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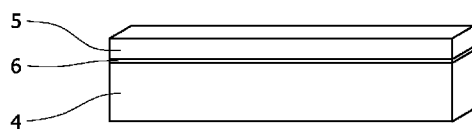
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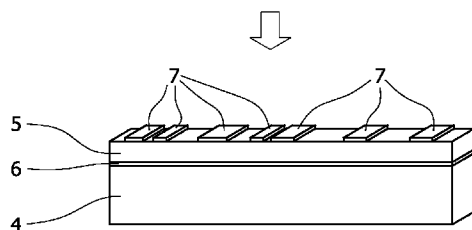
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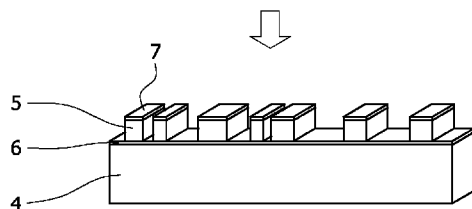
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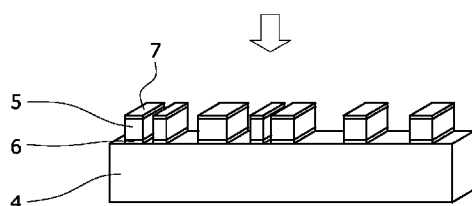
a



b



c



d

(57) Abstract: The present invention is concerned with etchant or etching solutions and additives therefor, a process of preparing the same, a process of patterning a substrate employing the same, a patterned substrate thus prepared in accordance with the present invention and an electronic device including such a patterned substrate. An etchant solution according to the present invention for patterned etching of at least one surface or surface coating of a substrate comprises nitric acid, a nitrite salt, a halogenated organic acid represented by the formula $C(H)_n(Hal)_m[C(H)_o(Hal)_p]_qCO_2H$, where Hal represents bromo, chloro, fluoro or iodo, where n is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and m is 0, 1, 2 or 3, with the proviso that $m + n = 3$; o is 0 or 1, p is 1 or 2, with the proviso that $o + p = 2$; q is 0 or 1, with the proviso that $q + m = 1, 2, 3$ or 4; and balance water.



Declaration under Rule 4.17:

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*

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