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DISPLAY APPARATUS AND LIGHT SOURCE DEVICE THEREOF

Abstract

A light source device comprises a diffuser plate and a light source module disposed behind the diffuser plate. The light source module includes a substrate, a plurality of light emitting diodes mounted on the substrate, and a plurality of reflective layers each provided on a front surface of the plurality of light emitting diodes. When a distance between the centers of each of the plurality of light emitting diodes is referred to as a pitch, and a distance between the diffuser plate and the substrate is referred to as an optical distance, a ratio of the pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression: $2.5 \leq \text{pitch/optical distance} \leq 4.5$.

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Background/Summary

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS [0001] This application is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 18/807,275, filed on Aug. 16, 2024, which is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 18/474,565, filed on Sep. 26, 2023, now U.S. Pat. No. 12,181,745, issued on Dec. 31, 2024, which is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 17/864,934, filed on Jul. 14, 2022, now U.S. Pat. No. 11,809,042, issued on Nov. 7, 2023, which is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 17/349,550, filed on Jun. 16, 2021, now U.S. Pat. No. 11,422,407, issued on Aug. 23, 2022, which is a bypass continuation application of International Application No. PCT/KR 2021/002227, filed on Feb. 23, 2021, which claims priority from Korean Patent Application No. 10-2021-0000570, filed on Jan. 4, 2021, Korean Patent Application No. 10-2021-0015150, filed on Feb. 3, 2021, and Korean Patent Application No. 10-2021-0070750, filed on Jun. 1, 2021, in the Korean Intellectual Property Office, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

BACKGROUND

1. Field

[0002] The present disclosure relates to a display apparatus and a light source device thereof, and more particularly, to a display apparatus including an improved optical structure and a light source device thereof.

2. Description of Related Art

[0003] Generally, a display apparatus converts obtained or stored electrical information into visual information and displays the visual information to a user. The display apparatus is used in various fields, such as home or workplace.

[0004] The display apparatus includes a monitor apparatus connected to a personal computer or a server computer, a portable computer device, a navigation terminal device, a general television apparatus, an Internet Protocol television (IPTV), a portable terminal device, such as a smart phone, a tablet PC, a personal digital assistant (PDA) or a cellular phone, various display apparatuses used to reproduce images, such as advertisements or movies in an industrial field, or various kinds of audio/video systems.

[0005] The display apparatus includes a light source module configured to convert electrical information into visual information, and the light source module includes a plurality of light sources configured to independently emit light.

[0006] Each of the plurality of light sources includes, for example, a light emitting diode (LED) or an organic light emitting diode (OLED). For example, the LED or the OLED may be mounted on a

circuit board or a substrate.

SUMMARY

[0007] The present disclosure is directed to providing a display apparatus at a reduced cost.

[0008] Further, the present disclosure is directed to providing a display apparatus with a reduced thickness.

[0009] An aspect of the present disclosure provides a light source device including a diffuser plate and a light source module disposed behind the diffuser plate. The light source module includes a substrate, a plurality of light emitting diodes mounted on the substrate, and a plurality of reflective layers each provided on a front surface of the plurality of light emitting diodes. When a distance between centers of each of the plurality of light emitting diodes is referred to as a pitch and a distance between the diffuser plate and the substrate is referred to as an optical distance, the pitch and the optical distance satisfy the following expression:

[00001] $2.5 \leq \text{pitch} / \text{optical distance} \leq 4.5$.

[0010] The light source module may include a plurality of optical domes each configured to cover the plurality of light emitting diodes.

[0011] The plurality of reflective layers may be provided to allow main light, which is emitted from the plurality of light emitting diodes, to have an angle that is greater than or equal to 50° but less than or equal to 65° with respect to a front and rear direction.

[0012] The reflective layer may be provided as a Distributed Bragg Reflector (DBR).

[0013] The pitch may be greater than or equal to 4 mm but less than or equal to 14 mm.

[0014] The optical distance may be greater than or equal to 1.5 mm but less than or equal to 4.5 mm.

[0015] The plurality of light emitting diodes may be arranged along a first direction and a second direction perpendicular to the first direction, and the pitch may be set to a first distance in the first direction that is greater than a second distance in the second direction.

[0016] A relationship between first distance in the first direction and the second distance in the second direction satisfies the following expression:

[00002] $(\text{first distance}) \leq 1.1 * (\text{second distance})$.

[0017] If the pitch is a maximum value and the optical distance is greater than or equal to 1.5 mm but less than or equal to 2.5 mm, a ratio of the pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression:

[00003] $3.5 \leq \text{pitch} / \text{optical distance} \leq 4.5$.

[0018] If the pitch is a maximum value and the optical distance is greater than or equal to 2.5 mm but less than or equal to 3.5 mm, a ratio of the pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression:

[00004] $3.2 \leq \text{pitch} / \text{optical distance} \leq 4.2$.

[0019] If the pitch is a maximum value and the optical distance is greater than or equal to 3.5 mm but less than or equal to 4.5 mm, a ratio of the pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression:

[00005] $2.5 \leq \text{pitch} / \text{optical distance} \leq 3.5$.

[0020] The plurality of optical domes may be formed of silicone or epoxy resin.

[0021] The light emitting diode may be configured to emit blue light.

[0022] Another aspect of the present disclosure provides a display apparatus including a light source device configured to output light, and a liquid crystal panel configured to block or transmit the light. The light source device includes a diffuser plate and a light source module disposed behind the diffuser plate. The light source module includes a substrate, a plurality of light emitting diodes mounted on the substrate and arranged along a first direction and a second direction different from the first direction, and a plurality of optical domes each configured to cover the plurality of light emitting diodes. When a distance between centers of each of the plurality of light emitting diodes is referred to as a pitch and a distance between the diffuser plate and the substrate

is referred to as an optical distance, a ratio of the pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression:

[00006] $2.2 \leq \text{pitch} / \text{opticaldistance} \leq 4.5$.

[0023] The light source module may include a plurality of reflective layers each provided on a front surface of the plurality of light emitting diodes.

[0024] The plurality of reflective layers may be provided to allow main optical, which is emitted from the plurality of light emitting diodes, to have an angle that is greater than or equal to 50° but less than or equal to 65° with respect to a front and rear direction.

[0025] The pitch may be set to a first distance in the first direction that is greater than a second distance in the second direction and a relationship between the first distance in the first direction and the second distance in the second direction satisfies the following expression:

[00007] $(\text{firstdistance}) \leq 1.1 * (\text{seconddistance})$.

[0026] When the pitch is a maximum value and the optical distance is greater than or equal to 1.5 mm but less than or equal to 2.5 mm, a ratio the pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression:

[00008] $3.5 \leq \text{pitch} / \text{opticaldistance} \leq 4.5$.

[0027] When the pitch is a maximum value and the optical distance is greater than or equal to 2.5 mm but less than or equal to 3.5 mm, a ratio of the pitch to the optical distance may satisfies the following expression:

[00009] $3.2 \leq \text{pitch} / \text{opticaldistance} \leq 4.2$.

[0028] When the pitch is a maximum value and the optical distance is greater than or equal to 3.5 mm but less than or equal to 4.5 mm, a ratio of the pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression:

[00010] $2.2 \leq \text{pitch} / \text{opticaldistance} \leq 3.5$.

[0029] Another embodiment of the disclosure provides a light source device including: a diffuser plate; and a light source module disposed behind the diffuser plate, wherein the light source module includes: a substrate; a plurality of light emitting diodes mounted on the substrate; and a plurality of reflective layers provided on a front surface of the plurality of light emitting diodes, and wherein, when a distance between centers of the plurality of light emitting diodes is a pitch, and a distance between the diffuser plate and the substrate is as an optical distance, a ratio of the pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression:

[00011] $2.5 \leq \text{pitch} / \text{opticaldistance} \leq 4.5$.

[0030] According to yet another embodiment of the disclosure, a display apparatus includes a light source device configured to output light; and a liquid crystal panel configured to block or transmit the light, wherein the light source device includes: a diffuser plate; and a light source module disposed behind the diffuser plate, wherein the light source module includes: a substrate; a plurality of light emitting diodes mounted on the substrate and arranged along a first direction and a second direction different from the first direction; and a plurality of optical domes configured to cover the plurality of light emitting diodes, and wherein, when a distance between centers of the plurality of light emitting diodes is a pitch, and a distance between the diffuser plate and the substrate is an optical distance, a ratio of the pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression:

$2.2 \leq \text{pitch} / \text{optical distance} \leq 4.5$.

[0031] In yet another aspect of the disclosure a display apparatus includes a light source device configured to output light; a liquid crystal panel configured to block or transmit the light. The light source device including a diffuser plate and a light source module disposed behind the diffuser plate. The light source module including a substrate, a plurality of light emitting diodes mounted on the substrate and arranged along a first direction and a second direction different from the first direction, and a plurality of optical domes configured to cover the plurality of light emitting diodes. When pitch is defined as a distance between centers of adjacent light emitting diodes on the substrate and optical distance is defined as a distance between the diffuser plate and the substrate, a

ratio of the pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression:

[00012] $3.5 \leq \text{pitch} / \text{optical distance} \leq 4.5$,

and

[0032] wherein the plurality of reflective layers output light emitted from the plurality of light emitting diodes, with a full width half maximum that is greater than or equal to 50° but less than or equal to 65° .

[0033] The display apparatus described herein may include a reduced number of light sources, thereby reducing a cost of the display apparatus.

[0034] The display apparatus described herein has a reduced optical distance, thereby reducing a thickness of the display apparatus.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[0035] The above and other aspects, features, and advantages of certain embodiments of the present disclosure will be more apparent from the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

[0036] FIG. 1 is a view of an appearance of a display apparatus according to an embodiment of the present disclosure.

[0037] FIG. 2 is an exploded view of the display apparatus shown in FIG. 1 according to an embodiment.

[0038] FIG. 3 is a side sectional view of a liquid crystal panel of the display apparatus shown in FIG. 2 according to an embodiment.

[0039] FIG. 4 is an exploded view of a light source device shown in FIG. 2 according to an embodiment.

[0040] FIG. 5 is a view illustrating coupling between a light source module included in the light source device, and a reflective sheet according to an embodiment.

[0041] FIG. 6 is a perspective view of a light source included in the light source device shown in FIG. 4 according to an embodiment.

[0042] FIG. 7 is an exploded view of the light source shown in FIG. 6 according to an embodiment.

[0043] FIG. 8 is a sectional view taken along line A-A' shown in FIG. 6 according to an embodiment.

[0044] FIG. 9 is a view illustrating a profile of light emitted from a light emitting diode shown in FIG. 8 according to an embodiment.

[0045] FIG. 10 is a view illustrating a front surface of the light source module shown in FIG. 4 according to an embodiment.

[0046] FIG. 11 is a view illustrating a relationship between the light source module shown in FIG. 4 and a diffuser plate according to an embodiment.

[0047] FIG. 12 is a view illustrating an experimental result when a numerical range of a pitch/an optical distance of a display apparatus is out of a numerical range according to an embodiment.

[0048] FIG. 13 is a view illustrating an experimental result when a numerical range of a pitch/an optical distance of a display apparatus is within a numerical range according to an embodiment.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0049] In the following description, like reference numerals refer to like elements throughout the specification. Well-known functions or constructions are not described in detail since they would obscure the one or more exemplary embodiments with unnecessary detail. Terms such as “unit”, “module”, “member”, and “block” may be embodied as hardware or software. According to embodiments, a plurality of “units”, “modules”, “members”, and “blocks” may be implemented as a single component or a single “unit”, “module”, “member”, and “block” and may also include a

plurality of components.

[0050] When an element is referred to as being “connected” to another element, it is directly or indirectly connected to the other element, wherein the indirect connection includes “connection via a wireless communication network”.

[0051] Also, when a part “includes” or “comprises” an element, unless there is a particular description contrary thereto, the part may further include additional elements, not excluding the other elements.

[0052] When a first member is “on” a second member, the first member is in contact with the second member, but also includes when a third member between the first and second members.

[0053] Although the terms first, second, third, etc., may be used herein to describe various elements, the elements should not be limited by these terms. These terms are only used to distinguish one element from another element.

[0054] As used herein, the singular forms “a,” “an” and “the” include the plural forms of the words, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

[0055] An identification code is used for the convenience of the description but is not intended to illustrate the order of each step. Each step may be implemented in an order different from the illustrated order unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

[0056] Hereinafter exemplary embodiments of the present disclosure will be described in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings.

[0057] FIG. 1 is a view depicting a display apparatus according to one embodiment of the disclosure.

[0058] A display apparatus **10** is a device that processes an image signal received from an outside source and visually displays the processed image. Hereinafter an embodiment of a display apparatus **10** that is a television is described, but the disclosure is not limited thereto. For example, the display apparatus **10** may be implemented in various forms, such as a monitor, a portable multimedia device, and a portable communication device, and the display apparatus **10** is not limited in its shape as long as the display apparatus **10** visually displays an image.

[0059] The display apparatus **10** may be a large format display (LFD) installed outdoors, such as a roof of a building or a bus stop. The LFD display apparatus **10** is not limited to the outside of a building, and thus the display apparatus **10** may be installed in any place where the display apparatus is viewable by a large number of people, including indoors, in subway stations, shopping malls, movie theaters, companies, and stores.

[0060] The display apparatus **10** may receive content data including video data and audio data from various content sources and output video and audio corresponding to the video data and the audio data. For example, the display apparatus **10** may receive content data through a broadcast reception antenna or cable, receive content data from a content playback device, or receive content data from a content provider's content server.

[0061] As illustrated in FIG. 1, the display apparatus **10** includes a body **11**, a screen **12** configured to display an image I, and a supporter **19** provided below the body **11** and configured to support the body **11**.

[0062] The body **11** may form an appearance, e.g., a border, of the display apparatus **10**, and the body **11** may include a component configured to allow the display apparatus **10** to display the image I and to perform various functions. Although the body **11** shown in FIG. 1 is in the form of a flat plate, the shape of the body **11** is not limited thereto. For example, the body **11** may have a curved plate shape.

[0063] The screen **12** may be formed on a front surface of the body **11**, and display the image I. For example, the screen **12** may display a still image or a moving image. Further, the screen **12** may display a two-dimensional plane image or a three-dimensional image to the user by using binocular parallax.

[0064] A plurality of pixels P may be formed on the screen **12** and the image I displayed on the

screen **12** may be formed by the light emitted from the plurality of pixels **P**. For example, a single still image may be formed on the screen **12** by combining light emitted from the plurality of pixels **P** as a mosaic.

[0065] Each of the plurality of pixels **P** may emit different brightness and different color of light. In order to emit different brightness of light, each of the plurality of pixels **P** may include a self-emission panel (for example, a light emitting diode panel) configured to directly emit light or a non-self-emission panel (for example, a liquid crystal panel) configured to transmit or block light emitted by a light source device.

[0066] To emit light in the various colors, the plurality of pixels **P** include sub-pixels **P.sub.R**, **P.sub.G**, and **P.sub.B**, respectively.

[0067] The sub-pixels may include a red sub pixel **P.sub.R** for emitting red light, a green sub pixel **P.sub.G** for emitting green light, and a blue sub pixel **P.sub.B** for emitting blue light. For example, the red light may represent a light beam having a wavelength of approximately 620 nm (nanometers, one billionth of a meter) to 750 nm, the green light may represent a light beam having a wavelength of approximately 495 nm to 570 nm, and the blue light may represent a light beam having a wavelength of approximately 450 nm to 495 nm.

[0068] By combining the red light of the red sub pixel **P.sub.R**, the green light of the green sub pixel **P.sub.G**, and the blue light of the blue sub pixel **P.sub.B**, each of the plurality of pixels **P** may emit different brightness and different color of light.

[0069] FIG. **2** is an exploded view of the display apparatus shown in FIG. **1** according to an exemplary embodiment.

[0070] As shown in FIG. **2**, various components configured to generate the image **I** on the screen **S** may be provided inside the body **11**.

[0071] The body **11** includes a light source device **100** that is a surface light source, a liquid crystal panel **20** configured to block or transmit light emitted from the light source device **100**, a control assembly **50** configured to control an operation of the light source device **100** and the liquid crystal panel **20**, and a power assembly **60** configured to supply power to the light source device **100** and the liquid crystal panel **20**. Further, the body **11** includes a bezel **13**, a frame middle mold **14**, a bottom chassis **15**, and a rear cover **16** which are configured to support and fix the liquid crystal panel **20**, the light source device **100**, the control assembly **50**, and the power assembly **60**.

[0072] The light source device **100** may include a point light source configured to emit monochromatic light or white light. The light source device **100** may refract, reflect, and scatter light in order to convert light, which is emitted from the point light source, into uniform surface light. For example, the light source device **100** may include a plurality of light sources configured to emit monochromatic light or white light, a diffuser plate configured to diffuse light incident from the plurality of light sources, a reflective sheet configured to reflect light emitted from the plurality of light sources and a rear surface of the diffuser plate, and an optical sheet configured to refract and scatter light emitted from the front surface of the diffuser plate.

[0073] As mentioned above, the light source device **100** may refract, reflect, and scatter light emitted from the light source, thereby emitting uniform surface light toward the front.

[0074] A configuration of the light source device **100** will be described in more detail below.

[0075] FIG. **3** is a side sectional view of a liquid crystal panel of the display apparatus shown in FIG. **2** according to an exemplary embodiment.

[0076] The liquid crystal panel **20** is provided in front of the light source device **100** and blocks or transmits light emitted from the light source device **100** to form the image **I**.

[0077] A front surface of the liquid crystal panel **20** may form the screen **12** of the display apparatus **10** described above, and the liquid crystal panel **20** may form the plurality of pixels **P**. In the liquid crystal panel **20**, the plurality of pixels **P** may independently block or transmit light from the light source device **100**, and the light transmitted through the plurality of pixels **P** may form the image **I** displayed on the screen **12**.

[0078] For example, as shown in FIG. 3, the liquid crystal panel **20** may include a first polarizing film **21**, a first transparent substrate **22**, a pixel electrode **23**, a thin film transistor **24**, a liquid crystal layer **25**, a common electrode **26**, a color filter **27**, a second transparent substrate **28**, and a second polarizing film **29**.

[0079] The first transparent substrate **22** and the second transparent substrate **28** may fixedly support the pixel electrode **23**, the thin film transistor **24**, the liquid crystal layer **25**, the common electrode **26**, and the color filter **27**. The first and second transparent substrates **22** and **28** may be formed of tempered glass or transparent resin.

[0080] The first polarizing film **21** and the second polarizing film **29** are provided on the outside of the first and second transparent substrates **22** and **28**.

[0081] Each of the first polarizing film **21** and the second polarizing film **29** may transmit a specific light beam and block other light beams. For example, the first polarizing film **21** transmits a light beam having a magnetic field vibrating in a first direction and blocks other light beams. In addition, the second polarizing film **29** transmits a light beam having a magnetic field vibrating in a second direction and blocks other light beams. In this case, the first direction and the second direction may be perpendicular to each other. Accordingly, a polarization direction of the light transmitted through the first polarizing film **21** and a vibration direction of the light transmitted through the second polarizing film **29** are perpendicular to each other. As a result, in general, light may not pass through the first polarizing film **21** and the second polarizing film **29** at the same time.

[0082] The color filter **27** may be provided inside the second transparent substrate **28**.

[0083] The color filter **27** may include a red filter **27R** transmitting red light, a green filter **27G** transmitting green light, and a blue filter **27B** transmitting blue light. The red filter **27R**, the green filter **27G**, and the blue filter **27B** may be disposed parallel to each other. A region in which the color filter **27** is formed corresponds to the pixel **P** described above. A region in which the red filter **27R** is formed corresponds to the red sub-pixel **P.sub.R**, a region in which the green filter **27G** is formed corresponds to the green sub-pixel **P.sub.G**, and a region in which the blue filter **27B** is formed corresponds to the blue sub-pixel **P.sub.B**.

[0084] The pixel electrode **23** may be provided inside the first transparent substrate **22**, and the common electrode **26** may be provided inside the second transparent substrate **28**.

[0085] The pixel electrode **23** and the common electrode **26** may be formed of a metal material through which electricity is conducted, and the pixel electrode **23** and the common electrode **26** may generate an electric field to change the arrangement of liquid crystal molecules **25a** forming the liquid crystal layer **25** as described below.

[0086] The pixel electrode **23** and the common electrode **26** may be formed of a transparent material, and may transmit light incident from the outside. For example, the pixel electrode **23** and the common electrode **26** may include indium tin oxide (ITO), indium zinc oxide (IZO), silver nanowire (Ag nano wire), carbon nanotube (CNT), graphene, or poly (3,4-ethylenedioxythiophene) (PEDOT).

[0087] The thin film transistor (TFT) **24** is provided inside the second transparent substrate **22**.

[0088] The TFT **24** may transmit or block a current flowing through the pixel electrode **23**. For example, an electric field may be formed or removed between the pixel electrode **23** and the common electrode **26** in response to turning on (closing) or turning off (opening) the TFT **24**.

[0089] The TFT **24** may be formed of poly-silicon, and may be formed by semiconductor processes, such as lithography, deposition, and ion implantation.

[0090] The liquid crystal layer **25** is formed between the pixel electrode **23** and the common electrode **26**, and the liquid crystal layer **25** is filled with the liquid crystal molecules **25a**.

[0091] Liquid crystals represent an intermediate state between a solid (crystal) and a liquid. Most of the liquid crystal materials are organic compounds, and the molecular shape is in the shape of an elongated rod. The arrangement of molecules is in an irregular state in one direction, but may have

a regular crystal shape in other directions. As a result, the liquid crystal has both the fluidity of the liquid and the optical anisotropy of the crystal (solid).

[0092] In addition, liquid crystals also exhibit optical properties according to changes in an electric field. For example, in the liquid crystal, the direction of the arrangement of molecules forming the liquid crystal may change according to a change in an electric field. In response to an electric field being generated in the liquid crystal layer **25**, the liquid crystal molecules **25a** of the liquid crystal layer **25** may be arranged according to the direction of the electric field. If the electric field is not being generated in the liquid crystal layer **25**, the liquid crystal molecules **25a** may be arranged irregularly or arranged along an alignment layer (not shown). As a result, the optical properties of the liquid crystal layer **25** may vary depending on the presence or absence of the electric field passing through the liquid crystal layer **25**.

[0093] A cable **20a** configured to transmit image data to the liquid crystal panel **20**, and a display driver integrated circuit (hereinafter referred to as 'driver IC') **30** configured to process digital image data and output an analog image signal are provided at one side of the liquid crystal panel **20**.

[0094] The cable **20a** may electrically connect the control assembly **50** and/or the power assembly **60** to the driver IC **30**, and may also electrically connect the driver IC **30** to the liquid crystal panel **20**. The cable **20a** may include a flexible flat cable or a film cable that is bendable.

[0095] The driver IC **30** may receive image data and power from the control assembly **50** and/or the power assembly **60** through the cable **20a**. The driver IC **30** may transmit the image data and driving current to the liquid crystal panel **20** through the cable **20a**.

[0096] In addition, the cable **20a** and the driver IC **30** may be integrally implemented as a film cable, a chip on film (COF), or a tape carrier package (TCP). In other words, the driver IC **30** may be disposed on the cable **20b**. However, the disclosure is not limited thereto, and the driver IC **30** may be disposed on the liquid crystal panel **20**.

[0097] The control assembly **50** may include a control circuit configured to control an operation of the liquid crystal panel **20** and the light source device **100**. The control circuit may process image data received from an external content source, transmit the image data to the liquid crystal panel **20**, and transmit dimming data to the light source device **100**.

[0098] The power assembly **60** may supply power to the liquid crystal panel **20** and the light source device **100** to allow the light source device **100** to output surface light and to allow the liquid crystal panel **20** to block or transmit the light of the light source device **100**.

[0099] The control assembly **50** and the power assembly **60** may be implemented as a printed circuit board and various circuits mounted on the printed circuit board. For example, the power circuit may include a capacitor, a coil, a resistance element, a processor, and a power circuit board on which the capacitor, the coil, the resistance element, and the processor are mounted. Further, the control circuit may include a memory, a processor, and a control circuit board on which the memory and the processor are mounted.

[0100] Hereinafter the light source device **100** will be described.

[0101] FIG. **4** is an exploded view of a light source device shown in FIG. **2** according to an exemplary embodiment. FIG. **5** is a view illustrating coupling between a light source module included in the light source device, and a reflective sheet.

[0102] The light source device **100** includes a light source module **110** configured to generate light, a reflective sheet **120** configured to reflect light, a diffuser plate **130** configured to uniformly diffuse light, and an optical sheet **140** configured to improve luminance of light that is emitted.

[0103] The light source module **110** may include a plurality of light sources **111** configured to emit light, and a substrate **112** configured to support the plurality of light sources **111**.

[0104] The plurality of light sources **111** may be arranged in a predetermined pattern to allow light to be emitted with uniform luminance. The plurality of light sources **111** may be arranged in such a way that a distance between one light source and light sources adjacent thereto is the same.

[0105] For example, as shown in FIG. 4, the plurality of light sources **111** may be arranged in rows and columns. Accordingly, the plurality of light sources may be arranged such that an approximately square is formed by four adjacent light sources. In addition, any one light source may be disposed adjacent to four light sources, and a distance between one light source and four adjacent light sources may be approximately the same.

[0106] Alternatively, the plurality of light sources may be disposed in a plurality of rows, and a light source belonging to each row may be disposed at the center of two light sources belonging to an adjacent row. Accordingly, the plurality of light sources may be arranged such that an approximately equilateral triangle is formed by three adjacent light sources. In this case, one light source may be disposed adjacent to six light sources, and a distance between one light source and six adjacent light sources may be approximately the same.

[0107] However, the pattern in which the plurality of light sources **111** is disposed is not limited to the pattern described above, and the plurality of light sources **111** may be disposed in various patterns to allow light to be emitted with uniform luminance.

[0108] The light source **111** may employ an element configured to emit monochromatic light (light of a specific wavelength, for example, blue light) or white light (for example, a light of a mixture of red light, green light, and blue light) in various directions by receiving power. For example, the light source **111** may include a light emitting diode (LED).

[0109] The substrate **112** may fix the plurality of light sources **111** to prevent a change in the position of the light source **111**. Further, the substrate **112** may supply power, which is for the light source **111** to emit light, to the light source **111**.

[0110] The substrate **112** may support the plurality of light sources **111** and may be configured with synthetic resin, tempered glass, or a printed circuit board (PCB) on which a conductive power supply line for supplying power to the light source **111** is formed.

[0111] The reflective sheet **120** may reflect light emitted from the plurality of light sources **111** forward or in a direction close to the forward direction.

[0112] In the reflective sheet **120**, a plurality of through holes **120a** are formed at positions corresponding to each of the plurality of light sources **111** of the light source module **110**. In addition, the light source **111** of the light source module **110** may pass through the through hole **120a** and protrude to the front of the reflective sheet **120**.

[0113] For example, as shown in the upper portion of FIG. 5, in the process of assembling the reflective sheet **120** and the light source module **110**, the plurality of light sources **111** of the light source module **110** are inserted into the through holes **120a** formed on the reflective sheet **120**. Accordingly, as shown in the lower portion of FIG. 5, the substrate **112** of the light source module **110** may be located behind the reflective sheet **120**, but the plurality of light sources **111** of the light source module **110** may be located in front of the reflective sheet **120**.

[0114] Accordingly, the plurality of light sources **111** may emit light in front of the reflective sheet **120**.

[0115] The plurality of light sources **111** may emit light in various directions from the front of the reflective sheet **120**. The light may not only be emitted toward the diffuser plate **130** from the light source **111**, but also may be emitted toward the reflective sheet **120** from the light source **111**. The reflective sheet **120** may reflect light, which is emitted toward the reflective sheet **120**, toward the diffuser plate **130**.

[0116] Light emitted from the light source **111** passes through various objects, such as the diffuser plate **130** and the optical sheet **140**. Among incident light beams passing through the diffuser plate **130** and the optical sheet **140**, some of the incident light beams are reflected from the surfaces of the diffuser plate **130** and the optical sheet **140**. The reflective sheet **120** may reflect light reflected by the diffuser plate **130** and the optical sheet **140**.

[0117] The diffuser plate **130** may be provided in front of the light source module **110** and the reflective sheet **120**, and may evenly distribute the light emitted from the light source **111** of the

light source module **110**.

[0118] As described above, the plurality of light sources **111** are located in various places on the rear surface of the light source device **100**. Although the plurality of light sources **111** are disposed at equal intervals on the rear surface of the light source device **100**, unevenness in luminance may occur depending on the positions of the plurality of light sources **111**.

[0119] The diffuser plate **130** may diffuse light emitted from the plurality of light sources **111** within the diffuser plate **130** in order to remove unevenness in luminance caused by the plurality of light sources **111**. In other words, the diffuser plate **130** may uniformly emit uneven light of the plurality of light sources **111** to the front surface.

[0120] The optical sheet **140** may include various sheets for improving luminance and uniformity of luminance. For example, the optical sheet **140** may include a diffusion sheet **141**, a first prism sheet **142**, a second prism sheet **143**, and a reflective polarizing sheet **144**.

[0121] The diffusion sheet **141** diffuses light for uniformity of luminance. The light emitted from the light source **111** may be diffused by the diffuser plate **130** and may be diffused again by the diffusion sheet **141** included in the optical sheet **140**.

[0122] The first and second prism sheets **142** and **143** may increase luminance by condensing light diffused by the diffusion sheet **141**. The first and second prism sheets **142** and **143** include a prism pattern in the shape of a triangular prism, and a plurality of prism patterns are arranged adjacent to each other to form a plurality of strips.

[0123] The reflective polarizing sheet **144** is a type of polarizing film and may transmit some of the incident light beams and reflect others for improving the luminance. For example, the reflective polarizing sheet **144** may transmit polarized light in the same direction as a predetermined polarization direction of the reflective polarizing sheet **144**, and may reflect polarized light in a direction different from the polarization direction of the reflective polarizing sheet **144**. In addition, the light reflected by the reflective polarizing sheet **144** is recycled inside the light source device **100**, and thus the luminance of the display apparatus **10** may be improved by the light recycling.

[0124] The optical sheet **140** is not limited to the sheet or film shown in FIG. 4, and may include more various sheets or films, such as a protective sheet.

[0125] FIG. 6 is a perspective view of a light source included in the light source device shown in FIG. 4 according to an exemplary embodiment. FIG. 7 is an exploded view of the light source shown in FIG. 6 according to an exemplary embodiment. FIG. 8 is a sectional view taken along line A-A' shown in FIG. 6 according to an exemplary embodiment.

[0126] The light source **111** of the light source device **100** will be described with reference to FIGS. 6 to 8.

[0127] As described above, the light source module **110** includes the plurality of light sources **111**. The plurality of light sources **111** may protrude forward of the reflective sheet **120** from the rear of the reflective sheet **120** by passing through the through hole **120a**. Accordingly, as shown in FIGS. 6 and 7, the light source **111** and a part of the substrate **112** may be exposed toward the front of the reflective sheet **120** through the through hole **120a**.

[0128] The light source **111** may include an electrical/mechanical structure positioned in a region defined by the through hole **120a** of the reflective sheet **120**.

[0129] Each of the plurality of light sources **111** may include a light emitting diode **210**, an optical dome **220**, and a reflective layer **260**.

[0130] The light emitting diode **210** may include a P-type semiconductor and an N-type semiconductor for emitting light by recombination of holes and electrons. In addition, the light emitting diode **210** is provided with a pair of electrodes **210a** for supplying hole and electrons to the P-type semiconductor and the N-type semiconductor, respectively.

[0131] The light emitting diode **210** may convert electrical energy into optical energy. In other words, the light emitting diode **210** may emit light having a maximum intensity at a predetermined wavelength to which power is supplied. For example, the light emitting diode **210** may emit blue

light having a peak value at a wavelength indicating blue (for example, a wavelength between 430 nm and 495 nm).

[0132] The light emitting diode **210** may be directly attached to the substrate **112** in a Chip On Board (COB) method. In other words, the light source **111** may include the light emitting diode **210** to which a light emitting diode chip or a light emitting diode die is directly attached to the substrate **112** without an additional packaging.

[0133] To reduce the size of the light source **111**, the light source module **110** may be manufactured such that a flip-chip type light emitting diode **210** is attached to the substrate **112** in a chip-on-board method.

[0134] On the substrate **112**, a power supply line **230** and a power supply pad **240** for supplying power to the flip-chip type light emitting diode **210** is provided.

[0135] On the substrate **112**, the power supply line **230** for supplying electrical signals and/or power to the light emitting diode **210** from the control assembly **50** and/or the power assembly **60** is provided.

[0136] As shown in FIG. **8**, the substrate **112** may be formed by alternately stacking an insulation layer **251** that is non-conductive and a conduction layer **252** that is conductive.

[0137] A line or pattern, through which power and/or electrical signals pass, is formed on the conduction layer **252**. The conduction layer **252** may be formed of various materials having electrical conductivity. For example, the conduction layer **252** may be formed of various metal materials, such as copper (Cu), tin (Sn), aluminum (Al), or an alloy thereof.

[0138] A dielectric of the insulation layer **251** may insulate between lines or patterns of the conduction layer **252**. The insulation layer **251** may be formed of a dielectric for electrical insulation, for example, FR-4.

[0139] The power supply line **230** may be implemented by a line or pattern formed on the conduction layer **252**.

[0140] The power supply line **230** may be electrically connected to the light emitting diode **210** through the power supply pad **240**.

[0141] The power supply pad **240** may be formed in such a way that the power supply line **230** is exposed to the outside.

[0142] A protection layer **253** may be formed in the outermost part of the substrate **112** to prevent or suppress damages caused by an external impact, chemical action (for example, corrosion, etc.), and/or an optical action. The protection layer **253** may include a photo solder resist (PSR).

[0143] As shown in FIG. **8**, the protection layer **253** may cover the power supply line **230** to prevent the power supply line **230** from being exposed to the outside.

[0144] A window may be formed in the protection layer **253** to expose a part of the power supply line **230** to the outside to facilitate electrical contact between the power supply line **230** and the light emitting diode **210**. A part of the power supply line **230** exposed to the outside through the window of the protection layer **253** may form the power supply pad **240**.

[0145] A conductive adhesive material **240a** for the electrical contact between the power supply line **230** exposed to the outside and the electrode **210a** of the light emitting diode **210** is applied to the power supply pad **240**. The conductive adhesive material **240a** may be applied within the window of the protection layer **253**.

[0146] The electrode **210a** of the light emitting diode **210** is in contact with the conductive adhesive material **240a**, and the light emitting diode **210** may be electrically connected to the power supply line **230** through the conductive adhesive material **240a**.

[0147] The conductive adhesive material **240a** may include a solder having electrical conductivity. However, the disclosure is not limited thereto, and the conductive adhesive material **240a** may include electrically conductive epoxy adhesives.

[0148] Power may be supplied to the light emitting diode **210** to cause the light emitting diode **210** to emit light through the power supply line **230** and the power supply pad **240**, and in response to

the supply of the power. A pair of power supply pads **240** corresponding to each of the pair of electrodes **210a** provided in the flip chip type light emitting diode **210** may be provided.

[0149] The optical dome **220** may cover the light emitting diode **210**. The optical dome **220** may prevent or suppress damages to the light emitting diode **210** caused by an external mechanical action and/or damage to the light emitting diode **210** caused by chemical action.

[0150] The optical dome **220** may have a dome shape formed in such a way that a sphere is cut into a surface not including the center thereof, or may have a hemispherical shape in such a way that a sphere is cut into a surface including the center thereof. A vertical cross section of the optical dome **220** may be a bow shape or a semicircle shape.

[0151] The optical dome **220** may be formed of silicone or epoxy resin. For example, the molten silicon or epoxy resin may be discharged onto the light emitting diode **210** through a nozzle, and the discharged silicon or epoxy resin may be cured, thereby forming the optical dome **220**.

[0152] Accordingly, the shape of the optical dome **220** may vary depending on the viscosity of the liquid silicone or epoxy resin. For example, when the optical dome **220** is manufactured using silicon having a thixotropic index of about 2.7 to 3.3 (appropriately, 3.0), the optical dome **220** is formed with a dome ratio (a height of the dome/a diameter of a base), which indicates a ratio of a height of a dome with respect to a diameter of a base of the dome, of approximately 0.25 to 0.31 (appropriately 0.28). For example, the optical dome **220** formed of silicon having a thixotropic index of approximately 2.7 to 3.3 (appropriately, 3.0) may have a diameter of approximately 2.5 mm and a height of approximately 0.7 mm.

[0153] The optical dome **220** may be optically transparent or translucent. Light emitted from the light emitting diode **210** may be emitted to the outside by passing through the optical dome **220**.

[0154] In this case, the dome-shaped optical dome **220** may refract light like a lens. For example, light emitted from the light emitting diode **210** may be refracted by the optical dome **220** and thus may be dispersed.

[0155] As mentioned above, the optical dome **220** may disperse light emitted from the light emitting diode **210** as well as protecting the light emitting diode **210** from external mechanical and/or chemical or electrical actions.

[0156] The reflective layer **260** may be positioned in front of the light emitting diode **210**. The reflective layer **260** may be disposed on the front surface of the light emitting diode **210**. The reflective layer **260** may be a multilayer reflective structure in which a plurality of insulation layers having different refractive indices is alternately stacked. For example, the multilayer reflective structure may be a Distributed Bragg Reflector (DBR) in which a first insulation layer having a first refractive index and a second insulation layer having a second refractive index are alternately stacked.

[0157] FIG. **9** is a view illustrating a profile of light emitted from a light emitting diode shown in FIG. **8** according to an exemplary embodiment.

[0158] Specifically, a profile of light, which is light output information of light emitted from the center of the light emitting diode **210** shown in FIG. **8**, is illustrated in FIG. **9**. Referring to FIG. **9**, light emitted from the light emitting diode **210** may be diffused and emitted by the reflective layer **260** having reflective properties. In FIG. **9**, the arrows indicate the brightness of light where a longer arrow represents a greater brightness of light. In the profile of light shown in FIG. **9**, a longer arrow represents a larger amount of light emission, and a direction in which a larger amount of light is emitted represents a greater brightness. In FIG. **9**, a direction of a longest arrow, a direction in which a largest amount of light is emitted, i.e., a direction in which a greatest brightness is represented may be defined as a main optical path (M).

[0159] Particularly, the main optical path M of the light emitting diode **210** may have an angle (a) that is greater than or equal to 50° but less than or equal to 65° with respect to a front and rear direction. In an exemplary embodiment, the front and rear direction is an optical axis. That is, the angle between the main optical paths M may be greater than or equal to 100° but less than or equal

to 130°. Preferably, but not necessarily, the main optical path M of the light emitting diode **210** may have an angle of 54° with respect to the front-rear direction. That is, the angle between the main optical paths M of the light emitting diode **210** may be 108°.

[0160] FIG. **10** is a view illustrating a front surface of the light source module shown in FIG. **4** according to an exemplary embodiment. FIG. **11** is a view illustrating a relationship between the light source module shown in FIG. **4** and a diffuser plate according to an exemplary embodiment.

[0161] Hereinafter a distance between the approximately centers of each of the plurality of light emitting diodes **210** may be referred to as pitches x and y, and a distance between the diffuser plate **130** and the substrate **112** may be referred to as an optical distance (OD) h.

[0162] A pitch x of the plurality of light sources **111** in the left and right direction may be greater than or equal to 4 mm but less than or equal to 14 mm. Particularly, the pitch x of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** in the left and right direction may be greater than or equal to 4 mm but less than or equal to 14 mm.

[0163] In addition, a pitch y of the plurality of light sources **111** in the up and down direction may be greater than or equal to 4 mm but less than or equal to 14 mm. Particularly, the pitch y of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** in the up and down direction may be greater than or equal to 4 mm but less than or equal to 14 mm.

[0164] The pitch x of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** in the left and right direction may be different from the pitch y of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** in the up and down direction. The pitch x of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** in the left and right direction may be greater than the pitch y of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** in the up and down direction, but may be less than or equal to 1.1 times of the pitch y of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** in the up and down direction. Alternatively, the pitch x of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** in the left and right direction may be substantially the same as the pitch y of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** in the up and down direction. The pitch x in the left and right direction and the pitch y in the up and down direction may satisfy the following expression:

[00013](seconddistance) ≤ (firstdistance) ≤ 1.1 * (seconddistance).

[0165] Referring to FIG. **11**, the optical distance h between the substrate **112** and the diffuser plate **130** may be greater than or equal to 1.5 mm but less than or equal to 4.5 mm. Particularly, a distance from the front surface of the substrate **112** to the rear surface of the diffuser plate **130** through the air layer may be greater than or equal to 1.5 mm but less than or equal to 4.5 mm.

[0166] The light source device **100** according to an embodiment of the present disclosure may be provided to allow the pitch x of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** in the left and right direction and the optical distance h between the substrate **112** and the diffuser plate **130** to satisfy the following expression. That is, in the light source device **100** according to an embodiment of the present disclosure, the pitch of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** in the left and right direction may be greater than or equal to 4 mm but less than or equal to 14 mm, and the optical distance h between the substrate **112** and the diffuser plate **130** may be greater than or equal to 1.5 mm but less than or equal to 4.5 mm as shown by the following expression:

[00014] $2.2 \leq (x) / h \leq 4.5$.

[0167] Particularly, when the pitch x of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** in the left and right direction is 1.1 times the pitch y in the up and down direction, and when the optical distance h between the substrate **112** and the diffuser plate **130** is greater than or equal to 1.5 mm but less than or equal to 2.5 mm, the pitch x and the optical distance h may satisfy the following expression:

[00015] $3.5 \leq (x)_{\max} / h \leq 4.5$.

[0168] In addition, when the pitch x of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** in the left and right direction is 1.1 times the pitch y in the up and down direction, and when the

optical distance h between the substrate **112** and the diffuser plate **130** is greater than or equal to 2.5 mm but less than or equal to 3.5 mm, the pitch x and the optical distance h may satisfy the following expression:

$$[00016] 3.2 \leq (x)_{\max} / h \leq 4.2.$$

[0169] In addition, when the pitch x in of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** the left and right direction is 1.1 times the pitch y in the up and down direction, and when the optical distance h between the substrate **112** and the diffuser plate **130** is greater than or equal to 3.5 mm but less than or equal to 4.5 mm, the pitch x and the optical distance h may satisfy the following expression:

$$[00017] 2.2 \leq (x)_{\max} / h \leq 3.5.$$

[0170] Preferably, but not necessarily, when the pitch x of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** in the left and right direction is 1.1 times the pitch y of the centers of each of the plurality of light sources **111** in the up and down direction, and the optical distance h between the substrate **112** and the diffuser plate **130** is greater than or equal to 3.5 mm but less than or equal to 4.5 mm, the pitch x and the optical distance h may satisfy the following expression:

$$[00018] 2.5 \leq (x)_{\max} / h \leq 3.5.$$

[0171] Additionally, the display apparatus **10** according to an embodiment of the present disclosure may be provided such that the optical distance h may be set to 3 mm, and the pitch x may be set to 9.8 mm. Accordingly, the ratio of the pitch x to the optical distance h may be approximately 3.27.

[0172] As for the display apparatus **10** according to an embodiment of the present disclosure, the optical distance h may be set to 3.1 mm, and the pitch x may be set to 11 mm. Accordingly, the ratio of the pitch x to the optical distance h may be approximately 3.55.

[0173] Due to this configuration, the light source device **100** according to an embodiment of the present disclosure and the display apparatus **10**, it is possible to reduce the number of light sources in the display apparatus **10**, thereby securing cost competitiveness by minimizing the cost of the display apparatus **10**. In addition, the light source device **100** according to an embodiment of the present disclosure and the display apparatus **10**, it is possible to reduce the optical distance h, thereby reducing the thickness of the display device **10**.

[0174] FIG. **12** is a view illustrating an experimental result when a numerical range of a pitch/an optical distance of a display apparatus is out of a numerical range according to an embodiment of the present disclosure. FIG. **13** is a view illustrating an experimental result when a numerical range of a pitch/an optical distance of a display apparatus is within a numerical range according to an embodiment of the present disclosure.

[0175] Referring to FIG. **12**, a moire phenomenon noticeably occurs when the ratio of the pitch x to the optical distance h of the light source devices of the display apparatus **100** is out of the numerical range below:

$$[00019] 2.5 < (x) / h < 4.5.$$

[0176] In contrast, as shown in FIG. **13**, a moire phenomenon is remarkably eliminated when the ratio of the pitch x to the optical distance h of the light source devices of the display apparatus **100** preferably, but not necessarily, satisfies the numerical range below:

$$[00020] 2.5 < (x) / h < 4.5.$$

[0177] While the present disclosure has been particularly described with reference to exemplary embodiments, it should be understood by those of skilled in the art that various changes in form and details may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the present disclosure.

Claims

1. A light source device comprising: a diffuser plate; and a light source module comprising: a substrate; a plurality of light emitting diodes (LEDs) on the substrate; and a plurality of optical

domes, each of the plurality of optical domes configured to cover a respective one of the plurality of LEDs; wherein the plurality of LEDs are arranged along a first direction and a second direction perpendicular to the first direction, wherein, when a distance between centers of adjacent LEDs of the plurality of LEDs is defined as a pitch, and a distance between the diffuser plate and the substrate is defined as an optical distance, a ratio of the pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression: $2.5 \leq \text{pitch} / \text{opticaldistance} \leq 4.5$.

2. The light source device of claim 1, wherein a first pitch of the adjacent LEDs in the first direction and a second pitch of the adjacent LEDs in the second direction satisfy the following expression: $(\text{secondpitch}) \leq (\text{firstpitch}) \leq 1.1 * (\text{secondpitch})$.

3. The light source device of claim 1 further comprising: a plurality of reflective layers, each of the plurality of reflective layers provided on a respective front surface of each of the plurality of LEDs; and wherein each of the plurality of reflective layers comprises a Distributed Bragg Reflector (DBR).

4. The light source device of claim 2, wherein the first pitch and the second pitch are greater than or equal to 4 mm but less than or equal to 14 mm.

5. The light source device of claim 1, wherein the optical distance is greater than or equal to 1.5 mm but less than or equal to 4.5 mm.

6. The light source device of claim 2, wherein when the optical distance is greater than or equal to 1.5 mm but less than or equal to 2.5 mm, the ratio of the first pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression: $3.5 \leq \text{pitch} / \text{opticaldistance} \leq 4.5$.

7. The light source device of claim 2, wherein when the optical distance is greater than or equal to 2.5 mm but less than or equal to 3.5 mm, the ratio of the first pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression: $3.2 \leq \text{pitch} / \text{opticaldistance} \leq 4.2$.

8. The light source device of claim 2, wherein when the optical distance is greater than or equal to 3.5 mm but less than or equal to 4.5 mm, the ratio of the first pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression: $2.5 \leq \text{firstpitch} / \text{opticaldistance} \leq 3.5$.

9. The light source device of claim 1, wherein the plurality of optical domes are formed of silicone or epoxy resin.

10. The light source device of claim 1, wherein the plurality of LEDs are configured to emit blue light.

11. The light source device of claim 2, wherein the ratio of the first pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression: $2.5 \leq \text{firstpitch} / \text{opticaldistance} \leq 3.5$.

12. The light source device of claim 2, wherein the ratio of the second pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression: $2.5 \leq \text{secondpitch} / \text{opticaldistance} \leq 3.5$.

13. The light source device of claim 2, wherein the ratio of the first pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression: $2.5 \leq \text{firstpitch} / \text{opticaldistance} \leq 4$.

14. The light source device of claim 2, wherein the ratio of the second pitch to the optical distance satisfies the following expression: $2.5 \leq \text{secondpitch} / \text{opticaldistance} \leq 4$.

15. The light source device of claim 2, wherein the first pitch is greater than the second pitch.

16. The light source device of claim 1, wherein the light source module is provided behind the diffuser plate.

17. The light source device of claim 1, wherein the light source module is configured to emit light towards the diffuser plate.
