

locations, and combinations with antireflective coatings with the black matrix further reduce undesirable reflections.

[0068] As described above with reference to FIG. 2, the electronics section of the assembled display device may include connecting plates 132 which form electrical connections to individual row or column electrodes across the area of the display. FIGS. 9, 10 and 11 illustrate an exemplary manner in which these connections may be made. FIG. 9 is a front plan view of an exemplary display device with the connecting plates 132 shown as dashed line boxes. The insulating layer 130 has been removed for clarity. FIG. 9 also includes two row electrodes 128A and 128B and two column electrodes 122A and 122B. Column electrode 122A is shown as being connected to connecting plate 132A through the vias 914. Column electrode 122B is shown as being connected to connecting plate 132D through the vias 916. Row electrodes 128A and 128B are coupled to the respective connecting plates 132B and 132C through the vias 910 and 912 respectively.

[0069] FIGS. 10 and 11 show cutaway views of a portion of the electronic section shown in FIG. 9 along the lines F10 and F11 respectively. FIGS. 10 and 11 include the insulating layer 130 which was omitted from FIG. 9. As shown in FIG. 9, the connections 916 to the column electrodes 122B are made on a region of the display device which is between active pixel elements. Thus, FIG. 10 shows only the float glass substrate 120, the column electrodes 122, the insulating layer 130, and the connecting plates 132D and 132E. The via 916 between the connecting plate 132D and column electrode 122B is made through the opening 131 in the insulating layer 130. This connection may be made for example, when the connecting plate is printed on the electronics section by allowing the silver paste or ink used in the printing process to flow through the opening 131 and make contact with the column electrode 122B.

[0070] FIG. 11 illustrates an exemplary method for making connections to the row electrodes. As shown in FIG. 9, the connections to the row electrodes are made on a portion of the display containing the active pixel elements 124. The segment of the display shown in FIG. 11 includes the glass substrate 120, transparent column electrodes 122, display material 124 and row electrode 128B. As shown in FIG. 9, the connecting plate 132B makes connection with the row electrode 128B using the vias 910. This connection is made through the openings 131 in the insulator 130. As shown in FIG. 11, there are several openings such that connection between the connecting plate 132B and row electrode 128B may be made at several locations. These multiple openings provide redundancy which increases yield in the completed display devices. Although not shown in FIG. 10, the connections to the column electrodes 122 are also made at a plurality of locations along the connecting plates. Referring to FIG. 9, for example, there are three vias 916 representing connections between the connecting plate and 132D and the column electrode 122B.

[0071] Because ITO is not as good a conductor as aluminum or silver, there may be resistive voltage drops along the column electrodes from the locations at which the electronics module 134 is connected to the column electrode. To reduce the magnitude of these resistive voltage drops, it may be desirable to connect the electronics module to each column electrode at several spaced points along the column

electrode. Because these points are desirably not adjacent, it may be desirable to allocate two or even three connecting plates 132 for each column electrode 122. Thus, the number of connecting plates 132 and connecting pads 134 may be greater than the sum of the number of row electrodes and column electrodes. Alternatively, it may be desirable to form a metallic conductive trace which is in contact with the ITO electrode along the length of the display device. The conductive trace is desirably masked from view by a dark-colored material or is desirably thin to prevent specular reflections from these traces from interfering with the displayed image.

[0072] As set forth above, a structure commonly found in both tiled and non-tiled displays is a black matrix. A black matrix may be fabricated from black lines. The black matrix is typically positioned between the active portions of the pixels to absorb ambient light in these areas in order to increase the display contrast. Black matrix lines may be found, for example between the phosphors on the front screen of a CRT or between the pixel positions defined for a liquid crystal display. In tiled displays, black matrix lines are typically smaller than mullions and are typically placed in the plane of the pixels. Because the black matrix lines are periodic and placed between the pixels, they do not tend to break the continuity of the image.

[0073] The present invention employs an optical structure that may be incorporated in a tiled display to make the physical gaps between the tiles indistinguishable from the black matrix and, thus, invisible to the viewer. This integrating structure may also be used for a non-tiled display to add a black-matrix to a display device which does not have a black matrix in the plane of the emissive pixel materials.

[0074] An illustration of this structure is shown in FIGS. 12 and 12A. FIG. 12 is a cut-away perspective drawing of a partially assembled tiled display device. FIG. 12A shows details of a portion of the display device shown in FIG. 12. The main components of the display device are a frame 1214, a transparent sheet 1220 of, for example, glass or plastic, a plurality of black lines 2010 that form a black matrix and the tiles 100 which form the display. The key feature of the optical integrator structure is a pattern of black lines 1210 which are like black matrix lines in that they have equal widths and a spacing equal to the pixel pitch. These black lines 1210 may be aligned to lie between all pixels in the display, including those pixels on either side of the gaps 1212 between the tiles 100. The optical integrator pattern of black lines also serve as mullions in that some of the black lines in the optical integrator structure lie on top of the gaps 1212 between the display tiles 100 and block the visibility of the gaps. As assembled, the glass substrates 120 of the tiles 100 are positioned adjacent to the black lines 1210 on the back surface of the transparent sheet 1220, which forms the integrating structure.

[0075] Unlike a conventional black matrix, the disclosed optical structure for integrating display tiles is placed above the plane containing the pixels (like mullion structures), on the viewer-side of the tiles 100, with the black line pattern being in contact with the display tiles. Unlike mullions, the black lines on the optical integrator structure 1220 are relatively narrow, so that the black lines which cover the joints between tiles are essentially the same width as the black lines which form the black matrix. Thus, the disclosed