

oligomers, nematics, or active chiral additives. The non-polymerizable components pitch distribution is non linear resulting in a broad band of reflection wavelengths in the reflective cholesteric liquid crystal color filters produced. The non-polymerizable liquid crystal component is phase segregated from the polymerizable liquid crystal and diffuses along the UV field to generate a pitch gradient. The bandwidth is adjusted by the diffusion rate of the non-polarizable liquid crystal component being slower than the polymerization rate of the polymerizable liquid crystal.

[0384] Second Illustrative Embodiment Of The Generalized LCD Panel Construction Shown In FIG. 2

[0385] In the illustrative embodiments shown in FIGS. 29 through 30A2, the backlighting structure 7 is realized in a manner described above. Understandably, there are other techniques for producing a plane of unpolarized light for use in connection with the LCD panel of the present invention.

[0386] In the illustrative embodiment of FIGS. 29 through and 30A2, the pixelated array of polarization rotating elements 9 is realized as an array of linear polarization rotating elements 9' formed within a single plane. As indicated in FIGS. 30A1 and 30A2, each pass-band linear polarizing reflective element 10A', 10B', 10C' in the pixelated pass-band linearly polarizing panel 10' has a LP2 characteristic polarization state, whereas the broad-band linear polarizing reflective panel 8' adjacent the backlighting structure has an LP1 characteristic polarization state and the broad-band linearly polarizing reflective panel 11' has an LP2 characteristic polarization state.

[0387] A method of making the broad-band linearly polarizing reflective panels 8' and 11' is disclosed in great detail in International Application Number PCT/US96/17464 entitled "Super Broad-band Polarizing Reflective Material" published on May 9, 1997 under International Publication Number WO 97/16762, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. The reflection characteristics of the broad-band linearly polarizing reflective panel 8' are graphically illustrated in FIG. 30B for incident light having linear polarization state LP1, whereas the reflection characteristics of the broad-band linearly polarizing reflective panel 11' are graphically illustrated in FIG. 30C for incident light having linear polarization state LP2.

[0388] In the illustrative embodiment of FIGS. 30A1 and 30A2, the polarization rotating array 9 is realized as an array of electronically-controlled linear polarization rotating elements 9A', 9B', 9C' for rotating the linearly polarized electric field along LP1 to the LP2 polarization direction as the light rays are transmitted through the spatially corresponding pixels in the LCD panel. In the illustrative embodiment of FIGS. 30A1 and 30A2, each electronically-controlled linear polarization rotating element can be realized as a twisted nematic (TN) liquid crystal cell, super-twisted nematic (STN) liquid crystal cell, or ferro-electric cell, whose operation is by controlled by a control voltage well known in the art. To construct the linear polarization rotating elements, thin film transistors (TFTs) can be used to create the necessary voltages across a layer of liquid crystal material to achieve alignment of the liquid crystal molecules and thus cause the corresponding element to not rotate the polarization direction of transmitted light passing therethrough. In its electrically-inactive state (i.e. no voltage is applied), the electric field intensity of light exiting from the cell is

substantially zero and thus a "dark" subpixel level is produced. In its electrically-active state (i.e. the threshold voltage V_T is applied), the electric field intensity of light exiting from the cell is substantially non-zero and thus a "bright" subpixel level is produced.

[0389] In the illustrative embodiment of FIG. 30A1 and 30A2, the pixelated array of spectral filtering elements 10 is realized as an array of pass-band linear polarizing reflective elements 10A', 10B', 10C' formed within a single plane. Broad-band linearly polarizing reflective panel 11' is laminated to the pixelated array of spectral filtering elements 10.

[0390] As shown in FIG. 30D, each pass-band polarizing reflective element 10C' associated with a "blue" subpixel in the pixelated pass-band linear polarizing panel 10' is particularly designed to reflect nearly 100% all spectral components having the LP2 characteristic polarization state and a wavelength within the green reflective band $\Delta\lambda_G$ or the red reflective band $\Delta\lambda_R$, whereas all spectral components having the LP2 characteristic polarization state and a wavelength within the blue reflective band $\Delta\lambda_B$ are transmitted nearly 100% through the pass-band polarizing reflective element. The pass-band polarizing reflective element associated with each "blue" subpixel is "tuned" during fabrication in the manner described hereinabove.

[0391] As shown in FIG. 30E, each pass-band polarizing reflective element 10B' associated with a "green" subpixel in the pixelated pass-band linearly polarizing panel 10' is particularly designed to reflect nearly 100% all spectral components having the LP2 characteristic polarization state and a wavelength within the red reflective band $\Delta\lambda_R$ or the blue reflective band $\Delta\lambda_B$, whereas all spectral components having the LP2 characteristic polarization state and a wavelength within the green reflective band $\Delta\lambda_G$ are transmitted nearly 100% through the pass-band polarizing reflective element. The pass-band polarizing reflective element associated with each "green" subpixel is "tuned" during fabrication in the manner described hereinabove.

[0392] As shown in FIG. 30F, each pass-band polarizing reflective element 10C' associated with a "red" subpixel in the pixelated pass-band linear polarizing panel 10' is particularly designed to reflect nearly 100% all spectral components having the LP2 characteristic polarization state and a wavelength within the green reflective band $\Delta\lambda_G$ or the blue reflective band, whereas all spectral components having the LP2 characteristic polarization state and a wavelength within the red reflective band $\Delta\lambda_R$ are transmitted nearly 100% through the pass-band polarizing reflective element. The pass-band polarizing reflective element associated with each "red" subpixel is "tuned" during fabrication in the manner described hereinabove.

[0393] The pixelated pass-band linearly polarizing reflective panel 9' can be fabricated in a manner similar to the way described in the LCD panel fabrication method described hereinabove.

[0394] The Second Generalized LCD Panel Construction Of The Present Invention

[0395] In the second generalized LCD panel construction shown in FIG. 31, spectral filtering occurs before spatial intensity modulation. In the first illustrative embodiment of this LCD panel construction shown in FIGS. 31A1 and 31A2, circular polarization techniques are used to carry out