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Electroluminescent Display Including Touch Sensor

Abstract

An electroluminescent display is disclosed. The electroluminescent display includes an electroluminescent element disposed in a display area of a substrate, an encapsulation unit disposed on the electroluminescent element, a first mesh electrode layer disposed on the encapsulation unit, an insulating layer covering the first mesh electrode layer, and a second mesh electrode layer disposed on the insulating layer. The first mesh electrode layer includes a first mesh electrode and a second mesh electrode separated from the first mesh electrode. The second mesh electrode layer includes a third mesh electrode extended in a first direction and a fourth mesh electrode extended in a second direction intersecting the first direction through the first mesh electrode intersecting the third mesh electrode.

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Background/Summary

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS [0001] This application is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 18/418,027 filed on Jan. 19, 2024 which is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 18/165,008 filed on Feb. 6, 2023 which is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 17/209,986 filed on Mar. 23, 2021 which is a divisional of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/215,347 filed on Dec. 10, 2018, which claims the benefit of Republic of Korea Patent Application No. 10-2017-0183798 filed on Dec. 29, 2017 and Republic of Korea Patent Application No. 10-2017-0184515 filed on Dec. 29, 2017, each of which are herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND

Field of Technology

[0002] The present disclosure relates to an electroluminescent display including a touch sensor, and more particularly to an electroluminescent display for reducing a thickness of the electroluminescent display and minimizing an influence of a parasitic capacitance between a touch sensor and a display panel.

Discussion of the Related Art

[0003] A touch screen is an input device that allows a user to input his or her command by selecting an instruction displayed on a screen of a display device, etc. with his/her hand or an object. Namely, the touch screen converts a touch position, which the user directly touches with his/her hand or the object, into an electrical signal and senses an instruction selected at the touch position as an input signal. Because the touch screen can replace a separate input device, for example, a keyboard and a mouse connected to the display device, a use range of the touch screen is gradually expanding. The touch screen is generally attached to a front surface of a display panel.

SUMMARY

[0004] The present inventors have continued to study to provide a touch sensor capable of performing a touch screen function for an electroluminescent display capable of implementing a high quality image among various kinds of display devices is disclosed. The electroluminescent display includes a self-emission element. Examples of an electroluminescent element include an organic light emitting diode (OLED) and a quantum-dot light emitting diode (QLED).

[0005] The present inventors studied an electroluminescent display capable of providing both a touch screen function and a flexibility function.

[0006] The present inventors paid attention to advantages that the electroluminescent display can have a flexible function when the flexibility function was provided for an encapsulation unit of the electroluminescent display, and also the encapsulation unit of the electroluminescent display was not be damaged by various external forces including falling, impact, bending, etc. In particular, the present inventors recognized the problem that an operation of the electroluminescent display may be impossible when the encapsulation unit of the electroluminescent display was damaged.

[0007] The present inventors designed a flexible encapsulation unit sealing an electroluminescent layer, in order to provide the flexibility function for the electroluminescent display while protecting the electroluminescent element from an external environment. The present inventors studied a structure of a flexible touch sensor disposed on the encapsulation unit.

[0008] The present inventors recognized that interference may occur between a cathode electrode and a capacitive touch sensor when the capacitive touch sensor was used in a touch screen of the electroluminescent display because the electroluminescent display included a plurality of subpixels, each of which includes a cathode electrode, an anode electrode, and an electroluminescent layer between the cathode electrode and the anode electrode in order to emit light. In particular, the present inventors recognized that a parasitic capacitance may greatly reduce an operation performance of the capacitive touch sensor.

[0009] The present inventors recognized that a parasitic capacitance was generated between the touch sensor and the cathode electrode when the cathode electrode of the subpixel was disposed adjacent to the touch sensor. The present inventors recognized the problem that a touch operation of the touch sensor may be impossible because the parasitic capacitance increased as a distance between the touch sensor and the cathode electrode decreased.

[0010] However, the present inventors recognized advantages of a thin profile of the electroluminescent display, an improvement of flexibility characteristics, and a reduction in a possibility of cracking of the encapsulation unit as a thickness of the encapsulation unit decreased. Therefore, the present inventors intended to reduce the thickness of the encapsulation unit as much as possible. The present inventors recognized that a reduction in a touch performance of the touch sensor had to be solved because the parasitic capacitance increased as the thickness of the encapsulation unit decreased. Further, the present inventors recognized that the touch sensor may be bent and damaged by such a bending stress when the flexibility characteristics of the touch sensor were insufficient. Hence, the present inventors also intended to improve the flexibility characteristics of the touch sensor.

[0011] Namely, the present inventors intended to provide an electroluminescent display that can reduce a damage resulting from an impact, reduce the thickness, provide the flexibility characteristics, and provide a touch screen function while minimizing an influence of the parasitic capacitance resulting from the cathode electrode. At the same time, the present inventors intended to optimize the manufacturing cost and manufacturing process of the electroluminescent display.

[0012] Further, the present inventors intended to minimize the thickness of the flexible encapsulation unit in order to develop the electroluminescent display to a foldable level by maximizing the flexibility characteristics.

[0013] Accordingly, an object of the present disclosure is to address the above-described and other problems and provide a flexible electroluminescent display, configured to provide a touch screen function, capable of reducing a distance between a touch sensor and a cathode electrode of the electroluminescent display, improving flexibility characteristics of the touch sensor, minimizing an influence of a parasitic capacitance resulting from the cathode electrode, simplifying manufacturing process, and reducing the manufacturing cost.

[0014] Additional features and aspects will be set forth in the description that follows, and in part will be apparent from the description, or may be learned by practice of the inventive concepts provided herein. Other features and aspects of the inventive concepts may be realized and attained by the structure particularly pointed out in the written description, or derivable therefrom, and the

claims hereof as well as the appended drawings.

[0015] In one aspect, there is provided an electroluminescent display comprising: an electroluminescent element disposed in a display area of a substrate, the display area for displaying an image; an encapsulation unit disposed on the electroluminescent element; a first mesh electrode layer disposed on the encapsulation unit, the first mesh electrode including a first mesh electrode and a second mesh electrode that is physically separated from the first mesh electrode; an insulating layer covering the first mesh electrode layer; and a second mesh electrode layer disposed on the insulating layer, the second mesh electrode layer including a third mesh electrode and a fourth mesh electrode, wherein the third mesh electrode extends in a first direction and the fourth mesh electrode extends in a second direction that intersects the first direction such that the first mesh electrode of the first mesh electrode layer intersects the third mesh electrode.

[0016] In another aspect, there is provided a flexible electroluminescent display comprising: a flexible substrate; a transistor positioned on the flexible substrate; an anode electrode electrically connected with the transistor; a bank surrounding the anode electrode; an electroluminescent layer positioned on the anode electrode; a cathode electrode positioned on the electroluminescent layer; a flexible encapsulation unit positioned on the cathode electrode; a first mesh electrode layer positioned on the flexible encapsulation unit and overlapping the bank; an insulating layer covering the first mesh electrode layer; and a second mesh electrode layer positioned on the insulating layer and overlapping the first mesh electrode layer and the bank.

[0017] In another aspect, there is provided a touch sensor integrated display comprising: a substrate; a plurality of subpixels disposed on the substrate, the plurality of subpixels including a plurality of circuit units and an electroluminescent diode electrically connected to the plurality of circuit units, at least one of the plurality of circuit units configured to supply an image signal to the electroluminescent diode; an encapsulation unit configured to cover the plurality of subpixels; a first mesh electrode layer disposed on the encapsulation unit, the first mesh electrode layer divided into a plurality of areas that are physically separated from each other by a first disconnection pattern; an insulating layer covering the first mesh electrode layer; and a second mesh electrode layer disposed on the insulating layer, the first mesh electrode layer divided into a plurality of areas that are physically separated from each other by a second disconnection pattern, wherein a shape of the first disconnection pattern is different from a shape of the second disconnection pattern, and wherein at least one of the plurality of areas of the first mesh electrode layer and one of the plurality of areas of the second mesh electrode layer are configured to respectively receive a first signal and a second signal having a same magnitude.

[0018] In another aspect, there is provided an electroluminescent display comprising: an electroluminescent element disposed in a display area of a substrate, the display area for displaying an image; an encapsulation unit disposed on the electroluminescent element; a plurality of transparent shielding electrodes disposed on the encapsulation unit, each of the plurality of transparent shielding electrodes including a first transparent shielding electrode along a first direction and a plurality of second transparent shielding electrodes along a second direction, wherein the first transparent shielding electrode intersects the plurality of second transparent shielding electrodes; a shielding electrode insulating layer covering the plurality of transparent shielding electrodes; a plurality of bridge mesh electrodes positioned on the shielding electrode insulating layer, the plurality of bridge mesh electrodes includes a plurality of first bridges and a plurality of second bridges; a first touch insulating layer covering the plurality of bridge mesh electrodes; and a plurality of mesh electrodes on the first touch insulating layer, the plurality of mesh electrodes including a plurality of first mesh electrodes along the first direction and a plurality of second mesh electrodes along the second direction; wherein a pair of second bridges from the plurality of second bridges are configured to electrically connect together the plurality of second transparent shielding electrodes of one of the plurality of transparent shielding electrodes through a contact hole of the shielding electrode insulating layer, wherein the plurality of first

bridges are configured to electrically connect together plurality of first mesh electrodes through contact holes of the first touch insulating layer.

[0019] In another aspect, there is provided an electroluminescent display comprising: a substrate including a display area for displaying an image; an electroluminescent element on the display area of the substrate, the electroluminescent element including a common electrode; an encapsulation unit on the electroluminescent element; a first mesh electrode layer on the encapsulation unit, the first mesh electrode overlapping the common electrode; an insulating layer over the first mesh electrode layer; and a second mesh electrode layer on the insulating layer, the second mesh electrode layer overlapping both the first mesh electrode layer and the common electrode with the first mesh electrode layer between the second mesh electrode layer and the common electrode.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0020] The accompanying drawings, that may be included to provide a further understanding of the disclosure and are incorporated in and constitute a part of this specification, illustrate embodiments of the disclosure and together with the description serve to explain various principles of the disclosure.

[0021] FIG. 1 is an exploded perspective view schematically illustrating an electroluminescent display including a touch sensor according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0022] FIG. 2 is a plan view schematically illustrating a first mesh electrode layer of a touch sensor in an electroluminescent display according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0023] FIG. 3 is a plan view schematically illustrating a second mesh electrode layer of a touch sensor in an electroluminescent display according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0024] FIG. 4 is a cross-sectional view schematically illustrating a cutting surface A'-A'' of a touch sensor according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0025] FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view schematically illustrating a cutting surface B'-B'' of a touch sensor according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0026] FIG. 6 is a conceptual diagram schematically illustrating a drive of a touch sensor according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0027] FIG. 7 is a waveform diagram schematically illustrating a drive of a touch sensor according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0028] FIG. 8 is a plan view schematically illustrating a second mesh electrode layer of a touch sensor in an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0029] FIG. 9 is a plan view schematically illustrating a second mesh electrode layer of a touch sensor in an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0030] FIG. 10 is a plan view schematically illustrating a second mesh electrode layer of a touch sensor in an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0031] FIG. 11 is a plan view schematically illustrating a second mesh electrode layer of a touch sensor in an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0032] FIG. 12 is a conceptual diagram schematically illustrating a drive of a touch sensor according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0033] FIG. 13 is a waveform diagram schematically illustrating a drive of a touch sensor according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0034] FIG. 14 is a plan view schematically illustrating a bridge mesh electrode, a transparent shielding electrode, and a mesh electrode of a touch sensor in an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0035] FIGS. 15A to 15D are plan views schematically illustrating a stack order of components of a touch sensor in an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0036] FIG. **16A** is a cross-sectional view schematically illustrating a cutting surface A'-A'' of a touch sensor according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0037] FIG. **16B** is a cross-sectional view schematically illustrating a cutting surface B'-B'' of a touch sensor according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0038] FIG. **16C** is a cross-sectional view schematically illustrating a cutting surface C'-C'' of a touch sensor according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0039] Reference will now be made in detail to embodiments of the disclosure, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings. However, the present disclosure is not limited to embodiments disclosed below, and may be implemented in various forms. These embodiments are provided so that the present disclosure will be described more completely, and will fully convey the scope of the present disclosure to those skilled in the art to which the present disclosure pertains.

Particular features of the present disclosure can be defined by the scope of the claims.

[0040] Shapes, sizes, ratios, angles, number, and the like illustrated in the drawings for describing embodiments of the disclosure are merely exemplary, and the present disclosure is not limited thereto unless specified as such. Like reference numerals designate like elements throughout embodiments of the disclosure. In the following description, when a detailed description of certain functions or configurations related to this document that may unnecessarily cloud the gist of the present disclosure have been omitted. In the present disclosure, when the terms “include,” “have,” “comprised of,” etc. are used, other components may be added unless “only” is used. A singular expression can include a plural expression as long as it does not have an apparently different meaning in context.

[0041] In the explanation of components, even if there is no separate description, it is interpreted as including margins of error or an error range.

[0042] In the description of positional relationships, when a structure is described as being positioned “on or above,” “under or below,” “next to” another structure, this description should be construed as including a case in which the structures directly contact each other as well as a case in which a third structure is disposed therebetween.

[0043] The terms “first,” “second,” etc. may be used to describe various components, but the components are not limited by such terms. The terms are used only for the purpose of distinguishing one component from other components. For example, a first component may be designated as a second component, and vice versa, without departing from the scope of the present disclosure.

[0044] The features of various embodiments of the disclosure can be partially combined or entirely combined with each other, and can be technically interlocking-driven in various ways.

Embodiments of the disclosure can be independently implemented, or can be implemented in conjunction with each other.

[0045] Embodiments of the disclosure will be described in detail below with reference to FIGS. **1** to **16C**.

[0046] FIG. **1** is an exploded perspective view schematically illustrating an electroluminescent display including a touch sensor according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0047] An electroluminescent display **1000** according to an embodiment of the disclosure is described below with reference to FIG. **1**.

[0048] The electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure is configured to provide a touch screen function for sensing a touch, an image display function for displaying an image, and a function for reducing a parasitic capacitance generated between a touch screen and an image display.

[0049] The electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure includes a display panel **102** configured to display an image and a touch sensor **160** configured to sense a touch.

[0050] The display panel **102** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure includes a plurality of subpixels PXL. In the display panel **102**, an area where the plurality of subpixels PXL is disposed may be defined as a display area AA, and an area except the display area AA or a peripheral area of the display area AA may be defined as a non-display area NA.

[0051] Each subpixel PXL includes an electroluminescent element **130** displaying a specific color. For example, the subpixel PXL may include red (R), green (G), and blue (B) electroluminescent elements **130**, or include red (R), green (G), blue (B), and white (W) electroluminescent elements **130**, or include red (R), green (G), blue (B), and green (G) electroluminescent elements **130**.

[0052] Each subpixel PXL includes a pixel driving circuit and the electroluminescent element **130** connected to the pixel driving circuit.

[0053] The pixel driving circuit at least includes a switching transistor T1, a scan line SL supplying a scan signal to the switching transistor T1, a driving transistor T2, a storage capacitor Cst, and a data line DL supplying an image signal to the storage capacitor Cst.

[0054] The switching transistor T1 is turned on when the scan signal is supplied to the scan line SL, and supplies a data signal supplied to the data line DL to the storage capacitor Cst and a gate electrode of the driving transistor T2.

[0055] The driving transistor T2 controls a current supplied to the electroluminescent element **130** depending on the data signal supplied to the gate electrode of the driving transistor T2 and a high potential voltage VDD supplied from a high potential power line, thereby adjusting an amount of light emitted from the electroluminescent element **130**. Even when the switching transistor T1 is turned off, the driving transistor T2 supplies a predetermined current to the electroluminescent element **130** due to a potential difference charged to the storage capacitor Cst until a data signal of a next frame is supplied, thereby keeping the electroluminescent element **130** emitting light. The electroluminescent element **130** may be implemented as an electroluminescent diode. The electroluminescent diode may include an anode electrode, an electroluminescent layer corresponding to the anode electrode, and a cathode electrode corresponding to the electroluminescent layer. The cathode electrode is configured to receive a low potential voltage VSS from a low potential power line.

[0056] In embodiments disclosed herein, transistors are not limited to the drawings and may be variously modified into N-type transistors, P-type transistors, and CMOS transistors.

[0057] The touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure may be configured to correspond to the display area AA. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. For example, an area of the touch sensor **160** may be greater than the display area AA, and the touch sensor **160** may be configured to further sense a touch input of the non-display area NA.

[0058] The touch sensor **160** includes a plurality of touch electrodes. The touch sensor **160** may be configured to sense change in a mutual capacitance and/or a self-capacitance resulting from a touch operation of a user through the plurality of touch electrodes, sense whether or not there is the touch operation, and detect a touch position when there is the touch operation.

[0059] FIG. 2 is a plan view schematically illustrating a first mesh electrode layer of the touch sensor **160** in an electroluminescent display according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0060] FIG. 3 is a plan view schematically illustrating a second mesh electrode layer of the touch sensor **160** in an electroluminescent display according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0061] FIG. 4 is a cross-sectional view schematically illustrating a cutting surface A'-A'' of the touch sensor **160** according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0062] FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view schematically illustrating a cutting surface B'-B'' of the touch sensor **160** according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0063] An electroluminescent display **1000** according to an embodiment of the disclosure is described below with reference to FIGS. 2 to 5.

[0064] Referring to FIGS. 4 and 5, the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure at least includes a display panel **102** and a touch sensor **160**.

[0065] The display panel **102** at least includes a substrate **110**, a transistor **120**, an electroluminescent element **130**, and an encapsulation unit **140**.

[0066] The substrate **110** may be made of a material with flexibility characteristics. For example, the substrate **110** may include polyethersulfone, polyacrylate, polyetherimide, polyethylene naphthalate, polyethylene terephthalate, polyphenylene sulfide, polyarylate, polyimide, polycarbonate, photo acrylic, or a polymer resin such as cellulose acetate propionate (CAP). However, embodiments are not limited thereto. For example, the substrate **110** may be made of a glass having flexible characteristics or an insulation-treated metal thin film having flexible characteristics.

[0067] The substrate **110** supports various components of the electroluminescent display **1000**. The transistor **120** is disposed on the substrate **110**. The exemplary transistor **120** shown in FIGS. 4 and 5 may correspond to a structure of the switching transistor T1 and the driving transistor T2 of the exemplary subpixel PXL shown in FIG. 1. FIGS. 4 and 5 illustrate a cross section of the driving transistor T2 by way of example.

[0068] The transistor **120** may include a semiconductor layer **121**, a gate insulating layer **122** configured to insulate the semiconductor layer **121** from a gate electrode **123**, the gate electrode **123** that is disposed on the gate insulating layer **122** and overlaps the semiconductor layer **121**, an interlayer dielectric layer **124** configured to insulate the gate electrode **123** from a source electrode **125** and a drain electrode **126**, and the source electrode **125** and the drain electrode **126** that are disposed on the interlayer dielectric layer **124** and are electrically connected to the semiconductor layer **121** through a contact hole. A structure of the above-described transistor **120** may be referred to as a transistor having a coplanar structure.

[0069] However, the transistor according to embodiments of the disclosure is not limited thereto and may be implemented as a transistor of various structures. For example, the transistor according to embodiments of the disclosure may have an inverted staggered structure.

[0070] A planarization layer **129** is disposed on the transistor **120** and planarizes an upper part of the transistor **120**. The electroluminescent element **130** and the transistor **120** may be electrically connected to each other through a contact hole of the planarization layer **129**. The planarization layer **129** may be formed of an organic material having planarization characteristics. For example, photo acrylic or polyimide, etc., may be used as the organic material.

[0071] The electroluminescent element **130** includes an anode electrode **131**, an electroluminescent layer **132** formed on the anode electrode **131**, and a cathode electrode **133** formed on the electroluminescent layer **132**.

[0072] The electroluminescent element **130** is connected to the transistor **120** and is configured to receive a current. For example, the anode electrode **131** of the electroluminescent element **130** is connected to the drain electrode **126** of the transistor **120**.

[0073] The anode electrode **131** is electrically connected to the drain electrode **126** of the transistor **120** exposed through a contact hole penetrating the planarization layer **129**. The electroluminescent layer **132** is disposed on the anode electrode **131**, of which edges are surrounded by a bank **134**. In other words, the bank **134** covers a portion of an outer periphery of the anode electrode **131**. A portion of the anode electrode **131** which is not covered by the bank **134** and is exposed may be defined as an emission region of the subpixel. A spacer may be disposed in a portion of the bank **134**. The spacer may be formed in such a manner that a height of a portion of the bank **134** increases through a halftone exposure. The spacer may function to support a mask when the electroluminescent layer **132** is formed.

[0074] The electroluminescent layer **132** is disposed in the emission region of the subpixel. The electroluminescent layer **132** may have a single-layer structure or a multi-layer structure. For example, the electroluminescent layer **132** may further include a hole transport layer, an electron

transport layer, and the like. The electroluminescent layer **132** may include a light emitting material corresponding to a color of the subpixel in order to display an intrinsic color of each subpixel.

[0075] When the electroluminescent layer **132** includes an organic material, the electroluminescent element **130** may be referred to as an organic light emitting diode. When the electroluminescent layer **132** includes an inorganic material, the electroluminescent element **130** may be referred to as an inorganic light emitting diode. For example, when the inorganic light emitting diode is formed using a quantum dot material, the electroluminescent element **130** may be referred to as a quantum dot light emitting diode. The electroluminescent layer **132** may be formed individually depending on an intrinsic color of each subpixel. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. For example, if all the subpixels have a white color, light emitting layers of the subpixels may be formed as a common layer. The common layer may mean a layer formed throughout the display area AA.

[0076] The hole transport layer and/or the electron transport layer can provide a function of facilitating the movement of holes and electrons for the light emitting layer. The hole transport layer and/or the electron transport layer may be formed as a common layer. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. For example, the hole transport layer and/or the electron transport layer may be selectively applied to individually improve characteristics of each subpixel. In this instance, the hole transport layer and/or the electron transport layer may be formed in a specific portion of the display area AA and may have different thicknesses depending on the subpixels.

[0077] The cathode electrode **133** is formed to face the anode electrode **131** with the electroluminescent layer **132** interposed therebetween. When the cathode electrode **133** is formed to cover the display area AA, the cathode electrode **133** may be referred to as a common electrode. In particular, the cathode electrode **133** configured as the common electrode forms a parasitic capacitance C_p together with the touch sensor **160** in the display area AA.

[0078] The encapsulation unit **140** may be configured to block moisture or oxygen from penetrating into the electroluminescent element **130** which may be vulnerable to moisture or oxygen. In particular, when the electroluminescent element **130** includes an organic material, the electroluminescent element **130** may be further vulnerable to moisture and oxygen. Therefore, in this instance, the encapsulation unit **140** thus configured can protect the electroluminescent element **130**. To this end, the encapsulation unit **140** may at least include a first inorganic encapsulation layer **141**, an organic encapsulation layer **142** on the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141**, and a second inorganic encapsulation layer **143** on the organic encapsulation layer **142**. Namely, the encapsulation unit **140** may include at least two inorganic encapsulation layers **141** and **143** and at least one organic encapsulation layer **142**.

[0079] Hereinafter, embodiments of the disclosure are described using the encapsulation unit **140**, that is configured such that the organic encapsulation layer **142** is sealed between the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** and the second inorganic encapsulation layer **143**, as an example.

[0080] The first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** is disposed on the cathode electrode **133**. The first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** is configured to seal the plurality of subpixels arranged in the display area AA. Further, the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** is extended to at least a portion of the non-display area NA. The first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** may be formed of an inorganic insulating material capable of being deposited at a low temperature, for example, silicon nitride (SiN_x), silicon oxide (SiO_x), silicon oxynitride (SiON), or aluminum oxide (Al.sub.2O.sub.3). Hence, because the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** is deposited in a low temperature atmosphere, the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** can prevent the electroluminescent layer **132**, which is vulnerable to a high temperature atmosphere, from being damaged when the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** is deposited. For example, when the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** is formed of silicon nitride (SiN_x), a thickness of the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** may be $0.1\ \mu\text{m}$ to $1.5\ \mu\text{m}$. However, embodiments are not limited thereto.

[0081] The organic encapsulation layer **142** can serve as a buffer for reducing a stress between the

respective layers of the electroluminescent display **1000**, enhance a planarization performance, and compensate for a foreign substance to improve flatness and quality of the second inorganic encapsulation layer **143**. The organic encapsulation layer **142** may be formed of an organic insulating material such as an acrylic resin, an epoxy resin, polyimide, polyethylene, or silicon oxycarbide (SiOC). The organic encapsulation layer **142** may be formed using a chemical vapor deposition method, an inkjet printing method, or a squeegee method. Further, the organic encapsulation layer **142** has an advantage that a thickness can be easily adjusted. Thus, a thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** can be easily adjusted by adjusting the thickness of the organic encapsulation layer **142**.

[0082] The second inorganic encapsulation layer **143** is configured to seal the organic encapsulation layer **142**. In other words, the second inorganic encapsulation layer **143** is configured to cover the organic encapsulation layer **142** and contact the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** so that the organic encapsulation layer **142** is not exposed to the outside. In particular, when the side of the organic encapsulation layer **142** is exposed to the outside, the organic encapsulation layer **142** may be a penetration path of moisture and oxygen. Therefore, the organic encapsulation layer **142** is configured to be sealed by the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** and the second inorganic encapsulation layer **143**. Thus, the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** and the second inorganic encapsulation layer **143** are configured to extend more outward than the organic encapsulation layer **142**. Hence, the organic encapsulation layer **142** can be sealed, and the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** and the second inorganic encapsulation layer **143** can contact each other in the non-display area NA. In particular, when the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** and the second inorganic encapsulation layer **143** are configured to contact each other and seal the organic encapsulation layer **142**, they can effectively prevent moisture and oxygen from penetrating into the organic encapsulation layer **142**. The second inorganic encapsulation layer **143** may be formed of an inorganic insulating material such as silicon nitride (SiNx), silicon oxide (SiOx), silicon oxynitride (SiON), or aluminum oxide (Al.sub.2O.sub.3). For example, when the second inorganic encapsulation layer **143** is formed of silicon nitride (SiNx), a thickness of the second inorganic encapsulation layer **143** may be 0.1 μm to 1.5 μm . However, embodiments are not limited thereto.

[0083] Change in flexible or foldable characteristics of the electroluminescent display **1000** depending on the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** will be described below. The thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** affects flexibility characteristics of the electroluminescent display **1000**. For example, as the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** increases, a tensile stress and a compressive stress applied to each of the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** and the second inorganic encapsulation layer **143** increase. Therefore, when the electroluminescent display **1000** is bent, there is an increased possibility that a crack will be generated in the encapsulation unit **140**. In other words, because the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** and the second inorganic encapsulation layer **143** mainly perform a function of blocking the penetration of moisture and oxygen, they are relatively harder than the organic encapsulation layer **142**.

[0084] In a related art, there were attempts to reduce a parasitic capacitance C_p between a touch sensor and a cathode electrode by designing a thick encapsulation unit. For example, the related art could considerably reduce the parasitic capacitance C_p by designing the encapsulation unit to have a thickness of 30 μm or more. However, as described above, when the thickness of the encapsulation unit increases to 30 μm or more, the encapsulation unit may be damaged due to the bending.

[0085] Further, in the related art, there were attempts to reduce the parasitic capacitance C_p between the touch sensor and the cathode electrode by providing a pressure sensitive adhesive or an optically clear adhesive resin each having a thickness of 50 μm or more on the encapsulation unit and attaching the touch sensor to the encapsulation unit. However, the attempts might lead to an excessive increase in the thickness of the electroluminescent display and to adversely affecting

the flexible or foldable characteristics of the electroluminescent display.

[0086] The encapsulation unit **140** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure is designed to have a thickness equal to or greater than 3 μm and equal to or less than 30 μm .

[0087] When the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** is 20 μm to 30 μm , the encapsulation unit **140** can have flexible characteristics.

[0088] When the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** is 15 μm to 20 μm , the flexible characteristics of the encapsulation unit **140** can be further improved. However, a parasitic capacitance C_p between the touch sensor **160** and the cathode electrode **133** when the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** is 15 μm to 20 μm is relatively greater than a parasitic capacitance C_p between the touch sensor **160** and the cathode electrode **133** when the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** is equal to or greater than 20 μm and less than 30 μm .

[0089] When the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** is 10 μm to 15 μm , the flexible characteristics of the encapsulation unit **140** can be further improved. However, a parasitic capacitance C_p between the touch sensor **160** and the cathode electrode **133** when the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** is 10 μm to 15 μm is relatively greater than a parasitic capacitance C_p between the touch sensor **160** and the cathode electrode **133** when the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** is equal to or greater than 15 μm and less than 20 μm .

[0090] When the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** is 3 μm to 10 μm , the flexible characteristics of the encapsulation unit **140** can be further improved. In particular, the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** is less than 10 μm , the flexibility characteristics of the electroluminescent display **1000** can greatly increase, and thus the electroluminescent display **1000** can have the excellent foldable characteristics. However, a parasitic capacitance C_p between the touch sensor **160** and the cathode electrode **133** when the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** is 3 μm to 10 μm is relatively greater than a parasitic capacitance C_p between the touch sensor **160** and the cathode electrode **133** when the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** is equal to or greater than 10 μm and less than 15 μm . Hence, touch sensitivity of the touch sensor **160** is sharply reduced, and various problems may occur in the touch sensing of the touch sensor **160**.

[0091] In other words, when the encapsulation unit **140** is disposed between the touch sensor **160** and the cathode electrode **133** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure, the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** is a main factor determining a distance between the touch sensor **160** and the cathode electrode **133**. In particular, when the low potential voltage VSS is applied to the cathode electrode **133**, a parasitic capacitance C_p may be generated between the touch sensor **160** and the cathode electrode **133**. The parasitic capacitance C_p increases as the distance between the touch sensor **160** and the cathode electrode **133** decreases. Thus, when the thin profile or the flexibility characteristics of the electroluminescent display **1000** are improved through a reduction in the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140**, the parasitic capacitance C_p between the touch sensor **160** and the cathode electrode **133** increases. This may affect an operation of the touch sensor **160**. However, the encapsulation unit **140** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure is configured to have as thin a thickness as possible, considering the flexible characteristics of the encapsulation unit **140**. Namely, a reduction in the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** is considered, considering a trade-off between the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** and the parasitic capacitance C_p .

[0092] In addition, as described above, the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** and the second inorganic encapsulation layer **143** of the encapsulation unit **140** each may have a thickness of 0.1 μm to 1.5 μm . A thickness of the organic encapsulation layer **142** may have a value obtained by subtracting the thicknesses of the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** and the second inorganic encapsulation layer **143** from the total thickness of the encapsulation unit **140**.

[0093] The thickness of the organic encapsulation layer **142** may vary depending on its position in

the display area AA. This is caused by the flowability or the planarization characteristics of the organic encapsulation layer **142**. More specifically, an upper surface of the organic encapsulation layer **142** (i.e., a contact surface between the organic encapsulation layer **142** and the second inorganic encapsulation layer **143** in the display area AA) may be substantially flat, and a lower surface of the organic encapsulation layer **142** (i.e., a contact surface between the organic encapsulation layer **142** and the first inorganic encapsulation layer **141** in the display area AA) may be substantially uneven. The uneven shape of the organic encapsulation layer **142** may be determined depending on shapes of the electroluminescent element **130**, the bank **134**, and/or the spacer.

[0094] The thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure will be described based on a central area of the bank **134** for convenience of explanation. The central area of the bank **134** may indicate a portion of the bank **134** having a maximum height. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. For example, the central area of the bank **134** may indicate a central position between the subpixels adjacent to both sides of the bank **134**.

[0095] The touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure is configured such that a distance L1 between the touch sensor **160** and the cathode electrode **133** in the central area of the bank **134** is less than a distance L2 between the touch sensor **160** and the cathode electrode **133** in an emission region of the subpixel. Thus, a parasitic capacitance Cp formed between the cathode electrode **133** on the bank **134** and the touch sensor **160** relatively increases. Namely, because the touch sensor **160** is designed in consideration of a maximum parasitic capacitance, the parasitic capacitance will be described based on the central area of the bank **134**. However, embodiments are not limited thereto.

[0096] More specifically, the spacer may be formed at a position higher than the bank **134** in a specific portion of the display area AA. However, because an area of the bank **134** is relatively larger than an area of the spacer, the parasitic capacitance will be described based on the bank **134** for convenience of explanation. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. For example, the parasitic capacitance may be described based on the spacer.

[0097] In some embodiments, the thickness of the organic encapsulation layer **142** in the non-display area NA may gradually decrease. However, embodiments are not limited thereto.

[0098] Some embodiments may use a dam structure for preventing the overcoating or the overflow of an organic encapsulation layer in the non-display area NA. The dam structure may further include additional structures or stepped portions to thereby prevent the overcoating of the organic encapsulation layer. In particular, when the overcoating of the organic encapsulation layer occurs, the organic encapsulation layer may not be sealed by the first inorganic encapsulation layer and the second inorganic encapsulation layer. However, embodiments are not limited thereto.

[0099] Some embodiments may further include a crack propagation blocking pattern for blocking the crack propagation of the first inorganic encapsulation layer and the second inorganic encapsulation layer in the non-display area NA. The crack propagation blocking pattern may have, for example, a trench structure. The crack propagation blocking pattern indicates a structure having stepped portions configured to pattern inorganic encapsulation layers at predetermined intervals and block a crack from propagating when the crack occurs. Therefore, the crack propagation blocking pattern can perform a function of blocking the crack propagation in the inorganic encapsulation layer. The crack propagation blocking pattern may be disposed outside the dam structure. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. More specifically, when a crack occurs in the second inorganic encapsulation layer, the crack may propagate and damage the touch sensor **160**. However, when the crack propagation blocking pattern is provided as described above, the touch sensor **160** can be protected.

[0100] Some embodiments may further include a touch buffer layer between the second inorganic encapsulation layer and a first mesh electrode layer. The touch buffer layer may be a buffer layer

for protecting a pad area disposed in the non-display area of the display panel. For example, a data signal and a scan signal for displaying an image on the display area have to be supplied to the non-display area. Therefore, a pad portion for supplying signals to the data lines and the scan lines may be provided. Further, when the touch sensor is formed, it may be necessary to protect the data lines and the scan lines, which have been already formed, during etching and deposition processes for manufacturing first and second mesh electrode layers. Thus, in this instance, the touch buffer layer may be further provided on the second inorganic encapsulation layer. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. The touch buffer layer can function to protect the components of the display panel and may be formed of the same material as the second inorganic encapsulation layer. The touch buffer layer may be deposited to be thinner than the second inorganic encapsulation layer. For example, when a thickness of the second inorganic encapsulation layer is 1 μm , a thickness of the touch buffer layer may be 0.1 μm . However, embodiments are not limited thereto.

[0101] Hereinafter, a structure and an operation method capable of reducing the parasitic capacitance C_p using the touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure will be described.

[0102] Referring again to FIGS. **4** and **5**, the touch sensor **160** is disposed on the encapsulation unit **140** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure. The touch sensor **160** at least includes a first mesh electrode layer **161**, a first touch insulating layer **164**, a second mesh electrode layer **165**, and a second touch insulating layer **168**.

[0103] The first mesh electrode layer **161** is disposed on the encapsulation unit **140**. The first mesh electrode layer **161** is disposed to face the cathode electrode **133** with the encapsulation unit **140** interposed therebetween. The first mesh electrode layer **161** may be formed of a metallic conductive material with a low electrical resistance. For example, the first mesh electrode layer **161** may be formed of aluminum (Al), titanium (Ti), copper (Cu), molybdenum (Mo), or an alloy thereof. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. The first mesh electrode layer **161** may have a single-layer structure or a multi-layer structure. For example, the first mesh electrode layer **161** may have a three-layer structure of Ti/Al/Ti or Mo/Al/Mo. When the first mesh electrode layer **161** is formed of the metallic conductive material, the first mesh electrode layer **161** can have excellent flexible characteristics. Therefore, the first mesh electrode layer **161** has an advantage that it can be applied to flexible or foldable displays. Further, because the first mesh electrode layer **161** has the low electrical resistance, the first mesh electrode layer **161** can decrease a width W_1 of wires of a first mesh electrode and may be formed in a mesh shape having a width less than a width of the bank **134**. Thus, because the first mesh electrode layer **161** does not cover the emission region of the subpixel, an influence of the first mesh electrode layer **161** on quality of an image displayed on the display panel **102** can be minimized. In addition, as the first mesh electrode layer **161** approaches the bank **134**, a reduction in image quality at a side viewing angle of the display panel **102** can be minimized.

[0104] When the first mesh electrode layer **161** is disposed in the central area of the bank **134**, a distance between the first mesh electrode layer **161** and the bank **134** can be minimized. Thus, a parasitic capacitance between the first mesh electrode layer **161** and the cathode electrode **133** can increase. Hence, the first mesh electrode layer **161** may be configured to provide a function of reducing or blocking a parasitic capacitance C_p from being formed between the cathode electrode **133** and the second mesh electrode layer **165**.

[0105] The first touch insulating layer **164** is disposed on the first mesh electrode layer **161**. The first touch insulating layer **164** is configured to function to insulate the first mesh electrode layer **161** from the second mesh electrode layer **165**. The first touch insulating layer **164** may be formed of an inorganic layer such as silicon nitride (SiN_x), silicon oxide (SiO_x), and silicon oxynitride (SiON), or acryl-based, epoxy-based, Parylene-C, Parylene-N, Parylene-F, or siloxane-based organic layer. For example, a thickness of the first touch insulating layer **164** may be 0.01 μm to 3 μm . However, embodiments are not limited thereto.

[0106] The second mesh electrode layer **165** is disposed on the first touch insulating layer **164**. The second mesh electrode layer **165** is disposed to face the cathode electrode **133** with the first mesh electrode layer **161** interposed therebetween. The second mesh electrode layer **165** may be formed of a metallic conductive material with a low electrical resistance. For example, the second mesh electrode layer **165** may be formed of aluminum (Al), titanium (Ti), copper (Cu), molybdenum (Mo), or an alloy thereof. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. The second mesh electrode layer **165** may have a single-layer structure or a multi-layer structure. For example, the second mesh electrode layer **165** may have a three-layer structure of Ti/Al/Ti or Mo/Al/Mo. When the second mesh electrode layer **165** is formed of the metallic conductive material, the second mesh electrode layer **165** can have excellent flexible characteristics. Therefore, the second mesh electrode layer **165** has an advantage that it can be applied to flexible or foldable displays. Further, because the second mesh electrode layer **165** has the low electrical resistance, the second mesh electrode layer **165** can decrease a width $W2$ of wires of a second mesh electrode and may be formed in a mesh shape having a width less than the width of the bank **134**. Thus, because the second mesh electrode layer **165** does not shield or cover the emission region of the subpixel, an influence of the second mesh electrode layer **165** on quality of an image displayed on the display panel **102** can be minimized. In addition, as the second mesh electrode layer **165** approaches the bank **134**, a reduction in image quality at the side viewing angle of the display panel **102** can be minimized.

[0107] A parasitic capacitance C_p formed between the cathode electrode **133** and the second mesh electrode layer **165** is reduced by the first mesh electrode layer **161**. Because the first mesh electrode layer **161** is disposed on the bank **134** and between the cathode electrode **133** and the second mesh electrode layer **165**, the first mesh electrode layer **161** can reduce or shield the parasitic capacitance C_p that may be generated between the cathode electrode **133** and the second mesh electrode layer **165**. Thus, even if the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** decreases, the second mesh electrode layer **165** can reduce an influence of the parasitic capacitance C_p resulting from the cathode electrode **133**. For example, the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** may be equal to or less than 5 μm .

[0108] Because the second mesh electrode layer **165** has a mesh shape, an overlap area between the second mesh electrode layer **165** and the cathode electrode **133** can be minimized. As the overlap area between the cathode electrode **133** and the second mesh electrode layer **165** decreases, the parasitic capacitance C_p can be reduced in proportional to the overlap area. Thus, the width $W2$ of the wires of the second mesh electrode layer **165** can be minimized. Further, as the width $W2$ of the wires of the second mesh electrode layer **165** is minimized, the flexibility characteristics of the second mesh electrode layer **165** can be improved, and a possibility of cracking of the second mesh electrode layer **165** resulting from the bending can be reduced.

[0109] For example, in the display area AA, 80% or more of an area of the second mesh electrode layer **165** may overlap the first mesh electrode layer **161**. However, embodiments are not limited thereto.

[0110] In other words, when the first and second mesh electrode layers **161** and **165** are vertically aligned on the banks **134**, a shielding efficiency of the parasitic capacitance C_p resulting from the cathode electrode **133** can be improved by the first mesh electrode layer **161**.

[0111] More specifically, when the width $W1$ of the wire of the first mesh electrode layer **161** is equal to or greater than the width $W2$ of the wire of the second mesh electrode layer **165**, the shielding efficiency of the parasitic capacitance C_p can be improved by the first mesh electrode layer **161**. Further, the width $W1$ of the wire of the first mesh electrode layer **161** may be greater than the width $W2$ of the wire of the second mesh electrode layer **165** at a level that does not affect the image quality at the side viewing angle of the display panel **102**. A degree to which the width $W1$ of the wire of the first mesh electrode layer **161** is greater than the width $W2$ of the wire of the second mesh electrode layer **165** may be determined in consideration of the thickness of the

encapsulation unit **140** and the side viewing angle of the display panel **102**. Namely, the widths **W1** and **W2** of the wires of the first and second mesh electrode layers **161** and **165** may increase as the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** decreases, and the widths **W1** and **W2** may increase to a degree that the side viewing angle of the display panel **102** is reduced.

[0112] In addition, the width **W1** of the wire of the first mesh electrode layer **161** and the width **W2** of the wire of the second mesh electrode layer **165** may be individually determined depending on the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140**.

[0113] For example, as the thickness of the encapsulation unit **140** decreases, the parasitic capacitance C_p between the cathode electrode **133** and the second mesh electrode layer **165** increases. However, when the width **W2** of the wire of the second mesh electrode layer **165** decreases, the overlap area between the cathode electrode **133** and the second mesh electrode layer **165** can decrease. Hence, an increase in the parasitic capacitance C_p can be suppressed. However, as the width **W2** of the wire of the second mesh electrode layer **165** decreases, a wire resistance (Ω) of the second mesh electrode layer **165** increases. Therefore, the width **W2** of the wire of the second mesh electrode layer **165** has to be designed to have the wire resistance (Ω) at a level that the touch sensing can be performed. For example, the width **W2** of the wire of the second mesh electrode layer **165** may be 1.5 μm to 10 μm . However, embodiments are not limited thereto.

[0114] Further, when the width **W1** of the wire of the first mesh electrode layer **161** is designed to be greater than the width **W2** of the wire of the second mesh electrode layer **165**, an overlap area between the cathode electrode **133** and the first mesh electrode layer **161** can increase. Hence, the first mesh electrode layer **161** can increase a shielding level of the parasitic capacitance C_p between the cathode electrode **133** and the second mesh electrode layer **165**. However, as the width **W1** of the wire of the first mesh electrode layer **161** increases, the first mesh electrode layer **161** is close to the emission region of the subpixel. Therefore, the width **W1** of the wire of the first mesh electrode layer **161** has to be designed to increase at a level that does not affect the side viewing angle of the display panel **102**. For example, the width **W1** of the wire of the first mesh electrode layer **161** may be 1.5 μm to 12 μm . However, embodiments are not limited thereto.

[0115] In other words, the electroluminescent element **130** includes the cathode electrode **133**. A distance between the common electrode and the first mesh electrode layer may be 3 μm to 30 μm , and a distance between the first mesh electrode layer and the second mesh electrode layer may be 0.01 μm to 3 μm .

[0116] A portion of the first mesh electrode layer **161** and a portion of the second mesh electrode layer **165** are electrically connected to each other through a contact hole CNT of the first touch insulating layer **164**.

[0117] The second touch insulating layer **168** is disposed on the second mesh electrode layer **165**. The second touch insulating layer **168** is configured to cover the second mesh electrode layer **165**. The second touch insulating layer **168** may be formed of an inorganic layer such as silicon nitride (SiN_x), silicon oxide (SiO_x), and silicon oxynitride (SiON), or acryl-based, epoxy-based, Parylene-C, Parylene-N, Parylene-F, or siloxane-based organic layer. The second touch insulating layer **168** prevents corrosion of the second mesh electrode layer **165** or insulates the second mesh electrode layer **165**. However, embodiments are not limited thereto, and the second touch insulating layer **168** may be omitted, if necessary or desired.

[0118] In some embodiments, various functional layers including a protective film, an antistatic film, a polarizing film, an external light absorbing film, a protective glass, etc. may be further provided on the touch sensor **160**.

[0119] Referring again to FIGS. 2 and 3, the touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure is described.

[0120] The first mesh electrode layer **161** includes a first opening **OP1** and a first disconnection portion **CUT1** when viewed from the plane. The second mesh electrode layer **165** includes a second opening **OP2** and a second disconnection portion **CUT2** when viewed from the plane.

[0121] The first opening OP1 and the second opening OP2 are configured to surround the emission region of the subpixel. As an example of the emission region of the subpixel, a red emission region R, a green emission region G, and a blue emission region B are shown in FIGS. 2 and 3. However, the color of the emission region is not limited thereto and may be variously changed depending on wavelength characteristics of the electroluminescent layer of the subpixel. In addition, FIGS. 2 and 3 illustrate the emission regions having a rhombic or diamond shape, by way of example. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. For example, the emission region may have various shapes including a triangle, a rectangle, a polygon, an oval, and a circle, etc.

[0122] The first disconnection portion CUT1 indicates an area where a portion of the first mesh electrode layer 161 is disconnected. Specifically, the first mesh electrode layer 161 may be divided into a first mesh electrode 162 and a second mesh electrode 163 by the first disconnection portion CUT1. The first mesh electrode 162 and the second mesh electrode 163 are electrically insulated from each other by the first disconnection portion CUT1. The first disconnection portion CUT1 may have a specific disconnection pattern. Namely, shapes of the first mesh electrode 162 and the second mesh electrode 163 may be determined by the disconnection pattern of the first disconnection portion CUT1.

[0123] The second disconnection portion CUT2 indicates an area where a portion of the second mesh electrode layer 165 is disconnected. Specifically, the second mesh electrode layer 165 may be divided into a third mesh electrode 166 and a fourth mesh electrode 167 by the second disconnection portion CUT2. The third mesh electrode 166 and the fourth mesh electrode 167 are electrically insulated from each other by the second disconnection portion CUT2. The second disconnection portion CUT2 may have a specific disconnection pattern different from the first disconnection portion CUT1. Namely, shapes of the third mesh electrode 166 and the fourth mesh electrode 167 may be determined by the disconnection pattern of the second disconnection portion CUT2.

[0124] The first mesh electrode 162 and the second mesh electrode 163 each include the plurality of first openings OP1, and the emission region of the subpixel is disposed in each first opening OP1. The third mesh electrode 166 and the fourth mesh electrode 167 each include the plurality of second openings OP2, and the emission region of the subpixel is disposed in each second opening OP2. Namely, an emission region of one subpixel may be disposed corresponding to the first opening OP1 and the second opening OP2.

[0125] When the width W1 of the wire of the first mesh electrode layer 161 is equal to the width W2 of the wire of the second mesh electrode layer 165, an area of the first opening OP1 and an area of the second opening OP2 may be equal to each other. Further, when the width W1 of the wire of the first mesh electrode layer 161 is greater than the width W2 of the wire of the second mesh electrode layer 165, an area of the first opening OP1 may be less than an area of the second opening OP2.

[0126] In other words, the first mesh electrode layer 161 may include the first opening OP1 and the first disconnection portion CUT1, the second mesh electrode layer 165 may include the second opening OP2 and the second disconnection portion CUT2, and the electroluminescent element 130 may be disposed in the first opening OP1 and the second opening OP2 or in the first disconnection portion CUT1 and the second disconnection portion CUT2.

[0127] The first mesh electrode 162, the second mesh electrode 163, the third mesh electrode 166, and the fourth mesh electrode 167 overlap the bank 134 and are arranged along a central portion between the adjacent emission regions. Namely, the shape of the mesh electrodes corresponds to the shape of the emission region of the subpixel. The mesh electrodes may be disposed on the bank 134 without covering the emission region and thus do not affect the image quality of the display panel 102.

[0128] A first wire portion 169 connected to the first mesh electrode layer 161 and a second wire portion 170 connected to the second mesh electrode layer 165 are disposed in the non-display area

NA. The first touch insulating layer **164** may be disposed between the first wire portion **169** and the second wire portion **170**. The first wire portion **169** and the second wire portion **170** are connected to a pad portion PAD. The touch sensor **160** may be electrically connected to a circuit unit through the pad portion PAD.

[0129] Examples of the circuit unit may include a timing controller integrated circuit (IC) configured to supply an image signal, a data driver IC, a power IC configured to supply power, a power supply unit, a DC-DC converter, or a touch driver. The circuit unit may be configured to supply a specific voltage or a specific waveform signal.

[0130] For example, the circuit unit may be the touch driver. The touch driver may be configured to apply a driving signal to the third mesh electrode **166** and receive a sensing signal from the fourth mesh electrode **167**, thereby obtaining whether or not a touch operation is performed and touch position information.

[0131] For example, the touch driver may be configured to sequentially perform a mutual capacitance sensing drive and a self-capacitance sensing drive.

[0132] For example, the circuit unit may be the power supply unit. The power supply unit may supply a specific common voltage or a specific pulse signal to the second mesh electrode **163**.

[0133] The first wire portion **169** may be formed of the same material as the first mesh electrode layer **161**. The first wire portion **169** may be formed at the same time as the first mesh electrode layer **161**. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. The second wire portion **170** may be formed of the same material as the second mesh electrode layer **165**. The second wire portion **170** may be formed at the same time as the second mesh electrode layer **165**. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. The pad portion PAD may be formed of the same material as the first mesh electrode layer **161** and/or the second mesh electrode layer **165**. The pad portion PAD may be formed at the same time as the first mesh electrode layer **161** and/or the second mesh electrode layer **165**. However, embodiments are not limited thereto.

[0134] In the touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure, the first wire portion **169** composed of one wire is shown for convenience of explanation. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. For example, the number of first wire portions **169** is not limited, and the first wire portion **169** may further include a plurality of wires for the supply of a constant voltage.

[0135] The third mesh electrode **166** and the fourth mesh electrode **167** are described below.

[0136] The second mesh electrode layer **165** is divided into a plurality of blocks and is configured to sense a touch input. The first mesh electrode layer **161** is divided into a plurality of blocks and is configured to perform a bridge function of connecting some of the plurality of blocks of the second mesh electrode layer **165** while reducing the parasitic capacitance C_p between the cathode electrode **133** and the second mesh electrode layer **165**.

[0137] The second mesh electrode layer **165** is configured to generate a capacitance and sense a touch input.

[0138] The third mesh electrode **166** is configured to at least serve as a driving electrode of the touch sensor **160**. The third mesh electrode **166** is arranged in a second direction (for example, Y-axis direction). The third mesh electrode **166** includes a plurality of channels, and each channel is connected to the second wire portion **170** in the non-display area NA. The second wire portion **170** is connected to the pad part PAD. The third mesh electrode **166** may be electrically connected to the touch driver through the pad portion PAD.

[0139] The fourth mesh electrode **167** is configured to at least serve as a sensing electrode of the touch sensor **160**. Namely, the second mesh electrode layer **165** may be configured to generate a capacitance and sense a touch input. The fourth mesh electrode **167** is arranged in a first direction (for example, X-axis direction). The fourth mesh electrode **167** includes a plurality of channels, and each channel is connected to the second wire portion **170** in the non-display area NA. The second wire portion **170** is connected to the pad portion PAD. The fourth mesh electrode **167** may be

electrically connected to the touch driver through the pad portion PAD. Namely, the fourth mesh electrode **167** is divided into a plurality of island shapes by the second disconnection portion CUT2. The islands may be referred to as blocks. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. [0140] A contact hole CNT is formed in the fourth mesh electrode **167** at an intersection of the third mesh electrode **166** and the fourth mesh electrode **167**. The blocks of the fourth mesh electrode **167** are connected in the first direction (X-axis) through the bridge function of the first mesh electrode layer **161**.

[0141] A mutual capacitance or a self-capacitance which may be used for touch sensing is generated by the arrangement of the third and fourth mesh electrodes **166** and **167** and the driving signals. For example, the third mesh electrode **166** and the fourth mesh electrode **167** intersect each other to thereby generate the mutual capacitance. Thus, the mutual capacitance can perform as a function of the touch sensor **160** by charging electric charges in response to a touch driving pulse signal supplied to the third mesh electrode **166** and discharging the charged electric charges to the fourth mesh electrode **167**.

[0142] The first mesh electrode **162** and the second mesh electrode **163** are described below.

[0143] The first mesh electrode **162** is configured to perform a bridge function of electrically connecting the blocks of the fourth mesh electrode **167**. Namely, the first mesh electrode **162** contacts the fourth mesh electrode **167** adjacent to the first mesh electrode **162** through the contact hole CNT and intersects the third mesh electrode **166** extended in the second direction. The first mesh electrode **162** is electrically insulated from the second mesh electrode **163** by the first disconnection portion CUT1.

[0144] The electroluminescent element **130** includes a common electrode, and the first mesh electrode **162** and the common electrode are configured to generate a capacitance.

[0145] The second mesh electrode **163** is configured to serve as a shielding electrode of the touch sensor **160**. The second mesh electrode **163** is disposed such that the third mesh electrode **166** and the fourth mesh electrode **167** directly face the cathode electrode **133** in as small an area as possible. In other words, the second mesh electrode **163** is disposed to overlap at least a portion of the third mesh electrode **166** and at least a portion of the fourth mesh electrode **167**. According to the above-described configuration, the parasitic capacitance C_p between the cathode electrode **133** and the second mesh electrode layer **165** can be reduced.

[0146] The second mesh electrode **163** is composed of a single channel or a common electrode and is connected to the first wire portion **169** in the non-display area NA. Thus, a floating voltage or a specific voltage is applied to the second mesh electrode **163**. Because the second mesh electrode **163** shields at least a portion of the third mesh electrode **166** and at least a portion of the fourth mesh electrode **167**, the parasitic capacitance resulting from the cathode electrode **133** can be reduced. Thus, the second mesh electrode **163** may be referred to as a shielding electrode, a parasitic capacitance reduction electrode, or the like. However, embodiments are not limited thereto.

[0147] In other words, the electroluminescent display **1000** according to an embodiment of the disclosure may include an electroluminescent element disposed in a display area of a substrate, an encapsulation unit disposed on the electroluminescent element, a first mesh electrode layer disposed on the encapsulation unit, an insulating layer covering the first mesh electrode layer, and a second mesh electrode layer disposed on the insulating layer. The first mesh electrode layer may include a first mesh electrode and a second mesh electrode separated from the first mesh electrode. The second mesh electrode layer may include a third mesh electrode extended in a first direction and a fourth mesh electrode extended in a second direction intersecting the first direction through the first mesh electrode intersecting the third mesh electrode.

[0148] In other words, a flexible electroluminescent display according to an embodiment of the disclosure includes a flexible substrate, a transistor positioned on the flexible substrate, an anode electrode positioned on the transistor, a bank surrounding the anode electrode, an

electroluminescent layer positioned on the anode electrode, a cathode electrode positioned on the electroluminescent layer, a flexible encapsulation unit positioned on the cathode electrode, a first mesh electrode layer positioned on the flexible encapsulation unit and configured to overlap the bank and generate a first capacitance together with the cathode electrode, an insulating layer covering the first mesh electrode layer, and a second mesh electrode layer positioned on the insulating layer and configured to overlap the first mesh electrode layer and generate a second capacitance together with the first mesh electrode layer.

[0149] The first disconnection portion CUT1 may have an X-shape and/or an oval shape when viewed from the plan view of the touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure. However, the X-shape of the first disconnection portion CUT1 corresponds to the shape of the second disconnection portion CUT2 of the second mesh electrode layer **165**, and at the same time has a structure derived to connect areas other than a bridge area as one electrode while optimizing an overlap area between the first disconnection portion CUT1 and the third and fourth mesh electrodes **166** and **167**. Thus, the shape of the first disconnection portion CUT1 may be configured to correspond to the shape of the second disconnection portion CUT2. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. For example, when there is a change in the shape of the second disconnection portion CUT2, the shape of the first disconnection portion CUT1 may be changed corresponding to the changed shape of the second disconnection portion CUT2. The above-described configuration has an advantage that the first mesh electrode **162** connecting the blocks of the fourth mesh electrode **167** and the second mesh electrode **163** shielding the third and fourth mesh electrodes **166** and **167** can be simultaneously formed by patterning the first mesh electrode layer **161**.

[0150] In the touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure, a width of the first disconnection portion CUT1 is greater than a width of the second disconnection portion CUT2. According to the above-described structure, when the touch sensor **160** is bent, a stress caused by the bending can be reduced.

[0151] The electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure does not require a process for attaching a touch screen to the electroluminescent display **1000** using an adhesive. Namely, the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure does not require a separate attaching process by sequentially stacking the first mesh electrode layer **161** and the second mesh electrode layer **165** on the encapsulation unit **140**, thereby simplifying the manufacturing process and reducing the manufacturing cost.

[0152] With reference to FIGS. **6** and **7**, an operation of the touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure is described below.

[0153] FIG. **6** is a conceptual diagram schematically illustrating a drive of a touch sensor according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0154] More specifically, FIG. **6** is a conceptual diagram schematically illustrating an electrical connection of blocks of each mesh electrode for convenience of explanation. The touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure receives a touch driving signal Tx to be supplied to the third mesh electrode **166** from the circuit unit (for example, the touch driver for sensing a mutual capacitance). The touch driver receives a touch sensing signal Rx from the fourth mesh electrode **167** and determines whether or not a touch operation is performed. The first mesh electrode **162** performs a bridge function of connecting the fourth mesh electrode **167**, which is divided into a plurality of parts, through the contact hole CNT.

[0155] The second mesh electrode **163** vertically corresponds to the third mesh electrode **166** and the fourth mesh electrode **167**. The second mesh electrode **163** is configured to shield the cathode electrode **133** and thus reduces a parasitic capacitance resulting from the cathode electrode **133**. The second mesh electrode **163** receives a shielding signal Vadd.

[0156] Namely, a parasitic capacitance Cp between the cathode electrode **133** and the third and fourth mesh electrodes **166** and **167** can be minimized by the shielding of the second mesh

electrode **163**.

[0157] In embodiments disclosed herein, a plurality of subpixels may include red subpixels, green subpixels, and blue subpixels. The subpixels may be separated from one another by the bank, and the first mesh electrode layer and the second mesh electrode layer may be vertically aligned on the bank.

[0158] The electroluminescent display **1000** includes a touch driver electrically connected to the first mesh electrode layer **161** and the second mesh electrode layer **165**. The touch driver may be configured to apply a predetermined voltage to each of the first mesh electrode layer **161** and the second mesh electrode layer **165**. Thus, when a first capacitance increases due to the predetermined voltage, a second capacitance may be reduced.

[0159] The second mesh electrode layer **165** may include a plurality of touch electrodes disposed along a first direction and a second direction intersecting the first direction, and the first mesh electrode layer **161** may include a plurality of active shielding electrodes. The active shielding electrodes are disposed along the first direction and may be implemented by a touch sensor integrated display.

[0160] FIG. 7 is a waveform diagram schematically illustrating a drive of a touch sensor according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0161] The touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure is configured to operate in at least one sensing mode.

[0162] For example, the touch sensor **160** may operate to sense a mutual capacitance, sense a self-capacitance, or sequentially sense a mutual capacitance and a self-capacitance.

[0163] Namely, the third mesh electrode **166** and the fourth mesh electrode **167** may be configured to operate using at least one of a mutual capacitance sensing method and a self-capacitance sensing method. The second mesh electrode **163** may be configured to operate corresponding to at least one sensing method.

[0164] The mutual capacitance may be sensed in a mutual capacitance sensing period Mutual Cap Sensing. The self-capacitance may be sensed in a self-capacitance sensing period Self-Cap Sensing.

[0165] FIG. 7 is merely an example of a waveform diagram. The electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure may operate in only the mutual capacitance sensing period and also operate in only the self-capacitance sensing period. In addition, when the mutual capacitance and the self-capacitance are sequentially sensed, a touch noise such as ghost can be removed. Hence, the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure can achieve better touch sensitivity.

[0166] The mutual capacitance sensing period Mutual Cap Sensing is described below.

[0167] The second mesh electrode **163** of the touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure is configured to receive the shielding signal Vadd through the first wire portion **169** in the mutual capacitance sensing period. The shielding signal Vadd may be set to a floating voltage capable of reducing a difference between a voltage of the touch driving signal Tx and a voltage of the cathode electrode.

[0168] The touch driver can control the second mesh electrode **163** to be in a floating voltage state.

[0169] The voltage of the cathode electrode of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure is the low potential voltage VSS.

[0170] A pulse voltage of the touch driving signal Tx may include a low potential voltage (e.g., 0 V) and a high potential voltage (e.g., 15 V). For example, the voltage of the cathode electrode may be -4V to 0V. However, embodiments are not limited thereto. Further, the voltage of the cathode electrode may be fixed or may vary within a predetermined range. For example, the voltage of the cathode electrode may be controlled depending on a dimming level of the display panel **102** for the purpose of reducing power consumption.

[0171] In the mutual capacitance sensing period Mutual Cap Sensing, the shielding signal Vadd is supplied as the floating voltage.

[0172] Because the third mesh electrode **166** and the fourth mesh electrode **167** overlap the second mesh electrode **163**, the third mesh electrode **166** and the fourth mesh electrode **167** are not directly affected by the voltage of the cathode electrode. The third mesh electrode **166** and the fourth mesh electrode **167** are directly affected by the shielding signal Vadd. Because the shielding signal Vadd is in a floating state, the shielding signal Vadd can shield the parasitic capacitance resulting from the cathode electrode and at the same time cannot have a special influence on the second mesh electrode layer **165**.

[0173] More specifically, a reduction in the touch sensitivity resulting from the parasitic capacitance Cp between the second mesh electrode layer **165** and the cathode electrode **133** may be proportional to a potential difference between the second mesh electrode layer **165** and the cathode electrode **133**. Namely, as the potential difference increases, the touch sensitivity of the touch sensor **160** may be reduced. However, when the second mesh electrode **163** is floated between the voltage of the cathode electrode **133** and the third mesh electrode **166**, the touch sensitivity of the touch sensor **160** can be improved.

[0174] The self-capacitance sensing period Self-Cap Sensing is described below.

[0175] The second mesh electrode **163** of the touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure is configured to receive the shielding signal Vadd through the first wire portion **169** in the self-capacitance sensing period Self-Cap Sensing. The shielding signal Vadd in the self-capacitance sensing period Self-Cap Sensing is synchronized with a self-capacitance sensing touch driving signal Tx applied to the third mesh electrode **166** and a self-capacitance sensing touch driving signal Rx applied to the fourth mesh electrode **167**. In other words, the voltage of the shielding signal Vadd may have substantially the same voltage as the self-capacitance sensing touch driving signal Rx.

[0176] In the self-capacitance sensing period Self-Cap Sensing, pulses, in which a first touch signal Tx, a second touch sensing signal Rx, and the shielding signal Vadd are synchronized, are supplied to the third mesh electrode **166**. In other words, in the self-capacitance sensing method, the channels of each touch electrode do not dividedly operate as the driving electrode and the sensing electrode. Namely, embodiments are not limited to the names of the touch driving signal Tx and the touch sensing signal Rx. In the self-capacitance sensing period Self-Cap Sensing, the touch driving signal Tx and the touch sensing signal Rx may mean signals configured to sense the self-capacitance of channels of the third mesh electrode **166** and the self-capacitance of channels of the fourth mesh electrode **167** in the touch sensor **160**.

[0177] According to the driving method described above, because the shielding signal Vadd operates synchronously with the first touch signal Tx and the second touch signal Rx, a voltage between the first mesh electrode layer **161** and the second mesh electrode layer **165** may be substantially uniform in the self-capacitance sensing period Self-Cap Sensing. Further, a potential difference between the first and second mesh electrode layers **161** and **165** may be substantially eliminated. Because the second mesh electrode **163** is synchronized with the signals applied to the third mesh electrode **166** and the fourth mesh electrode **167** while shielding the parasitic capacitance Cp, the third mesh electrode **166** and the fourth mesh electrode **167** are not substantially affected by the second mesh electrode **163**. Thus, the touch sensitivity of the touch sensor **160** can be improved.

[0178] In other words, the electroluminescent display **1000** according to an embodiment of the disclosure includes a substrate, a plurality of subpixels disposed on the substrate and including a plurality of circuit units configured to supply an image signal and an electroluminescent diode electrically connected to the plurality of circuit units, an encapsulation unit configured to cover the plurality of subpixels, a first mesh electrode layer that is disposed on the encapsulation unit and is divided into a plurality of areas by a predetermined disconnection pattern, an insulating layer covering the first mesh electrode layer, and a second mesh electrode layer that is disposed on the insulating layer and is divided into a plurality of areas by a predetermined disconnection pattern. A

shape of the predetermined disconnection pattern of the first mesh electrode layer may be different from a shape of the predetermined disconnection pattern of the second mesh electrode layer. At least a portion of the first mesh electrode layer and at least a portion of the second mesh electrode layer may be configured to receive the same signal.

[0179] A parasitic capacitance between the plurality of subpixels and the second mesh electrode layer can be reduced by the same signal or a synchronized signal.

[0180] FIG. **8** is a plan view schematically illustrating a second mesh electrode layer of a touch sensor in an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0181] Description of structures and components identical or equivalent to those described above may be briefly made or may be entirely omitted for convenience of explanation.

[0182] There is a difference between a touch sensor **260** of an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure and the touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure in a shape of a first mesh electrode layer or a shape of a first disconnection portion CUT1.

[0183] A first mesh electrode **162** of FIG. **8** is substantially the same as the first mesh electrode **162** of FIG. **2**, and thus a duplicated description will be omitted for brevity. A width of a first disconnection portion CUT1 in a second mesh electrode **263** of FIG. **8** is less than a width of the first disconnection portion CUT1 in the second mesh electrode **163** of FIG. **2**. More specifically, the width of the first disconnection portion CUT1 shown in FIG. **8** is substantially the same as a width of the second disconnection portion CUT2 shown in FIG. **2**. According to the above-described configuration, the width of the first disconnection portion CUT1 and a width of the second disconnection portion CUT2 in FIG. **8** may be substantially same as each other. In this instance, a shielding area of the first mesh electrode layer of FIG. **8** can further increase, compared to the first disconnection portion CUT1 shown in FIG. **3**. Hence, a shielding performance can be further improved.

[0184] FIG. **9** is a plan view schematically illustrating a second mesh electrode layer of a touch sensor in an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0185] Description of structures and components identical or equivalent to those described above may be briefly made or may be entirely omitted for convenience of explanation.

[0186] There is a difference between a touch sensor **360** of an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure and the touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure in a shape of a first mesh electrode layer or a shape of a first disconnection portion CUT1.

[0187] A first mesh electrode **162** of FIG. **9** is substantially the same as the first mesh electrode **162** of FIG. **2**, and thus a duplicated description will be omitted for brevity. A width of a first disconnection portion CUT1 in a second mesh electrode **363** of FIG. **9** is less than the width of the first disconnection portion CUT1 in the second mesh electrode **263** of FIG. **8**. More specifically, the width of the first disconnection portion CUT1 shown in FIG. **9** is less than the width of the second disconnection portion CUT2 shown in FIG. **2**. In this instance, a shielding area of the first mesh electrode layer of FIG. **9** can further increase, compared to the first disconnection portion CUT1 shown in FIG. **8**. Hence, a shielding performance can be further improved.

[0188] FIG. **10** is a plan view schematically illustrating a second mesh electrode layer of a touch sensor in an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0189] Description of structures and components identical or equivalent to those described above may be briefly made or may be entirely omitted for convenience of explanation.

[0190] There is a difference between a touch sensor **460** of an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure and the touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure in a shape of a first mesh electrode layer.

[0191] A first mesh electrode **162** of FIG. **10** is substantially the same as the first mesh electrode **162** of FIG. **2**, and thus a duplicated description will be omitted for brevity. A second mesh

electrode **463** of FIG. **10** is configured such that all of a remaining area excluding a bridge area from the second mesh electrode **463** includes a mesh electrode without including a disconnection portion. In this instance, a shielding area of the first mesh electrode layer of FIG. **10** can further increase, compared to the second disconnection portion CUT2 shown in FIG. **9**. Hence, a shielding performance can be further improved.

[0192] With reference to FIGS. **8** to **10**, the shielding performance depending on the area of the first mesh electrode layer was described above. As described above, as the shielding area increases, the shielding characteristics can be further improved. When the first disconnection portion CUT1 is designed to correspond to the second disconnection portion CUT2, the flexibility characteristics can be improved when the electroluminescent display is bent.

[0193] With reference to FIGS. **11** to **13**, a touch sensor **560** of an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure is described below.

[0194] FIG. **11** is a plan view schematically illustrating a second mesh electrode layer of a touch sensor in an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0195] Description of structures and components identical or equivalent to those described above may be briefly made or may be entirely omitted for convenience of explanation.

[0196] There is a difference between a touch sensor **560** of an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure and the touch sensor **160** of the electroluminescent display **1000** according to the embodiment of the disclosure in a shape of a first mesh electrode layer. The touch sensor **560** further includes a sixth mesh electrode **563-2**.

[0197] A first mesh electrode **162** of FIG. **11** is substantially the same as the first mesh electrode **162** of FIG. **2**, and thus a duplicated description will be omitted for brevity. A fifth mesh electrode **563-1** and the sixth mesh electrode **563-2** shown in FIG. **11** are electrically insulated from each other by a first disconnection portion CUT1.

[0198] The fifth mesh electrode **563-1** is configured to overlap a fourth mesh electrode **167** in as large an area as possible compared with other components. In other words, an overlap area between the fifth mesh electrode **563-1** and the fourth mesh electrode **167** is greater than an overlap area between the fifth mesh electrode **563-1** and a third mesh electrode **166**. Thus, the fifth mesh electrode **563-1** is configured to shield the fourth mesh electrode **167** from a cathode electrode.

[0199] The sixth mesh electrode **563-2** is configured to overlap the third mesh electrode **166** in as large an area as possible compared with other components. In other words, an overlap area between the sixth mesh electrode **563-2** and the third mesh electrode **166** is greater than an overlap area between the sixth mesh electrode **563-2** and the fourth mesh electrode **167**. Thus, the sixth mesh electrode **563-2** is configured to shield the third mesh electrode **166** from the cathode electrode.

[0200] According to the above-described configuration, the touch sensor **560** can efficiently shield a parasitic capacitance using the fifth mesh electrode **563-1** and the sixth mesh electrode **563-2** configured respectively corresponding to the fourth mesh electrode **167** and the third mesh electrode **166**.

[0201] A first wire portion **569** connected to the first mesh electrode layer is disposed in a non-display area NA. The first wire portion **569** is connected to a pad portion PAD. The touch sensor **560** may be electrically connected to a circuit unit through the pad portion PAD. The first wire portion **569** is connected to a channel of each of the fifth mesh electrode **563-1** and the sixth mesh electrode **563-2**. Thus, the channel of each of the fifth mesh electrode **563-1** and the sixth mesh electrode **563-2** may receive a shielding signal.

[0202] FIG. **12** is a conceptual diagram schematically illustrating a drive of a touch sensor according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0203] Description of structures and components identical or equivalent to those described above may be briefly made or may be entirely omitted for convenience of explanation.

[0204] The touch sensor **560** of the electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure receives a touch driving signal Tx to be supplied to the third mesh electrode **166**

from the circuit unit (for example, a touch driver for sensing a mutual capacitance). The touch driver receives a touch sensing signal Rx from the fourth mesh electrode **167** and determines whether or not a touch operation is performed. The first mesh electrode **162** performs a bridge function of connecting blocks of the fourth mesh electrode **167** through a contact hole CNT.

[0205] The fifth mesh electrode **563-1** vertically corresponds to the fourth mesh electrode **167**. The fifth mesh electrode **563-1** is configured to overlap the fourth mesh electrode **167** in as large an area as possible. Namely, the fifth mesh electrode **563-1** is configured to shield a parasitic capacitance which may be generated between the fourth mesh electrode **167** and the cathode electrode.

[0206] The sixth mesh electrode **563-2** vertically corresponds to the third mesh electrode **166**. The sixth mesh electrode **563-2** is configured to overlap the third mesh electrode **166** in as large an area as possible. Namely, the sixth mesh electrode **563-2** is configured to shield a parasitic capacitance which may be generated between the third mesh electrode **166** and the cathode electrode.

[0207] The fifth mesh electrode **563-1** is configured to receive a first shielding signal Vadd_Rx. The sixth mesh electrode **563-2** is configured to receive a second shielding signal Vadd_Tx.

[0208] FIG. **13** is a waveform diagram schematically illustrating a drive of a touch sensor according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0209] The touch sensor **560** of the electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure is configured to operate in at least one sensing mode.

[0210] For example, the touch sensor **560** may operate to sense a mutual capacitance, sense a self-capacitance, or sequentially sense a mutual capacitance and a self-capacitance.

[0211] FIG. **13** is merely an example of a waveform diagram. The electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure may operate in only a mutual capacitance sensing period and also operate in only a self-capacitance sensing period.

[0212] The mutual capacitance sensing period Mutual Cap Sensing is described below.

[0213] The fifth mesh electrode **563-1** of the touch sensor **560** of the electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure is configured to receive the first shielding signal Vadd_Rx through the first wire portion **569** in the mutual capacitance sensing period. The first shielding signal Vadd_Rx may be set to a floating voltage capable of reducing a difference between a voltage of the touch sensing signal Rx and a voltage of the cathode electrode.

[0214] The sixth mesh electrode **563-2** of the touch sensor **560** of the electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure is configured to receive the second shielding signal Vadd_Tx through the first wire portion **569** in the mutual capacitance sensing period. The second shielding signal Vadd_Tx may be set to a specific voltage capable of reducing a difference between a voltage of the touch driving signal Tx and a voltage of the cathode electrode. For example, the second shielding signal Vadd_Tx may be synchronized with the touch driving signal Tx.

[0215] The touch driver is configured to apply voltages corresponding to the fifth mesh electrode **563-1** and the sixth mesh electrode **563-2**.

[0216] According to the above-described driving method, because the plurality of shielding signals can be optimized to the touch driving signal Tx and the touch sensing signal Rx and can be provided for the touch sensor **560**, a parasitic capacitance resulting from the cathode electrode can be efficiently blocked. Further, a potential difference between the sixth mesh electrode **563-2** and the third mesh electrode **166** and a potential difference between the fifth mesh electrode **563-1** and the fourth mesh electrode **167** can be minimized. Thus, the touch sensitivity of the touch sensor **560** can be improved.

[0217] The self-capacitance sensing period Self-Cap Sensing is described below.

[0218] The fifth mesh electrode **563-1** of the touch sensor **560** of the electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure is configured to receive the first shielding signal Vadd_Rx through the first wire portion **169** in the self-capacitance sensing period Self-Cap

Sensing.

[0219] Further, the sixth mesh electrode **563-2** is configured to receive the second shielding signal Vadd_Tx through the first wire portion **169** in the self-capacitance sensing period Self-Cap Sensing.

[0220] The first shielding signal Vadd_Rx and the second shielding signal Vadd_Tx in the self-capacitance sensing period Self-Cap Sensing are synchronized with a self-capacitance sensing touch driving signal Tx applied to the third mesh electrode **166** and a self-capacitance sensing touch driving signal Rx applied to the fourth mesh electrode **167**.

[0221] In the self-capacitance sensing period Self-Cap Sensing, pulses, in which a first touch signal Tx, a second touch sensing signal Rx, and the shielding signal Vadd are synchronized, are supplied to the third mesh electrode **166**. In other words, in a self-capacitance sensing method, channels of each touch electrode do not dividedly operate as the driving electrode and the sensing electrode. Namely, embodiments are not limited to the names of the touch driving signal Tx and the touch sensing signal Rx. In the self-capacitance sensing period Self-Cap Sensing, the touch driving signal Tx and the touch sensing signal Rx may mean signals configured to sense the self-capacitance of channels of the third mesh electrode **166** and the self-capacitance of channels of the fourth mesh electrode **167** in the touch sensor **560**.

[0222] According to the driving method described above, because the first shielding signal Vadd_Rx and the second shielding signal Vadd_Tx operate synchronously with the first touch signal Tx and the second touch signal Rx, a potential difference between the first mesh electrode layer **161** and the second mesh electrode layer **165** may be substantially uniform in the self-capacitance sensing period Self-Cap Sensing. Thus, most of the parasitic capacitance resulting from the cathode electrode is formed in the second mesh electrode **163**. Because the second mesh electrode **163** is synchronized with the signals applied to the third mesh electrode **166** and the fourth mesh electrode **167** while shielding the parasitic capacitance, the third mesh electrode **166** and the fourth mesh electrode **167** are not substantially affected by the fifth mesh electrode **563-1** and the sixth mesh electrode **563-2**. Thus, the touch sensitivity of the touch sensor **560** can be improved.

[0223] FIG. **14** is a plan view schematically illustrating a bridge mesh electrode, a transparent shielding electrode, and a mesh electrode of a touch sensor in an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0224] Description of structures and components identical or equivalent to those described above with reference to FIGS. **1** to **13** may be briefly made or may be entirely omitted for convenience of explanation.

[0225] A touch sensor **660** according to another embodiment of the disclosure may be formed on a display panel. Since the display panel may be substantially the same as the display panel **102** described above, a detailed description is omitted.

[0226] The touch sensor **660** according to another embodiment of the disclosure may be configured such that a transparent shielding electrode is formed between mesh electrodes **666** and **667** and a cathode electrode **133**, in order to shield a parasitic capacitance that may be generated between the mesh electrodes **666** and **667** and the cathode electrode **133**.

[0227] Since the third mesh electrode **666** of the touch sensor **660** according to another embodiment of the disclosure is substantially the same as the third mesh electrode **166** of the touch sensor **160** described above, a further description is omitted.

[0228] Since the fourth mesh electrode **667** of the touch sensor **660** according to another embodiment of the disclosure is substantially the same as the third mesh electrode **167** of the touch sensor **160** described above, a further description is omitted.

[0229] The mesh electrodes **666** and **667** of the touch sensor **660** according to another embodiment of the disclosure were merely referred to as the third mesh electrode **666** and the fourth mesh electrode **667** for convenience of comparison with other embodiments. For example, the third mesh

electrode **666** may be referred to as a first mesh electrode, and the fourth mesh electrode **667** may be referred to as a second mesh electrode.

[0230] Since a second wire portion **670** of the touch sensor **660** according to another embodiment of the disclosure is substantially the same as the second wire portion **170** of the touch sensor **160** described above, a further description is omitted.

[0231] FIGS. **15A** to **15D** are plan views schematically illustrating a stack order of components of a touch sensor in an electroluminescent display according to another embodiment of the disclosure.

[0232] More specifically, FIG. **15A** is an enlarged plan view of an area X shown in FIG. **14**. In FIG. **15A**, only transparent shielding electrodes **676** and **677** formed on the display panel are shown for convenience of explanation.

[0233] The first transparent shielding electrode **676** is configured to shield a parasitic capacitance which may be generated between the third mesh electrode **666** and the cathode electrode **133**.

[0234] The first transparent shielding electrode **676** may be divided into a plurality of blocks. The plurality of blocks of the first transparent shielding electrode **676** may be arranged in a second direction (Y-axis). A shape of each block may correspond to the shape of the third mesh electrode **666**. In other words, the first transparent shielding electrode **676** may be formed in a shape capable of overlapping the third mesh electrode **666** in as large an area as possible. Thus, the first transparent shielding electrode **676** can reduce the parasitic capacitance which may be generated between the cathode electrode **133** and the third mesh electrode **666**.

[0235] The second transparent shielding electrode **677** is configured to shield a parasitic capacitance which may be generated between the fourth mesh electrode **667** and the cathode electrode **133**. The second transparent shielding electrode **677** may be extended in a first direction (X-axis). A shape of the second transparent shielding electrode **677** may correspond to the shape of the fourth mesh electrode **667**. In other words, the second transparent shielding electrode **677** may be formed in the shape capable of overlapping the fourth mesh electrode **667** in as large an area as possible. Thus, the second transparent shielding electrode **677** can reduce the parasitic capacitance which may be generated between the fourth mesh electrode **667** and the cathode electrode **133**.

[0236] FIG. **15B** illustrates bridge mesh electrodes **667B** and **676B** formed on the transparent shielding electrodes **676** and **677** on the display panel for convenience of explanation.

[0237] The bridge mesh electrodes **667B** and **676B** each include a plurality of openings surrounding the pixel.

[0238] The first bridge mesh electrode **667B** and the second bridge mesh electrode **676B** may be formed using substantially the same electrode layer as the first mesh electrode layer **161** described in the embodiments of the disclosure. In the following description of the first bridge mesh electrode **667B** and the second bridge mesh electrode **676B**, a description overlapping with the first mesh electrode layer **161** is omitted for convenience of explanation.

[0239] An insulating layer is formed on the transparent shielding electrodes **676** and **677**. Hence, the transparent shielding electrodes **676** and **677** are electrically insulated from the first bridge mesh electrode **667B** and the second bridge mesh electrode **676B**.

[0240] The second bridge mesh electrode **676B** is configured to electrically connect the separated first transparent shielding electrodes **676** to each other. At least one contact hole CNT may be formed in an overlap area between the first transparent shielding electrodes **676**, which are separated from each other on the upper side and the lower side, and the second bridge mesh electrode **676B**, so that the second bridge mesh electrode **676B** is electrically connected to the first transparent shielding electrodes **676**. Thus, the second bridge mesh electrode **676B** can electrically connect the separated first transparent shielding electrodes **676**. The second bridge mesh electrode **676B** is electrically insulated from the second transparent shielding electrodes **677**. The first bridge mesh electrode **667B** is electrically insulated from the transparent shielding electrodes **676** and **677**.

[0241] FIG. **15C** illustrates the transparent shielding electrodes **676** and **677** on the display panel, the first mesh electrode **666** and the second mesh electrode **667** on the bridge mesh electrodes

667B and **676B** for convenience of explanation. Since the first mesh electrode **666** of the touch sensor **660** is substantially the same as the third mesh electrode **166** of the touch sensor **160** described above, a further description is omitted. Further, since the second mesh electrode **667** of the touch sensor **660** is substantially the same as the fourth mesh electrode **167** of the touch sensor **160** described above, a further description is omitted.

[0242] The first bridge mesh electrode **667B** electrically connects the separated second mesh electrodes **667** to each other through contact holes CNT.

[0243] According to the above-described configuration, even if the thickness of the encapsulation unit of the display panel decreases, the first mesh electrode **666** and the second mesh electrode **667** can reduce the parasitic capacitance resulting from the cathode electrode **133** using the first transparent shielding electrodes **676** and the second transparent shielding electrodes **677**.

[0244] FIG. **16A** is a cross-sectional view schematically illustrating a cutting surface A'-A'' of a touch sensor according to another embodiment of the disclosure as shown in FIG. **15D**. FIG. **16B** is a cross-sectional view schematically illustrating a cutting surface B'-B'' of a touch sensor according to another embodiment of the disclosure as shown in FIG. **15D**. FIG. **16C** is a cross-sectional view schematically illustrating a cutting surface C'-C'' of a touch sensor according to another embodiment of the disclosure as shown in FIG. **15D**.

[0245] Referring to FIG. **16A**, a touch buffer layer **670** may be further disposed on the display panel **102**. The touch buffer layer **670** may be disposed between the display panel **102** and the touch sensor **660**. The touch buffer layer **670** can prevent pads of the display panel **102** formed in the non-display area NA of the display panel **102** from being corroded in an etching process for forming the touch sensor **660** on an encapsulation unit **140**. A thickness of the touch buffer layer **670** may be less than a thickness of a second inorganic encapsulation layer **143**. The touch buffer layer **670** may be formed of an inorganic material such as silicon nitride (SiNx), silicon oxide (SiOx), or silicon oxynitride (SiON). A thickness of the touch buffer layer **670** may be 0.1 μm to 0.4 μm . However, embodiments are not limited thereto. The touch buffer layer **670** may be removed, if necessary or desired.

[0246] Referring to the cutting surfaces A'-A'', B'-B'' and C'-C'', a transparent conductive layer, for example, indium-tin-oxide (ITO) is patterned on the display panel **102** or the touch buffer layer **670** to form the first transparent shielding electrode **676** and the second transparent shielding electrode **677**. However, embodiments are not limited to ITO. The first transparent shielding electrode **676** and the second transparent shielding electrode **677** are electrically insulated from each other. A shielding electrode insulating layer **678** may be disposed on the first transparent shielding electrode **676** and the second transparent shielding electrode **677**. The shielding electrode insulating layer **678** may have a thickness range corresponding to materials usable in the first touch insulating layer **164** of the touch sensor **160**. Therefore, a description overlapping with that described above is omitted. A contact hole may be formed in a portion of the shielding electrode insulating layer **678**, and thus the first transparent shielding electrode **676** and the second bridge mesh electrode **676B** may be electrically connected to each other.

[0247] A first touch insulating layer **680** may be disposed on the second bridge mesh electrode **676B**. Since the first touch insulating layer **680** of the touch sensor **660** may be configured substantially the same as the first touch insulating layer **164** of the touch sensor **160**, a duplicated description is omitted.

[0248] The first and second mesh electrodes **666** and **667** may be disposed on the first touch insulating layer **680**. Since the first mesh electrode **666** and the second mesh electrode **667** of the touch sensor **660** may be configured substantially the same as the third mesh electrode **166** and the fourth mesh electrode **167** of the touch sensor **160**, a duplicated description is omitted.

[0249] A second touch insulating layer **682** may be disposed on the first mesh electrode **666** and the second mesh electrode **667**. Since the second touch insulating layer **682** of the touch sensor **660** may be configured substantially the same as the second touch insulating layer **168** of the touch

sensor 160, a duplicated description is omitted.

[0250] Embodiments of the disclosure may be described as follows.

[0251] Embodiments of the disclosure may provide an electroluminescent display including an electroluminescent element disposed in a display area of a substrate, an encapsulation unit disposed on the electroluminescent element, a plurality of transparent shielding electrodes disposed on the encapsulation unit, a shielding electrode insulating layer covering the plurality of transparent shielding electrodes, a plurality of bridge mesh electrodes positioned on the shielding electrode insulating layer, a first touch insulating layer covering the plurality of bridge mesh electrodes, and a plurality of mesh electrodes positioned on the first touch insulating layer, wherein some of the plurality of bridge mesh electrodes are configured to connect some of the plurality of transparent shielding electrodes through a contact hole of the shielding electrode insulating layer, wherein other some of the plurality of bridge mesh electrodes are configured to connect some of the plurality of mesh electrodes through a contact hole of the first touch insulating layer.

[0252] The plurality of bridge mesh electrodes may have a metal mesh shape including an opening in which a subpixel including the electroluminescent element is disposed. The electroluminescent display may further include a touch buffer layer disposed between the encapsulation unit and the plurality of transparent shielding electrodes. The plurality of transparent shielding electrodes may be configured to reduce a parasitic capacitance formed between a cathode electrode of the electroluminescent element and the plurality of mesh electrodes. A thickness of the encapsulation unit may be equal to or less than at least 5 μm . The plurality of mesh electrodes may be configured to operate using at least one of a mutual capacitance sensing method and a self-capacitance sensing method, and some of the plurality of transparent shielding electrodes may be in a floating state. The plurality of mesh electrodes may be configured to operate using at least one of the mutual capacitance sensing method and the self-capacitance sensing method, and other some of the plurality of transparent shielding electrodes may be synchronized with a touch driving signal. Some of the plurality of bridge mesh electrodes may be configured to completely overlap the plurality of transparent shielding electrodes, and other some of the plurality of bridge mesh electrodes may be configured to traverse an area in which the plurality of transparent shielding electrodes is not formed.

[0253] According to the above-described configuration, embodiments of the disclosure may be modified using the transparent shielding electrodes. Embodiments of the disclosure can shield a parasitic capacitance resulting from the cathode electrode and reduce a thickness of the encapsulation unit. Further, because a shielding area can further increase, the parasitic capacitance can be shielded more efficiently.

[0254] Embodiments of the disclosure may provide an electroluminescent display including an electroluminescent element disposed in a display area of a substrate, an encapsulation unit disposed on the electroluminescent element, a first mesh electrode layer disposed on the encapsulation unit, an insulating layer covering the first mesh electrode layer, and a second mesh electrode layer disposed on the insulating layer, wherein the first mesh electrode layer includes a first mesh electrode and a second mesh electrode separated from the first mesh electrode, wherein the second mesh electrode layer includes a third mesh electrode extended in a first direction and a fourth mesh electrode extended in a second direction intersecting the first direction through the first mesh electrode intersecting the third mesh electrode.

[0255] The first mesh electrode layer may include a first opening and a first disconnection portion, and the second mesh electrode layer may include a second opening and a second disconnection portion. The electroluminescent element may be disposed in the first opening and the second opening, or disposed in the first disconnection portion and the second disconnection portion.

[0256] The electroluminescent element may include a common electrode. The first mesh electrode and the common electrode may be configured to generate a capacitance. The second mesh electrode layer may be configured to generate a capacitance and sense a touch input. A parasitic

capacitance between the common electrode and the third and fourth mesh electrodes may be minimized by the second mesh electrode. The third mesh electrode and the fourth mesh electrode may be configured to operate using at least one of a mutual capacitance sensing method and a self-capacitance sensing method. The second mesh electrode may be configured to operate corresponding to the at least one sensing method. The electroluminescent element may include a common electrode. A distance between the common electrode and the first mesh electrode layer may be 3 μm to 30 μm , and a distance between the first mesh electrode layer and the second mesh electrode layer may be 0.01 μm to 3 μm . In the display area, 80% or more of an area of the second mesh electrode layer may overlap the first mesh electrode layer.

[0257] Embodiments of the disclosure may provide a flexible electroluminescent display including a flexible substrate, a transistor positioned on the flexible substrate, an anode electrode positioned on the transistor, a bank surrounding the anode electrode, an electroluminescent layer positioned on the anode electrode, a cathode electrode positioned on the electroluminescent layer, a flexible encapsulation unit positioned on the cathode electrode, a first mesh electrode layer positioned on the flexible encapsulation unit and configured to overlap the bank and generate a first capacitance together with the cathode electrode, an insulating layer covering the first mesh electrode layer, and a second mesh electrode layer positioned on the insulating layer and configured to overlap the first mesh electrode layer and generate a second capacitance together with the first mesh electrode layer.

[0258] A magnitude of the first capacitance may be greater than a magnitude of the second capacitance. The flexible electroluminescent display may further include a touch driver electrically connected to the first mesh electrode layer and the second mesh electrode layer. The touch driver may be configured to apply a predetermined voltage to each of the first mesh electrode layer and the second mesh electrode layer. When the first capacitance increases due to the predetermined voltage, the second capacitance may be reduced. The second mesh electrode layer may be divided into a plurality of blocks and configured to sense a touch input. The first mesh electrode layer may be divided into a plurality of blocks and configured to perform a bridge function of connecting some of the plurality of blocks of the second mesh electrode layer while reducing a parasitic capacitance between the cathode electrode and the second mesh electrode layer. The touch driver may be configured to sequentially perform a mutual capacitance sensing drive and a self-capacitance sensing drive. The flexible encapsulation unit may include a first inorganic encapsulation layer configured to seal the cathode electrode, an organic layer configured to planarize the first inorganic encapsulation layer, and a second inorganic encapsulation layer configured to seal the organic layer. A thickness of the flexible encapsulation unit may be less than 10 μm .

[0259] Embodiments of the disclosure may provide a touch sensor integrated display including a substrate, a plurality of subpixels disposed on the substrate, the plurality of subpixels including a plurality of circuit units configured to supply an image signal and an electroluminescent diode electrically connected to the plurality of circuit units, an encapsulation unit configured to cover the plurality of subpixels, a first mesh electrode layer that is disposed on the encapsulation unit and is divided into a plurality of areas by a predetermined disconnection pattern, an insulating layer covering the first mesh electrode layer, and a second mesh electrode layer that is disposed on the insulating layer and is divided into a plurality of areas by a predetermined disconnection pattern, wherein a shape of the predetermined disconnection pattern of the first mesh electrode layer is different from a shape of the predetermined disconnection pattern of the second mesh electrode layer, wherein at least a portion of the first mesh electrode layer and at least a portion of the second mesh electrode layer are configured to receive the same signal.

[0260] A parasitic capacitance between the plurality of subpixels and the second mesh electrode layer may be reduced by the same signal. The plurality of subpixels may include red subpixels, green subpixels, and blue subpixels. The subpixels may be separated from one another by the bank. The first mesh electrode layer and the second mesh electrode layer may be vertically aligned on the

bank.

[0261] The second mesh electrode layer may include a plurality of touch electrodes disposed along a first direction and a second direction intersecting the first direction. The first mesh electrode layer may include active shielding electrodes. The active shielding electrodes may be disposed along the first direction.

[0262] As described above, the embodiments of the disclosure can solve various problems resulting from the parasitic capacitance generated between the cathode electrode and the touch electrode by providing the shielding electrode between the cathode electrode and the touch electrode.

[0263] The embodiments of the disclosure can reduce the parasitic capacitance generated between the cathode electrode and the touch electrode by actively driving the shielding electrode between the cathode electrode and the touch electrode.

[0264] The embodiments of the disclosure can improve the flexibility characteristics of the electroluminescent display by minimizing the thickness of the encapsulation unit.

[0265] The embodiments of the disclosure can simultaneously form the bridge and the shielding electrode without adding a separate process.

[0266] The effects and the advantages according to the embodiments of the disclosure are limited to the above description, and additional features and advantages are included in the embodiments of the disclosure.

[0267] Although the embodiments have been described with reference to a number of illustrative embodiments thereof, numerous other modifications and embodiments may be devised by those skilled in the art that will fall within the scope of the principles of this disclosure. In particular, various variations and modifications are possible in the component parts and/or arrangements of the subject combination arrangement within the scope of the disclosure, the drawings and the appended claims. In addition to variations and modifications in the component parts and/or arrangements, alternative uses will also be apparent to those skilled in the art.

Claims

1. A foldable display comprising: a substrate including a display region and a non-display region; a pad area on the non-display region; a transistor on the display region of the substrate, the transistor having an active layer, a source electrode, a drain electrode, and a gate electrode; a planarization layer on the transistor; an anode electrode on the planarization layer; a bank surrounding the anode electrode; a spacer on the bank; an electroluminescent layer on the anode electrode; a cathode electrode on the electroluminescent layer and the bank; an encapsulation unit on the cathode electrode; a touch buffer layer on the encapsulation unit; a lower mesh electrode on the touch buffer layer; and an upper mesh electrode on the lower mesh electrode, wherein the lower mesh electrode and the upper mesh electrode comprise a multi-layer structure including a first titanium layer, an aluminum layer, and a second titanium layer, wherein the upper mesh electrode includes a first upper mesh electrode extending in a first direction and a second upper mesh electrode extending in a second direction, and wherein a layer of the multi-layer structure has a different width at a portion crossing with the first upper mesh electrode and the second upper mesh electrode.

2. The foldable display of claim 1, further comprising: a touch routing line including a first touch routing line connected to the first upper mesh electrode and a second touch routing line connected to the second upper mesh electrode.

3. The foldable display of claim 2, wherein the first touch routing line is connected to both sides of the first upper mesh electrode, and the second touch routing line is connected to one side of the second upper mesh electrode.

4. The foldable display of claim 1, wherein the spacer is higher than a height of a portion of the bank.

5. The foldable display of claim 1, wherein the electroluminescent layer has a single-layer structure or a multi-layer structure.
 6. The foldable display of claim 1, wherein the encapsulation unit has a thickness of less than 10 μm .
 7. The foldable display of claim 1, wherein the encapsulation unit includes at least a first inorganic encapsulation layer and a second inorganic encapsulation layer.
 8. The foldable display of claim 7, wherein the first inorganic encapsulation layer has a thickness of 0.1 μm to 1.5 μm .
 9. The foldable display of claim 7, wherein the second inorganic encapsulation layer has a thickness of 0.1 μm to 1.5 μm .
 10. The foldable display of claim 7, wherein a thickness of the touch buffer layer is thinner than a thickness of the second inorganic encapsulation layer.
 11. The foldable display of claim 1, further comprising: a first touch insulating layer between the lower mesh electrode and the upper mesh electrode.
 12. The foldable display of claim 11, wherein the first touch insulating layer has a thickness of 0.01 μm to 3 μm .
 13. The foldable display of claim 1, wherein the lower mesh electrode generates a first capacitance with the cathode electrode, and the upper mesh electrode generates a second capacitance with the lower mesh electrode.
 14. The foldable display of claim 1, wherein the cathode electrode is on the spacer.
 15. The foldable display of claim 1, wherein the cathode electrode is in contact with the spacer or the bank.
 16. The foldable display of claim 1, wherein at least one of the lower mesh electrode and the upper mesh electrode overlaps the spacer or the bank.
 17. The foldable display of claim 1, wherein a distance between the upper mesh electrode and the cathode electrode in a central area of the bank is less than a distance between the upper mesh electrode and the cathode electrode in an emission region.
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