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Reflective polarizer and display system

Abstract

A reflective polarizer has substantially distinct blue, green and red-infrared reflection bands for substantially normally incident light. A display system includes a display panel including blue, green and red light emitting pixels having respective blue, green and red peak wavelengths and respective blue, green and red FWHMs; and the reflective polarizer disposed on the light emitting pixels. The reflective polarizer: reflects at least about 60% of the incident light for each of the blue and green peak wavelengths and at least about 40% of the incident light for the red peak wavelength for a first polarization state; transmits at least about 60% of the incident light for each of the blue, green and red peak wavelengths for an orthogonal second polarization state; and has an absorption peak at a wavelength between the green and red FWHMs.

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Background/Summary

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS (1) This application is a national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. 371 of PCT/IB2021/051819, filed Mar. 4, 2021, which claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. 62/986,869, filed Mar. 9, 2020, the disclosures of which are incorporated by reference in their entirety herein.

BACKGROUND

(1) Organic light emitting diode (OLED) displays typically include a circular polarizer to reduce reflection of ambient light from the display.

SUMMARY

(2) In some aspects of the present disclosure, a display system for displaying an image to a viewer is provided. The display system includes a display panel including a plurality of at least blue, green and red light emitting pixels having respective blue, green and red emission spectra including respective blue, green and red emission peaks at respective blue, green and red peak wavelengths with respective blue, green and red full width at half maxima (FWHMs); and a reflective polarizer disposed on the plurality of the at least blue, green and red light emitting pixels. For substantially normally incident light, the reflective polarizer has a reflection spectrum including substantially distinct blue, green and red-infrared reflection bands. The reflective polarizer: reflects at least about 60% of the incident light for each of the blue and green peak wavelengths and at least about 40% of the incident light for the red peak wavelength for a first polarization state; transmits at least about 60% of the incident light for each of the blue, green and red peak wavelengths for an orthogonal second polarization state; and has an absorption peak at a wavelength between the green and red FWHMs of the respective green and red emission spectra. For the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer decreases for each of the blue and green peak wavelengths, and for the red peak wavelength, increases or does not decrease by more than about 10%.

(3) In some aspects of the present disclosure, a display system is provided. The display system includes a display panel including a plurality of red light emitting pixels each having a red emission spectrum including a red emission peak at a red peak wavelength; and a plurality of white light emitting pixels each having a white emission spectrum including first and second white

emission peaks in respective generally blue and green regions of the spectrum at respective first and second white peak wavelengths. The display system includes a reflective polarizer disposed on the pluralities of white and red light emitting pixels, such that for substantially normally incident light, the reflective polarizer has a reflection spectrum including substantially distinct blue, green and red-infrared reflection bands. The reflective polarizer: reflects for a first polarization state, at least about 60% of the incident light for the first white peak wavelength, and at least about 40% of the incident light for each of the second white and red peak wavelengths; transmits for an orthogonal second polarization state, at least about 60% of the incident light for each of the first white, second white, and red peak wavelengths; and has an absorption peak at a wavelength between the second white and red peak wavelengths. For the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer decreases for each of the first and second white peak wavelengths, and for the red peak wavelength, increases or does not decrease by more than about 10%.

(4) In some aspects of the present disclosure, a reflective polarizer including a plurality of alternating polymeric layers is provided. For substantially normally incident light, the reflective polarizer has a reflection spectrum including substantially distinct blue, green and red-infrared reflection bands with respective blue, green and red-infrared full width at half maxima (FWHMs). For the substantially normally incident light and for red, green and blue wavelengths, the reflective polarizer: reflects at least about 60% of the incident light for each of the blue and green wavelengths and at least about 40% of the incident light for the red wavelength for a first polarization state; transmits at least about 60% of the incident light for each of the blue, green and red wavelengths for an orthogonal second polarization state; and has an absorption peak at a wavelength between the green and red-infrared FWHMs. For the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer decreases for each of the blue and green wavelengths by at least about 20%, and for the red wavelength, increases or does not decrease by more than about 10%.

(5) These and other aspects will be apparent from the following detailed description. In no event, however, should this brief summary be construed to limit the claimable subject matter.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

- (1) FIG. 1 is a schematic cross-sectional view of an illustrative display system;
- (2) FIG. 2 is a schematic top view of an illustrative display panel;
- (3) FIG. 3 is a schematic cross-sectional view of a light incident on an object;
- (4) FIG. 4 is a schematic plot of an illustrative reflection band of a reflective polarizer;
- (5) FIGS. 5-6 are plots of reflectance of an illustrative reflective polarizer versus wavelength;
- (6) FIG. 7 is a schematic cross-sectional view of an illustrative reflective polarizer;
- (7) FIG. 8 is a schematic plot of absorbance versus wavelength for dye(s) included in a reflective polarizer;
- (8) FIG. 9 is a schematic plot of retardance versus wavelength; and
- (9) FIG. 10 is a schematic plot of transmittance of an absorbing polarizer versus wavelength.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

(10) In the following description, reference is made to the accompanying drawings that form a part hereof and in which various embodiments are shown by way of illustration. The drawings are not necessarily to scale. It is to be understood that other embodiments are contemplated and may be made without departing from the scope or spirit of the present description. The following detailed description, therefore, is not to be taken in a limiting sense.

(11) It has been found that the reflective polarizers described herein, according to some

embodiments, are useful for improving performance of a display system when the reflective polarizer is disposed to receive a light output of a display panel. For example, in some embodiments, the reflective polarizer can be used in a circular polarizer disposed on an organic light emitting diode (OLED) display, or other emissive display, to improve the color gamut of the display without causing significant ghosting or other image degradations. Utilizing a broadband reflective polarizer in the circular polarizer of an OLED display for increasing the brightness of the display due to light recycling is described in U.S. Pat. No. 9,773,847 (Epstein et al.). As described in International Pat. Appl. No. CN2018/105712 (Xu et al.), it has been found that utilizing a notch reflective polarizer having band edges in the visible spectrum can increase the brightness and/or the color gamut of the display while producing substantially less ghosting compared to using a broadband reflective polarizer and/or producing a reduced reflection of ambient light compared to using a broadband reflective polarizer. According to some embodiments of the present description, it has been found that using blue, green and red-infrared reflection bands with absorption between the green and red-infrared reflection band can provide an improved color gamut and/or reduced ghosting compared to using a notch reflective polarizer without absorption and/or compared to using a broadband reflective polarizer with absorption. It has further been found that using a red-infrared reflection band that extends into the infrared at normal incidence improves the color of light emitted at off-normal viewing angles (e.g., reducing a color shift of white-point light output with viewing angle).

(12) FIG. 1 is a schematic cross-sectional view of an illustrative display system **300** including a display panel **10** and a reflective polarizer **20** disposed on the display panel **10**, according to some embodiments. The display system **300** can be adapted to display an image **310** to a viewer **330**. The reflective polarizer **20** is disposed to receive light **331** emitted by the display panel **10**. The display system **300** can further include an absorbing polarizer **50** disposed (e.g., indirectly) on the display panel **10** and a retarder layer **40** disposed between the absorbing polarizer **50** and the display panel **10**. In some embodiments, a first adhesive layer **60** bonds the absorbing polarizer **50** to the reflective polarizer **20**, and a second adhesive layer **70** bonds the reflective polarizer **20** to the retarder layer **40**. The reflective polarizer and the absorbing polarizer, which can be a linear absorbing polarizer, can have substantially aligned pass axes (e.g., aligned to within 20 degrees, or within 10 degrees, or within 5 degrees). In some embodiments, an antireflection coating is disposed on the absorbing polarizer **50** opposite the first adhesive layer **60**. In some embodiments, a glass layer is disposed over the absorbing polarizer **50** and the antireflection coating is disposed on the glass layer opposite the absorbing polarizer **50**. Additional layer(s), such as an adhesive layer, can be disposed between the retarder layer **40** and the display panel **10**, or the retarder layer **40** can be disposed directly on the display panel **10**, for example.

(13) For any of the reflective polarizers described herein, an optical stack can include the reflective polarizer and at least one of a retarder layer and an absorbing polarizer. In the embodiment schematically illustrated in FIG. 1, the optical stack **301** includes a retarder layer **40**, an absorbing polarizer **50**, and the reflective polarizer **20** disposed between the absorbing polarizer **50** and the retarder layer **40**. The display system **300** includes a display panel **10** and the optical stack **301** disposed on an emissive surface **333** of the display panel **310** with the retarder layer **40** facing the emissive surface **333**.

(14) FIG. 2 is a schematic top view of an illustrative display panel **10**. In some embodiments, the display panel **10** includes a plurality of at least blue light emitting pixels **11b**. In some embodiments, the display panel **10** includes a plurality of at least blue **11b**, green **11g**, and red **11r** light emitting pixels. In some embodiments, the display panel **10** further includes a plurality of white light emitting pixels **11w**. In some embodiments, the display panel **10** includes a plurality of at least white **11w** and red **11r** light emitting pixels. In some embodiments, the display panel **10** can be or include an organic light emitting diode (OLED) display panel, for example. In other embodiments, the display panel **10** can be or include a micro-LED display panel, for example.

(15) In some embodiments, various layers or elements of a display system can be characterized by the optical reflectance, transmittance, and/or absorbance of the layer or element. FIG. 3 is a schematic cross-sectional view of a light **30** and a light **34** incident on a layer or element or system **130**. Light **30** is substantially normally incident on the layer or element or system **130** and light **34** is incident on the layer or element or system **130** at an angle of incidence θ . The layer or element or system **130** can represent the reflective polarizer **20** or the absorbing polarizer **50** or the display system **300**, for example. A portion of the light **30** can be transmitted, a portion of the light **30** can be reflected, and a portion of the light **30** can be absorbed. In some embodiments, for substantially normally incident light **30** (e.g., within 20 degrees, or within 10 degrees, or within 5 degrees of normally incident), the reflective polarizer **20** reflects at least about 50%, or at least about 60% or at least about 70% of the incident light **30** for at least one wavelength for a first polarization state (e.g., polarized along the x-direction), and transmits at least about 50%, or at least about 60%, or at least about 70% of the incident light for the at least one wavelength for an orthogonal second polarization state (e.g., polarized along the y-direction). In some embodiments, for substantially normally incident light **30**, the absorbing polarizer **50** absorbs at least 60% or at least 70% of the incident light **30** for at least one wavelength for a first polarization state (e.g., polarized along the x-direction).

(16) FIG. 4 is a schematic illustration of a reflection band of a reflective polarizer at normal incidence ($R_{p\text{Norm}}$) and at an incidence angle θ ($R_{p\theta}$). The reflectance versus wavelength is shown for a first polarization state (block polarization state) which can be a p-polarization state. Also shown is the transmittance in an orthogonal second polarization state (pass state) for normal incidence light ($T_{s\text{Norm}}$). The incidence angle θ can be at least about 50 degrees (e.g., about 50 degrees, about 60 degrees, or about 70 degrees). In some embodiments, the incidence angle θ is in a range of about 50 degrees to about 70 degrees. For the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to θ , the reflectance of the reflective polarizer decreases at the wavelength λ_1 , increases at the wavelength λ_2 , and stays the same at the wavelength λ_3 . The reflection band can be a blue, green, or red-infrared reflection band, for example. A red-infrared reflection band includes red wavelengths (less than 700 nm) and infrared wavelengths (greater than 700 nm).

(17) FIGS. 5-6 are plots of reflectance of an illustrative reflective polarizer versus wavelength where the reflective polarizer has an absorption **A** with an absorption peak **42** and where OLED emission spectra for white, red, green, and blue pixels are shown on the plots. The absorption **A** and emission spectra are in arbitrary units (a.u.). Full width at half maxima of reflection bands of the reflective polarizer and of the emission spectra of pixels are schematically illustrated. The reflectance is shown for normally incident light in the first (block) polarization state ($R_p, 0$) and for light in the first polarization state at an incident angle of 50 degrees ($R_p, 50$). The absorption **A** is for normally incident unpolarized light (**A**, 0).

(18) In some embodiments, a display system **300** for displaying an image **310** to a viewer **330** includes a display panel **10** including a plurality of at least blue (**11b**), green (**11g**) and red (**11r**) light emitting pixels and a reflective polarizer **20** disposed on the plurality of the at least blue, green and red light emitting pixels. The plurality of at least blue (**11b**), green (**11g**) and red (**11r**) light emitting pixels have respective blue (**12b**), green (**12g**) and red (**12r**) emission spectra including respective blue (**13b**), green (**13g**) and red (**13r**) emission peaks at respective blue (**14b**), green (**14g**) and red (**14r**) peak wavelengths with respective blue (**W1b**), green (**W1g**) and red (**W1r**) full width at half maxima (FWHMs). The reflective polarizer **20** is such that for substantially normally incident light **30**, the reflective polarizer has a reflection spectrum **21** including substantially distinct blue (**21b**), green (**21g**) and red-infrared (**21ri**) reflection bands with respective blue (**W2b**), green (**W2g**) and red-infrared (**W2ri**) FWHMs. For the substantially normally incident light **30**, the reflective polarizer: reflects at least about 60% of the incident light **30** for each of the blue (**14b**) and green (**14g**) peak wavelengths and at least about 40% of the incident light for the red peak

wavelength **14r** for a first polarization state (e.g., polarized along the x-axis); transmits at least about 60% of the incident light **30** for each of the blue, green and red peak wavelengths for an orthogonal second polarization state (e.g., polarized along the y-axis); and has an absorption peak **42** at a wavelength **41** between the green (**W1g**) and red (**W1r**) FWHMs of the respective green (**12g**) and red (**12r**) emission spectra. For the first polarization state and when the incidence angle θ increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer **20** decreases for each of the blue (**14b**) and green (**14g**) peak wavelengths, and for the red peak wavelength **14r**, increases or does not decrease by more than about 10%. In some embodiments, for the first polarization state and when the incidence angle θ increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer **20** decreases for each of the blue (**14b**) and green (**14g**) peak wavelengths by more than about 20%, or more than about 30%, or more than about 40% (e.g., the reflectance can decrease from 0.9 (or 90%) to 0.6 (or 60%) which is about a 33.3% decrease). In some embodiments, for the first polarization state and when the incidence angle θ increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer **20** increases (e.g., by at least about 5% or at least about 10%) for the red peak wavelength **14r**. The incidence angle of at least about 50 degrees can be about 50 degrees or can be any of the angles or ranges described elsewhere (e.g., about 50 to about 70 degrees).

(19) The FWHM **W2b** of the blue reflection band **21b** can at least partially overlap the FWHM **W1b** of the blue emission spectrum **12b**. Alternatively, or in addition, the FWHM **W2g** of the green reflection band **21g** can at least partially overlap the FWHM **W1g** of the green emission spectrum **12g**. Alternatively, or in addition, the FWHM **W2ri** of the red-infrared reflection band **21ri** can at least partially overlap the FWHM **W1r** of the red emission spectrum **12r**.

(20) Substantially distinct reflection bands can be distinct or recognizably different from each other where the reflection spectrum has regions of relatively low reflectance separating adjacent reflection bands having regions of relatively high reflectance. In some embodiments, for substantially normally incident light and for the first polarization state (block state), the reflective polarizer has a reflectance greater than about 90% for at least one wavelength in each of the blue, green and red-infrared reflection bands and has a reflectance less than about 40% for at least one wavelength between the blue and green FWHMs and for at least one wavelength between the green and red-infrared FWHMs.

(21) The display panel **10** can further include a plurality of white light emitting pixels **11w** each having a white emission spectrum **12w** including first (**13w1**) and second (**13w2**) white emission peaks in respective generally blue and green regions of the spectrum at respective first (**14w1**) and second (**14w2**) white peak wavelengths. A generally blue region of the spectrum is a region between about 400 nm and about 500 nm. A generally green region of the spectrum is a region between about 500 nm and about 600 nm. In some embodiments, a display system **300** includes a display panel **10** including a plurality of red **11r** light emitting pixels **11r** each having a red emission spectrum **12r** including a red emission peak **13r** at a red peak wavelength **14r**; and a plurality of white light emitting pixels **11w** each having a white emission spectrum **12w** including first (**13w1**) and second (**13w2**) white emission peaks in respective generally blue and green regions of the spectrum at respective first (**14w1**) and second (**14w2**) white peak wavelengths. The display system **300** includes a reflective polarizer **20** disposed on the pluralities of white (**11w**) and red (**11r**) light emitting pixels, such that for substantially normally incident light **30**, the reflective polarizer has a reflection spectrum **21** including substantially distinct blue (**21b**), green (**21g**) and red-infrared (**2ri**) reflection bands. For the substantially normally incident light **30**, the reflective polarizer: reflects for a first polarization state (e.g., polarized along the x-axis), at least about 60% of the incident light for the first white peak wavelength **14w1**, and at least about 40% of the incident light for each of the second white (**14w2**) and red (**14r**) peak wavelengths; transmits for an orthogonal second polarization state (e.g., polarized along the y-axis), at least about 60% of the incident light for each of the first white (**14w1**), second white (**14w2**), and red (**14r**) peak

wavelengths; and has an absorption peak **42** at a wavelength **41** between the second white (**14w2**) and red (**14r**) peak wavelengths. For the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer **20** decreases for each of the first (**14w1**) and second (**14w2**) white peak wavelengths, and for the red peak wavelength **14r**, increases or does not decrease by more than about 10%. In some embodiments, for the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer **20** decreases for each of the first (**14w1**) and second (**14w2**) white peak wavelengths by more than about 20%, or more than about 30%, or more than about 40%. In some embodiments, for the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer **20** increases (e.g., by at least about 5% or at least about 10%) for the red peak wavelength. The incidence angle of at least about 50 degrees can be about 50 degrees or can be any of the angles or ranges described elsewhere (e.g., about 50 to about 70 degrees).

(22) The white emission spectrum **12w** includes first (**13w1**) and second (**13w2**) white emission peaks at respective first (**14w1**) and second (**14w2**) white peak wavelengths with respective first (**W1w1**) and second (**W1w2**) FWHMs. The FWHM **W2b** of the blue reflection band **21b** can at least partially overlap the first FWHM **W1w1** of the white emission spectrum **12w**. Alternatively, or in addition, the FWHM **W2g** of the green reflection band **21g** can at least partially overlap the second FWHM **W1w2** of the white emission spectrum **12w**. Alternatively, or in addition, the FWHM **W2ri** of the red-infrared reflection band **21ri** can at least partially overlap the FWHM **W1r** of the red emission spectrum **12r**. Alternatively, or in addition, the FWHM **W2ri** of the red-infrared reflection band **2ri** can partially overlap the second FWHM **W1w2** of the white emission spectrum **12w**.

(23) It has been found that a reflective polarizer including blue, green and red-infrared reflection bands such that for the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer decreases for each of the blue and green peak wavelengths, and/or for each of the first and second white peak wavelengths, and increases or remains about the same (e.g., decreases by no more than about 10%) for the red peak wavelength, results in a reduced color shift with view angle for a substantially white light output of an emissive display (e.g., OLED), for example. This can be due to a relative increase in recycling of red light and a relative decrease in recycling of blue and green light at higher viewing angles.

(24) It has been found that a reflective polarizer including an absorption peak between the green and red peak wavelengths, and/or between the second white and red peak wavelengths, and/or between the green and red-infrared FWHMs of the respective green and red-infrared reflection bands results in an improved color gamut of an emissive display (e.g., OLED), for example. This can be due to sharpening a distinction between green pixel emission and/or emission of white pixels in the green region of the spectrum and emission of red pixels.

(25) The reflective polarizer **20** can be a multilayer polymeric reflective polarizer. Multilayer polymeric reflective polarizers are known in the art and are described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,882,774 (Jonza et al.); U.S. Pat. No. 6,179,948 (Merrill et al.); U.S. Pat. No. 6,783,349 (Neavin et al.); U.S. Pat. No. 6,967,778 (Wheatley et al.); and U.S. Pat. No. 9,162,406 (Neavin et al.), for example. FIG. **4** is a schematic cross-sectional view of a reflective polarizer **20** according to some embodiments. The reflective polarizer **20** can include a plurality of alternating polymeric first (**921**) and second (**922**) layers which are arranged sequentially along the z-direction (thickness direction). The thicknesses profile (different thicknesses of the different layers) of the first and second layers can be selected to provide desired reflection band(s), as is known in the art. In some embodiments, the reflective polarizer **20** has an average thickness **T** (unweighted mean thickness over an entire area of the reflective polarizer) less than about 50 micrometers or less than about 30 micrometers. In some such embodiments or in other embodiments, the average thickness **T** is greater than about 10 micrometers or greater than about 15 micrometers. In some embodiments, the plurality of

alternating polymeric first and second layers number at least 30 in total (e.g., 50 to 500 layers or 50 to 300 layers), and an average thickness t of each first and second layer is less than about 500 nm, or less than about 400 nm, or less than about 300 nm. In some embodiments, the reflective polarizer **20** further includes skin layer(s) **123**, **124** at outermost major surface(s) of the reflective polarizer **20**. The skin layer(s) **123**, **124** can have a thickness greater than about 1 micrometer (e.g., 2 to 20 micrometers), for example. One or both of the skin layer(s) **123**, **124** can include dye(s) **126**. Alternatively, the dye(s) **126** can be disposed in a separate coating on one or both of the skin layer(s) **123**, **124**. In some embodiments, the reflective polarizer **20** can further include protective boundary layer(s) disposed between packets of alternating first and second layers. Dye(s) can optionally be included in the protective boundary layer(s). A substantially normally incident light **30** and a light **34** incident on the reflective polarizer at an incidence angle θ are schematically illustrated.

(26) The absorption peak **42** can be obtained by including (e.g., yellow absorbing) dye(s) in a skin layer **123** or protective boundary layer in a reflective polarizer, or in the first (**921**) layers or second (**922**) layers of a reflective polarizer including alternating first and second layers, or in a coating applied to an outer surface of the reflective polarizer. According to some embodiments, it has been found that including absorption between the green peak wavelength **14g** or the second white peak wavelength **14w2** and the red peak wavelength **14r** sharpens the distinction between green and red emissions and increases the color gamut of the display. According to some embodiments, the dye(s) are included in a skin layer or a coating facing the absorbing polarizer **50** as this has been found to give an improved color gamut compared to disposing the dye(s) on the opposite side of the reflective polarizer **20**. According to some other embodiments, the dye(s) are included in a skin layer or a coating facing the retarder layer **40** as this has been found to give reduced ghosting compared to disposing the dye(s) on the opposite side of the reflective polarizer **20**. Additional absorption peak(s) (e.g., a cyan peak between the blue and green peak emission wavelengths or between the first and second white peak emission wavelengths; and/or an ultraviolet (UV), magenta or bright blue peak below the blue peak emission wavelength or below the first white peak emission wavelength) can also be included by a suitable selection of dye(s). In some embodiments, the dye(s) are dichroic dyes that can be oriented when the reflective polarizer film is oriented so that the dyes primarily absorb light having the first, but not the second, polarization state. Alternatively, the dye(s) can absorb both polarization states. Useful dyes may include a tetra aza porphyrin (TAP)-based absorption dye, a rhodamine-based absorption dye, a squaraine (SQ)-based absorption dye, and a cyanine (CY)-based absorption dye. Useful dichroic dyes include those available from Mitsui Fine Chemicals (Tokyo, Japan) such as PD-325H, PD-335H, PD-104 and PD-318H, for example. Other useful dyes are described in U.S. Pat. Nos. 10,466,398 (Johnson et al.) and 9,971,191 (Cho et al.), for example.

(27) FIG. **8** is a schematic plot of absorbance versus wavelength for dye(s) included in a reflective polarizer according to some embodiments. An absorption peak **142**, which may correspond to absorption peak **42**, is disposed between green and red wavelengths **114g** and **114r**, an absorption peak **242** is disposed between blue and green wavelengths **114b** and **114g**, and an absorption peak **342** is disposed at a wavelength less than the blue wavelength **114b**. One or more of the absorption peaks can optionally be omitted. For example, in some embodiments, only the absorption peak **142** is included while in other embodiments, only the absorption peaks **142** and **242** are included. The blue wavelength **114b** can correspond to the blue peak wavelength **14b** or to the first white peak wavelength **14w1**, for example. The green wavelength **114g** can correspond to the green peak wavelength **14g** or to the second white peak wavelength **14w2**, for example. The red wavelength **114r** can correspond to the red peak wavelength **14r**, for example. The relative strengths of the absorption peaks may be as schematically indicated in FIG. **8** or the relative strengths may be different. In some embodiments, the reflective polarizer absorbs at least 10%, or at least 20%, or at least 30% of substantially normally incident light having the first polarization state (block state) at

the wavelength of any one or more of the absorption peaks **142**, **242** and **342**. In some embodiments, the reflective polarizer transmits at least 10%, or at least 20%, or at least 30% of substantially normally incident light having the second polarization state (pass state) at the wavelength of any one or more of the absorption peaks **142**, **242** and **342**.

(28) In some embodiments, a reflective polarizer **20** includes a plurality of alternating polymeric layers (**921**, **922**), where for substantially normally incident light **30**, the reflective polarizer **20** has a reflection spectrum **21** including substantially distinct blue (**21b**), green (**21g**) and red-infrared (**21ri**) reflection bands with respective blue (**W2b**), green (**W2g**) and red-infrared (**W2ri**) FWHMs. For the substantially normally incident light **30** and for red, green and blue wavelengths, the reflective polarizer: reflects at least about 60% of the incident light for each of the blue and green wavelengths and at least about 40% of the incident light for the red wavelength for a first polarization state (e.g., polarized along the x-axis); transmits at least about 60% of the incident light for each of the blue, green and red wavelengths for an orthogonal second polarization state (e.g., polarized along the y-axis); and has an absorption peak **42** at a wavelength **41** between the green (**W2g**) and red-infrared (**W2ri**) FWHMs. For the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer **20** decreases for each of the blue and green wavelengths by at least about 20% (or at least about 30% or at least about 40%), and for the red wavelength, increases or does not decrease by more than about 10%. In some embodiments, for the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer **20** increases (e.g., by at least about 5% or at least about 10%) for the red wavelength. The incidence angle of at least about 50 degrees can be about 50 degrees or can be any of the angles or ranges described elsewhere (e.g., about 50 to about 70 degrees).

(29) The blue wavelength can be in a range of 400 nm to 500 nm. The blue wavelength can be the blue peak wavelength **14b** or the first white peak wavelength **14w1**, for example. The green wavelength can be in a range of 500 nm to 600 nm. The green wavelength can be the green peak wavelength **14g** or the second white peak wavelength **14w2**, for example. The red wavelength can be in a range of 600 nm to 700 nm. The red wavelength can be the red peak wavelength **14r**, for example. In some embodiments, the blue wavelength is in the blue FWHM **W2b**, the green wavelength is in the green FWHM **W2g**, and the red wavelength is in the red-infrared FWHM **W2ri** or between the green (**W2g**) and red-infrared (**W2ri**) FWHMs. In some such embodiments or in other embodiments, the red wavelength is in a range of 600 to 650 nm, the green wavelength is in a range of 530 to 580 nm, and the blue wavelength is in a range of 430 to 480 nm.

(30) In some embodiments, an optical stack **301** includes the reflective polarizer **20** disposed on a retarder layer **40**. In some embodiments, the optical stack **301** further includes an absorbing polarizer **50** disposed on the reflective polarizer **20** opposite the retarder layer **40**. The retarder layer **40** can be substantially a quarter wave retarder (e.g., a retardance within 20% or within 10% or within 5% of quarter wave) for at least one wavelength in a range of about 400 nm to about 700 nm). The retarder layer **40** can have a fast axis making an angle of about 45 degrees with the first polarization state (block axis of the reflective polarizer). The retarder layer **40** can include films, coatings or a combination of films and coatings.

(31) Exemplary films include birefringent polymer film retarders, such as those available from Meadowlark Optics (Frederick, CO), for example. Exemplary coatings for forming a retarder layer include the linear photopolymerizable polymer (LPP) materials and the liquid crystal polymer (LCP) materials described in U.S. Pat. App. Pub. Nos. 2002/0180916 (Schadt et al.), 2003/028048 (Cherkaoui et al.), 2005/0072959 (Moia et al.) and 2006/0197068 (Schadt et al.), and in U.S. Pat. No. 6,300,991 (Schadt et al.). Suitable LPP materials include ROP-131 EXP 306 LPP and suitable LCP materials include ROF-5185 EXP 410 LCP, both available from ROLIC Technologies Ltd. (Allschwil, Switzerland).

(32) FIG. **9** is a schematic plot of retardance versus wavelength illustrating a relationship **56**

between wavelength and retardance embodied by an ideal quarter-wave retarder, where wavelength and retardance vary linearly, and illustrating an exemplary relationship **54** between wavelength and retardance for some embodiments of the retarder layer **40**. It can be seen that a wavelength-dependent deviation Δ exists between the retarder layer relationship **54** and the ideal quarter-wave relationship **56**. In some embodiments, the retarder layer **40** has a smaller deviation Δ from being a quarter-wave retarder at a blue wavelength **114b** (e.g., corresponding to the blue peak wavelength **14b** or to the first white peak wavelength **14w1**) than at a red wavelength **114r** (e.g., corresponding to the red peak wavelength **14r**). In some embodiments, the retarder layer **40** has a smaller deviation Δ from being a quarter-wave retarder at a blue wavelength **114b** than at a green wavelength **114g** (e.g., corresponding to the green peak wavelength **14g** or the second white peak wavelength **14w2**). It has been found that having a retarder layer **40** with a lower deviation Δ for blue wavelengths than for red wavelengths, for example, can result in a reduced color shift with view angle of ambient light reflected from the display. A retarder layer can be selected to have a smaller deviation Δ from being a quarter-wave retarder at a blue wavelength by suitably selecting the thickness of the retarder layer. Suitable retarder layers, and display systems including the retarder layers, are described further in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 62/906,852 filed on Sep. 27, 2019 and titled "COLOR NEUTRAL EMISSIVE DISPLAY WITH NOTCHED REFLECTIVE POLARIZER".

(33) In some embodiments, an optical stack **301** includes a reflective polarizer **20**, which can be any reflective polarizer described herein, disposed on a retarder layer **40**, where the retarder layer **40** has a smaller deviation Δ from being a quarter-wave retarder for a blue wavelength (e.g., **114b**) than for a red wavelength (e.g., **114r**). In some such embodiments or in other embodiments, the optical stack **301** further includes an absorbing polarizer **50** disposed on the reflective polarizer **20** opposite the retarder layer **40**, such that for substantially normally incident light **30** polarized along the first direction, the absorbing polarizer absorbs at least 60% of the incident light for each of the blue (e.g., **114b**), green (e.g., **114g**) and red (e.g., **114r**) wavelengths, and has transmittances T_b , T_g and T_r for the respective blue, green and red wavelengths, where $T_r > T_b$ and T_g .

(34) FIG. **10** is a schematic plot of transmittance of an absorbing polarizer **50** for substantially normally incident light **30** having the first polarization state (e.g., x-axis). In some embodiments, Fresnel reflections are negligible, and the absorbance A of the absorbing polarizer is about 1 (or 100%) minus the transmittance. In some embodiments, the absorbance A is at least 60% or at least 70% throughout the visible range (400 nm to 700 nm) or for each of a blue wavelength **114b**, a green wavelength **114g** and a red wavelength **114r**. In some embodiments, the display system **300**, or the optical stack **301**, includes an absorbing polarizer **50** disposed on the reflective polarizer **20** opposite the retarder layer **40**, such that for substantially normally incident light having the first polarization state, the absorbing polarizer **50** absorbs at least 60% or at least 70% of the incident light for each of the blue, green and red wavelengths, and has transmittances T_b , T_g and T_r for the blue, green and red wavelengths. In some embodiments, $T_r > T_b$ and T_g (i.e., $T_r > T_b$ and $T_r > T_g$). In some embodiments, T_r is less than about 30%, or less than about 20%, or less than about 10%. In some embodiments, $T_r - T_g$ is greater than about 5% (or about 0.05). In some embodiments, $T_r - T_b$ is greater than about 5% (or about 0.05) or greater than about 8% (or about 0.08). In some embodiments, the transmittance for substantially normally incident light having the second polarization state is at least 60%, or at least 70%, or at least 80% for each of the blue, green and red wavelengths. The transmission through an absorbing polarizer can be adjusted by suitably selecting the types and concentrations of dichroic dyes, for example, used in the polarizer.

EXAMPLES

(35) A computational model was used to calculate reflection and transmission properties of reflective polarizers. The computational model was driven by a 4×4 matrix solver routine based on the Berriman algorithm where the reflection and transmission matrix elements can be computed for an arbitrary stack of 1-dimensional layers, with each layer defined by its physical thickness and the

by a dispersive refractive index tensor where each principal element of the refractive index tensor is a function of wavelength.

(36) A first reflective polarizer (Example 1) having the reflection spectrum depicted in FIGS. 5-6 was modeled. The first reflective polarizer included dyes on a bottom side (side facing the retarder layer when included in a circular polarizer stack) of the reflective polarizer to produce the absorption peak 42. A second reflective polarizer (Example 2) was modeled as being similar to the first reflective polarizer but including the dyes on a top side of the reflective polarizer instead of the bottom side and at about 1.3 times the concentration used in Example 1. For comparison, the same reflective polarizer without any dyes was also modeled (Comparative Example C1) as was a broadband reflective polarizer (DBEF available from 3M Company, St. Paul, MN) including dyes on a top side of the reflective polarizer (Comparative Example C2) as in Example 2.

(37) The first and second reflective polarizers were modeled as including optical repeat units (ORUs) of high index layers of 90/10 coPEN and low index isotropic layers. 90/10 coPEN is a polymer composed of 90% polyethylene naphthalate (PEN) and 10% polyethylene terephthalate (PET). The isotropic layers were modeled as being made with a blend of polycarbonate and copolyesters (PCTg) as described in U.S. Pat. No. 10,185,068 (Johnson et al.) such that the index was about 1.57 at 630 nm and the layers remained substantially isotropic upon uniaxial orientation. The PC:PCTg molar ratio was approximately 85 mol % PC and 15 mol % PCTg. A thickness profile of the microlayers was mathematically generated to produce the reflection spectra shown in FIGS. 5-6. The thickness profile was bounded on both sides by a protective boundary layer of the low index material with a thickness of 2000 nm. Representative values of the refractive index for the high index optical (HIO) layers (90/10 coPEN), denoted N_x , N_y , N_z along the x, y, z axes, respectively, and for the low index optical (LIO) layers (PC:PCTg), denoted N_{iso} for the isotropic index, are shown in the following table:

(38) TABLE-US-00001 HIO LIO λ N_x N_y N_z N_{iso} 450 nm 1.9222 1.6087 1.5987 1.5962 530 nm 1.8611 1.5794 1.5696 1.5801 630 nm 1.8266 1.5651 1.5554 1.5701

(39) An LG OLED TV was modeled with the original circular polarizer (denoted Ref in the table below) and with the circular polarizer replaced with an optical stack including a reflective polarizer described above disposed between an absorbing polarizer and a quarter wave retarder. The brightness gain for white, blue, green, and red emission; the reflection of substantially normally incident substantially white ambient light; the maximum color shift of substantially white light output determined as the view angle changed from 0 to 60 degrees; the ghosting levels defined as the 1.sup.st and 2.sup.nd white and green ghost image brightness of the pixels as a percentage of the pixel brightness; and the percent REC 2020 color gamut were calculated. The color shift was determined as the Euclidean distance in CIE (Commission Internationale de l'Eclairage) 1976 u'v' color coordinates. The 1.sup.st and 2.sup.nd ghost images occurred at viewing angles of about 23 and 45 degrees, respectively. The REC 2020 color gamut is defined by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Recommendation BT.2020. Results are reported in the following table.

(40) TABLE-US-00002 Ghosting Level Amb. Max. 1.sup.st 2.sup.nd 1.sup.st 2.sup.nd %
Brightness Gain Refl. color White White Gr. Gr. REC Ex. White Blue Gr. Red (%) shift (%) (%)
(%) (%) 2020 Ref 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 0.97 0.013 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 69.40 C1 1.16 1.21 1.18 1.21 2.27
0.007 6.0 7.0 4.9 6.6 71.04 C2 1.00 1.20 1.04 1.17 2.22 0.018 8.7 8.4 9.0 8.6 72.11 1 0.99 1.16 1.04
1.14 1.08 0.011 4.9 5.2 4.1 5.1 72.91 2 0.97 1.16 1.03 1.13 2.01 0.011 6.0 6.8 5.0 6.5 73.37

(41) Terms such as “about” will be understood in the context in which they are used and described in the present description by one of ordinary skill in the art. If the use of “about” as applied to quantities expressing feature sizes, amounts, and physical properties is not otherwise clear to one of ordinary skill in the art in the context in which it is used and described in the present description, “about” will be understood to mean within 10 percent of the specified value. A quantity given as about a specified value can be precisely the specified value. For example, if it is not otherwise clear

to one of ordinary skill in the art in the context in which it is used and described in the present description, a quantity having a value of about 1, means that the quantity has a value between 0.9 and 1.1, and that the value could be 1.

(42) All references, patents, and patent applications referenced in the foregoing are hereby incorporated herein by reference in their entirety in a consistent manner. In the event of inconsistencies or contradictions between portions of the incorporated references and this application, the information in the preceding description shall control.

(43) Descriptions for elements in figures should be understood to apply equally to corresponding elements in other figures, unless indicated otherwise. Although specific embodiments have been illustrated and described herein, it will be appreciated by those of ordinary skill in the art that a variety of alternate and/or equivalent implementations can be substituted for the specific embodiments shown and described without departing from the scope of the present disclosure. This application is intended to cover any adaptations, or variations, or combinations of the specific embodiments discussed herein. Therefore, it is intended that this disclosure be limited only by the claims and the equivalents thereof.

Claims

1. A display system for displaying an image to a viewer, the display system comprising: a display panel comprising a plurality of at least blue, green and red light emitting pixels having respective blue, green and red emission spectra comprising respective blue, green and red emission peaks at respective blue, green and red peak wavelengths with respective blue, green and red full width at half maxima (FWHMs); and a reflective polarizer disposed on the plurality of the at least blue, green and red light emitting pixels, such that for substantially normally incident light, the reflective polarizer comprises a reflection spectrum comprising substantially distinct blue, green and red-infrared reflection bands, wherein the reflective polarizer: reflects at least about 60% of the incident light for each of the blue and green peak wavelengths and at least about 40% of the incident light for the red peak wavelength for a first polarization state; transmits at least about 60% of the incident light for each of the blue, green and red peak wavelengths for an orthogonal second polarization state; and has an absorption peak at a wavelength between the green and red FWHMs of the respective green and red emission spectra; wherein for the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer decreases for each of the blue and green peak wavelengths, and for the red peak wavelength, increases or does not decrease by more than about 10%.

2. The display system of claim 1, wherein the display panel comprises an organic light emitting diode (OLED) display panel.

3. The display system of claim 1, wherein for the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer decreases for each of the blue and green peak wavelengths by more than about 20%.

4. The display system of claim 1, wherein for the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer increases for the red peak wavelength.

5. The display system of claim 1, wherein the display panel further comprises a plurality of white light emitting pixels each having a white emission spectrum comprising first and second white emission peaks in respective generally blue and green regions of the spectrum at respective first and second white peak wavelengths.

6. The display system of claim 1, further comprising a retarder layer disposed between the reflective polarizer and the display panel, and an absorbing polarizer disposed on the reflective polarizer opposite the retarder layer.

7. A display system comprising: a display panel comprising: a plurality of red light emitting pixels

each having a red emission spectrum comprising a red emission peak at a red peak wavelength; and a plurality of white light emitting pixels each having a white emission spectrum comprising first and second white emission peaks in respective generally blue and green regions of the spectrum at respective first and second white peak wavelengths; and a reflective polarizer disposed on the pluralities of white and red light emitting pixels, such that for substantially normally incident light, the reflective polarizer comprises a reflection spectrum comprising substantially distinct blue, green and red-infrared reflection bands, wherein the reflective polarizer: reflects for a first polarization state, at least about 60% of the incident light for the first white peak wavelength, and at least about 40% of the incident light for each of the second white and red peak wavelengths; transmits for an orthogonal second polarization state, at least about 60% of the incident light for each of the first white, second white, and red peak wavelengths; and has an absorption peak at a wavelength between the second white and red peak wavelengths; wherein for the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer decreases for each of the first and second white peak wavelengths, and for the red peak wavelength, increases or does not decrease by more than about 10%.

8. The display system of claim 7, wherein for the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer decreases for each of the first and second white peak wavelengths by more than about 20%.

9. The display system of claim 7, wherein for the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer increases for the red peak wavelength.

10. A reflective polarizer comprising a plurality of alternating polymeric layers, wherein for substantially normally incident light, the reflective polarizer comprises a reflection spectrum comprising substantially distinct blue, green and red-infrared reflection bands with respective blue, green and red-infrared full width at half maxima (FWHMs), wherein for the substantially normally incident light and for red, green and blue wavelengths, the reflective polarizer: reflects at least about 60% of the incident light for each of the blue and green wavelengths and at least about 40% of the incident light for the red wavelength for a first polarization state; transmits at least about 60% of the incident light for each of the blue, green and red wavelengths for an orthogonal second polarization state; and has an absorption peak at a wavelength between the green and red-infrared FWHMs; wherein for the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer decreases for each of the blue and green wavelengths by at least about 20%, and for the red wavelength, increases or does not decrease by more than about 10%.

11. The reflective polarizer of claim 10, wherein for the first polarization state and when the incidence angle increases from zero to at least about 50 degrees, the reflectance of the reflective polarizer increases for the red wavelength.

12. The reflective polarizer of claim 10, wherein the blue wavelength is in the blue FWHM, the green wavelength is in the green FWHM, and the red wavelength is in the red-infrared FWHM or between the green and red-infrared FWHMs.

13. The reflective polarizer of claim 10, wherein the red wavelength is in a range of 600 to 650 nm, the green wavelength is in a range of 530 to 580 nm, and the blue wavelength is in a range of 430 to 480 nm.

14. An optical stack comprising a retarder layer, an absorbing polarizer, and the reflective polarizer of claim 10 disposed between the absorbing polarizer and retarder layer.

15. A display system comprising a display panel and the optical stack of claim 14 disposed on an emissive surface of the display panel, the retarder layer facing the emissive surface.
