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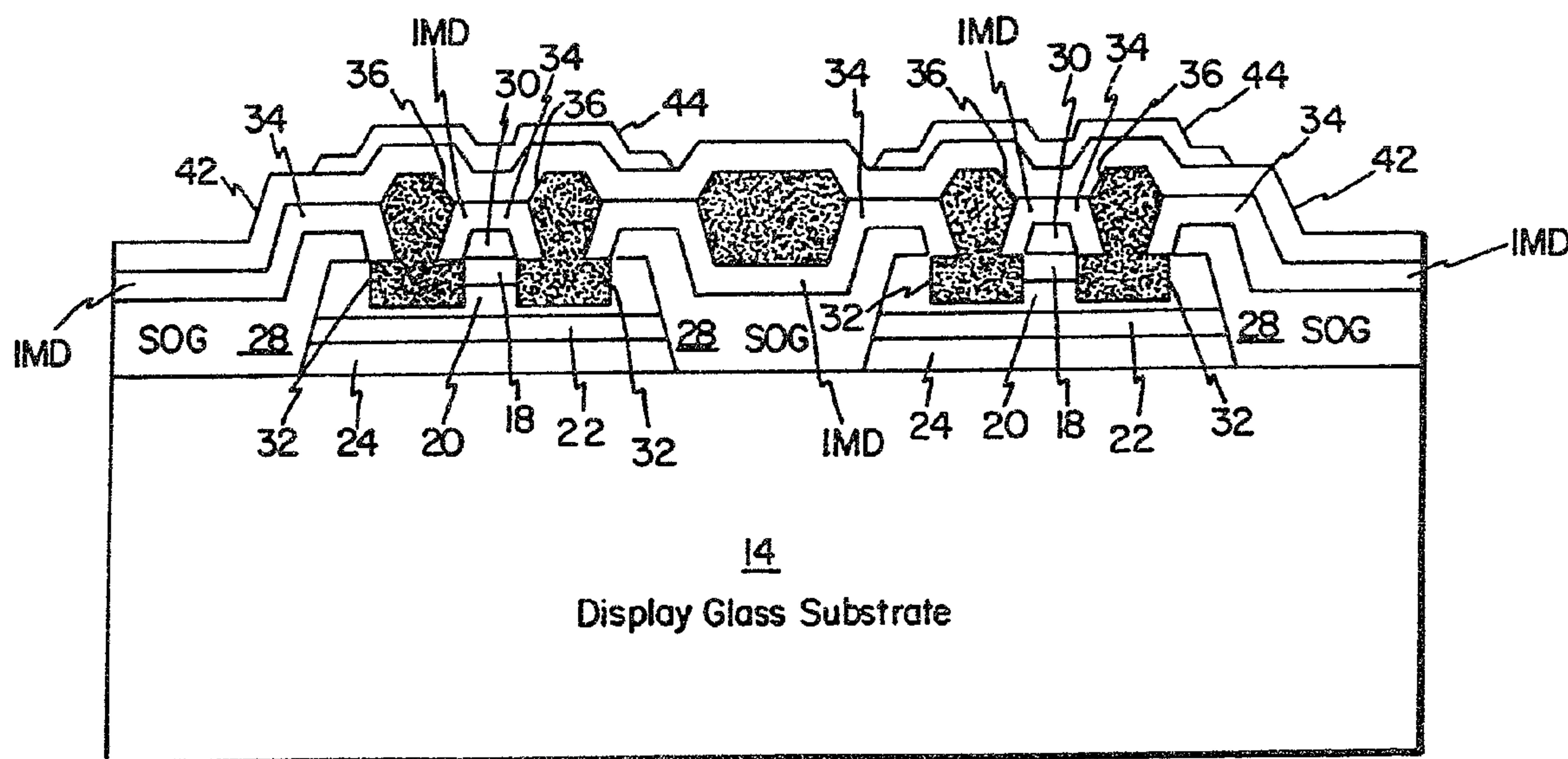
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(54) Titre : EXCITATEURS INTEGRES A GRANDE MOBILITE ELECTRONIQUE POUR AFFICHEURS MATRICIELS
ACTIFS

(54) Title: HIGH MOBILITY INTEGRATED DRIVERS FOR ACTIVE MATRIX DISPLAYS



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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 High mobility thin film transistors for
fabricating integrated drivers for active matrix
displays and a special method of fabrication for
obtaining the thin film transistors having mobility
sufficiently high enough as drivers operable in the
several megahertz frequency range needed for driving
high resolution active matrix displays.

HIGH MOBILITY INTEGRATED DRIVERS
FOR ACTIVE MATRIX DISPLAYS

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 The invention pertains to active matrix
displays, and particularly pertains to integrated
drivers for active matrix displays. More
particularly, the invention pertains to high
mobility thin film transistors for fabricating
10 integrated drivers for active matrix displays.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Flat panel displays show a significant
potential for reducing the weight, volume, power
consumption, and cost, as well as providing enhanced
15 reliability compared to the conventional cathode ray
tube (CRT) displays. These displays are being
developed as a replacement for CRT displays in
several select applications such as for computer,
entertainment, military and avionic displays. The
20 display technologies, namely plasma, thin film
electroluminescence (TFEL), and active matrix liquid
crystal displays (AMLCD), which are being actively
developed to realize this potential, share the
common features of matrix addressing and the
25 associated driver interconnect problems. Presently,
the row and column drivers are fabricated using bulk
single crystal silicon. The driver chips are
interconnected to the display glass using either the
flex cable, or chip-on-glass approach. Both
30 approaches limit the achievable display resolution

due to minimum interconnect pitch required, consume significant peripheral space, and present reliability issues due to the thousands of interconnects between the glass and driver chips.

5 By fabricating drivers on glass (integrated drivers), the above problems can be alleviated. Integrated drivers drastically reduce the number of interconnects from several thousand to around 10, allow higher resolution, redundancy, and greater
10 flexibility in display system packaging, and improve display reliability. Unfortunately, the present amorphous silicon (a-Si) and polysilicon (poly-Si) thin film transistor (TFT) technologies do not allow fabrication of high resolution integrated drivers
15 due to their low mobility. A-Si has mobility in the range of 0.1 - 1.0 centimeter²/volt*second (Cm²/V.S.), which is too low for fabricating integrated display drivers. Poly-Si has a mobility in the range of 10-50 Cm²/V. Sec. and has been used
20 to fabricate integrated drivers for moderate resolution displays such as 480 H x 440 V pixels. However, for higher resolutions such as 1024 H x 1024 V, use of poly-Si TFTs requires a complex series/parallel driver architecture, without a
25 dramatic reductions in the number of interconnects required.

High resolution active matrix displays require drivers capable of being operated in the

several megahertz frequency range. Such performance requires a semiconductor with a field effect mobility in excess of $300 \text{ cm}^2/\text{volt}\cdot\text{second}$. Only single crystal silicon is known to satisfy this requirement. Single crystal silicon allows simpler driver architecture and dramatically reduces the number of interconnects needed. However, it has not been possible to deposit single crystal silicon films on display glass substrates. Depending on the substrate temperature, such depositing of silicon films results in films that are either amorphous or polycrystalline, and have lower mobility. Yet, single crystal silicon films can be deposited on sapphire substrates, i.e., silicon on sapphire (SOS) technology, which are transparent. Although SOS transistors have high mobility, their leakage currents are unacceptably high for active matrix display application. Other disadvantages are that large area sapphire substrates are not readily available and they are expensive.

Electrostatic bonding of a single crystal silicon wafer to a glass substrate and thinning (preferential etching) of the silicon wafer have been used by others for producing high mobility single crystal silicon films on glass substrates. Others have utilized CORNING Code 1729 glass substrates in their experiments. The 1729 substrate is a high temperature (i.e., strain point =

850°Celsius (C) glass. The glass has been produced by Corning Corp. in a small rod form and sliced into wafers in experimental quantities. This 1729 glass is difficult to produce with large areas for practical applications due to its high temperature. The most commonly available display glass substrates for practical applications are CORNING Code 7059, CORNING Code 1733, HOYA NA40, and ASAHI NA. The upper useable temperature limit of these display glass substrates is about 640°C. The difficulty is that such temperature is not adequate for forming a high quality thermal silicon dioxide gate dielectric utilized in the conventional MOS processing for display driver circuits or chips. Transistors fabricated with deposited silicon dioxide gate dielectric at temperatures less than 700°C, generally have higher threshold voltages and/or threshold voltage instabilities due to defects in such deposited dielectric. Additionally, these thin film transistors (TFT), when used as active matrix switches, require light shields at the top and bottom to maintain low leakage currents (i.e., off-currents), while operating under high ambient light conditions. However, in view of the conventional electrostatic bonding and preferential thinning approach, it is not possible to light shield the bottom side of the TFT because the back interface of the substrate is not accessible after electrostatic

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bonding. There is a great need for a process of fabricating high mobility TFTs and integrated drivers, which circumvents the above-mentioned problems. The present invention is a process which solves those problems.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is a method for fabricating high mobility TFTs and display drivers integrated on the active matrix substrate. Besides resulting in the single crystal silicon for high field effect mobility, there is a thermal silicon dioxide gate dielectric for a low and stable threshold voltage, and light shields for low off-currents under high ambient lighting conditions. Thus, a high resolution active matrix display with integrated display drivers operable in the multimegahertz frequency range, is achievable with the present invention.

In accordance with the present invention, there is provided a method for fabricating high mobility thin film transistors as integrated drivers on a substrate, comprising: growing a silicon dioxide layer on a silicon substrate; etching the silicon dioxide layer to obtain a plurability of gate dielectric regions of silicon dioxide; growing a epitaxial silicon layer on the silicon substrate and the gate dielectric regions; depositing a barrier layer on the epitaxial silicon layer; depositing a first light shield layer on the barrier layer; bonding a glass substrate to the first light shield layer; etching away the silicon substrate; etching a portion of the epitaxial silicon layer and of the gate dielectric regions to form a plurability of islands situated on the glass substrate, wherein each island has the epitaxial silicon layer incorporating at least one gate dielectric region, the barrier layer and the first

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light shield layer; coating a glass layer on the islands and exposed portions of the glass substrate on the same surface on which the islands are situated; etching portions of the glass layer to expose at least the gate dielectric regions of each of the islands; depositing a polysilicon layer on each gate dielectric region of each island; etching a portion of the polysilicon layer and forming a polysilicon gate situated on each gate dielectric region; implanting source and drain implantations into the exposed barrier layer on each island, at a thickness greater than the thickness of the gate dielectric region; annealing the source and drain implantations; depositing a silicon dioxide intermetal dielectric layer on the plurality of the islands and on remaining portions of the layer of glass; etching contact vias through the silicon dioxide intermetal dielectric layer to the source and drain implantations on each island; and depositing and etching source and drain metalizations to the source and drain implantations via the contact vias.

20 In accordance with the present invention, there is further provided a method for fabricating high mobility thin film transistors as integrated drivers on a substrate, comprising: growing a silicon dioxide layer on a first silicon wafer; growing a doped silicon etch-stop layer on a second silicon wafer; growing a silicon epitaxy layer on the silicon etch-stop layer; bonding the first and second silicon wafers together at the silicon dioxide layer and the silicon epitaxy layer; etching away the second silicon wafer; etching away the silicon etch-stop layer; depositing a barrier layer on the silicon epitaxy layer; depositing a first light shield layer on the silicon epitaxy first layer; bonding a glass substrate to the first light shield layer of

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the first silicon wafer; etching away the first silicon wafer; and etching regions of the silicon dioxide layer, the silicon epitaxy layer, the barrier layer and the first light shield layer to form a plurality of islands, situated on
5 the glass substrate.

In accordance with the present invention, there is further provided a plurality of high mobility thin film transistors as integrated drivers on a substrate, comprising: a glass substrate; and a plurality of islands
10 situated a surface on said glass substrate, wherein each island comprises: a light shield layer; a barrier layer situated on said light shield layer; a silicon epitaxial device layer having a first surface situated on said barrier layer and having a second surface; a region silicon dioxide
15 gate dielectric embedded in the silicon epitaxial device layer and having a surface exposed at the second surface of said silicon epitaxial device layer; a polysilicon gate situated on said region of silicon dioxide gate dielectric; a plurality drain-source implantations at the second surface
20 of said silicon epitaxial device layer and adjacent to said region of silicon dioxide gate dielectric, having a depth greater than the depth of said region of silicon dioxide gate dielectric, relative to the second surface of said silicon epitaxial device layer; and a drain-source
25 metalization in contact with each drain-source implantation of said plurality of drain-source implantations.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is method flow diagram for fabricating high mobility TFTs and an active matrix substrate having
30 integrated drivers.

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Figure 2 is a cross-sectional view of a display glass substrate and a single crystal silicon wafer prepared for bonding.

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view of the display glass substrate after the bonding and thinning of the single crystal silicon.

Figure 4 is a cross-sectional view after the silicon islands, along with the gate dielectric, have been etched.

5 Figure 5 is a plan-view of the silicon islands with the gate dielectric.

Figure 6 is a cross-sectional view of the substrate having a spin-on-glass planarization layer.

10 Figure 7 is a plan-view of the substrate with the spin-on-glass layer.

Figure 8 shows a deposition pattern and etch for a polysilicon gate.

Figure 9 reveals the source-drain implants.

15 Figure 10 shows the inner metal dielectric deposition, pattern and etch of contact vias.

Figure 11 indicates the source and drain metal deposition, pattern and etch.

20 Figure 12 reveals a passivation layer deposition, light shield layer deposition, pattern and etch.

Figure 13 reveals an alternate process sequence for the first part of the process for fabrication of high mobility TFTs.

25 Figure 14 shows a preprocessed silicon handle wafer and silicon device wafer prior to bonding.

Figure 15 shows a cross section of the silicon handle wafer, the thermal silicon dioxide

corresponding components of devices 64 and 66 are,
respectively, glass substrates 14 and 46, light
shield layers 24 and 60, barrier layers 22 and 58,
silicon epitaxial layers 20 and 56, silicon dioxide
5 dielectrics 18 and 48, and islands 26 and 62.

In summary, the invention permits
fabrication of TFTs having single crystal silicon
for high mobility integrated drivers for active
matrix displays wherein high mobility means that in
10 excess of 300 $\text{Cm}^2/\text{V.S.}$, thermal silicon dioxide gate
dielectric for low (less than 1 volt) and stable
threshold voltage, and light shield for low off-
currents (less than 1 pico ampere) under high
ambient lighting conditions are accomplished.

15 The present invention may utilize
variations to the basic processes, illustrated
above, such as by using different thicknesses for
individual layers, processing temperatures, and
other processing conditions.

