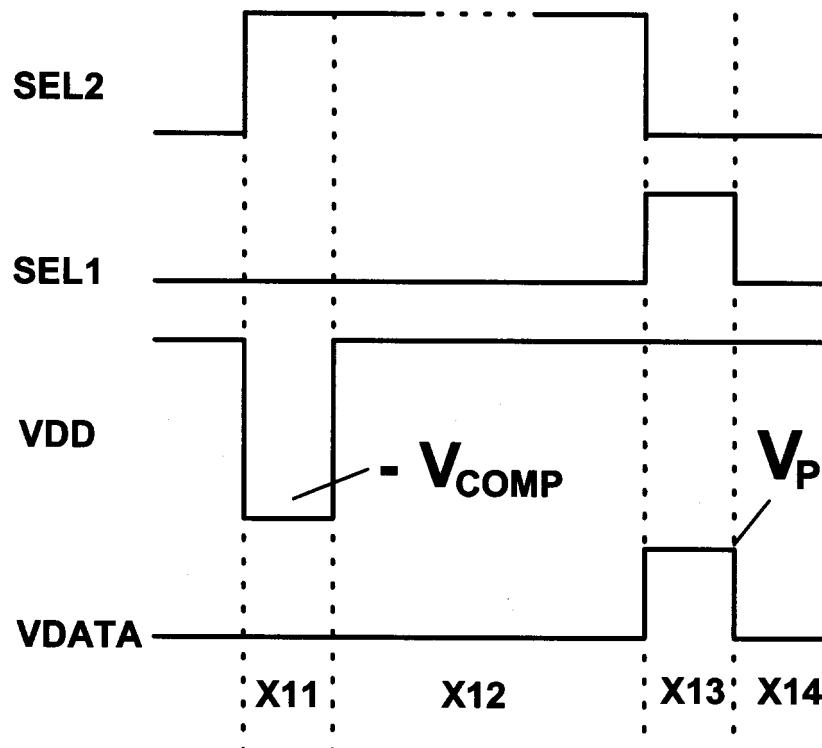


FIG. 6

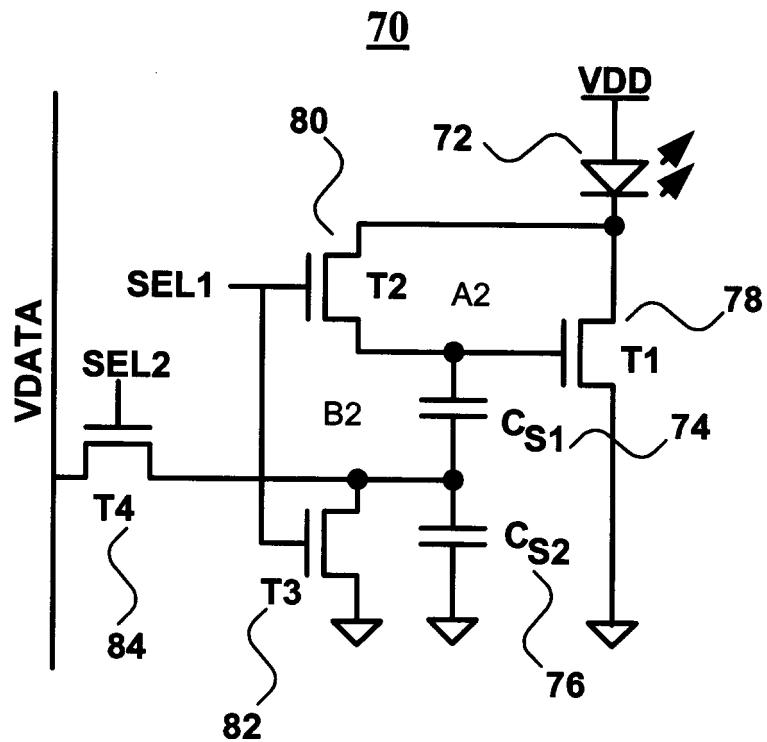


FIG. 7

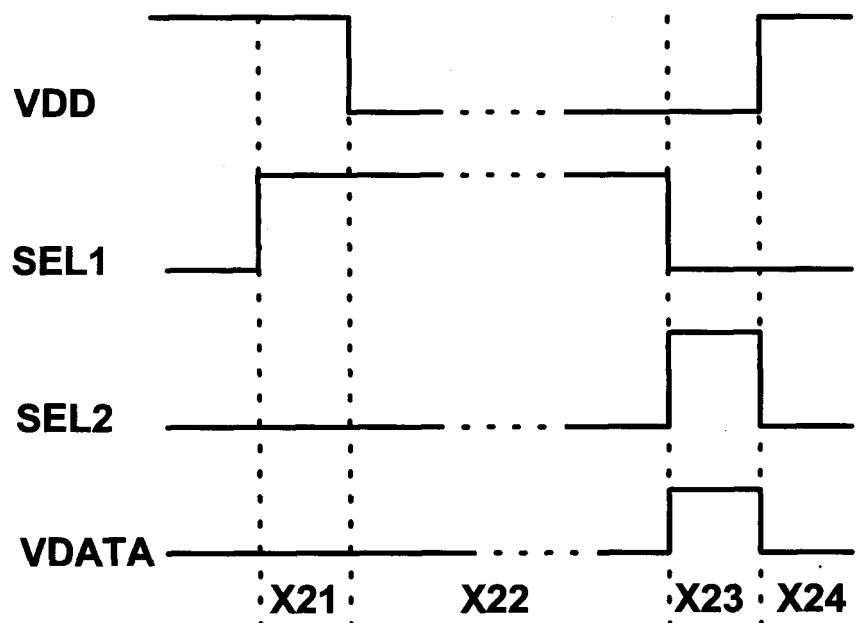
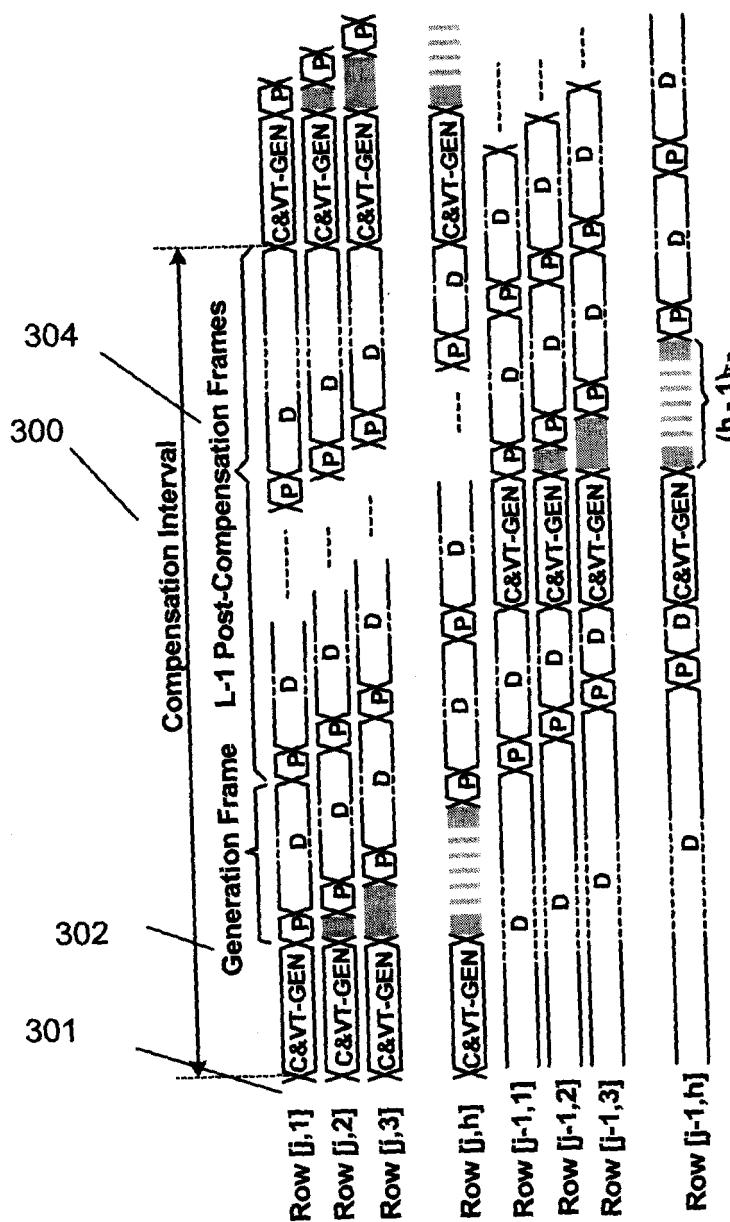


FIG. 8



P: Programming Cycle
D: Driving Cycle
C&VT-GEN: Compensation Cycles
L: Number of Frame in a Compensation Interval

FIG. 9

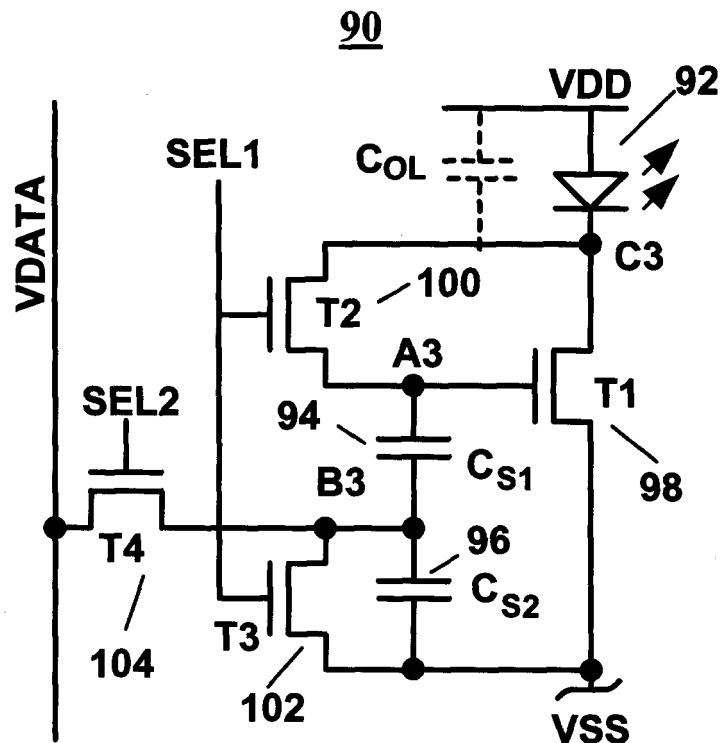


FIG. 10

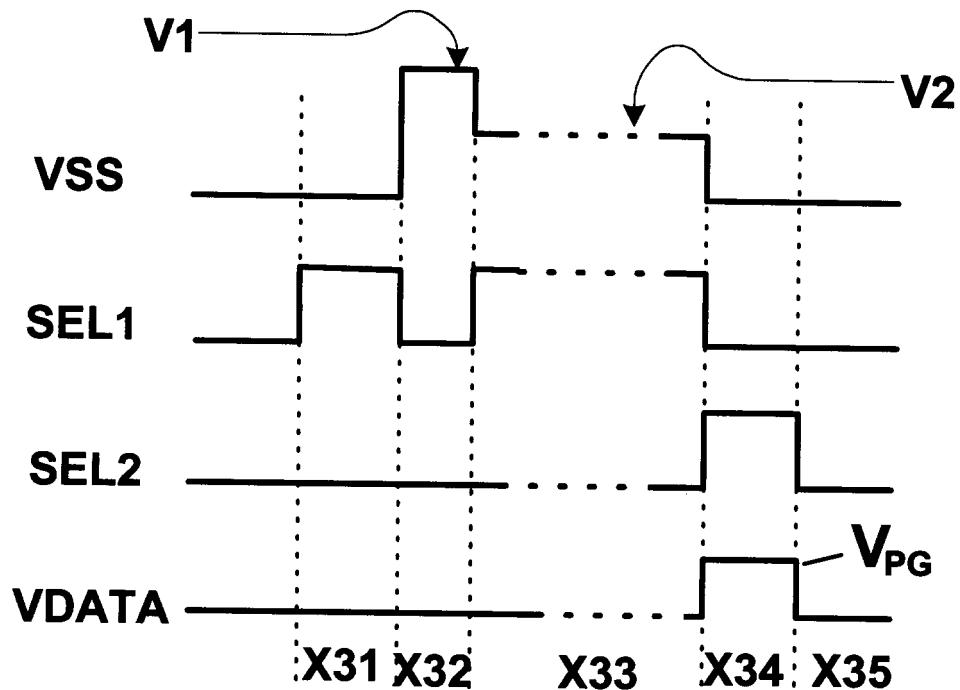
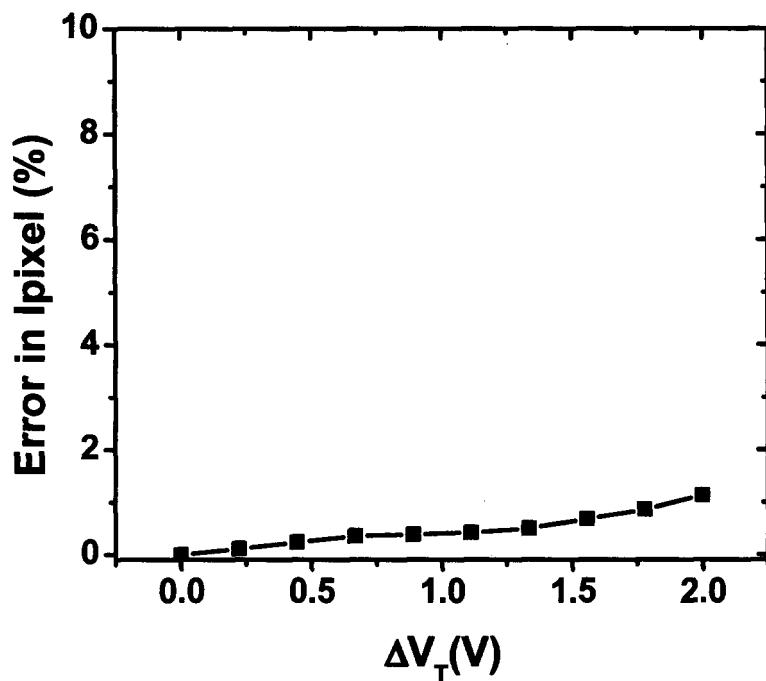


FIG. 11

**FIG. 12**

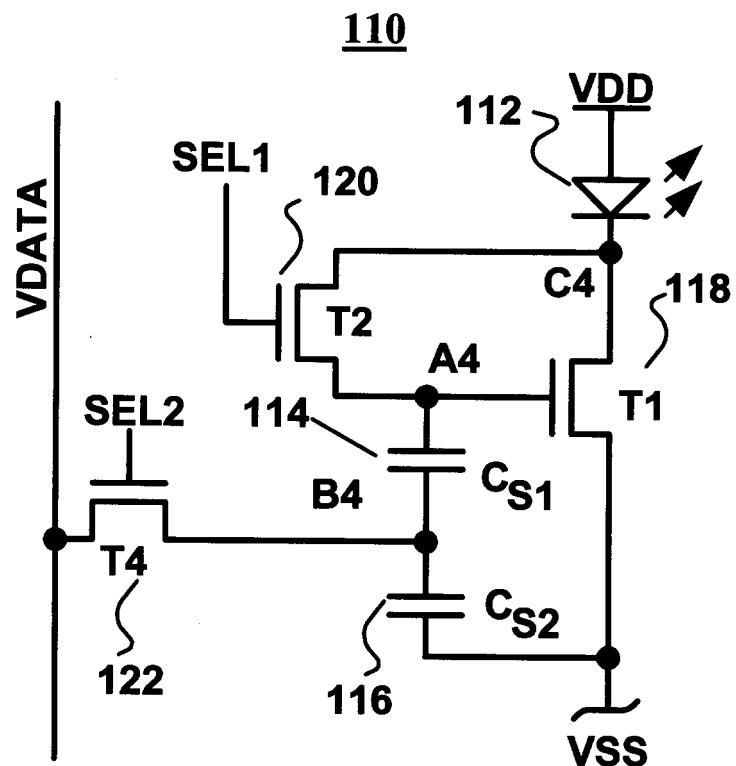


FIG. 13

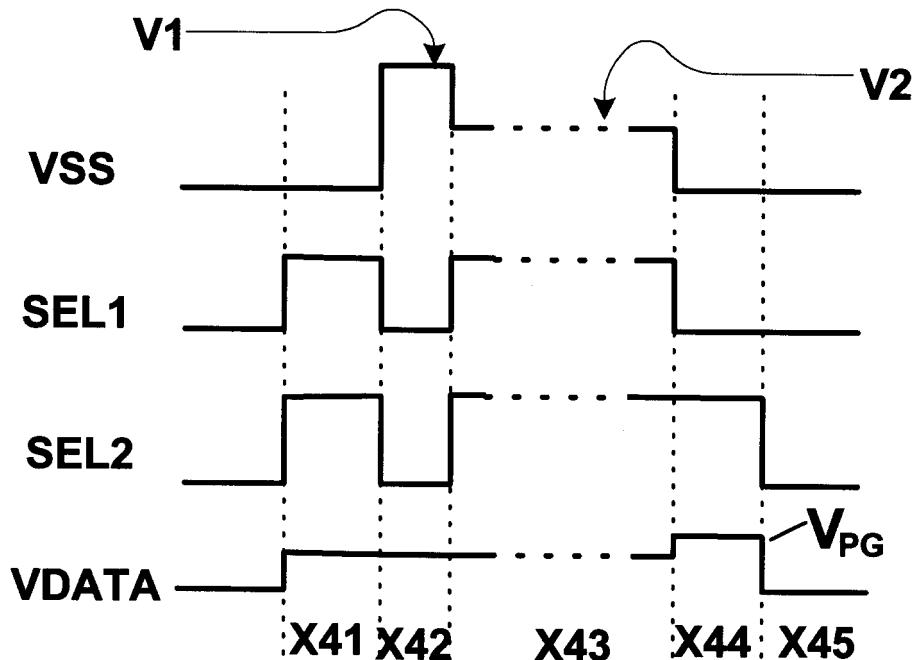
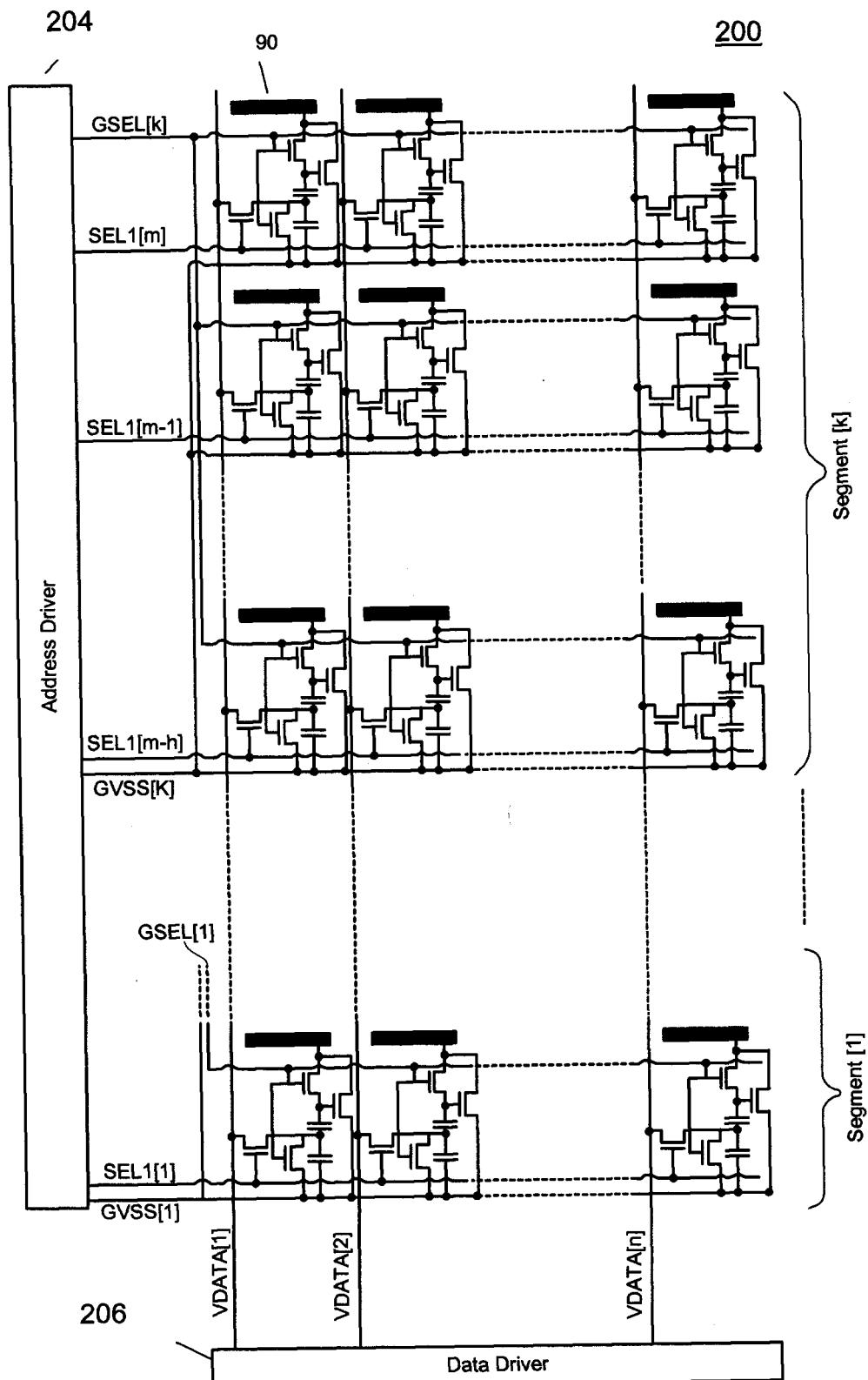
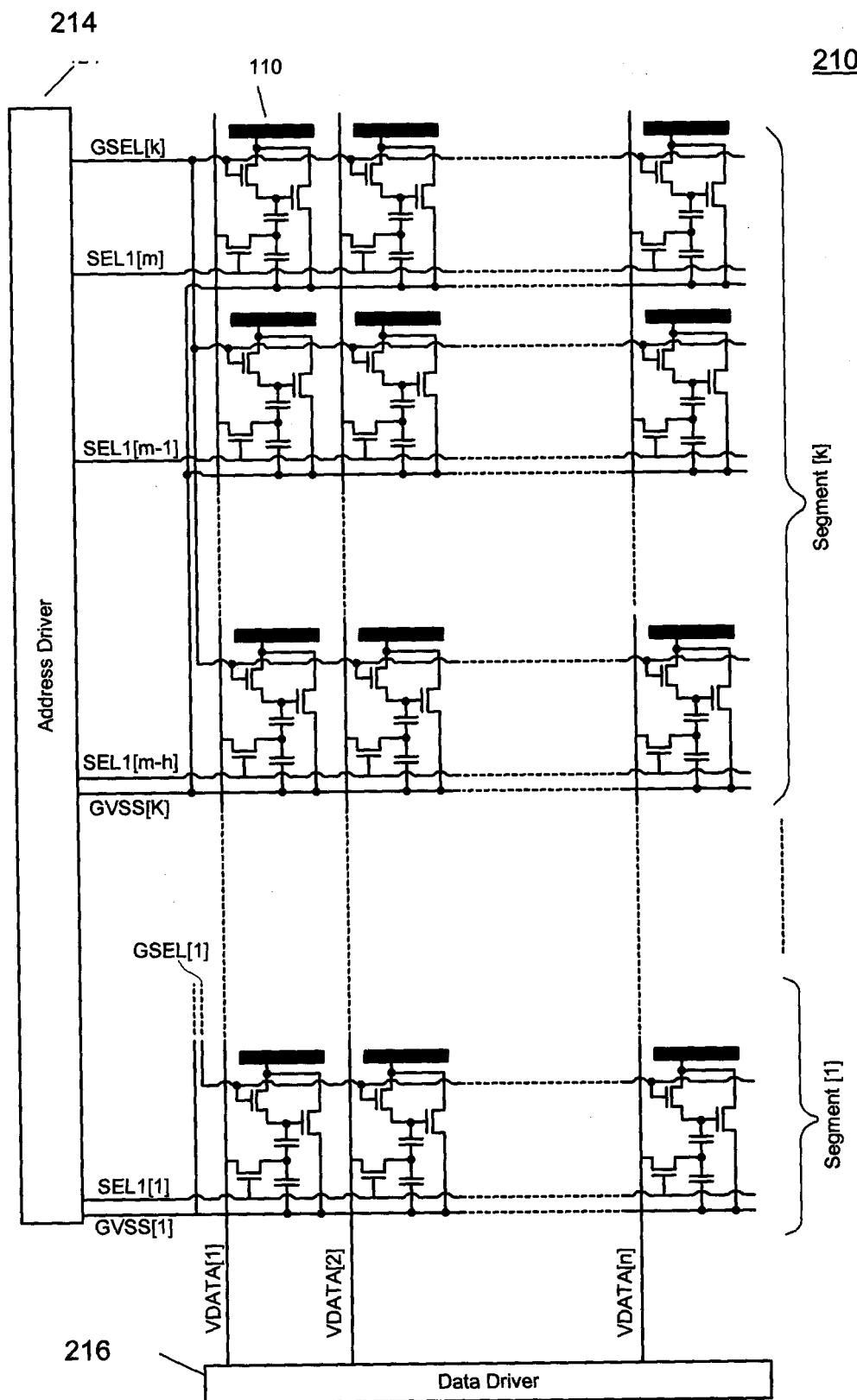


FIG. 14

**FIG. 15**

**FIG. 16**

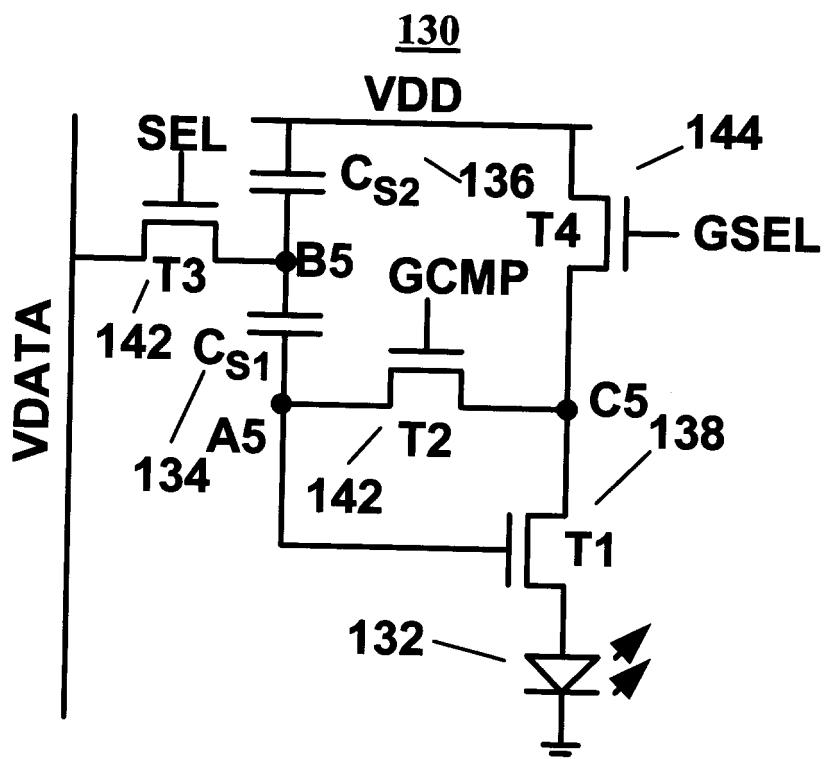
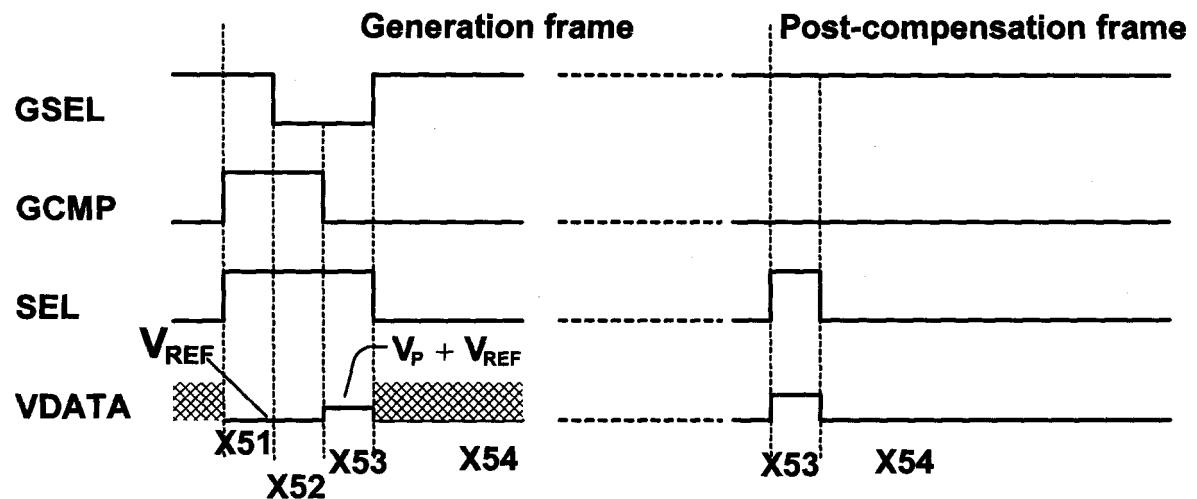


FIG. 17

**FIG. 18**

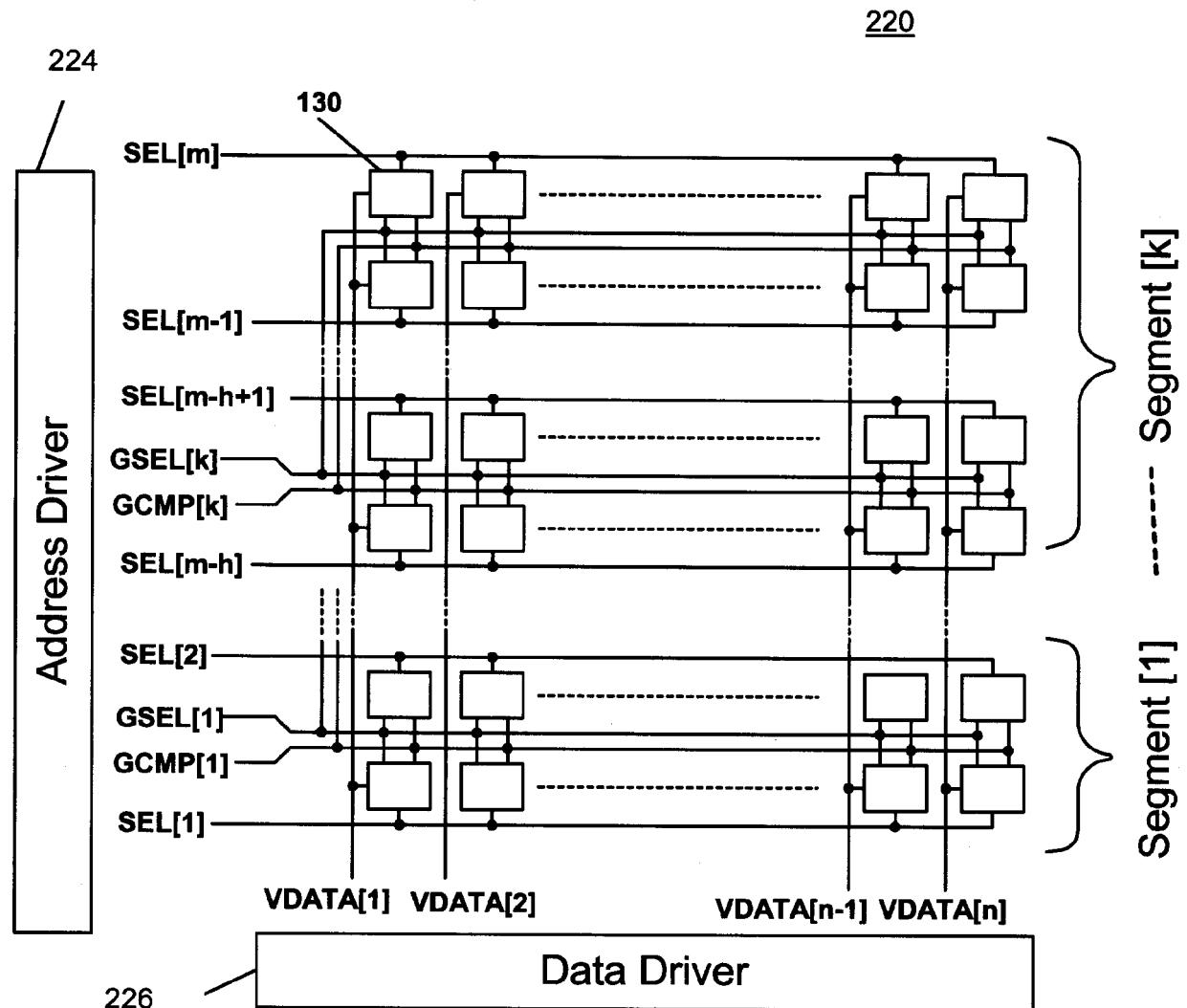


FIG. 19

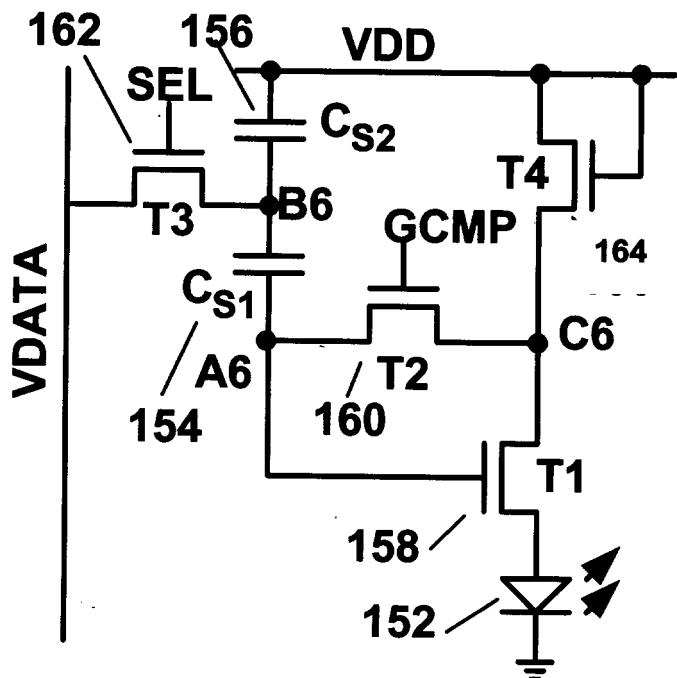
150

FIG. 20

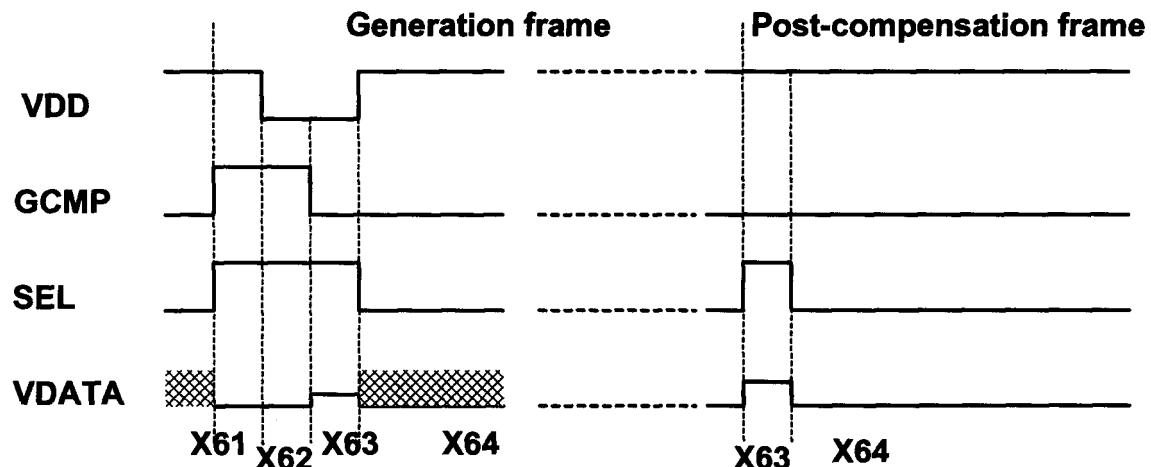
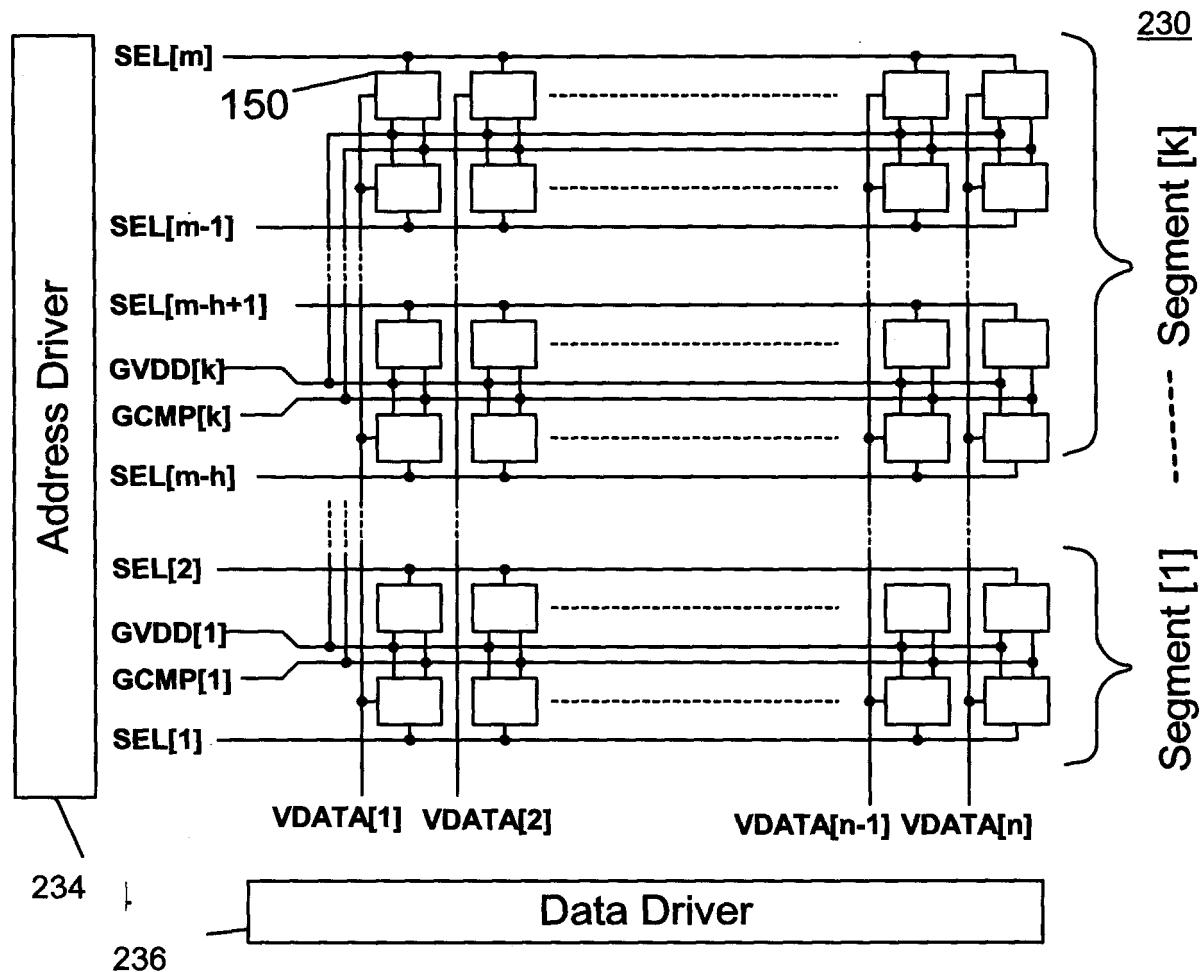


FIG. 21

**FIG. 22**

22/22

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/CA2006/000941

1. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC : **G09G-3/20** (2006.01); **G09G-3/32** (2006.01)

2. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC: G09G-3/20; G09G-3/32; Canadian Classes 375/1 TO 375/20; 375/33 TO 375/53

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base, and, where practicable, search terms used) :

Databases : Delphion, West, USPTO, Espacenet, Canadian Patent Database

Keywords : AMOLED; luminance/brightness correction; pixel degradation; pixel programming; threshold voltage; aging affects; pixel age storage; independent threshold generation; programming cycles; driving cycles; line format, sequence control.

3. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	US 6,618,030 (KANE et al.) 9 September 2003 (09.09.2003), abstract; columns 3-4; columns 12-13; figs. 3-14	1, 5, 7 and 19-21 2-4, 8-11 and 16-18
X	US 6,809,706 (SHIMODA) 26 October 2004 (26.10.2004), abstract; figures 2-7, 9-14, 16, 18, 20, 21	1, 7
X	CA 2,443,206 (NATHAN et al.) 23 March 2005 (23.03.2005), abstract; all figures.	1, 7
Y	US 5,701,505 (YAMASHITA et al.) 23 December 1997 (23.12.1997), abstract; column 1 (lines 20 - 32), column 13 (lines 56 - 67); figures 10 and 27	2-4, 8-11 and 16-18
A	US 5,758,129 (GRAY et al.) 26 May 1998 (26.05.1998), abstract; column 1 (line 66) to column 2 (line 11); figures 2, 10 and 12	9 and 16

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. []

Patent family members are listed in annex. [X]

* Special categories of cited documents :	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international-type search
18 August 2006 (18-08-2006)

Date of mailing of the international-type search report
3 October 2006 (03-10-2006)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Commissioner of Patents
Canadian Patent Office - PCT
Ottawa/Gatineau K1A 0C9
Facsimile No. 1-819-953-9358

Authorized officer
Terry Cartile (819) 997-2951

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International application No. PCT/CA2006/000941

Patent Document Cited in the Search Report	Publication Date (dd.mm.yyyy)	Patent Family Members	Publication Date(s) (dd.mm.yyyy)
X US 6,618,030	09.09.2002	US 6229508 JP 2006146257 A2 JP 11219146 A2 EP 905673 A1	08.05.2001 08.06.2006 10.08.1999 31.03.1999
X US 6,809,706	26.09.2004	US 20030030603 A1 JP 2003058106 A2	13.02.2003 28.02.2003
X CA 2,443,206	23.03.2005	WO 05/029456 A1 WO 05/029455 A1 EP 1676257 A1 EP 1665208 A1 CA 2519100 AA CA 2519097 AA	31.03.2005 31.03.2005 05.07.2006 07.06.2006 31.03.2005 31.03.2005
Y US 5,701,505	23.12.1997	JP 06098165 A2 JP 03221085 B2	08.04.1994 22.10.2001
A US 5,758,129	26.05.1998	WO 95/03585 A1 US 5479696 EP 710377 B1 DE 69428447 T2 CA 2167689 AU 7334494 A1 AU 0680026 B2	02.02.1995 26.12.1995 26.09.2001 29.05.2002 23.04.2002 20.02.1995 17.07.1997

专利名称(译)	用于驱动发光器件显示器的方法和系统		
公开(公告)号	EP1904995A1	公开(公告)日	2008-04-02
申请号	EP2006752777	申请日	2006-06-08
[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	伊格尼斯创新公司		
申请(专利权)人(译)	IGNIS创新INC.		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	IGNIS创新INC.		
[标]发明人	CHAJI REZA G		
发明人	NATHAN, AROKIA C/O IGNIS INNOVATION INC. CHAJI, REZA, G.		
IPC分类号	G09G3/20 G09G3/32		
CPC分类号	G09G3/3233 G09G3/3258 G09G2300/043 G09G2300/0819 G09G2300/0842 G09G2300/0852 G09G2310/0216 G09G2310/0218 G09G2310/0221 G09G2310/0283 G09G2320/043 G09G2320/045 G09G2320/0233 G09G2330/021		
代理机构(译)	MANITZ , FINSTERWALD & PARTNER GBR		
优先权	2508972 2005-06-08 CA 2537173 2006-02-20 CA 2542678 2006-04-10 CA		
其他公开文献	EP1904995A4		
外部链接	Espacenet		

摘要(译)

提供了一种用于驱动发光器件显示器的方法和系统。该系统提供了一个提高显示精度的时间表。系统可以提供在一组行中连续执行操作周期的时间表。该系统可以提供将老化因子用于多个帧的时间表。