US Patent & Trademark Office Patent Public Search | Text View

United States Patent

Kind Code

B2

Date of Patent

Inventor(s)

12393068

B2

August 19, 2025

Oshima; Nobuki

Display device

Abstract

There is provided a display device having a configuration suitable for increasing a screen size and reducing a thickness while ensuring adequate strength. The display device includes: a frame structure having a plurality of extrusion molded members coupled to one another; a display panel; and an intermediate member attached to the frame structure and holding the display panel.

Inventors: Oshima; Nobuki (Tokyo, JP)

Applicant: SATURN LICENSING LLC (New York, NY)

Family ID: 1000008765139

Assignee: SATURN LICENSING LLC (New York, NY)

Appl. No.: 18/652915

Filed: May 02, 2024

Prior Publication Data

Document IdentifierUS 20240353700 A1 **Publication Date**Oct. 24, 2024

Foreign Application Priority Data

JP 2016-139989 Jul. 15, 2016

Related U.S. Application Data

continuation parent-doc US 17842885 20220617 US 12007635 child-doc US 18652915 continuation parent-doc US 17469333 20210908 US 11391975 20220719 child-doc US 17842885 continuation parent-doc US 16309263 US 11143894 20211012 WO PCT/JP2017/018539 20170517 child-doc US 17469333

Publication Classification

Int. Cl.: G02F1/1333 (20060101); G02F1/13357 (20060101); G09F9/00 (20060101); G09F9/30 (20060101)

U.S. Cl.:

CPC **G02F1/133308** (20130101); **G02F1/133603** (20130101); **G02F1/133605** (20130101);

G09F9/00 (20130101); **G09F9/30** (20130101); G02F1/133314 (20210101);

G02F1/133317 (20210101); G02F1/13332 (20210101); G02F1/133328 (20210101)

Field of Classification Search

CPC: G02F (1/133308); G02F (1/133603); G02F (1/133605); G02F (1/133314); G02F

(1/133317); G02F (1/13332); G02F (1/133328); G09F (9/00); G09F (9/30)

References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Patent No.	Issued Date	Patentee Name	U.S. Cl.	CPC
5640216	12/1996	Hasegawa et al.	N/A	N/A
6490016	12/2001	Koura	N/A	N/A
8240863	12/2011	Takeuchi et al.	N/A	N/A
8467008	12/2012	Chang	N/A	N/A
8587747	12/2012	Kim	349/67	G02F
0307747	12/2012	Kiiii	343/0/	1/133611
8792066	12/2013	Zhang	349/58	G02F
0/92000	12/2013	Zildilg	343/30	1/133308
8896996	12/2013	Sakamoto	N/A	N/A
8985796	12/2014	Li et al.	N/A	N/A
9651808	12/2016	Lin	N/A	G02F 1/13336
10451921	12/2018	Mifune	N/A	N/A
10466535	12/2018	Lee et al.	N/A	N/A
10514570	12/2018	Nakaoka et al.	N/A	N/A
10914984	12/2020	Kugimaru et al.	N/A	N/A
2004/0150981	12/2003	Katsuda et al.	N/A	N/A
2005/0168954	12/2004	Kim	N/A	N/A
2006/0055839	12/2005	Hirao et al.	N/A	N/A
2006/0104080	12/2005	Kim et al.	N/A	N/A
2008/0237430	12/2007	Kakuta	N/A	N/A
2009/0262554	12/2008	Lee et al.	N/A	N/A
2010/0053874	12/2009	Yukawa et al.	N/A	N/A
2010/0079977	12/2009	Lee et al.	N/A	N/A
2010/0195015	12/2009	Okitsu	N/A	N/A
2010/0301714	12/2009	Ishibashi et al.	N/A	N/A
2011/0292315	12/2010	Bae	362/606	G02F
2011/0232313	12/2010	Dac	302/000	1/133308
2012/0120325	12/2011	Shimizu	N/A	N/A
2012/0133845	12/2011	Ikuta	N/A	N/A

2012/0147592	12/2011	Takase	N/A	N/A
2012/0320303	12/2011	Shi	N/A	N/A
2013/0126450	12/2012	Kuo et al.	N/A	N/A
2013/0128152	12/2012	Li et al.	N/A	N/A
2013/0128183	12/2012	Hsiao	361/679.01	G02F 1/133608
2014/0125913	12/2013	Lee et al.	N/A	N/A
2014/0168563	12/2013	Tang et al.	N/A	N/A
2014/0226102	12/2013	Zhang	N/A	N/A
2016/0027718	12/2015	Park et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0076734	12/2015	Chen et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0081203	12/2015	Tsai et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0183399	12/2015	Lee et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0219491	12/2015	Sakurai et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0223726	12/2015	Kwon et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0274413	12/2015	Kang et al.	N/A	N/A
2016/0313606	12/2015	Kim et al.	N/A	N/A
2017/0192303	12/2016	Kang	N/A	N/A
2017/0337885	12/2016	Aoki et al.	N/A	N/A
2018/0004034	12/2017	Shin et al.	N/A	N/A
2018/0107068	12/2017	Sasaki et al.	N/A	N/A
2018/0136520	12/2017	Kim	N/A	N/A
2018/0233094	12/2017	Kumamoto et al.	N/A	N/A

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Patent No.	Application Date	Country	CPC
1841141	12/2005	CN	N/A
101097345	12/2007	CN	N/A
101441362	12/2008	CN	N/A
101725864	12/2009	CN	N/A
102422076	12/2011	CN	N/A
101206348	12/2011	CN	N/A
102506395	12/2011	CN	N/A
102803824	12/2011	CN	N/A
102402046	12/2013	CN	N/A
102829450	12/2013	CN	N/A
102798093	12/2014	CN	N/A
103547109	12/2016	CN	N/A
2741129	12/2013	EP	N/A
2913707	12/2014	EP	N/A
H11337937	12/1998	JP	N/A
2003050549	12/2002	JP	N/A
2004086046	12/2003	JP	N/A
2006098735	12/2005	JP	N/A
2007086407	12/2006	JP	N/A
2007171516	12/2006	JP	N/A
2007171658	12/2006	JP	N/A
2007272107	12/2006	JP	N/A
2008241964	12/2007	JP	N/A

2010002486	12/2009	JP	N/A
2010015098	12/2009	JP	N/A
2010061202	12/2009	JP	N/A
2010276908	12/2009	JP	N/A
2011181219	12/2010	JP	N/A
2012141385	12/2011	JP	N/A
2012146426	12/2011	JP	N/A
2013242525	12/2012	JP	N/A
2014063195	12/2013	JP	N/A
2016095492	12/2015	JP	N/A
2016139989	12/2015	JP	N/A
2013152551	12/2012	WO	N/A
2016107049	12/2015	WO	N/A
2016203514	12/2015	WO	N/A

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

International Search Report corresponding to PCT/JP2107/018539, dated Aug. 22, 2017, 3 pgs.—cited in parent application. cited by applicant

Chinese Search Report for Application No. 201780038867.8 dated Sep. 3, 2020, 3 pages.—cited in parent application. cited by applicant

"National Vocational Qualification Training Course—Furniture Designer", First Edition, edited by Chen Feijian, China Furniture Association, China Light Industry Press, Beijing, Sep. 30, 2014, pp. 90-91—cited in parent application. cited by applicant

Primary Examiner: Tumebo; Tsion

Background/Summary

TECHNICAL FIELD

(1) The present disclosure relates to a display device.

BACKGROUND ART

(2) There has been proposed a display device being thin yet having a large screen size (see PTLs 1 to 3, for example).

CITATION LIST

Patent Literature

(3) PTL 1: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2004-86046 PTL 2: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2010-15098 PTL 3: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2012-141385

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

- (4) Recent display devices have a notably increased screen size and a notably reduced thickness. However, the increased screen size and the reduced thickness of such display devices make it difficult to ensure strength of the display devices themselves.
- (5) Thus, it is desirable to provide a display device having a configuration suitable for increasing the screen size and reducing the thickness while ensuring adequate strength.
- (6) A display device according to an embodiment of the present disclosure includes: a frame structure having a plurality of extrusion molded members coupled to one another; a display panel; and an intermediate member attached to the frame structure and holding the display panel.
- (7) In the display device according to the embodiment of the present disclosure, the display panel is

held by the frame structure having the plurality of extrusion molded members coupled to one another via the intermediate member. This makes it possible to suppress increase of a weight of the display device itself due to the increased screen size compared to, for example, a display device in which the display panel is held by a housing fabricated by molding a single sheet metal. Thus, deformation is less likely to be caused by its own weight despite its thin shape.

- (8) According to the display device of the embodiment of the present disclosure, adoption of the frame structure makes it possible to prevent deformation caused by its own weight accompanied by the increased screen size and the reduced thickness. This makes it possible to achieve a configuration suitable for increasing the screen size and reducing the thickness while ensuring adequate strength.
- (9) It is to be noted that the effects of the present disclosure are not limited thereto, and may include any of the effects described below.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWING

- (1) FIG. **1** is a perspective views of an overall configuration example of a display device according to an embodiment of the present disclosure.
- (2) FIG. **2** is a cross-sectional view of an internal configuration example of a main part of the display device illustrated in FIG. **1**.
- (3) FIG. **3** is an exploded perspective view of an overall configuration example of a back chassis illustrated in FIG. **1**.
- (4) FIG. **4**A is an enlarged perspective view of a portion of the back chassis illustrated in FIG. **1**.
- (5) FIG. **4**B is an enlarged perspective view of another portion of the back chassis illustrated in FIG. **1**.
- (6) FIG. **5**A is an enlarged perspective view of a vicinity of a middle chassis illustrated in FIG. **1**.
- (7) FIG. **5**B is an enlarged exploded perspective view of the vicinity of the middle chassis illustrated in FIG. **1**.
- (8) FIG. **6** is an exploded external perspective view of the middle chassis illustrated in FIG. **1**.
- (9) FIG. **7**A is a perspective view of an external appearance of a component of the middle chassis illustrated in FIG. **6**.
- (10) FIG. **7**B is another perspective view of the external appearance of the component of the middle chassis illustrated in FIG. **6**.
- (11) FIG. **8** is a schematic cross-sectional view of a cross-section of a portion of the middle chassis illustrated in FIG. **6**.
- (12) FIG. **9** is a schematic cross-sectional view of a cross-section of a periphery of the display panel illustrated in FIG. **1**.
- (13) FIG. **10** is a perspective view of an overall configuration example of a light emitter illustrated in FIG. **1**.
- (14) FIG. **11**A is an enlarged perspective view of a reflection member illustrated in FIG. **10**.
- (15) FIG. **11**B is another enlarged perspective view of the reflection member illustrated in FIG. **10**. MODES FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION
- (16) In the following, embodiments of the present disclosure are described in detail with reference to the drawings. It is to be noted that description is made in the following order.
- 1. Embodiment and Modification Example Thereof
- (17) An example of a display device including a back chassis having a frame structure.
- 2. Other Modification Examples
- 1. Embodiment
- (18) [Configuration of Display Device **100**]

- (19) FIG. 1 illustrates an overall configuration of a display device 100 according to an embodiment of the present disclosure. FIG. 2 is a cross-sectional view of an internal configuration example of a main part of the display device 100 illustrated in FIG. 1. The display device 100 is used as a flat-panel television set, for example, and includes a light emitter 1, an optical sheet 2, and a display panel 3 overlapped one another in this order toward an observer (viewer) side. The display device 100 further includes a back chassis 4, a middle chassis 5, and a bezel 6. It is to be noted that in the display device 100, a direction in which the light emitter 1, the optical sheet 2, and the display panel 3 are disposed is regarded as a Z-axis direction. Moreover, in a plane perpendicular to the Z-axis direction, a longitudinal direction is regarded as an X-direction and a short direction is regarded as a Y-direction.
- (20) (Back Chassis **4**)
- (21) FIG. 3 is an exploded perspective view of an overall configuration example of the back chassis 4. The back chassis 4 is a frame structure having a plurality of extrusion molded members coupled to one another. Such a configuration achieves higher strength with light weight, as compared to a configuration in which the back chassis includes one or more flat plates, for example. Specifically, as illustrated in FIG. 3, for example, a pair of beams 41 (41A and 41B), a pair of pillars 42 (42A and 42B), and a plurality of sub-pillars 43 (43A to 43D) may be specific examples of the extrusion molded member. The beam 41A and the beam 41B are members both extending in a horizontal direction (the X-axis direction). The beam 41A is disposed along an upper end edge of each of the light emitter 1, the optical sheet 2, and the display panel 3, and the beam 41B is disposed along a lower end edge of each of the light emitter 1, the optical sheet 2, and the display panel 3. In contrast, the pillar 42A and the pillar 42B are members both extending in a vertical direction (the Y-axis direction). The pillar 42A is disposed along a right end edge of each of the light emitter 1, the optical sheet 2, and the display panel 3 as seen from the observer, and the pillar 42B is disposed along a left end edge of each of the light emitter 1, the optical sheet 2, and the display panel 3 as seen from the observer.
- (22) FIGS. **4**A and **4**B each are an exploded perspective view of a configuration example of a main part of the back chassis **4**, and respectively illustrate enlargements of a coupling portion between the beam **41**A and the pillar **42**A and a coupling portion between the beam **41**A and the pillar **42**B. The beam **41**A includes a base **411** extending display device the X-axis direction in an XY plane, a wall **412** extending toward the X-axis direction in an XZ plane, and an inclined section **413** joining the base **411** and the wall **412**. The beam **41**B has substantially the same configuration as the beam **41**A. Moreover, each of the pair of pillars **42**A, **42**B includes a base **421** extending toward the Y-axis direction in the XY plane, a wall **422** extending toward the Y-axis direction in the YZ plane, and an inclined section **423** joining the base **421** and the wall **422**.
- (23) As illustrated in FIG. 4A, a right end of the beam 41A and an upper end of the pillar 42A are coupled together by an L-shaped metal fitting 45A, an L-shaped metal fitting 46A, screws 47A, and screws 48A. Specifically, the base 411 and the base 421 are fastened together by the common L-shaped metal fitting 45A and the respective screws 47A, and the wall 412 and the wall 422 are fastened by the common L-shaped metal fitting 46A and the respective screws 48A. The L-shaped metal fitting 45A has a plurality of holes 45AK through which the screws 47A pass. The base 411 on the right end of the beam 41A and the base 421 on the upper end of the pillar 42A respectively have a plurality of holes 411K and a plurality of holes 421K through which the screws 47A pass at positions corresponding to the plurality of holes 45AK. The L-shaped metal fitting 46A has a plurality of holes 46AK through which the screws 48A pass. The wall 412 and the wall 422 respective have a plurality of holes 412K and a plurality of holes 422K through which the screws 48A pass at positions corresponding to the plurality of holes 46AK.
- (24) Similarly, as illustrated in FIG. **4**B, a left end of the beam **41**A and an upper end of the pillar **42**B are coupled together by an L-shaped metal fitting **45**B, an L-shaped metal fitting **46**B, screws **47**B, and screws **48**B. Specifically, the base **411** and the base **421** are fastened together by the

common L-shaped metal fitting **45**B and the respective screws **47**B, and the wall **412** and the wall **422** are fastened together by the common L-shaped metal fitting **46**B and the respective screws **48**B. The L-shaped metal fitting **45**B has a plurality of holes **45**BK through which the screws **47**A pass. The base **411** on the left end of the beam **41**A and the base **421** on the upper end of the pillar **42**B respectively have a plurality of holes **411**K and a plurality of holes **421**K through which the screws **48**B pass at positions corresponding to the plurality of holes **45**BK. The L-shaped metal fitting **46**B has a plurality of holes **46**BK through which the screws **48**B pass. The wall **412** and the wall **422** respectively have a plurality of holes **412**K and a plurality of holes **422**K through which the screws **48**B pass at positions corresponding to the plurality of holes **46**BK.

- (25) The plurality of holes **411**K are preferably long holes extending in the X-axis direction, and the plurality of holes **421**K are preferably long holes extending in the Y-axis direction. Alternatively, dimensions of the holes **421**K in the X-axis direction and the Y-axis direction may be made larger than those of the holes **45**AK in the X-axis direction and the Y-axis direction. This is to make it possible to easily adjust overall dimensions of the back chassis **4** resulting from a dimensional error of each extrusion molded member.
- (26) It is to be noted that a configuration of a coupling portion between the beam **41**B and the pillar **42**A and a configuration of a coupling portion between the beam **41**B and the pillar **42**B are substantially the same as those illustrated in FIGS. **4**A and **4**B. Accordingly, detailed description thereof is omitted.
- (27) Moreover, each of the plurality of sub-pillars **43** (**43**A to **43**D) is a member extending in the vertical direction (the Y-axis direction) so as to join the beam **41**B and the beam **41**B, and the sub-pillars **43** are equally spaced in the X-axis direction, for example, between the pillar **42**A and the pillar **42**B. The sub-pillars **43** (**43**A to **43**D) each are fixed to the beam **41**A and the beam **41**B at both ends thereof in the Y-axis direction by screws or the like.
- (28) The back chassis **4** may further include a plurality of sub-beams **44** (**44**A to **44**E) extending in the horizontal direction so as to join the plurality of sub-pillars **43** to one another.
- (29) It is to be noted that a rib extending in its longitudinal direction may be formed in at least one of the pair of beams **41** (**41**A and **41**B), the pair of pillars **42** (**42**A and **42**B), or the plurality of subpillars **43** (**43**A to **43**D). This makes it possible to further increase strength while reducing the thickness of each extrusion molded member.
- (30) Moreover, the pair of beams **41** (**41**A and **41**B), the pair of pillars **42** (**42**A and **42**B), and the plurality of sub-pillars **43** (**43**A to **43**D) may include, for example, a highly rigid metallic material such as stainless steel, or may include aluminum, titanium, magnesium, or the like alone or an alloy including these elements, thereby reducing weights thereof. Further, the pair of beams **41** (**41**A and **41**B), the pair of pillars **42** (**42**A and **42**B), and the plurality of sub-pillars **43** (**43**A to **43**D) also have applicability of fiber-reinforced plastics (FRP: Fiber-Reinforced Plastics). Furthermore, the pair of beams **41** (**41**A and **41**B), the pair of pillars **42** (**42**A and **42**B), and the plurality of sub-pillars **43** (**43**A to **43**D) are extrusion molded members formed by extrusion molding, which allows the back chassis **4** to have a configuration having higher manufacturability.
- (31) (Middle Chassis **5**)
- (32) The middle chassis **5** is an intermediate member that is attached to the back chassis **4** and hold the display panel **3**. For example, the middle chassis **5** are disposed at four points in the display device **100**, as illustrated in FIG. **1**. Among them, for example, one extending in the X-axis direction along an upper end of the display panel **3** is referred to as a middle chassis **5**A, one extending in the X-axis direction along a lower end of the display panel **3** is referred to as a middle chassis **5**B, one extending in the Y-axis direction along a right end of the display panel **3** is referred to as a middle chassis **5**C, and one extending in the Y-axis direction along a left end of the display panel **3** is referred to as a middle chassis **5**D. The middle chassis **5**A to **5**D have a substantially same configuration. Accordingly, description is given below with use of the middle chassis **5**B as a representative example.

- (33) FIG. **5**A is an enlarged cross-sectional perspective view of a portion of the middle chassis **5**B, and FIG. **5**B is an exploded cross-sectional perspective view thereof. FIG. **6** is an exploded perspective view of an overall configuration example of the middle chassis **5**B. FIG. **7**A is an enlarged perspective view of an external appearance of a single piece as a component of the middle chassis **5**B as seen from outside of the display device **100**, and FIG. **7**B is an enlarged perspective view of an external appearance of the piece **50** as seen from inside of the display device **100**. (34) The middle chassis **5**B includes a substrate **51** extending along an outer edge of the display panel **3** and having, for example, a strip shape, and a plurality of pieces **50** (**50**A to **50**D) disposed along a longitudinal direction of the substrate **51** and held by the substrate **51** to make respective relative positions to the substrate **51** adjustable (FIGS. **5**A, **5**B, and **6**).
- (35) Each of the plurality of pieces **50** includes a locking section **54**T (FIGS. **5**A and **5**B). In detail, as illustrated in FIG. 5B, the locking section 54T includes a wall surface 54T1 serving as an abutment surface that abuts an end surface 3T of the display panel 3 and a bottom surface 54T2 that supports a periphery of a back surface **3**B of the display panel **3**. The plurality of pieces **50** are held by the substrate **51** in a state in which the relative positions thereof to the substrate **51** are adjusted to include the respective wall surfaces **54T1** substantially in a same plane. The substrate **51** includes, for example, a highly rigid material such as stainless steel. Each of the plurality of pieces **50** includes a base **54** extending in the X-axis direction in the XY plane, for example, and a wall **55** standing in the Z-axis direction with respect to the base **54** and extending in the X-axis direction in the XZ plane. The base **54** has an opening **54**K, and a screw **52** inserted in the opening **54**K is engaged in a screw hole **51**H provided in the substrate **51** (FIG. **5**B), thereby fixing the substrate **51** and the base **54** (the piece **50**). Herein, providing a margin for dimensions of the opening **54**K makes it possible to adjust the relative positions of the respective pieces 50 with respect to the substrate 51 in the X-axis direction and the Y-axis direction. The base 54 and a shelf section 414 provided to the beam **41** (**41**B) of the back chassis **4** interpose an optical sheet **2** (FIGS. **5**A and **5**B). The shelf section **414** is fixed to the wall **412** of the beam **41** (**41**B). The base **54** includes a plurality of ribs **54**L extending in the Y-axis direction. Presence of the ribs **54**L increases strength of the base **54**, which enables the piece **50** to sufficiently support even the display panel **3** having weight increased with increase in size. The wall **55** overlaps a portion of the wall **412** of the beam **41** (**41**B). The wall **55** has an opening **55**K, and a screw **53** inserted in the opening **55**K is engaged in a screw hole **412**H provided in the wall **412** (FIG. **5**B), thereby fixing the wall **412** of the beam **41** (**41**B) and the wall **55** of the piece **50**. Herein, it is preferable not to tighten the wall **55** against the wall **412** too much through using a stepped screw as the screw **53** or interposing a washer or the like that has a predetermined height between the screw **53** and the wall **412**. This is not to apply stress locally to the end surface 3T of the display panel 3 in a case where the wall surface 54T1 of the locking section **54**T abuts the end surface **3**T of the display panel **3**. A reason for this is because, in a case where the display panel **3** uses, for example, a liquid crystal display element, degradation of image quality may occur such as an image taking on a white tinge only in a portion where strong stress is applied.
- (36) Moreover, a thickness of the base **54** of each piece **50** preferably decreases toward a center portion in the extending direction of the substrate **51**, i.e. toward a center portion of the display device **100**. For example, as illustrated in FIG. **8**, the bottom surface **54**T2 of the base **54** in each of the plurality of pieces **50**A to **50**D preferably bends to form, as a whole, a curve bulging forward (toward the +Z direction) as getting closer to a center portion of the display panel **3**. This causes the display panel **3** to also bend so as to bulge forward along such a bending bottom surface **54**T**2** of the base **54**. It is to be noted that the bottom surface **54**T**2** is a specific example corresponding to a "first opposed surface" of the present disclosure.

(37) (Bezel **6**)

(38) The bezel **6** is a frame member used to protect mainly each of peripheries of the back chassis **4**, the middle chassis **5**, and the display panel **3** and to improve esthetics. The bezel **6** is divided into

four portions, for example, as illustrated in FIG. 1. Among them, for example, one extending in the X-axis direction along the upper end of the display panel 3 is referred to as a bezel 6A, one extending in the X-axis direction along the lower end of the display panel **3** is referred to as a bezel **6**B, one extending in the Y-axis direction along the right end of the display panel **3** is referred to as a bezel **6**C, and one extending in the Y-axis direction along the left end of the display panel **3** is referred to as a bezel **6**D. The bezels **6**A to **6**D have a substantially same configuration. Accordingly, description is given below with use of the bezel **6**A as a representative example. (39) As illustrated in FIG. 2, the bezel 6 (6A) is a member disposed to surround the outer edge of the display panel 3 and an outer edge of the back chassis 4, and includes a front portion 61, a rear portion **62**, and an intermediate portion **63**. The front portion **61** is a portion extending in the X-axis direction in the XY plane and disposed to interpose the periphery of the display panel **3** between the front portion **61** and the bottom surface **54**T**2** of the middle chassis **5**A, and includes an inner surface **61**S as a second opposed surface opposed to the periphery of the display panel **3**. The inner surface **61**S bends forward (toward the +Z direction) as getting closer to the center portion of the display panel 3, as illustrated in FIG. 9, for example. That is, the inner surface 61S forms a recessed surface toward a rearward direction (a –Z direction). Accordingly, the display panel 3 interposed between the bezel **6** (**6**A) and the middle chassis **5** (**5**A) is in a state of bending so as to bulge forward along the shape of the inner surface **61**S and the shape of the bottom surface **54**T2. Similarly forming the inner surface **61**S of the front portion **61** of each of the bezels **6**B to **6**D and the bottom surface **54**T**2** of each of the middle chassis **5**B to **5**D causes the display panel **3** to be brought into a state of bending so as to bulge forward as getting closer to the center portion thereof. It is to be noted that, although both the shape of the inner surface **61**S of the front portion **61** and the shape of the bottom surface **54**T**2** of each of the middle chassis **5**B to **5**D have continuously changing inclination with respect to the XY plane in this embodiment, the present disclosure is not limited thereto. The inclination of the inner surface **61**S and the inclination of the bottom surface **54**T**2** with respect to the XY plane may change in a stepwise manner. Alternatively, the inner surface **61**S may have a stepwise shape causing the thickness of the front portion **61** to change in a stepwise manner (thinning in a stepwise manner toward the center portion of the display panel 3). Similarly, the bottom surface **54**T**2** of the middle chassis **5** may have a stepwise shape causing the thickness of the base 54 of the middle chassis 5 to change in a stepwise manner (thickening in a stepwise manner toward the center portion of the display panel **3**). Moreover, it is preferable that the shape of the inner surface 61S coincide with the shape of the bottom surface 54T2, but they may not coincide with each other.

(40) (Light Emitter **1**)

- (41) FIG. **10** is a perspective view of an overall configuration example of the light emitter **1**. Moreover, FIG. **11**A is an enlarged perspective view of a main part of the light emitter **1**. The light emitter **1** is a so-called backlight unit (surface light emitting unit) that provides the back surface **3**B of the display panel **3** with illumination light. The light emitter **1** includes a substrate **11** housed in the back chassis **4** and spreading out in the XY plane and a reflection member **12** disposed in front of the substrate **11** and spreading out in the XY plane. A plurality of light sources **10** are arranged in a matrix on a surface of the substrate **11**. The light source **10** is a point light source, which specifically includes an LED (Light Emitting Diode; light emitting diode) that emits white light, for example. One of the plurality of light sources **10** is provided for each of a plurality of openings **13**K disposed in the reflection member **12**.
- (42) The reflection member **12** is a member having a function of performing an optical effect on incident light such as reflection, diffusion, and scattering. The reflection member **12** includes a plurality of divided panels **13** spaced from one another in the XY plane. That is, the plurality of divided panels **13** are arranged in a matrix in the XY plane to form the reflection member **12** as a single reflector. Each of the divided panels **13** has a plurality of openings **13**K into which light sources **10** are inserted. The openings **13**K each have an inner surface **13**S that surrounds the light

- source **10** and is inclined with respect to the substrate **11**. It is to be noted that a planar shape of the opening **13**K is not limited to be circular as illustrated in FIGS. **10** and **11**A, but may be of any other shape such as an oval shape or a polygonal shape. A center point of the opening **13**K in the XY plane preferably coincides with an optical axis of the light source **10**.
- (43) The divided panel **13** is fabricated by machining out of a plate-like member, for example, or by injection molding or heat press molding. Examples of a constituent material of the divided panel **13** include polycarbonate resin, acrylic resin such as PMMA (polymethyl methacrylate resin), polyester resin such as polyethylene terephthalate, amorphous copolymer polyester resin such as MS (copolymer of methyl methacrylate and styrene), polystyrene resin, and polyvinyl chloride resin.
- (44) The plurality of divided panels **13** are fixed to the back chassis **4** so as to have a gap **13**G therebetween, as illustrated in FIG. **11**A, for example. Each of the plurality of divided panels **13** is fixed to at least one of, for example, the pillars **42**A and **42**B, the sub-pillars **43**A to **43**D, and the sub-beams 44A to 44E of the back chassis 4 with a screw 14 (FIG. 11A) or the like. Presence of the gap **13**G makes it possible to avoid interference between adjacent divided panels **13** even in a case where each of the divided panels 13 expands or contracts due to increase in temperature accompanied by change in atmospheric temperature or turning-on of the light source 10, or decrease in temperature accompanied by turning-off of the light source **10**. That is, it is possible to suppress distortion of the reflection member 12 or displacement thereof with respect to the light source **10** caused by expansion and contraction of each of the divided panels **13**. However, it is also conceivable that provision of the gap 13G may cause a dark line caused by the gap 13G to be recognized by the observer through the display panel 3. Thus, as illustrated in FIG. 11B, for example, it is desirable to dispose cover members **15** (**15**A to **15**D) as appropriate so as to overlap the gaps **13**G generated between adjacent ones of the plurality of divided panels **13**. This makes it possible to suppress occurrence of the dark line and avoiding degradation of a luminance distribution in the XY plane. In an example illustrated in FIG. 11B, the gap 13G between the divided panel 13A and the divided panel 13B (FIG. 11A) is covered by the cover member 15A, and the gap **13**G between the divided panel **13**B and the divided panel **13**C (FIG. **11**A) is covered by the cover member **15**B. Furthermore, the gap **13**G between the divided panel **13**C and the divided panel 13D (FIG. 11A) is covered by the cover member 15C, and the gap 13G between the divided panel 13D and the divided panel 13A (FIG. 11A) is covered by the cover member 15D. It is to be noted that each of the cover members 15 is also fixed to at least one of the pillars 42A and 42B, the sub-pillars **43**A to **43**D, and the sub-beams **44**A to **44**E with the screw **14**. The cover member **15** may include a material of the same kind as the material of the divided panel **13** and, in such a case, it is possible to reflect, toward the back surface **3**B of the display panel **3**, a plurality of light beams emitted from the light sources **10**.
- (45) (Optical Sheet **2**)
- (46) The optical sheet **2** is disposed between the display panel **3** and the light emitter **1**, and placed on the shelf section **414** of the beam **41** of the back chassis **4** as illustrated in FIGS. **2**, **5**A, and **5**B, for example. The optical sheet **2** is disposed to cover all over the reflection member **12**. The optical sheet **2** is a stack of a plurality of sheets such as a diffuser plate, a diffuser sheet, a lens film, and a polarization separating sheet. Providing such an optical sheet **2** makes it possible to direct light diagonally emitted from the light source **10** and light diagonally outputted from the reflection member **12** to the forward direction (the Z direction), thereby further increasing front luminance. (47) (Display Panel **3**)
- (48) The display panel **3** includes a display surface **3**A that displays a moving image or a still image in a forward direction, the back surface **3**B on a side opposite to the display surface **3**A, and the end surface **3**T that joins the display surface **3**A and the back surface **3**B. The display panel **3** is, for example, a transmissive liquid crystal display panel including a liquid crystal layer disposed between, for example, a TFT substrate and a color filter substrate. Light coming from the light

- emitter **1** via the optical sheet **2** enters the back surface **3**B and exits from the display surface **3**A. The display panel **3** may further include a polarizer plate or the like.
- (49) [Workings and Effects of Display Device **100**]
- (50) In the display device **100**, light emitted from the light source **10** of the light emitter **1** spreads to all directions across 360 degrees from a light emission point of the light source. Thereafter, the light directly enters the optical sheet **2**, or indirectly enters the back side of the optical sheet **2** after being reflected by the surfaces of the reflection member **12**, the substrate **11**, etc. The light having entered the back side of the optical sheet **2** passes through the optical sheet **2** to exit from the front surface, and then is applied to the display panel **3** as surface-emitted light. Appropriate image display corresponding to an image signal is performed on the display panel **3** through selectively transmitting the light from the light emitter **1**,
- (51) The display device **100** adopts the back chassis **4** as a frame structure having a plurality of extrusion molded members coupled to one another, and the display panel **3** is held via the middle chassis **5**. This makes it possible to suppress increase of weight of the display device itself due to the increased screen size compared to, for example, a display device having a configuration in which the display panel is held by a housing fabricated by press-molding a single sheet metal. Thus, deformation is less likely to be caused by its own weight despite its thin shape. Accordingly, the display device **100** makes it possible to achieve a configuration suitable for increasing the screen size and reducing the thickness while ensuring adequate strength.
- (52) Specifically, the pair of beams **41**, the pair of pillars **42**, the plurality of sub-pillars **43**, etc. are extrusion molded members. This makes it possible to quickly manufacture, in large amounts, the beams **41**, the pillars **42**, and the sub-pillars **43** presenting less dimensional error and having homogeneous material composition. Moreover, there is no need of using a mold, unlike a pressmolded product. Thus, it can be said that the display device **100** has an advantageous configuration in terms of cost.
- (53) It is to be noted that to manufacture the back chassis **4**, it is preferable to use a dedicated jig including, for example, a horizontally placed flat plate provided with a plurality of walls and recesses as references for positioning the respective extrusion molded members such as the beams **41**, the pillars **42**, and the sub-pillars **43**. Use of such a jig makes it possible to adjust the positions of the respective extrusion molded members so as to achieve appropriate relative positions and then to fasten the plurality of extrusion molded members to each other. As a result, this makes it possible to easily reduce the dimensional error of the back chassis **4** after assembling deriving from the dimensional error of each of the extrusion molded members.
- (54) Moreover, the display device **100** has a configuration in which the middle chassis **5** adjusts the plurality of pieces **50** and holds the plurality of pieces **50** are held by the substrate **51** in a state in which the positions thereof with respect to the substrate **51** are adjusted to include the respective wall surfaces **54T1** abutting the end surface **3T** of the display panel **3** substantially in a same plane. This makes it possible to relax locally generated stress compared to a case where, for example, a single long middle chassis holds the entire end surface on one side of the display panel **3**. The long middle chassis easily causes dimensional error or dimensional variation in the longitudinal direction due to deformation during or after manufacturing. In contrast, in this embodiment, it is possible to adjust the relative positions of the plurality of pieces **50** after manufacturing the plurality of pieces **50**; therefore, this embodiment not directly influenced by manufacturing error itself and deformation after manufacturing are not exerted. Local stress is less likely to be applied to the display panel **3**, which makes it possible to prevent deflection or distortion of the display panel **3** and consequently avoid local degradation of image quality near an end edge of the display panel **3**.
- (55) Moreover, in the display device **100**, the reflection member **12** includes the plurality of divided panels **13** spaced apart from one another in the XY plane. This makes it possible to reduce

deviations of relative positions between the plurality of light sources **10** and the plurality of openings **13**K corresponding to the respective light sources **10** even in a case where the expansion and contraction of the reflection member **12** occur during use. Thus, it is possible to suppress the variation of the luminance distribution accompanied by overheat of the reflection member **12**, thereby avoiding degradation of the image quality. Specifically, in a case where the gap **13**G is covered by the cover member **15**, it is possible to prevent occurrence of the dark line and obtain a flatter luminance distribution with the light emitter **1**, thereby sufficiently suppressing an influence on the image quality.

- (56) Moreover, shaping the bottom surface **54**T**2** of the middle chassis **5** and the inner surface **61**S of the bezel **6** into a bending surface causes the display panel **3** to be also bent so as to bulge forward as getting closer to the center portion thereof. This makes it possible to avoid contact between the display panel **3** and the optical sheet **2** even in a case where a space therebetween (distance in the Z-axis direction) is reduced. Thus, the display device **100** has a configuration suitable for both increasing the size and reducing the thickness.
- 2. Other Modification Examples
- (57) Although the present disclosure has been described with reference to the embodiment, the present disclosure is not limited to the above-described embodiment, and may be modified in a variety of ways. For example, the positions and shapes of the back chassis **4**, the middle chassis **5**, the bezel **6**, and the like described in the above-described embodiment are illustrative and non-limiting.
- (58) Moreover, the dimensions, dimensional ratios, and shapes of respective components illustrated in the respective drawings are merely examples, and the present disclosure is not limited thereto. Furthermore, each component is not limited to a case where the component includes a single part, and may include two or more parts.
- (59) Moreover, the LED is used as the light source **10** in the above embodiment; however, a semiconductor laser or the like may also be used as the light source **10**.
- (60) Furthermore, the display device described in the above-mentioned embodiment, etc. is not limited to a case where all the components described above are included, and may exclude some components or may further include other components.
- (61) For example, the display device **100** described in the above-described embodiment, etc. may further include a rear cover that covers the back surface of the back chassis **4** (a surface opposite from the display panel **3**). The rear cover may include, for example, polystyrene (PS: polystyrene), a mixture of polystyrene and polyphenyleneether (PPE: polyphenyleneether), or the like. The display device **100** may further include an additional decorative member. The rear cover may be provided with a substrate including a drive circuit that drives the light emitter **1**, or a tuner.
- (62) Moreover, the display device **100** described in the above-described embodiment, etc. is not limited to a television set used in a household, and may include a wide variety of display devices that display information indoors and outdoors. Furthermore, the display device **100** also has applicability to various medical devices (such as an endoscopic surgical system, an operating room system, and a microscopic surgery system).
- (63) It is to be noted that the effects described herein are merely examples and not limited thereto, and other effects may be included. Moreover, the present technology may have the following configurations.
- (64)(1)
- (65) A display device, including: a frame structure having a plurality of extrusion molded members coupled to one another; a display panel; and an intermediate member attached to the frame structure and holding the display panel.
- (2)
- (66) The display device according to (1), in which the frame structure includes: a first beam and a second beam both extending in a horizontal direction; a first pillar and a second pillar both

extending in a vertical direction and joining both ends of the first beam and the second beam, and a plurality of sub-pillars disposed between the first pillar and the second pillar and extending in the vertical direction to join the first beam and the second beam.

(3)

(67) The display device according to (2), in which a rib extending in each longitudinal direction is formed in at least one of the first beam, the second beam, the first pillar, the second pillar, and the plurality of sub-pillars.

(4)

(68) The display device according to (2) or (3), further including a surface light emitting unit, in which the display panel is a transmissive liquid crystal display panel having a display surface that displays an image, a back surface on a side opposite to the display surface, and an end surface that joins the display surface and the back surface, and the surface light emitting unit is disposed inside the frame structure and applies light to the back surface of the display panel.

(5)

(69) The display device according to (4), in which the surface light emitting unit includes: a plurality of light emitting elements each emitting the light; and a reflection member that reflects a plurality of rays of the light emitted from the respective plurality of light emitting elements toward the display panel, and the plurality of light emitting elements and the reflection member are fixed to at least one of the first pillar, the second pillar, and the plurality of sub-pillars.

(6)

(70) The display device according to (5), in which the reflection member includes: a plurality of divided panels spaced from one another in an in-plane direction of the display panel and each fixed to at least one of the first pillar, the second pillar, and the plurality of sub-pillars.

(7)

(71) The display device according to (6), in which the reflection member further includes: a plurality of cover members that are disposed to overlap a gap between the plurality of divided panels and reflect the plurality of rays of the light emitted from the respective plurality of light emitting elements toward the display panel.

(8)

(72) The display device according to any one of (1) to (7), in which the display panel has a display surface that displays an image, a back surface on a side opposite to the display surface, and an end surface that joins the display surface and the back surface, the intermediate member has a substrate extending along an outer edge of the display panel, and a plurality of pieces disposed along a longitudinal direction of the substrate and held by the substrate to make respective relative positions to the substrate adjustable, and each of the plurality of pieces includes an abutment surface abutting the end surface of the display panel.

(9)

(73) The display device according to (8), in which the plurality of pieces are held by the substrate in a state in which the relative positions to the substrate are adjusted to include the respective abutment surfaces substantially in a same plane.

(10)

(74) The display device according to any one of (1) to (7), in which the display panel has a display surface that displays an image in a forward direction, a back surface on a side opposite to the display surface, and an end surface that joins the display surface and the back surface, and bends to bulge forward as getting closer to a center portion of the display panel.

(11)

(75) The display device according to (10), in which the intermediate member includes a first opposed surface opposed to a periphery of the back surface of the display panel, and the first opposed surface bends to bulge forward as getting closer to the center portion of the display panel. (12)

(76) The display device according to (11), further including a bezel disposed to surround outer edges of the display panel and the frame structure, in which the bezel includes a second opposed surface disposed to interpose the display panel between the second opposed surface and the first opposed surface of the intermediate member, and opposed to a periphery of the display surface of the display panel, and the second opposed surface is recessed forward as getting closer to the center portion of the display panel.

(13)

- (77) The display device according to (4), further including an optical sheet between the display panel and the surface light emitting unit.
- (78) This application claims the priority of Japanese Priority Patent Application No. 2016-139989 filed with the Japanese Patent Office on Jul. 15, 2016, the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.
- (79) It should be understood by those skilled in the art that various modifications, combinations, sub-combinations and alterations may occur depending on design requirements and other factors insofar as they are within the scope of the appended claims or the equivalents thereof.

Claims

- 1. A display device comprising: a display panel; a plurality of parallel beams extending in a first direction that form part of a frame; a plurality of parallel pillars extending in a second direction that form another part of the frame, ends of the pillars being connected to two opposed beams of the plurality of parallel beams that are most distal, the pillars with the beams form a frame structure that attaches to an intermediate member that holds the display panel; L-shaped fittings having a plurality of apertures, each L-shaped fitting being at each corner of the frame and each L-shaped fitting being connected to a pillar and to a beam; a base plate that attaches to the L-shaped fittings and runs parallel to a rear surface of the display panel; and a reflection member between the base plate and the display panel, the reflection member comprising a plurality of divided panels having gaps therebetween and the reflection member further including a plurality of cover members that are disposed to overlap the gaps between the plurality of divided panels, the cover members reflect a plurality of rays of light emitted from light sources toward the display panel.
- 2. The display device according to claim 1, further comprising a light emitter that includes a substrate and the light sources thereon, the light emitter is positioned between the base plate and the display panel.
- 3. The display device according to claim 2, wherein the reflection member is positioned between the light emitter and the display panel.
- 4. The display device according to claim 3, wherein the reflection member includes apertures corresponding to the light sources.
- 5. The display device according to claim 4, wherein the gaps suppress distortion of the reflection member.
- 6. The display device according to claim 5, wherein the divided panels and the cover members include a same material.
- 7. The display device according to claim 4, wherein the base plate comprises bent portions at a periphery of the display panel.
- 8. The display device according to claim 1, wherein the intermediate member comprises an abutment surface that faces an edge surface of the display panel and a base surface that faces and contacts a portion of the rear surface of the display panel to support the display panel.
- 9. The display device according to claim 1, wherein the cover members are fixed to at least one of the pillars.
- 10. The display device according to claim 1, wherein the intermediate member comprises a base surface that comprises ribs.

- 11. The display device according to claim 1, wherein the pillars comprise at least one rib.
- 12. The display device according to claim 11, wherein the beams comprise at least one rib.
- 13. The display device according to claim 6, wherein the gaps and divided panels are positioned such that the center points of the apertures and respective optical axes of the light sources during expansion and contraction associated with display device operation coincide.
- 14. The display device according to claim 3, comprising a back chassis that supports the reflection member, wherein the back chassis comprises the beams.
- 15. The display device according to claim 1, wherein the display panel has a display surface that displays an image in a forward direction and an end surface that joins the display surface and a rear surface in which a center portion of the display panel bends forward.
- 16. The display device according to claim 15, wherein the intermediate member includes a first opposed surface opposed to a periphery of the rear surface of the display panel, and the first opposed surface bends to curve in proximity to the center portion of the display panel.
- 17. The display device of claim 1, wherein the L-shaped fittings are connected to the pillars and beams through the plurality of apertures.
- 18. The display device of claim 1, wherein the divided panels are mold injected fabricated.
- 19. The display device of claim 1, wherein the beams and pillar comprise a metal material.
- 20. The display device of claim 1, wherein the divided panels comprise a resin material.