

THIN FILM TRANSISTOR, SOLID DEVICE, DISPLAY DEVICE AND MANUFACTURING
METHOD OF A THIN FILM TRANSISTOR

Technical Field

The present invention relates to a thin film transistor, a solid device such as a semiconductor device, a display device such as a liquid crystal display panel, and a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor. More particularly, the present invention pertains to an improved technique of electrical characteristics of a thin film transistor.

Background Art

In an active matrix ^{substrate} ~~base~~ of a liquid crystal display panel and so on, a thin film transistor on board as its switching element is, as is shown in Figure 20, for instance, formed in such a way that a source area 2205 and a drain area 2206 are self-aligned, by after forming a gate oxidation film 2203 on the face of a silicon layer 2202 on the surface of a ^{substrate} ~~base~~ 2201, ^{implanting} ~~injecting~~ ions to it, with a gate electrode 2204 on the surface of 2203 as a mask, to make a part of the silicon layer electrically-conductive. A thin film transistor having a structure shown in Figure 20, however, as is shown by a solid line L3 in Figure 21, has a problem that an intense drain current flows even when a negative gate voltage is applied (off state)

opposite direction, a pn-junction breaks and a hole is ~~injected~~^{implanted}. The intensity of a drain current tends to be determined by the voltage applied to between a gate electrode 2204 and a drain area 2206, and ^{density of} a trap energy level in a silicon layer corresponding to a drain area 2206 and an end of a gate electrode 2204 near a drain area 2206. Accordingly, a structure may be adopted where a ratio of on-off current is increased by employing a drain structure whose field strength is weakened (LDD structure) by establishing a low concentration area at an end of a drain area corresponding to an end of a gate electrode. In order to manufacture a thin film transistor with this LDD structure, a following manufacturing method has been adopted conventionally. First, as is shown in Figure 22(a), after forming a pattern 2402 consisting of a silicon film on the face of a ~~base~~^{substrate} 2401, its face is covered with a gate insulation film 2403, on the surface of which an electrically-conductive film 2404, which is to constitute a gate electrode, is formed.

Second, as is shown in Figure 22(b), a resist pattern 2405 is formed on the face of an electrically-conductive film 2404 by employing a photolithography technique. By performing an etching selectively, with the resist pattern 2405 used as a mask, a gate electrode 2406, thinner than a resist pattern, is formed.

Third, in an ion implantation method, by ~~injecting~~^{implanting} impurities which are to be a donor or an acceptor, as much as $1 \times 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ for instance, a source area 2407 and a drain area 2408 are formed in a

2405 becomes a channel ~~forming~~ area 2409.

Fourth, a resist pattern 2405 is removed. In order to form an LDD structure, as is shown in Figure 22(d), by ~~injecting~~^{implanting} impurities about $1 \times 10^{14} \text{cm}^{-2}$ in an ion implantation method, with a gate electrode 2406 as a mask, low concentration areas 2410 and 2411 are formed in an area corresponding to an end of a gate electrode 2406.

In a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor with a conventional LDD structure, however, because after a gate electrode 2406 is formed, a source area 2407, a drain area 2408 and low concentration areas 2410 and 2411 are formed, when a silicon film to which impurities are ~~injected~~^{implanted} is heat-treated at about 1000°C to activate the impurities, a gate electrode 2406 is also heated. Therefore, there arises a problem that only materials having high heat resistance such as a silicon compound can be used as materials of a gate electrode 2406, at the expense of its electric resistance and so on. If signals are transmitted by employing wires formed simultaneously with a gate electrode 2406, as in an active matrix ^{Substrate}~~base~~ of a liquid crystal display panel, signals are retarded much on account of the high electric resistance. There is an alternative method in which the impurities are activated by irradiating a laser beam partially without giving heat stress to a gate electrode 2406. In this method, ^{density of} a trap energy level is increased because the crystalline state which was disturbed by the ~~injection~~^{implantation} of impurities cannot be restored sufficiently. Hence an off current increases, and

object of the present invention lies in realizing a thin film transistor, a solid device such as a semiconductor device, a display device such as a liquid crystal display panel, which can improve electrical characteristics such as off-current characteristics by the improvement of the composition of source and drain areas and a gate electrode, and a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor.

Disclosure of Invention

In order to solve the above-mentioned problems, in a thin film transistor according to the present invention, a channel-~~forming~~ area which can form a channel between a source area and a drain area, and a gate electrode which confronts the channel-~~forming~~ area through a gate insulation film on the face of the channel-~~forming~~ area are set up on the face of a ^{substrate} ~~base~~. In a source area and a drain area, an area which overlaps an end of a gate electrode through a gate insulation film is a low concentration area formed in a process prior to that of a gate electrode, area whose impurity concentration is under $1 \times 10^{20} \text{cm}^{-3}$, for instance. That is to say, a source area and a drain area have a structure where the areas are formed in a process prior to that of a gate electrode, and have a low concentration area overlapping a gate electrode, or a source area and a drain area have a structure where the areas as a whole are a low concentration area formed in a process prior to that of a gate electrode and its end overlaps the gate electrode.

with a gate electrode used as a mask, but are formed before a gate electrode is formed. Accordingly, when the ~~injected~~^{implanted} impurities are activated, a gate electrode is not formed yet. Therefore, it is possible to activate impurities without being restricted by the heat resistance of components of a gate electrode. More particularly, when a thin film transistor is formed in a low-temperature process, since a channel area can be crystallized after the ~~injection~~^{implantation} of impurities, density of a trap energy level can be reduced in a drain area corresponding to an end of a gate electrode and its neighborhood. Furthermore, as it is a low concentration area of a source area and a drain area that confronts the gate electrode, ^{electric} field strength is small at the end of a gate electrode. Hence, the improvement of an off current characteristics of a thin film transistor can be obtained.

When a thin film transistor according to the present invention is formed in a low-temperature process in which the process highest temperature is restrained under about 600°C, it is desirable that an activation process to form a low concentration area serve as a crystallization treatment of a channel area at the same time.

That is, after forming a silicon film to constitute a low concentration area and a channel-~~forming~~ area, impurities are ~~injected~~^{implanted} selectively, and then the crystallization treatment is performed and the impurities are activated at the same time. As a crystallization treatment, the following methods can be adopted: a laser annealing method, in which a silicon film is crystallized by irradiating a

crystallized by annealing it for a long time at a low temperature and impurities are activated at the same time; or a rapid thermal annealing method (RTA method), in which a silicon film is crystallized by lamp annealing it and impurities are activated simultaneously.

In the present invention, it is desirable to reduce a parasitic resistance by setting up a low resistance area which connects to a low concentration area with a high impurity concentration, or a low resistance area which connects to a low concentration area with a thick film respectively in a source area and a drain area. It is also possible to form a channel-~~forming~~ area, a source area and a whole drain area or a part of it in a different process.

It is desirable for a film in a low concentration area to have an equal thickness to a film in a channel-~~forming~~ area. Or it is desirable to set up the thickness of a film in a low concentration area thin compared to the thickness of a depletion layer which is formed in such a condition that the thickness is determined by the impurity concentration in a low concentration area when potential is applied to a gate electrode. The thickness of a film in a low concentration area is set up, for instance, under about 500Å.

Such a thin film transistor can be used in various solid devices such as a three-dimensional integrated circuit (semiconductor device) and an image sensor. It is also possible to make a display device such as a liquid crystal display panel, with a thin film

this case, for example, it is possible to constitute a thin film transistor according to the present invention of an n-channel type thin film transistor, while in a CMOS circuit of a drive circuit area formed on the same ~~base~~^{substrate} together with an active matrix array, it is possible to use an n-channel type thin film transistor of the same structure as a thin film transistor and a p-channel type thin film transistor formed in a self-aligned way to a gate electrode. As another combination, conversing the structure of an n-channel type thin film transistor and a p-channel type thin film transistor, it is possible for the p-channel type thin film transistor to be of the structure according to the present invention, and for the p-channel type thin film transistor to be self-aligned. In this case, the pixel part is constituted of a p-channel type thin film transistor.

In a pixel part, while a thin film transistor according to the present invention is used, in a drive circuit formed on the same ~~base~~^{substrate} together with an active matrix array, for any thin film transistor constituting a CMOS circuit, an n-channel type thin film transistor and a p-channel type thin film transistor which are formed in a self-aligned way to a gate electrode can be used.

Whichever combination is employed to constitute a thin film transistor in a pixel part and a drive circuit, the impurity concentration of each area should be, for instance, over about $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ in a source area and a drain area of a self-aligned thin film transistor, and under about $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ in a low concentration .

drain areas of a self-aligned thin film transistor may sometimes be equal to that of a film in a low concentration area of a non-self-aligned thin film transistor.

In an active matrix array, ~~retention volume~~^{Storage Capacitance} is usually connected in series to a drain area of a thin film transistor constituting a pixel area. The ~~retention capacity~~^{Storage Capacitance} can be formed, for example, with a scanning line in an ~~upper state~~^{prior stage} as an upper electrode, a gate insulation film of a thin film transistor as a capacitor insulation film, and an extended area formed by extending a drain area of a thin film transistor as a lower electrode.

However, when a thin film transistor is made employing a conventional technique, that is, when source and drain areas are formed after a gate electrode is formed, after a gate electrode is formed, ions cannot be ~~injected~~^{implanted} to the lower part, therefore a process needs to be added to form a lower electrode under a gate line of the ~~upper~~^{prior} stage. In a thin film transistor according to the present invention, by contrast, since at least a low concentration area is formed before a gate electrode is formed, an extended area can be made in a drain area to be used as a lower electrode thanks to this process.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a sectional view showing a structure of a thin film transistor according to the first embodiment of the present

a thin film transistor shown in Figure 1; Figure 2(b) is a graph showing off current characteristics of a thin film transistor according to the comparative embodiment;

Figure 3(a) is an illustration showing a parasitic capacitance of a thin film transistor shown in Figure 1; Figure 3(b) is an illustration showing a parasitic capacitance of a thin film transistor according to the comparative embodiment;

Figures 4(a) to (d) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor shown in Figure 1;

Figures 5(a) to (c) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to the second embodiment of the present invention;

Figures 6(a) to (d) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to the third embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 7 is a sectional view showing a structure of a thin film transistor according to the fourth embodiment of the present invention;

Figures 8(a) to (c) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to the fifth embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 9 is a sectional view showing a structure of a thin film transistor according to the sixth embodiment of the present

part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor shown in Figure 9;

Figures 11(a) to (e) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a CMOS circuit (semiconductor device) equipped with a thin film transistor according to the seventh embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 12 is a block diagram showing a constitution of a liquid crystal display panel;

Figure 13 is a plan view showing a constitution of each pixel area in a pixel part of a liquid crystal display panel shown in Figure 12;

Figure 14 is a sectional view of a thin film transistor formed on an active matrix ^{substrate}~~base~~ of a liquid crystal display panel according to the eighth embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 15 is a sectional view of a thin film transistor formed on an active matrix ^{substrate}~~base~~ of a liquid crystal display panel according to the ninth embodiment of the present invention;

Figures 16(a) to (d) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor formed on an active matrix ^{substrate}~~base~~ of a liquid crystal display panel according to the tenth embodiment of the present invention;

Figures 17(a) and (b) are process sectional views showing a part of a method of manufacturing a ^{storage capacitor}~~volume retaining part~~ in a pixel part in a conventional liquid crystal display panel;

active matrix ^{substrate}~~base~~ of a liquid crystal display panel according to the eleventh embodiment of the present invention;

Figures 19(a) to (e) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor formed on an active matrix ^{substrate}~~base~~ of a liquid crystal display panel according to the twelfth embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 20 is a sectional view showing a constitution of a transistor;

Figure 21 is a graph showing off current characteristics of a conventional thin film transistor; and,

Figures 22(a) to (d) are sectional views showing a manufacturing method of another conventional thin film transistor.

Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention

A thin film transistor according to the present invention will be explained below with reference to the drawings.

First Embodiment

Figure 1 is a sectional view showing a constitution of a thin film transistor according to the present embodiment.

In this figure, a thin film transistor 110 of the present embodiment is formed on an insulation ^{substrate}~~base~~ 111 made from glass, quartz or sapphire and so on, and has on the face of the insulation ^{substrate}~~base~~ 111 an n - source area 112 and an n - drain area 113 consisting of an n -

of phosphorus is added, and a channel-~~forming~~ area 114 which lies between an n⁻ source area 112 and an n⁻ drain area 113 and connects these areas. The n⁻ source area 112, the n⁻ drain area 113 and the channel-~~forming~~ area 114 are silicon films made by crystallizing amorphous silicon, and because the n⁻ source area 112, the n⁻ drain area 113 and the channel-~~forming~~ area 114 are determined by the presence of impurities, the thickness of films of the n⁻ source area 112, the n⁻ drain area 113 and the channel-~~forming~~ area 114 are approximately the same, that is, about 400Å. On the surfaces of the n⁻ source area 112, the n⁻ drain area 113 and the channel-~~forming~~ area 114, there are a gate insulation film 115 consisting of an insulation film such as a silicon oxidation film to cover them all, and a gate electrode 116 formed on the face of the gate insulation film 115. This gate electrode 116 is made from materials appropriate to the function of devices to be loaded with a thin film transistor 110, such as metal and a transparent electrically-conductive film. The gate electrode 116, the n⁻ source area 112 and the n⁻ drain area 113 are not made self-alignedly, and the overlapping area of one side end 117 of the gate electrode 116 and an end 118 of the n⁻ source area 112, and that of the other side end 119 of the gate electrode 116 and the end 120 of the n⁻ drain area 113 are relatively large. Note that 121 is an interlayer insulation film, through the contact holes 122 and 123 of which a source electrode 124 and a drain electrode 125 connect electrically-

n^- source area 112 and an n^- drain area 113 are formed before a gate electrode 116 is formed, when ~~injected~~ ^{implanted} impurities are activated in forming an n^- source area 112 and an n^- drain area 113, a gate electrode 116 is not formed yet. Accordingly, if an LCD of a large area or a highly ~~fine~~ ^{pixel density} LCD is fabricated by employing a metal electrode with low sheet resistance, for instance, on the gate electrode 116, the heat resistance does not restrict the activation condition of the impurities ~~injected~~ ^{implanted} to the n^- source area 112 and the n^- drain area 113. In other words, as the impurities ~~injected~~ ^{implanted} to make the n^- source area 112 and the n^- drain area 113 can be activated sufficiently, and at the same time the crystalline state which was disturbed by the ~~injection~~ ^{implantation} of impurities can be restored enough, ^{density of} a trap energy level at the end 120 of the n^- drain area 113 corresponding to the other side end 119 of a gate electrode 116 and its neighborhood can be reduced. And as the n^- drain area 113 is a low concentration area, ^{electric} field strength is small near a gate electrode 116. Hence, the improvement of off current characteristics of a thin film transistor 110.

Moreover, an n^- drain area 113 and its neighborhood are thin and are both about 400Å thick. The ~~number~~ ^{density} of a trap ~~energy level~~ ^{energy level} which may cause an off current tends to increase as a film becomes thick. Therefore, as the n^- drain area 113 and its neighborhood are thin, the ~~number~~ ^{density} of a trap energy level in the areas is decreased, which makes the off current reduce more. As can be seen in Figure

are 400Å, are shown by a solid line L1, and in Figure 2(b) where gate voltage-drain current characteristics of various thin film transistors in which a drain area and its neighborhood are 2000Å as a comparative embodiment, are shown by a solid line L2, it is confirmed that an off current is smaller in the embodiment in which a drain area and its neighborhood are thinner (400Å thick), and that off current characteristics of a thin film transistor according to the present embodiment are good.

Furthermore, in a thin film transistor 110 according to the present embodiment, an n⁻ drain area 113 near an end of a gate electrode 116 is flat, hence a ^{electric} field convergence occurs less often between the other side end 119 of a gate electrode 116 and an end 120 of a drain electrode 113.

In a thin film transistor 110 in the present embodiment, although an overlapping area of an n⁻ source area 112, an n⁻ drain area 113 and a gate electrode 116 is large, the amount of impurities ^{implanted} ~~injected~~ to an n⁻ source area 112 and an n⁻ drain area 113 is about $1 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ while the thickness is about 400Å, therefore the parasitic capacitance between a gate electrode 116 and an n⁻ source area 112, for instance, is minimum. In other words, in this embodiment, noting that the thickness of a depletion layer created by a potential between a gate electrode 116 and an n⁻ source area 112 is determined by the impurity concentration of an n⁻ source area 112 if the potential is fixed, the thickness of an n⁻ source area 112 is set

between a gate electrode 116 and an n^- source area 112, as shown in Figure 3(a), the first capacity C1 corresponding to a gate insulation film 115, the second capacity C2 corresponding to a depletion layer 126, and the third capacity C3 corresponding to a side of a ~~base~~^{substrate} 111 are connected in series, and their combined capacity is small. By contrast, when an n^- source area 112 is thick, as shown in Figure 3(b), the lower face of a depletion layer 126 lies halfway in the thickness direction of an n^- source area 112, and only the first capacity C1 corresponding to a gate insulation film 115 and the second capacity C2 corresponding to a depletion layer 126 are connected in series, so their combined capacity is big. Note that here the thickness of an n^- source area 112 is set up at about 400Å according to the impurity concentration, 1×10^{19} cm⁻³ but that the thickness of an n^- source area 112 can be set up so that a depletion layer 126 may reach the lower face of an n^- source area 112 (side of a ~~base~~^{substrate} 111) according to the impurity concentration. Concretely, an n^- source area 112 may sometimes be as thin as about 100Å, considering the limitation of a process on control of impurity concentration.

Next, referring to Figures 4(a) to (d), a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor in this embodiment will be explained.

Figures 4(a) to (d) are all process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor in this embodiment.

First, as is shown in Figure 4(a), on the surface of an

in a low-temperature process, for instance, a sputtering process or LPCVD an ~~LPCVD~~ method in an atmosphere of the temperature of 550°C to 600 °C, and by patterning the amorphous silicon film to form a pattern 202 (amorphous silicon film). Note that although it is possible to inject impurities after an amorphous silicon film is crystallized by the irradiation of a laser beam, the ~~injection~~ ^{implantation} of impurities causes the crystalline state to be disturbed, therefore another restoration treatment will be necessary. Accordingly, in this embodiment, after the ~~injection~~ ^{implantation} of impurities, a crystallization treatment is performed, which activates the impurities at the same time.

That is, after an amorphous silicon film is patterned, a resist pattern 203 is removed, and as is shown in Figure 4(b), after another resist pattern 204 is formed, using 204 as a mask, by ion ~~injecting~~ ^{implanting} phosphorus, an n⁻ source area 212 (low concentration area) and an n⁻ drain area 213 (low concentration area) having an impurity concentration of about $5 \times 10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}$ are formed. Of a pattern 202 of an amorphous silicon film, an area to which phosphorus was not ~~injected~~ ^{implanted} becomes a channel-forming area 214.

Then, after a resist pattern 204 is ~~stripped~~ ^{removed}, an amorphous silicon film (pattern 202) is annealed by irradiating a laser beam to polycrystallize the amorphous silicon film and to activate the impurities ~~injected~~ ^{implanted} to it simultaneously. Alternatively, an amorphous silicon film is annealed for about four hours in a ~~nitriding~~ ^{nitrogen} atmosphere of the temperature of about 600 °C, for example, (solid

~~implanted~~
~~injected~~ to it. In this case, according to the necessity, a plasma hydrogen treatment is performed in an atmosphere of the temperature of 350°C, or an amorphous silicon film is rapid-thermal-annealed both to crystallize the amorphous silicon film and to activate the ~~implanted~~
~~injected~~ impurities ~~injected~~ to it.

Next, as is shown in Figure 4(c), after a gate insulation film 215 is formed on the surface of an amorphous silicon film (an n⁻ source area 212, an n⁻ drain area 213, and a channel-~~forming~~ area 214), a gate electrode 216 made from such a material as metal on the surface of the gate insulation film 215. The side ends 217 and 218 of the gate electrode 216 confront the ends 219 and 220 of the n⁻ source area 212 and the n⁻ drain area 213.

Subsequently, as is shown in Figure 4(d), after an interlayer insulation film 221 is formed on the surface of a gate electrode 216, contact holes 222 and 223 are made on it, and using these contact holes 222 and 223, as shown in Figure 1, a source electrode 124 and a drain electrode 125 are connected to an n⁻ source area 212 and a drain electrode 213 respectively to fabricate a thin film transistor 110.

As is clear from the above discussion, in a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor 110 according to this embodiment, after impurities are ~~injected~~
~~injected~~ ~~implanted~~ to a silicon film such as an amorphous silicon film, a crystallization treatment is performed on an amorphous silicon film, and the crystallization treatment itself activates the

the silicon film after the crystallization treatment, whose crystalline state is not broken by the injection of impurities, ^{density of} a trap energy level does not increase, hence a thin film transistor 110 whose off current characteristics are good can be manufactured efficiently. Note that the silicon film can be a polycrystalline silicon film instead of the amorphous silicon film used in this embodiment.

Second Embodiment

With reference to Figures 5 (a) to (c), a thin film transistor according to the second embodiment of the present invention and its manufacturing method will be explained below.

Figures 5 (a) to (c) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing process of a thin film transistor in this embodiment.

A thin film transistor in the present embodiment, like a thin film transistor according to the first embodiment, has a structure shown in Figure 5(c) to improve on-off characteristics.

A thin film transistor 300 has, on the face of an insulation ^{substrate} ~~base~~ 301 made from glass, quartz, sapphire and so on, an n⁻ source area 302 (low concentration area) and an n⁻ drain area 303 (low concentration area) to which about $1 \times 10^{20} \text{cm}^{-3}$ of phosphorus is added, and on their surfaces the transistor 300 has a channel-forming area 304 consisting of a thin film made from silicon such as

And on the surfaces of an n⁻ source area 302, a channel-~~forming~~ area 304 and an n⁻ drain area 303, there is a gate insulation film 305 such as a silicon oxidation film. An end of a gate electrode 308 on the surface of 305 overlaps an n⁻ source area 302 and an n⁻ drain area 303 through a gate insulation film 305.

In order to manufacture a thin film transistor 300 of such a structure, first, as is shown in Figure 5(a), after an n⁻ silicon thin film made from such materials as polycrystalline silicon to which about 1×10^{20} cm⁻³ of phosphorus, for instance, is added is built up about 1500Å on the face of an insulation ~~base~~^{substrate} 301, the n⁻ silicon thin film is etched selectively to form an n⁻ source area (low concentration area) and an n⁻ drain area 303 (low concentration area). Subsequently, on the faces of an n⁻ source area 302 and an n⁻ drain area 303, a channel-~~forming~~ area 304 consisting of a silicon thin film made from such materials as polycrystalline silicon of the thickness of about 1000Å is formed to connect 302 and 303. Then the whole device is thermal oxidated to form a gate insulation film 305 consisting of a silicon oxidation film, on the surface of which a gate electrode material 306 is formed consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film, a polycrystalline silicon film to which impurities are added, and so on.

As is shown in Figure 5(b), of the surface of a gate electrode material 306, on the area on which a gate electrode is to be made, a resist pattern 307 is formed employing such a technique as a

308. An end of a gate electrode 308 overlaps an end of an n⁻ source area 302 and an end of an n⁻ drain area 303 through a gate insulation film 305.

Then a registration pattern 307 is removed. After that, as is shown in Figure 5(c), an interlayer insulation film 309 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed as in a usual process. After a contact hole 310 is formed in an interlayer insulation film 309, a source electrode 311 and a drain electrode 312, consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film and so on, are connected to an n⁻ source area 302 and an n⁻ drain area 303, respectively.

As is clear from the above explanation, in a thin film transistor 300 in the present embodiment, as in a thin film transistor according to the first embodiment, since an n⁻ source area 302 and an n⁻ drain area 303 are formed before a gate electrode 308 is formed, an n⁻ source area 302 and an n⁻ drain area 303 can be formed in an ideal condition without being restricted by the heat resistance of materials to constitute a gate electrode 308. Hence, the improvement of off current characteristics.

Third Embodiment

With reference to Figures 6(a) to (d), a thin film transistor according to the third embodiment of the present invention and its manufacturing method will be explained below.

Figures 6(a) to (d) are process sectional views showing a part

A thin film transistor in this embodiment, compared to a thin film transistor according to the first embodiment, aims at improving on current characteristics in addition to the improvement of off characteristics by forming areas of different concentrations in a source area and a drain area. As is shown in Figure 6(d), the transistor has, on the surface of an insulation ~~base~~^{substrate} 401 made from such materials as glass, an n⁺ source area 412 (low resistance area of high concentration) and an n⁻ source area 405 (low concentration area) on the source area side, and an n⁺ drain area 413 (low resistance area of high concentration) and an n⁻ drain area 406 (low concentration area) on the drain area side. An end of a gate electrode 409 overlaps an end of an n⁻ source area 405 and an end of an n⁻ drain area 406 of low concentration through a gate insulation film 408, while a source electrode 420 and a drain electrode 421 connect to an n⁺ source area 412 and an n⁺ drain area 413 of high concentration.

In order to manufacture a thin film transistor 400 of such a structure, first, as is shown in Figure 6(a), about 1500Å of a silicon thin film, made from polycrystalline silicon and so on, is built up on an insulation ~~base~~^{substrate} 401 made from such materials as glass.

Subsequently, a resist pattern 403 is formed employing such a technique as a photolithography technique, and with 403 used as a mask, a silicon thin film is etched selectively to form a silicon pattern 402.

technique as a photolithography technique, and with the pattern 404 used as a mask, phosphorus is ion ^{implanted} ~~injected~~ to form an n⁻ source area 405 and an n⁻ drain area 406 of about $1 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$. An area on which an ion ^{implantation} ~~injection~~ was not performed becomes a channel-~~forming~~ area 407.

Third, after a resist pattern 404 is removed, the whole device is thermal oxidated to form a gate insulation film 408 consisting of a silicon oxidation film, as is shown in Figure 6(c). This heat-treating process also has an effect of activating the ^{implanted} ~~injected~~ ions. Then a gate electrode 409 is formed consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film, a polycrystalline silicon film to which impurities are added, and so on. A gate electrode 409 overlaps a part of an n⁻ source area 405 and an n⁻ drain area 406 through a gate insulation film 408.

Fourth, as is shown in Figure 6(d), after an interlayer insulation film 410 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed, contact holes 411 are formed in it. Then with an interlayer insulation film 410 used as a mask, phosphorus is ion ^{implanted} ~~injected~~. At the same time the ^{implanted} ~~injected~~ ions are activated by irradiating a laser beam to form an n⁺ source area 412 and an n⁺ drain area 413 of about $5 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

Subsequently, as in a usual manufacturing method, a source electrode 420 and a drain electrode 421, consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film and so on, are connected to their respective n⁻ source area 412 and n⁺ drain area 413.

electrode 409 are formed before a gate electrode 409 is formed. Accordingly, if a gate electrode 409 is made from such materials as metal, the impurities ~~injected~~^{implanted} to an n⁻ source area 405 and an n⁻ drain area 406 can be activated sufficiently without being restricted by the heat resistance of the material, and at the same time the crystalline state disturbed by the ~~injected~~^{implanted} impurities can be restored enough, hence ^{density of} a trap energy level can be reduced at an end of an n⁻ drain area 406 and in its neighborhood. And since an n⁻ drain area 406 is a low concentration area, ^{electric} field strength is small near a gate electrode 409. Hence, the improvement of off current characteristics of a thin film transistor 401.

Furthermore, of a source area and a drain area, the area which can influence such features as on-off characteristics is a low concentration area, while the area to which a source electrode 420 and a drain electrode 421 connect is a high concentration area, therefore parasitic resistance is low and a strong on current can be obtained.

Fourth Embodiment

Instead of a thin film transistor according to the third embodiment, a thin film transistor illustrated in Figure 7 can achieve an improvement of on-off characteristics and an on current.

Figure 7 is a sectional view of a thin film transistor in this embodiment in the channel direction. A thin film transistor 430 has a pattern consisting of a silicon thin film made from such materials

n^+ source area 432 and an n^- drain area 433 containing about $5 \times 10^{20} \text{cm}^{-3}$ of phosphorus, an n^- source area 434 and an n^- drain area 435 containing about $5 \times 10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}$ of boron, and a channel-forming area 436 containing about $1 \times 10^{17} \text{cm}^{-3}$ of boron. On their surface, there is a gate insulation film 437 consisting of an insulation film such as a silicon insulation film, on the surface of which there is a gate electrode 438 consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film and so on. An end of a gate electrode 438 overlaps ends of an n^- source area 434 and an n^- drain area 435 through a gate insulation film 437. On their face, there is an interlayer insulation film 439 consisting of an insulation film such as a silicon oxidation film, and contact holes 440 are formed in it. A source electrode 441 and a drain electrode 442, consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film and so on, connect to an n^- source area 432 an n^- drain area 433 through the contact holes 440 formed in 439.

In a thin film transistor 430 of such a structure, though the explanation of its manufacturing method is omitted, since an n^- source area 434 and an n^- drain area 435 overlapping an end of a gate electrode 438 are formed before a gate electrode 438 is formed, if a gate electrode 438 is made from such materials as metal, the impurities ~~injected~~^{implanted} to an n^- source area 434 and an n^- drain area 435 can be activated sufficiently without being restricted by the heat resistance of the material. It also has an advantage that the crystalline state which was disturbed by the ~~injected~~^{implanted} impurities can

can influence such features as on-off characteristics is a low concentration area, while there is also a high concentration area (an n^+ source area 432 and an n^- drain area 433), therefore parasitic resistance is low and a strong on current can be obtained.

Fifth Embodiment

Next, with reference to Figures 8(a) to (c), a thin film transistor according to the fifth embodiment of the present invention and its manufacturing method will be explained.

Figures 8(a) to (c) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing process of a thin film transistor in this embodiment.

A thin film transistor in this embodiment, compared to a thin film transistor according to the second embodiment, by forming areas of different concentrations in a source area and a drain area, the improvement of on current characteristics as well as the improvement of off characteristics is intended. As is shown in Figure 8(c), of the surface of an insulation ^{substrate} ~~base~~ 453 made from glass and so on, a thin film transistor 450 has on the source area side an n^- source area 458 (high concentration area) containing about $1 \times 10^{21} \text{cm}^{-3}$ of boron and an n^- source area 452 (low concentration area) containing about $1 \times 10^{19} \text{cm}^{-3}$ of boron, and on the drain area side, an n^- drain area 459 (high concentration area) containing about $1 \times 10^{21} \text{cm}^{-3}$ of boron and an n^- drain area 451 (low concentration area) containing

through a gate insulation film 455, while a source electrode 462 and a drain electrode 463 connect to an n⁺ source area 458 and an n⁺ drain area 459 of high concentration.

In order to fabricate a thin film transistor 450 of such a structure, first, as is shown in Figure 8(a), a silicon thin film of low concentration, made from polycrystalline silicon and so on, and of the thickness of about 1500Å, to which about $1 \times 10^{19} \text{cm}^{-3}$ of boron is added, is formed on an insulation ^{substrate} ~~base~~ 453 made from glass, quartz, sapphire and so on. Then by etching the silicon thin film selectively, a p⁻ source area 452 and a p⁻ drain area 451 are formed.

On the faces of a p⁻ source area 452 and a p⁻ drain area 451, a channel-~~forming~~ area 454 consisting of a silicon thin film made from such materials as polycrystalline silicon whose thickness is 250 Å is formed in such a way as to connect 452 and 451. Then, a gate insulation film 455 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed on the whole surface by employing an ECR-CVD method. And a gate electrode 456 is formed consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film, polycrystalline silicon film to which impurities are added, and so on. An end of a gate electrode 456 overlaps an end of a p⁻ source area 452 and an end of a p⁻ drain area 453 through a gate insulation film 455.

Then, as is shown in Figure 8(b), a resist pattern 457 is formed to cover a fixed area of a p⁻ source area 452 and a p⁻ drain area 453 employing such a technique as a light exposure technique.

A resist pattern 457 is removed. Afterwards, as in a usual process, as is shown in Figure 8(c), after an interlayer insulation film 460 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed, a contact hole 461 is formed in it. Then a source electrode 462 and a drain electrode 463, consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film and so on, are connected to a p⁺ source area 458 and a p⁺ drain area 453, respectively.

In a thin film transistor 450 fabricated in this way, because a p⁻ source area 452 and a p⁻ drain area 453 are formed before a gate electrode 456 is formed, it has effects similar to those of a thin film transistor according to the second embodiment. Furthermore, since a p⁺ source area 458 and a p⁺ drain area 459 are formed, a transistor 450 has small parasitic resistance and can get a ~~strong~~ ^{large} on current.

Sixth Embodiment

Figure 9 is a sectional view showing a structure of a thin film transistor according to the sixth embodiment of the present invention.

In this figure, a thin film transistor 500 in this embodiment is also formed on an insulation ^{substrate} ~~base~~ 501 made from glass, quartz, sapphire and so on, and its source area 502 has a p⁻ source area 503, which is a p⁻ silicon film of the thickness of about 500Å to which about $1 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of boron is added, and a p⁺ source area 504 (thick,

boron is added. A drain area 505, on the other hand, has a p⁻ drain area 506, which is a p⁻ silicon film of the thickness of about 500 Å to which about $1 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of boron is added, and a p⁻ drain area 507 (thick, low resistance area of high concentration), which is a p⁻ silicon film to which about $1 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of boron is added and which has the thickness of about 2000 Å. Between a source area 502 and a drain area 505, there are a channel-forming area 508, consisting of a silicon film and so on, formed in such a way as to connect to the areas 502 and 505, a gate insulation film 509, consisting of an insulation film such as a silicon oxidation film to cover the whole areas, and a gate electrode 510, constituted by such materials as metal and a transparent electrically-conductive film formed on the surface of this gate insulation film 509. A gate electrode 510, a source area 502 and a drain area 505 are not formed in a self-aligned way, and one side end 511 of a gate electrode 510 and a p⁻ source area 503 (end) of a source area 502 confront with a relatively large overlapping area. Similarly, the other side end 512 of a gate electrode 510 and a p⁻ drain area 506 (end) of a drain area 505 confront with a relatively large overlapping area. 513 is an interlayer insulation film. A source electrode 516 and a drain electrode 517 connect electrically-conductively to a p⁻ source area 504 of a source area 502 and a p⁻ drain area 507 of a drain area 505 through contact holes 514 and 515 in the interlayer insulation film 513.

of a drain area 505, for example, ^{electric} field strength is small near a gate electrode 510. Hence the improvement of off current characteristics.

A source area 502 and a drain area 505 are not constituted in a self-aligned way to a gate electrode 510. In other words, a source area 502 and a drain area 505 are not formed by an ion ~~injection~~ ^{implantation} with a gate electrode 510 used as a mask, but a source area 502 and a drain area 505 are formed before a gate electrode 510 is formed, therefore impurities ~~injected~~ ^{implanted} to a source area and a drain area can be activated without being restricted by the heat resistance limit of a gate electrode, even if the heat resistance of a gate electrode 510 is as low as 600°C, for instance. Accordingly, since the crystalline state which was disturbed by the ~~injection~~ ^{implantation} of impurities can be restored sufficiently ^{density of} a trap energy level of a drain area 505 corresponding to an end of a gate electrode 510 and its neighborhood can be reduced. Hence the further improvement of off current characteristics of a thin film transistor 500.

A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor of such a structure will be explained referring to Figures 10(a) to (c).

Figures 10(a) to (c) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor in this embodiment.

First, as is shown in Figure 10(a), on an insulation ^{substrate} ~~base~~ 601 made from glass, quartz, sapphire and so on, about 2000Å of an amorphous silicon thin film to which about $1 \times 10^{20} \text{cm}^{-3}$ of boron is

603 are formed.

Second, on the surface of p⁺ areas 602 and 603, about 250 Å of an amorphous silicon film 604 is formed in such a way as to connect these areas. Then a registration pattern 605 is formed on 604.

Third, as is shown in Figure 10(b), with a resist pattern 605 used as a mask, p⁻ areas 606 and 607 of the concentration of about $5 \times 10^{17} \text{cm}^{-3}$ are formed by ion ^{implantation of} ~~injecting~~ boron, for instance.

A p⁺ area 602 and a p⁻ area 606 become a source area 608, while a p⁺ area 603 and a p⁻ area 607 become a drain area 609. And the area to which ions were not ^{implanted} ~~injected~~, because of the masking of a resist pattern 605, becomes a channel ~~forming~~ area 610.

Fourth, after a resist pattern 605 is stripped, in a ^{nitrogen} ~~air~~ ~~atmosphere~~ atmosphere of the temperature of about 600°C, for instance, by performing an annealing for about four hours (solid phase crystallization method: SPC method), an amorphous silicon film is crystallized, and at the same time the impurities ^{implanted} ~~injected~~ to p⁺ areas 602 and 603 and p⁻ areas 606 and 607 are activated.

Fifth, in an ECR-CVD method, a gate insulation film 611 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed on the whole surface.

Sixth, a gate electrode material made from such materials as metal is built up on the face of a gate insulation film 611, and by etching selectively the gate electrode material employing such a technique as a light exposure technique, a gate electrode 612 is

overlap one side end of p⁻ areas 606 and 607.

Subsequently, following a usual process, as is shown in Figure 10(c), after an interlayer insulation film 615 consisting of a silicon oxidation film, and contact holes 616 and 617 are formed, a source electrode which electrically-conductively connects to a high concentration area of a source area (p⁺ area 602), and a drain electrode which electrically-conductively connects to a high concentration drain area of a drain area (p⁻ area 603) are formed to constitute a thin film transistor 500 illustrated in Figure 9.

Seventh Embodiment

With reference to Figures 11(a) to (e), one embodiment of a semiconductor device equipped with a CMOS circuit consisting of a thin film transistor according to the first to sixth embodiments will be explained below.

As is shown in Figure 11(e), a CMOS circuit 700 of a semiconductor device in this embodiment has an n-channel type thin film transistor 700a and a p-channel type thin film transistor 700b on the surface of the same insulation ^{substrate} ~~base~~ 701 made from such materials as glass, quartz and sapphire. In any thin film transistor, it is an n⁻ source area 706, an n⁻ drain area 707, a p⁻ source area 708 and a p⁻ drain area 709 (low concentration areas) that ends of gate electrodes 714 and 715 overlap through gate insulation films 712 and 713. On the other hand, it is an n⁺ source area 719, a p⁺ source

electrodes 726 and 727 connect to.

In order to manufacture a CMOS circuit 700 of such a structure, first, as is shown in Figure 11(a), on the surface of an insulation ^{Substrate} ~~base~~ 701 made from such materials as glass, quartz and sapphire, a silicon thin film of the thickness of about 700Å made from polycrystalline silicon and so on, is formed. Then by selectively etching the thin film, patterns 702, 703, 704, and 705 of a silicon thin film are formed. Afterwards, in a well-known method, phosphorus is ion ^{implanted} ~~injected~~ to patterns 702 and 703 of a silicon thin film to make the patterns about $5 \times 10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}$ of an n^- source area 706 and an n^- drain area 707, respectively. On the other hand, boron is ion ^{implanted} ~~injected~~ to patterns 704 and 705 of a silicon thin film to make the patterns about $5 \times 10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}$ of a p^- source area 708 and a p^- drain area 709, respectively.

Then, as is shown in Figure 11(b), channel-forming areas 710 and 711, consisting of a silicon thin film of the thickness of about 1000Å made from such materials as polycrystalline silicon, are formed so that an n^- source area 706 and an n^- drain area 707, and a p^- source area 708 and a p^- drain area 709, are connected respectively. And the whole device is thermal oxidated to form gate insulation films 712 and 713 consisting of a silicon oxidation film. This thermal oxidation treatment has an effect of activating impurities in an n^- source area 706, an n^- drain area 707, a p^- source area 708 and a p^- drain area 709 to which ions were ^{implanted} ~~injected~~. Next, gate

impurities are added, and so on, are formed on gate insulation films 712 and 713. Ends of gate electrodes 714 and 715 overlap ends of an n⁻ source area 706, an n⁻ drain area 707, a p⁻ source area 708 and a p⁻ drain area 709 through gate insulation films 712 and 713.

As is shown in Figure 11(c), after an interlayer insulation film 716 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed, contact holes 717 are formed in it. Then employing such a technique as a photolithography technique, a resist pattern 718 to cover the side of a p⁻ source area 708 and a p⁻ drain area 709 (the side of a p-channel type thin film transistor 700b) is formed. With the ~~registration~~ pattern 718 and an interlayer insulation film 716 used as masks, about $5 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of an n⁺ source area 719 and an n⁺ drain area 720 are formed by ion ~~injecting~~ ^{implantation of} phosphorus.

After a resist pattern 718 is removed, as is shown in Figure 11(d), employing such a technique as a photolithography technique, a resist pattern 721 to cover the side of an n⁻ source area 706 and an n⁻ drain area 707 (the side of an n-channel type thin film transistor 700a) is formed. With the ~~registration~~ pattern 721 and an interlayer insulation film 716 used as masks, about $5 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of a p⁺ source area 722 and a p⁺ drain area 723 are formed by ion ~~injecting~~ ^{implantation of} boron.

After a resist pattern 721 is removed, respective impurities which were ion ~~injected~~ ^{implanted} are activated by irradiating a laser beam. After that, as is shown in Figure 11(e), as in a usual process, source electrodes 724 and 725 and drain electrodes 726 and 727,

an n⁺ drain area 720 and a p⁺ drain area 723, respectively.

An n-channel type thin film transistor 700a and a p-channel type thin film transistor 700b formed on the same insulation ^{substrate}~~base~~ 701 have improved off current characteristics and on current characteristics.

Eighth Embodiment

A structure of an active matrix ^{substrate}~~base~~ with peripheral circuits of a liquid crystal display panel built-in as a typical device equipped with a thin film transistor will be explained below as the eighth embodiment of the present invention.

Figure 12 is a block diagram showing a whole constitution of an active matrix ^{substrate}~~base~~ in this embodiment. As is shown in the figure, an active matrix ^{substrate}~~base~~ 800 is divided into a pixel part 800a and peripheral circuit parts 800b and 800c (drive circuit parts). In a pixel part 800a, as is shown in Figure 13, a pixel area 803 is sectioned by scanning lines (gate lines) 801a and 801b (801) connected to a peripheral circuit part 800b (scanning line drive circuit), and by a signal line 802 connected to a peripheral circuit part 800c (signal line drive circuit). A pixel part 800a has a thin film transistor 800d, which switches over a state in which the side of a signal line 802 and the side of a pixel electrode 804 are connected to the state in which they are broken, based on scan signals from a scanning line 801a. The thin film transistor 800d must have a small

conductivity, and the CMOS circuit must have a high operating speed. Accordingly, it is possible to use a thin film transistor according to the present invention in a pixel part 800a, and a self-aligned thin film transistor in peripheral circuit parts 800b and 800c.

The constitution will be explained below.

In Figure 14, a thin film transistor formed in a pixel part of an active matrix ~~base~~^{substrate} in this embodiment and three thin film transistors 900a, 930a and 960a formed in peripheral circuit parts are shown in a row.

In Figure 14, shown on the right of the figure is an n-channel type thin film transistor 960a formed in a pixel part, shown in the middle of the figure is an n-channel type thin film transistor 930a formed in peripheral circuit parts, and shown on the left of the figure is a p-channel type thin film transistor 900a formed in peripheral circuit parts. In peripheral circuit parts, a CMOS circuit is composed of a p-channel type thin film transistor 900a and an n-channel type thin film transistor 930a.

Of these thin film transistors 900a, 930a and 960a, an n-channel type thin film transistor 960a used in a pixel part, as was explained in the first to seventh embodiments, a source area 961a and a drain area 962a are formed in a non-self-aligned way to a gate electrode 963a, and the transistor 960a confronts an end of a gate electrode 963a with the n⁻ source area 964a (low concentration source area) and an n⁻ drain area 965a (low concentration drain area). P-

Note that in a liquid crystal display panel, a pixel electrode is connected electrically-conductively to a drain area 962a of an n-channel type thin film transistor 960a in a pixel part, but that in the following explanation, it is illustrated as a structure in which a usual aluminum electrode is connected electrically-conductively to a drain area, as in a source area 961a.

In an active matrix ~~base~~^{substrate} 950a of such a structure, an n-channel type thin film transistor 960a has an LDD structure in a pixel part, and has a structure in which ^{density of} a trap energy level is reduced, therefore its off current is decreased. An n-channel type thin film transistor 900a and a p-channel type thin film transistor 930a formed in peripheral circuit parts, on the other hand, have a self-aligned structure with small parasitic capacitance. Therefore, the operating speed in peripheral circuit parts is never sacrificed.

Ninth Embodiment

A constitution of an active matrix ~~base~~^{substrate} with peripheral circuits of a liquid crystal display panel built-in according to the ninth embodiment will be explained below.

An active matrix ~~base~~^{substrate} with peripheral circuits built-in in this embodiment and an active matrix base with peripheral circuits built-in according to the eighth embodiment have the same basic structure, but they differ in the combination of thin film transistors used in a pixel area and peripheral circuit parts (drive circuit

in a pixel part 800a, and by decreasing the number of masks used in a manufacturing process of an active matrix ~~base~~^{substrate} 800 without sacrificing the operating speed in peripheral circuit parts 800b and 800c.

The structure of the thin film transistor will be explained below.

Figure 15 is a sectional view showing a constitution of a thin film transistor formed in a pixel part of an active matrix ~~base~~^{substrate} and a thin film transistor formed in peripheral circuit parts in a liquid crystal display panel illustrated in Figures 12 and 13.

In Figure 15, shown on the right of the figure is an n-channel type thin film transistor 960 formed in a pixel part, shown in the middle of the figure is an n-channel type thin film transistor 930 formed in peripheral circuit parts, and shown on the left of the figure is a p-channel type thin film transistor 900 formed in peripheral circuit parts. In peripheral circuit parts, a CMOS circuit is composed of a p-channel type thin film transistor 900 and an n-channel type thin film transistor 930.

Of these thin film transistors 900, 930 and 960, in an n-channel type thin film transistor 960 used in a pixel part and an n-channel type thin film transistor 930 formed in peripheral circuit parts, as was explained in the first to seventh embodiments, source areas 931 and 961 and drain areas 932 and 962 are formed in a non-self-aligned way to gate electrodes 933 and 963, and the transistors 960 and 930 confront ends of gate electrodes 933 and 963 with the n-

A p-channel type thin film transistor 900 formed in peripheral circuit parts, on the other hand, has a self-aligned structure. Note that in a liquid crystal display panel, a pixel electrode is connected electrically-conductively to a drain area 962 of an n-channel type thin film transistor 960 in a pixel part, but that in the following explanation, it is illustrated as a structure in which a usual aluminum electrode is connected electrically-conductively to the drain area, as in a source area 961.

In an active matrix ^{substrate} ~~base~~ 950 of such a structure, an n-channel type thin film transistor 960 has an LDD structure in a pixel part, and has a structure in which a trap energy level is reduced, ^{density of} therefore its off current is decreased. An n-channel type thin film transistor 930 formed in peripheral circuit parts, on the other hand, is not self-aligned, therefore it has larger parasitic capacitance than a self-aligned structure, and there is a fear of its operating speed being low. However, either an n-channel type thin film transistor or a p-channel type thin film transistor has a self-aligned structure with small parasitic capacitance (in this embodiment, a p-channel type thin film transistor is self-aligned). Furthermore, even in a non-self-aligned thin film transistor, since source and drain areas overlapping a gate electrode are low concentration areas, the parasitic capacitance can be almost ignored when it is biased in the direction in which a depletion layer extends.

Taking that into consideration, if a CMOS circuit is formed to

film transistor and a p-channel type thin film transistor have a self-aligned structure. Accordingly, in this embodiment, since two types of thin film transistors are formed on an active matrix ~~base~~^{substrate} 950, productivity can be raised by decreasing the number of masks used in a manufacturing process of an active matrix ~~base~~^{substrate}, compared to an active matrix ~~base~~^{substrate} 950a according to the eighth embodiment in which three types of thin film transistors are employed.

Tenth Embodiment

Figures 16 (a) to (d) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of each thin film transistor in a pixel part and peripheral circuit parts when two types of thin film transistors are formed on an active matrix ~~base~~^{substrate} of a liquid crystal display panel, as in the ninth embodiment.

First, as is shown in Figure 16(a), on the surface of an insulation ~~base~~^{substrate} 1001 made from glass, quartz, sapphire and so on, about 500Å of an amorphous silicon film 1002, for instance, is built up. Resist patterns 1003, 1004 and 1005 are formed on 1002. With these patterns used as masks, phosphorus is ion ~~injected~~^{implanted} to form low concentration areas 1006, 1007 and 1008 containing about 1×10^{17} ¹⁷ cm⁻³ of impurities.

Second, an amorphous silicon film 1002 is annealed by the irradiation of a laser beam to polycrystallize the film and activate the impurities injected to it simultaneously.

1010 and 1011. Silicon thin film patterns 1009 and 1010 become active areas of a p-channel type thin film transistor and an n-channel type thin film transistor in peripheral circuit parts, respectively, while a silicon thin film pattern 1011 becomes an active area of an n-channel type thin film transistor in a pixel part. And the above-mentioned low concentration areas 1006, 1007 and 1008 become n⁻ source areas 1012 and 1013 (low concentration source areas) and n⁻ drain areas 1014 and 1015 (low concentration drain areas) of an n-channel type thin film transistor. The area in an active areas 1010 and 1011 of an n-channel type thin film transistor to which impurities are not ~~implanted~~ ^{implanted} ~~injected~~ becomes channel ~~forming~~ areas 1016 and 1017.

Fourth, after a gate insulation film 1018 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed on the whole surface in an ECR-CVD method, respective gate electrodes 1019, 1020 and 1021 made from such materials as metal are formed on the surface. Of respective gate electrodes 1019, 1020 and 1021, ends of gate electrodes 1020 and 1021 to form n-channel type thin film transistors 1023 and 1024 confront n⁻ source areas 1012 and 1013 and n⁻ drain areas 1014 and 1015 through a gate insulation film 1018. In an extended part 1015a (lower electrode) in a drain area 1015 of a thin film transistor 1024 used in a pixel part, a ^{storage capacitance} ~~volume retaining part~~ is composed of an overlapping gate electrode 1025 in an upper state.

Fifth, as is shown in Figure 16(c), employing such a technique as a photolithography technique, a resist pattern 1026 to cover a

electrode 1019 is used as a mask, and a source area 1027 and a drain area 1028 of the impurity concentration of about $5 \times 10^{21} \text{cm}^{-3}$ are formed self-alignedly in a thin film transistor 1022.

Sixth, after a resist pattern 1026 is removed, impurities are activated by irradiating a laser beam. The irradiation of a laser beam is performed to activate impurities to lower their resistance, not to restore the crystalline state disturbed by the ~~injected~~ ^{implanted} impurities. A p-channel type thin film transistor 1022 used in peripheral circuit parts need not have a small off current. Accordingly, in this process, it is sufficient to lower the resistance of the impurities by activating them by the irradiation of a laser beam. The restoration of the crystalline state is not required.

Seventh, as is shown in Figure 16(d), an interlayer insulation film 1029 is formed. Making use of contact holes in 1029, a source electrode 1031 and a drain electrode 1032 are connected electrically-conductively to respective thin film transistors 1022, 1023 and 1024.

As is clear from the above explanation, in a manufacturing method of an active matrix ~~base~~ ^{substrate} in this embodiment, as mask patterns used in the ~~injection~~ ^{implantation} of impurities, two mask patterns 1003 and 1026 can be employed. By contrast, if both an n-channel type thin film transistor and a p-channel type thin film transistor to form peripheral circuit parts have a self-aligned structure, and a thin film transistor used in a pixel part has a structure according to the

almost the same in the eighth and ninth embodiments. Hence, the production cost can be reduced by decreasing the number of masks without sacrificing the operating speed and so on.

Note that in this embodiment, a thin film transistor used in a pixel part is an n-channel type, but that it remains in the domain of the present invention if it is a p-channel type.

In a liquid crystal display panel, as is shown in Figure 13, to form a ~~retention capacity part~~ ^{storage capacitance} 805 ~~of charge~~ in a pixel part, there is a tendency that a structure in which an extended part is established on the side of a drain area, and scanning lines in an upper state overlap the extended part is adopted. In order to form a ~~retention capacity part~~ ^{storage capacitance} having this structure, in a conventional manufacturing method as a comparative example, as is shown in Figures 17(a) and (b), after a resist mask 1102, which was made by opening a hole at an end of a polycrystalline silicon film 1101, is formed, ions are ~~injected~~ ^{implanted} to make an extended part 1103 a low concentration area, and then with a gate electrode 1104 used as a mask, impurities of high concentration are ~~ion injected~~ ^{implanted}. According to a manufacturing method in this embodiment, as is shown in Figures 16(a) and (b), in a process in which impurities of low concentration are ~~injected~~ ^{implanted}, an extended part 1015a becomes a low concentration area automatically. In subsequent processes, as is shown in Figure 16(b), when gate electrodes 1019, 1020 and 1021 are formed, a scanning line 1025 in an upper state formed simultaneously with the electrodes should be made

a thin film transistor 1024 in a pixel part without adding other processes.

Eleventh Embodiment

Figures 18(a) to (e) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a matrix ~~base~~^{substrate} with peripheral circuits of a liquid crystal display panel built-in, in which a CMOS circuit in a drive part is composed of an n-channel type thin film transistor having a non-self-aligned structure and a p-channel type thin film transistor having a self-aligned structure with small parasitic capacitance which can operate at a high speed, and in which an n-channel type thin film transistor in a pixel part has a non-self-aligned structure.

In the figures, n-channel type thin film transistors 1300a and 1300c have a source area and a drain area consisting of silicon films of different thickness. Gate electrodes 1317 and 1318 overlap a part of n- source areas 1310 and 1311 and n - drain areas 1312 and 1313, which are thin and of under $1 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of impurity concentration through a gate insulation film 1316. In a p-channel type thin film transistor 300b, on the other hand, a p⁺ source area 1323 and a p⁺ drain area 1324 are formed to be self-aligned to a gate electrode 1319.

The area consisting of thick silicon films in a source area and a drain area of an n-channel type thin film transistors 1300a and

current on account of parasitic resistance is prevented.

In order to manufacture a matrix ~~base~~^{substrate} of such a structure, first, as is shown in Figure 18(a), on an insulation ~~base~~^{substrate} 1301 made from glass, quartz, sapphire and so on, n⁻ source areas 1302 and 1303 and n⁻ drain areas 1304 and 1305, consisting of n⁻ silicon thin films such as polycrystalline silicon with the thickness of about 2000Å to which about $5 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of phosphorus is added, are formed. Silicon patterns 1306 and 1307 of the thickness of about 500Å are formed on the surface to connect 1302 and 1304, 1303 and 1305, respectively. At the same time, a silicon pattern 1308 to form a p-channel type thin film transistor 300b is formed.

Then, as is shown in Figure 18(b), a resist pattern 1309 is formed employing a photolithography technique, and with 1309 used as a mask, an ion injection is performed to make a part of silicon thin film patterns 1306 and 1307 of about $5 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of concentration. The area becomes n⁻ source areas 1310 and 1311 and drain areas 1312 and 1313 of a thin film transistor of so-called GOLDD type (gate overlap LDD type). The area in silicon patterns 1306 and 1307 to which ions were not injected becomes channel-~~forming~~ areas 1314 and 1315.

After a resist pattern 1309 is stripped, by the irradiation of a laser beam on the whole surface, ~~injected~~^{implanted} impurities are activated and crystalline grains in channel-~~forming~~ areas 1314 and 1315 are enlarged at the same time to improve the characteristics of a

consisting of an insulation film such as a silicon oxidation film is formed on the whole surface, on the surface of which gate electrodes 1317, 1318 and 1319, made from metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film, polycrystalline silicon film to which impurities are added and so on, are formed. Gate electrodes 1317 and 1318 overlap a part of n⁻ source areas 1310 and 1311 and drain areas 1312 and 1313 through a gate insulation film 1316. And a part of an n⁺ drain area 1305 of a thin film transistor used in a pixel part overlaps a gate electrode 1320 in an upper state through a gate insulation film 1316 to form a ~~retention volume~~ ^{storage capacitance}.

Next, as is shown in Figure 18(d), employing a photolithography technique, resist patterns 1321 and 1322 to cover an n-channel type thin film transistor 1300a and an n-channel type thin film transistor 1300c in a pixel part are formed. With the resist patterns used as masks, boron is ion ~~injected~~ ^{implanted} to form a p⁻ source area 1323 and a p⁻ drain area 1324 of about $5 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$. The area to which ions were not ~~injected~~ ^{implanted} becomes a channel-forming area 1325.

After resist patterns 1321 and 1322 are removed, impurities are activated by the irradiation of a laser beam. After that, as in a usual process, as is shown in Figure 18(e), after an interlayer insulation film 1326 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed, contact holes 1327 are made in it. Through these contact holes 1327, source electrodes 1328, 1329 and 1330 are connected to an n⁺ source area 1302, an n⁺ source area 1303 and a p⁻ source area,

connected to an n^+ drain area 1305 of a thin film transistor in a pixel part.

As was explained above, in this embodiment, since an n^- source area 1311 and an n^- drain area 1313 are activated before gate electrodes 1317 and 1318 are formed, the material of a gate electrode 1318 can be selected without being restricted by the activation condition. Therefore a gate electrode 1318 can be made from metal.

In setting up an n-channel type thin film transistor 1300c with a small off current in a pixel part, it has the same structure as that of an n-channel type thin film transistor 1300a in peripheral circuit parts, therefore its manufacturing process can be simplified.

In this case, too, since a p-channel type thin film transistor 1300b to form a CMOS circuit in peripheral circuit parts has a self-aligned structure, the operating speed is not sacrificed. And since there is no need to consider off current characteristics, a p-channel type thin film transistor 1300b can be composed of a source area and a drain area of high concentration consisting of one silicon pattern to minimize the increase of the number of processes.

Twelfth Embodiment

In this embodiment, an n-channel type thin film transistor is used in a pixel part of a liquid crystal display with peripheral circuits built-in, and a CMOS circuit is composed of a self-aligned thin film transistor with small parasitic capacitance which can

employed.

Figures 19(a) to (e) are process sectional views.

As is shown in Figure 19(e), in an active matrix ~~base~~^{substrate} in this embodiment, on a common insulation ~~base~~^{substrate} 1401, in a pixel part, there is an n-channel type thin film transistor 1400a having a so-called GOLLDD structure, while in peripheral circuit parts, there is a CMOS circuit composed of an n-channel type thin film transistor 1400b and a p-channel type thin film transistor 1400c having a self-aligned structure.

In order to manufacture these thin film transistors, first, as is shown in Figure 19(a), about 1000Å, for instance, of a polycrystalline silicon thin film, is built up on the surface of an insulation ~~base~~^{substrate} 1401 made from such materials as glass, and silicon thin film patterns 1402, 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406 and 1407 are formed by selectively etching the silicon thin film. Then, phosphorus is ion ~~injected~~^{implanted} to the whole surface to make the silicon thin film patterns 1402, 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406 and 1407 of about $5 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of concentration.

Then channel-~~forming~~ areas 1408, 1409 and 1410 consisting of a silicon thin film such as about 1000Å of polycrystalline silicon film are formed in such a way as to connect silicon thin film patterns 1402 and 1403, patterns 1404 and 1405, and patterns 1406 and 1407, respectively.

As is shown in Figure 19(b), the whole surface is thermal

an effect of activating ~~injected~~^{implanted} ions. Next, gate electrodes 1414, 1415 and 1416 consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film, a polycrystalline silicon film to which impurities are added and so on, are formed in the fixed area on the surface of gate insulation films 1411, 1412 and 1413. A gate electrode 1414 overlaps a part of n⁻ silicon thin film patterns 1402 and 1403 through a gate insulation film 1411. Gate electrodes 1415 and 1416, on the other hand, do not overlap n⁻ silicon thin film patterns 1404 and 1405, respectively.

As is shown in Figure 19(c), employing a photolithography technique, resist patterns 1417 and 1418 are formed in such a way as to cover at least ends of gate electrodes of a p-channel type thin film transistor and an n-channel type thin film transistor in a pixel part. With the resist patterns used as masks, phosphorus is ion ~~injected~~^{implanted} to form n⁺ source areas 1419 and 1420 and n⁺ drain areas 1421 and 1422.

After resist patterns 1417 and 1418 are removed, as is shown in Figure 19(d), employing a photolithography technique and others, resist patterns 1423 and 1424 are formed in an area to cover an n-channel type transistor and an n-channel type transistor in a pixel part. With these patterns used as masks, boron is ion ~~injected~~^{implanted} to form a p⁺ source area 1425 and a p⁺ drain area 1426 of about $5 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

After resist patterns 1417 and 1418 are removed, as is shown

1427, 1428 and 1429 and drain electrodes 1430, 1431 and 1432 consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film and so on, are connected to n^+ source areas 1419 and 1420, a p^+ source area 1425, n^- drain areas 1421 and 1422, and a p^- drain area 1426, respectively. An n-channel type thin film transistor 1400a having a so-called GLODD structure is formed in a pixel part, while n-channel type and p-channel type thin film transistors 1400b and 1400c having a self-aligned structure are formed in peripheral circuit parts.

Industrial Applicability

As is clear from the above explanation, according to the present invention, the area to overlap ends of a gate electrode in a source area and a drain area through a gate insulation film is a low concentration area formed in a process prior to that in which a gate electrode is formed. Therefore, according to the present invention, when impurities ^{implanted} ~~injected~~ to a source area and a drain area are activated, a gate electrode is not yet formed. Accordingly, since impurities can be activated without being restricted by the heat resistance of components of a gate electrode, and the disturbance of the crystalline state caused by the ^{implantation} ~~injection~~ of impurities can be restored sufficiently, ^{density of} a trap energy level in a drain area and its neighborhood can be reduced. And since a drain area overlaps a gate electrode in a low concentration area, field strength in that area is small. Hence, the improvement of off current characteristics of a

silicon film is performed after the ~~injection~~^{implantation} of impurities to a silicon film, in addition to the raise of productivity owing to the decrease of the number of processes, there is an advantage of the further improvement of off current characteristics because the crystalline state is not disturbed by the ~~injection~~^{implantation} of impurities after the crystallization treatment.

When the thickness of films in a low concentration area is equal to that of films in a channel ~~forming~~ area, the surface is flattened and an electric field does not concentrate locally, hence the improvement of off current characteristics. If films in a low concentration area are thinner than a depletion layer determined by the impurity concentration, the depletion layer reaches the lower face of the low concentration area, and the ~~capacity~~^{capacitance} connected in series increases, therefore the parasitic capacitance decreases.

If an area with a thick film which connects to a low concentration area, or a high concentration area is set up in a source area and a drain area, since the areas reduce the parasitic resistance, the operating speed is not sacrificed.

In a liquid crystal display panel with said thin film transistor (n-channel type thin film transistor) built-in in a pixel part, if the same n-channel type thin film transistor is employed in a CMOS circuit in a drive circuit part and if a p-channel type thin film transistor to constitute a CMOS circuit with an n-channel type thin film transistor has a self-aligned structure, processes can be

realized making full use of each process. Because a thin film transistor having a self-aligned structure is in a drive circuit part, off current characteristics are not imposed strict conditions. So the increase of the number of processes can be minimized by forming the transistor as an integral high concentration area.

Furthermore, if an extended area which is formed at the same time with a low concentration area and so on, and which is to form a *storage capacitance* ~~retention volume~~ between it and a gate line in an upper state, is formed in a drain area of a liquid crystal display panel, a *storage capacitance* ~~retention volume~~ can be composed making use of other processes.

1. A thin film transistor characterized in that it has a channel-~~forming~~ area which can form a channel between a source area and a drain area on a surface of a ^{substrate} ~~base~~, and a gate electrode which confronts said channel-~~forming~~ area through a gate insulation film on a surface of said channel-~~forming~~ area, and in that in said source area and said drain area an area which overlaps ends of said gate electrode through said gate insulation film is a low concentration area formed in a process prior to that in which said gate electrode is formed.

2. A thin film transistor according to claim 1 characterized in that the impurity concentration of said low concentration area is equal to or less than $1 \times 10^{\frac{20}{20}} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

3. A thin film transistor according to claim 1 or 2 characterized in that said low concentration area is an area on which the crystallization treatment is applied after impurities are ^{implanted} ~~injected~~ to a silicon film formed on the surface of said ^{substrate} ~~base~~.

4. A thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 3 characterized in that said source area and said drain area have a low resistance area which connects to said respective low concentration area with a high impurity concentration.

5 characterized in that said source area and said drain area have a low resistance area which connects to said respective low concentration area with a film thicker than the film in said low concentration area.

6. A thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 5 characterized in that said channel ~~forming~~ ^{low resistance area of} area, said source area and said drain area are areas formed in separate processes.

7. A thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 6 characterized in that the thickness of the film of said low concentration area is equal to that of the ~~film~~ ^{thickness} of said channel-forming area.

8. A thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 7 characterized in that the ^{thickness of the} film of said low concentration area is thinner than a depletion layer formed in a state in which the thickness is determined by the impurity concentration in said low concentration area when a potential is applied to said gate electrode.

9. A thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 8 characterized in that the thickness of the film of said low concentration area is equal to or less than about 500 Å.

11. A solid device characterized in that it has a CMOS circuit composed of a thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 9, and a thin film transistor which has a converse electric conductivity type from said thin film transistor, and a source area and a drain area thereof are formed self-alignedly to a gate electrode.

12. A display device characterized in that it has a thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 9 as a pixel transistor in an active matrix array.

13. A display device according to claim 12 characterized in that said drain area has an extended area which is formed simultaneously with its component part and which is to form a storage capacitance ~~retention capacity~~ between it and a scanning line in an ^{prior} ~~upper~~ stage.

14. A display device according to claim 12 or 13 characterized in that in a drive circuit ~~part~~ ^{substrate} formed on the same ~~base~~ together with said active matrix array, a CMOS circuit thereof has a thin film transistor having the same non-self-aligned structure as said thin film transistor, and a thin film transistor whose electric conductivity type is converse from that of the thin film transistor and which is formed self-alignedly to a gate electrode.

in that in a drive circuit ~~part~~ ^{substrate} formed on the same ~~base~~ together with said active matrix array, a CMOS circuit thereof is composed of an n-channel type thin film transistor and a p-channel type thin film transistor formed self-alignedly to a gate electrode.

16. A display device according to claim 14 or 15 characterized in that of thin film transistors formed on said ~~base~~ ^{substrate}, the thickness of a film of a source area and a drain area of said self-aligned thin film transistor is equal to that of ^{the thickness of the} ~~a~~ film of said low concentration area of said non-self-aligned thin film transistor.

17. A display device according to any one of claims 14 to 16 characterized in that a source area and a drain area of said self-aligned thin film transistor have an impurity concentration of over about $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$, while said low concentration area of said non-self-aligned thin film transistor has an impurity concentration of under about $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

18. A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to claim 1 characterized in that a process in which said low concentration area is formed on the surface of said ~~base~~ ^{substrate} is performed at least before a process in which said gate electrode is formed.

19. A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according

applied on said silicon film after impurities are ~~injected~~ to the inside of said silicon film also activates the impurities.

20. A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to claim 18 characterized in that said crystallization treatment is a laser annealing method in which a laser beam is irradiated to said silicon film to crystallize the film, and to activate the impurities inside the film at the same time.

21. A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to claim 18 characterized in that said crystallization treatment is a solid phase crystallization method in which said silicon film is annealed in a low temperature for a long time to crystallize the film, and to activate the impurities inside the film at the same time.

22. A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to claim 18 characterized in that said crystallization treatment is a rapid thermal annealing method in which said silicon film is lamp annealed to crystallize the film, and to activate the impurities inside the film at the same time.

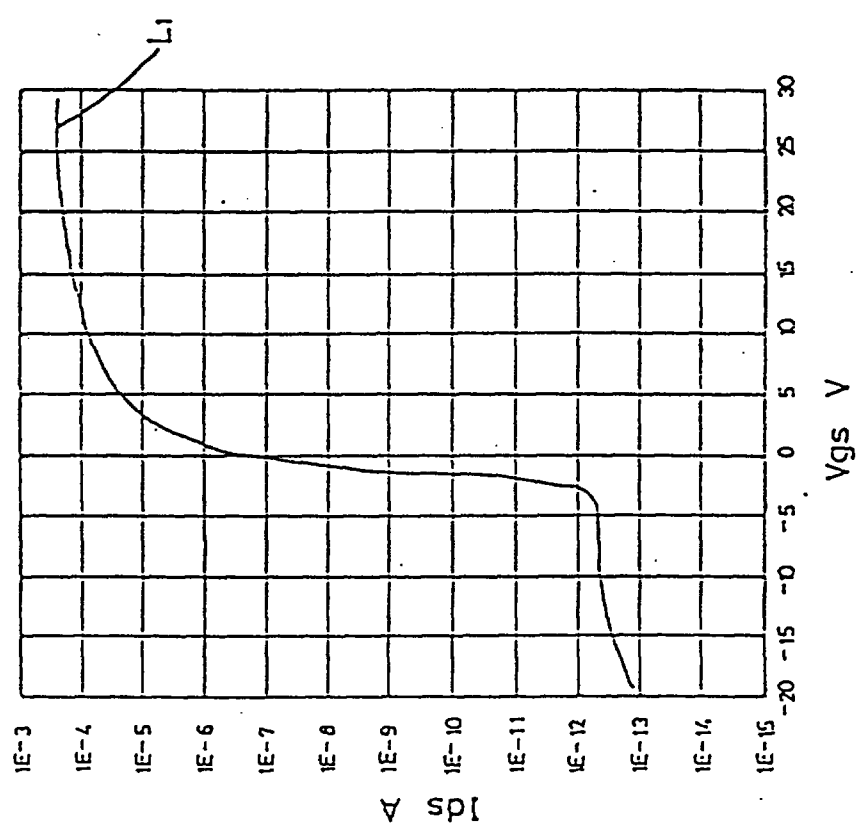


THIN FILM TRANSISTOR, SOLID DEVICE, DISPLAY DEVICE
AND MANUFACTURING METHOD OF A THIN FILM TRANSISTOR

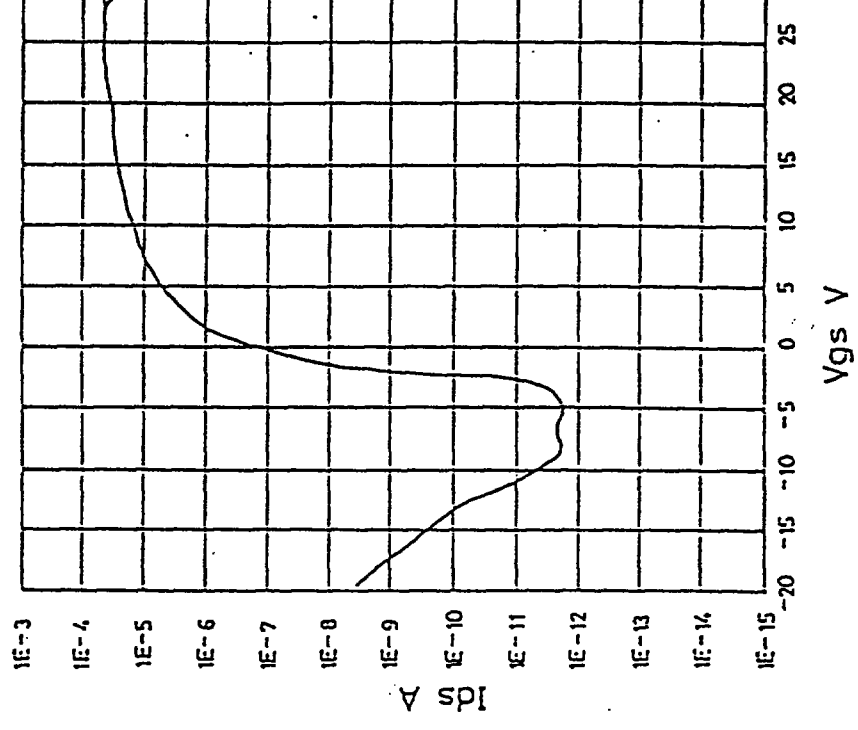
ABSTRACT

A thin film transistor which can improve such electric characteristics as off current characteristics, and a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor. A thin film transistor (110) has an n^- source area (112) and an n^- drain area (113) consisting of an n^- silicon film (low concentration area) of about 400Å, which is a silicon film made by performing a crystallization treatment such as an SPC method on an amorphous silicon, and the crystallization treatment is carried out after the ^{implantation} ~~injection~~ of impurities to activate the impurities at the same time. A gate electrode (116) is a metal electrode, and is formed after an n^- source area (112) and an n^- drain area (113) are formed. A gate electrode (116), an n^- source area (112) and an n^- drain area (113) are not formed self-alignedly.

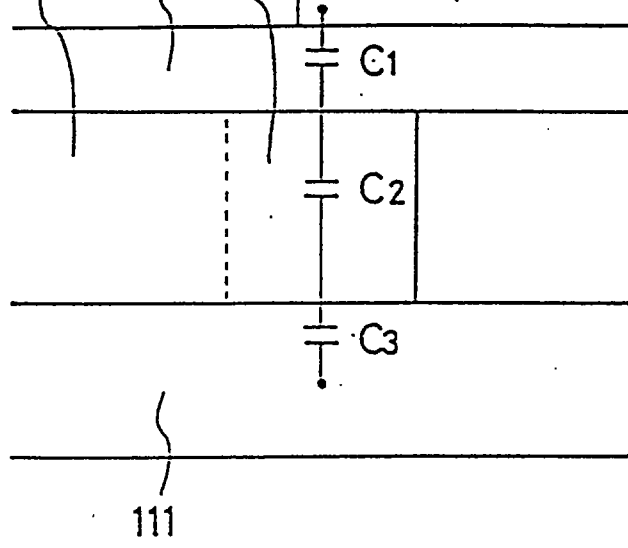
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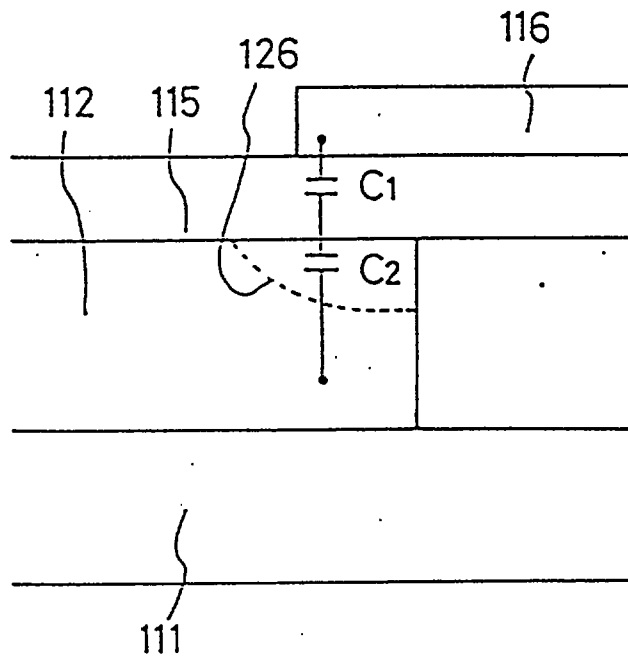
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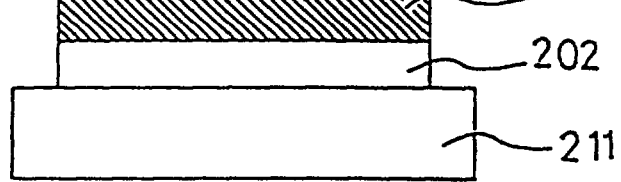
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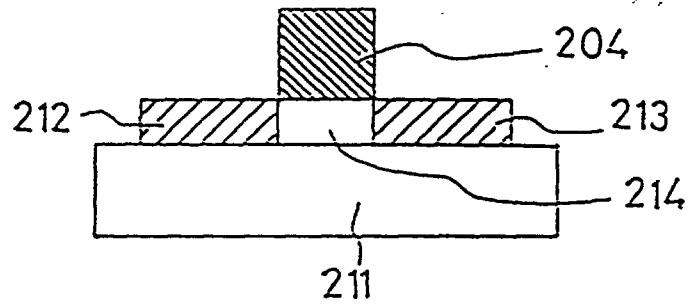
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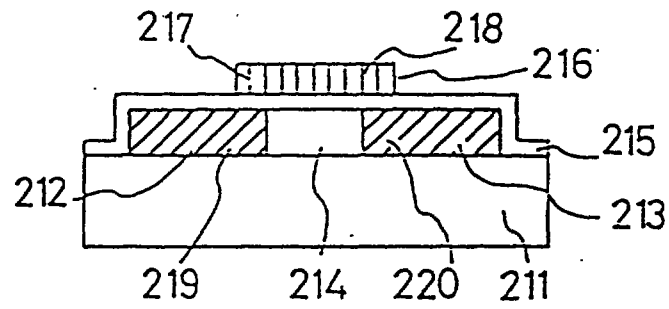
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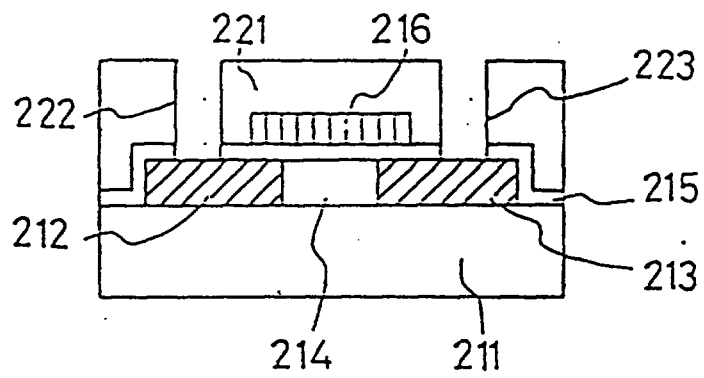
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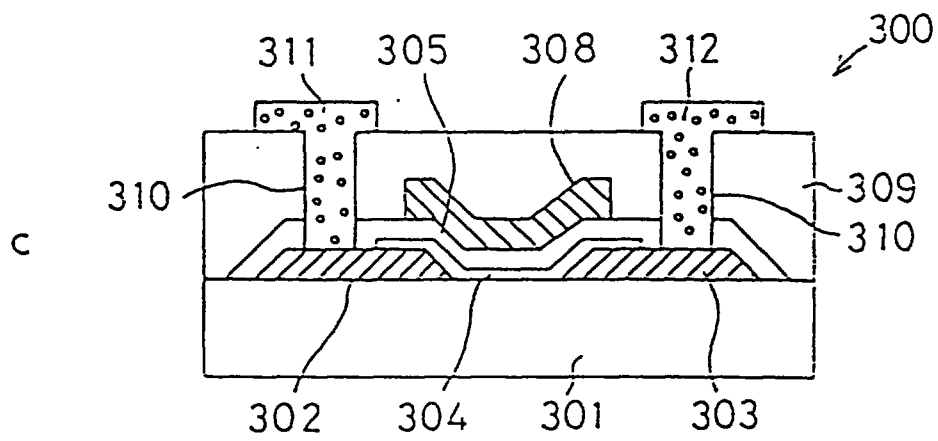
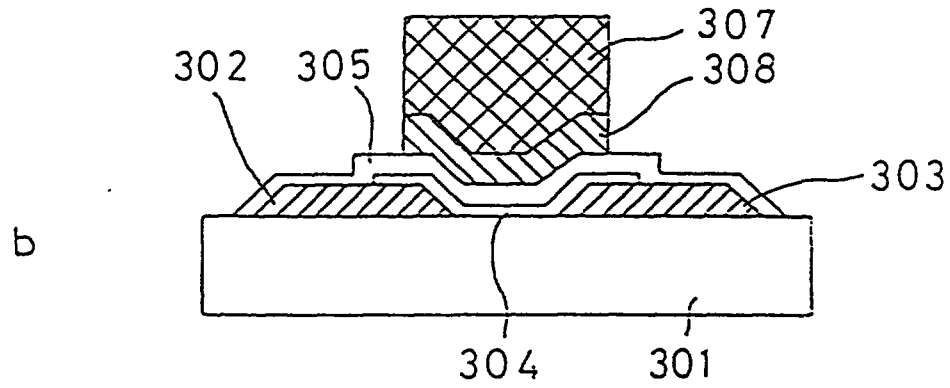
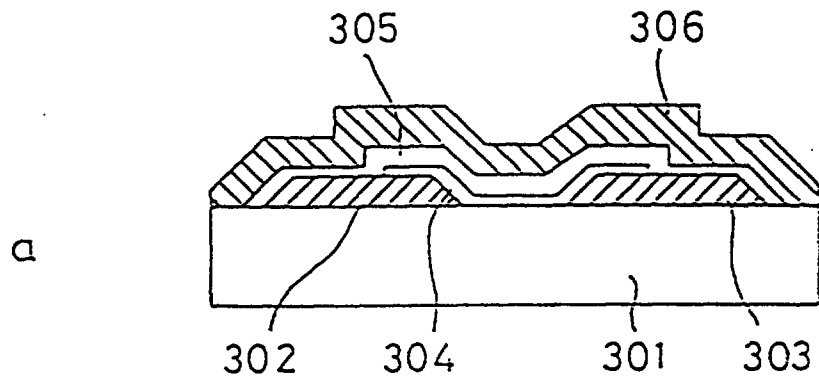


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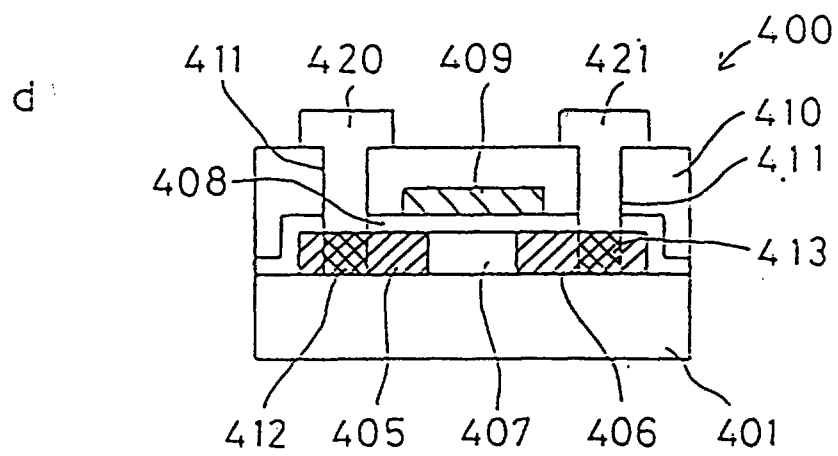
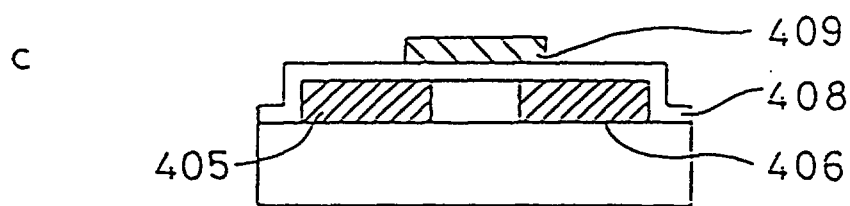
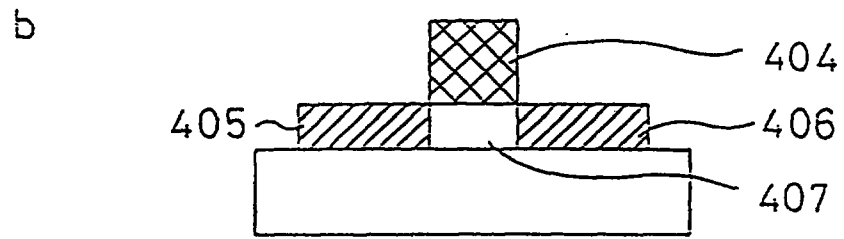
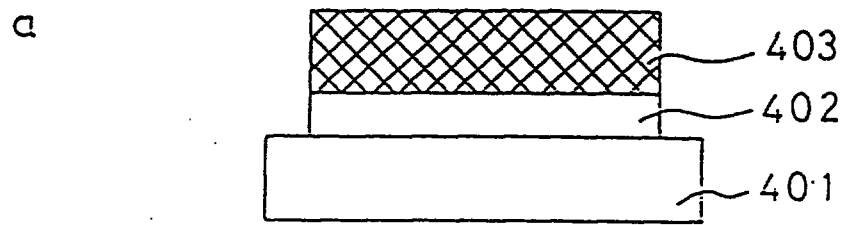


Fig. 7

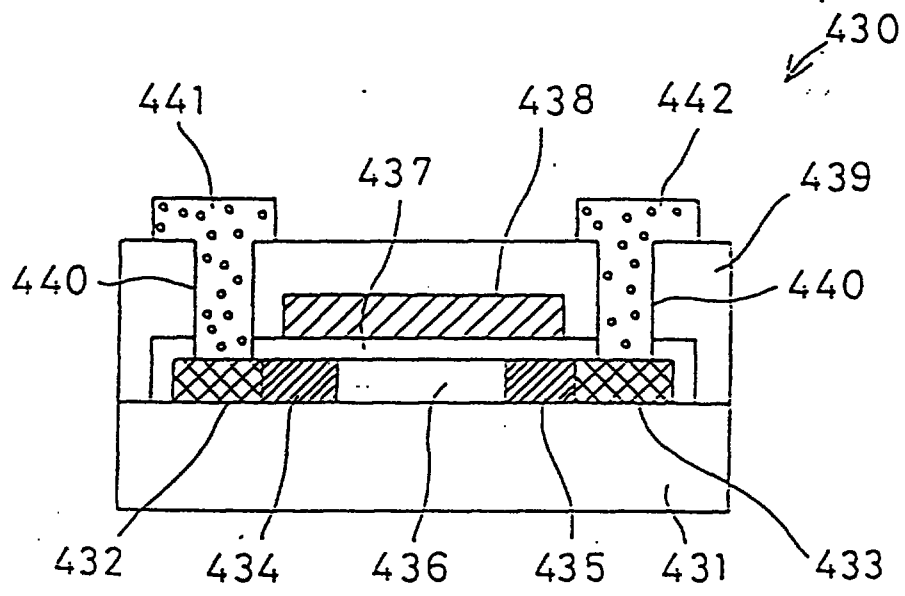


Fig. 8

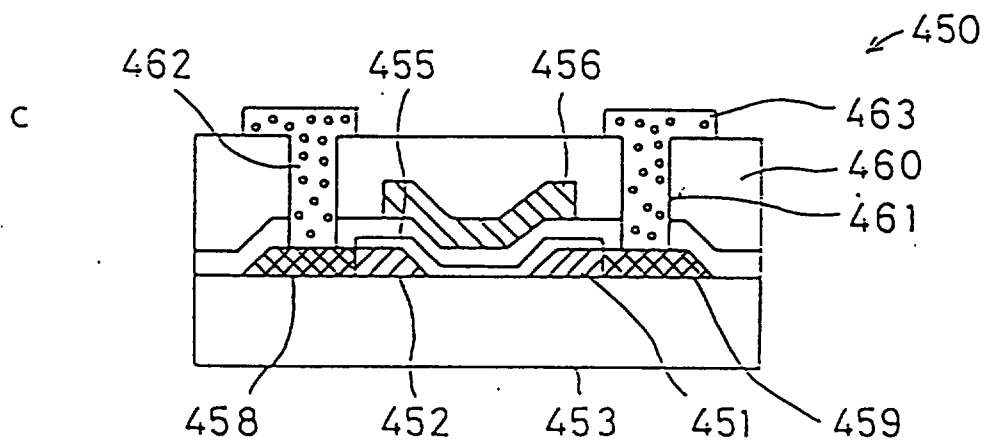
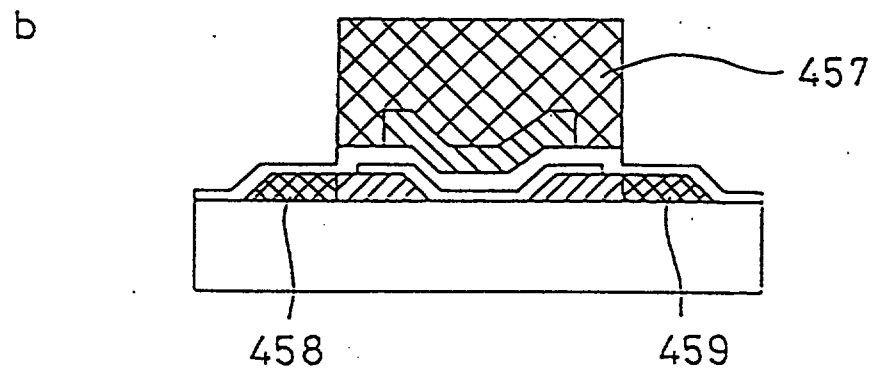
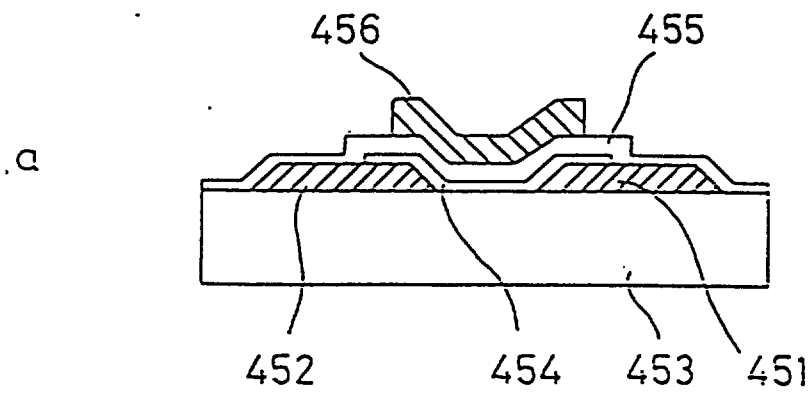
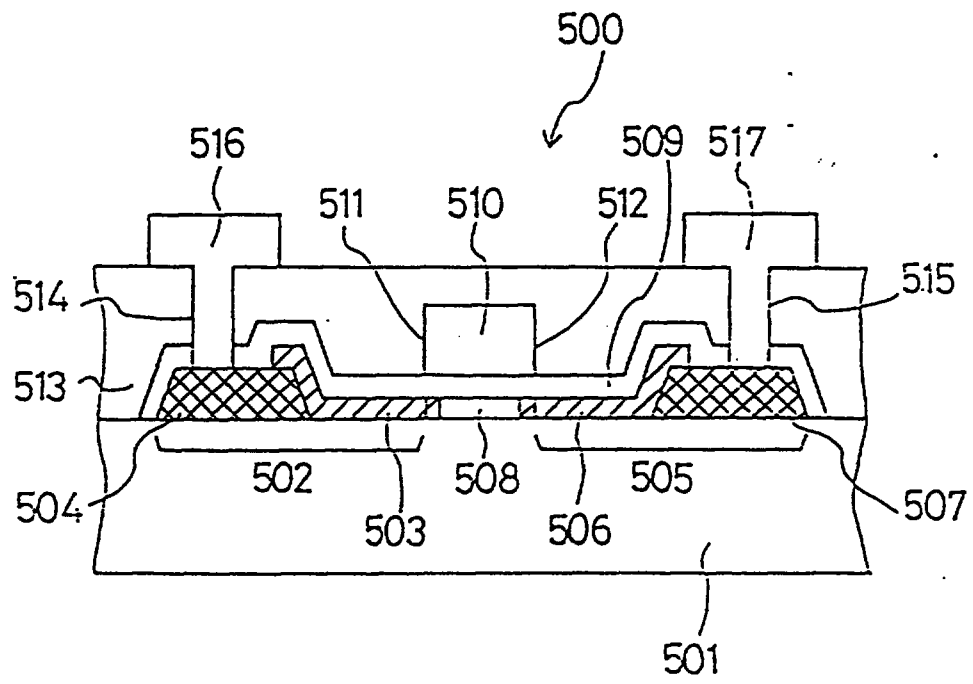
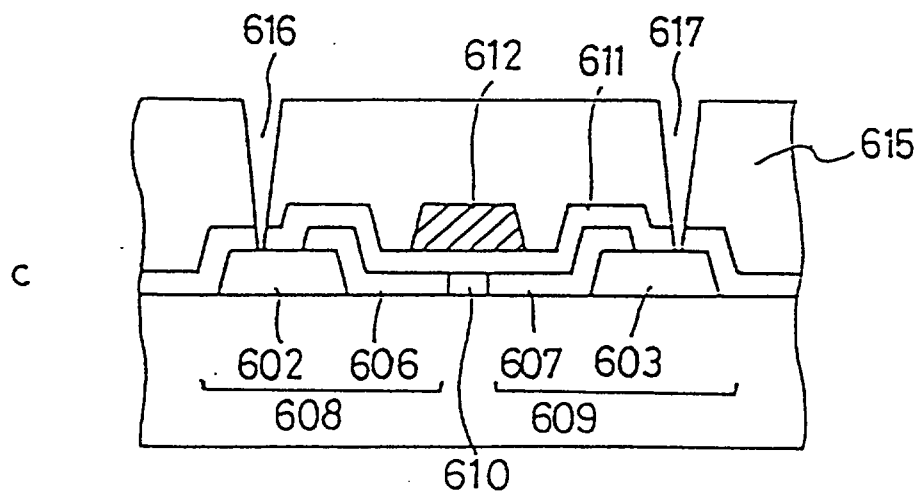
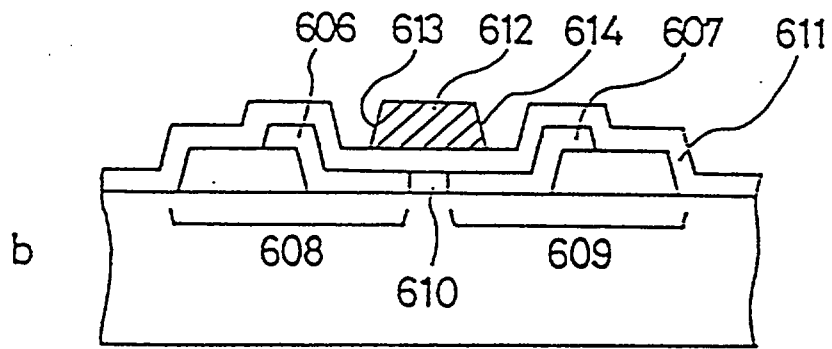
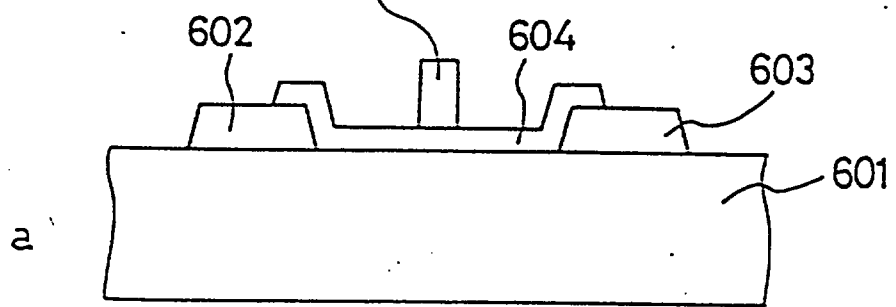


Fig. 1





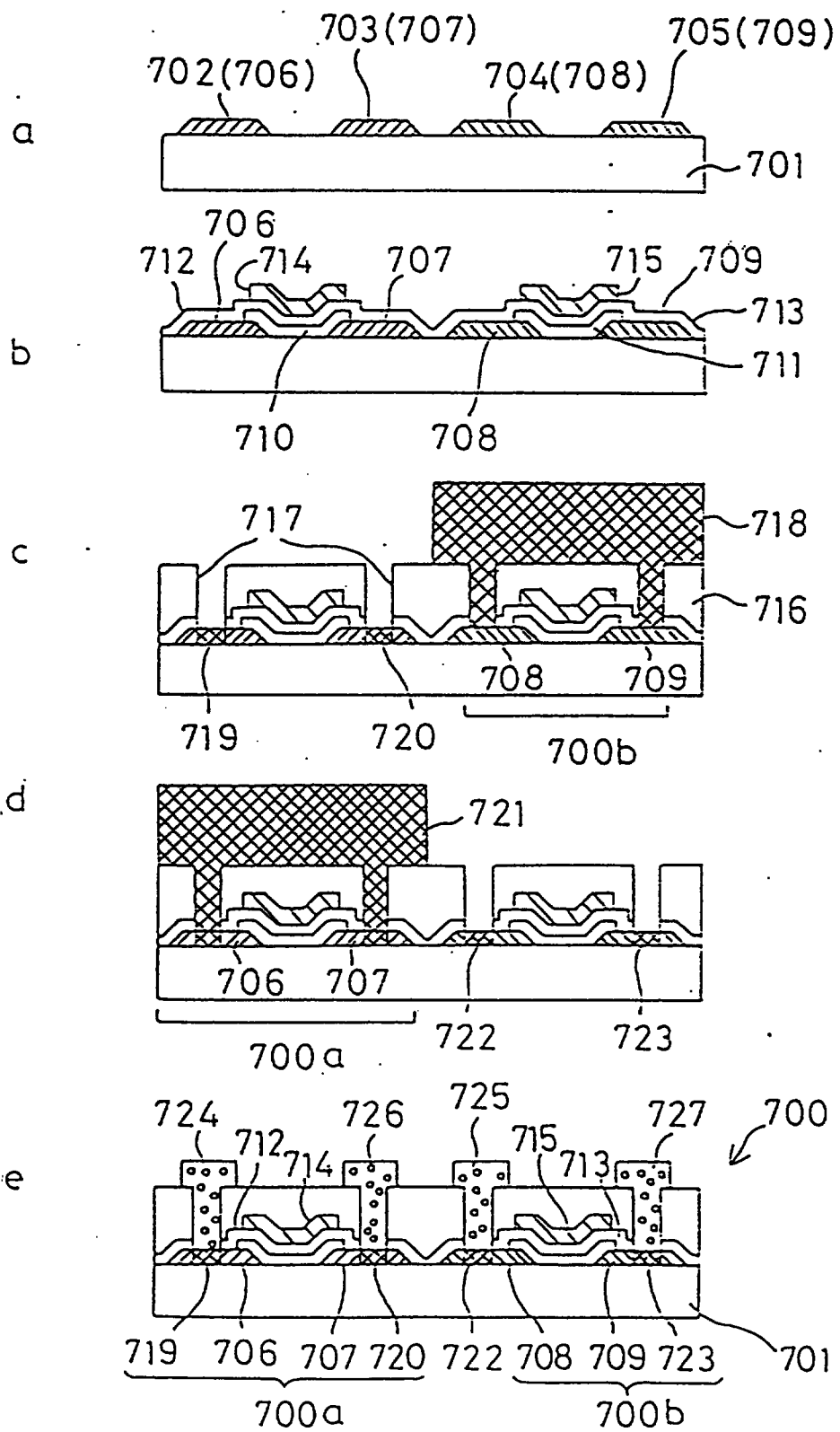


Fig. 12

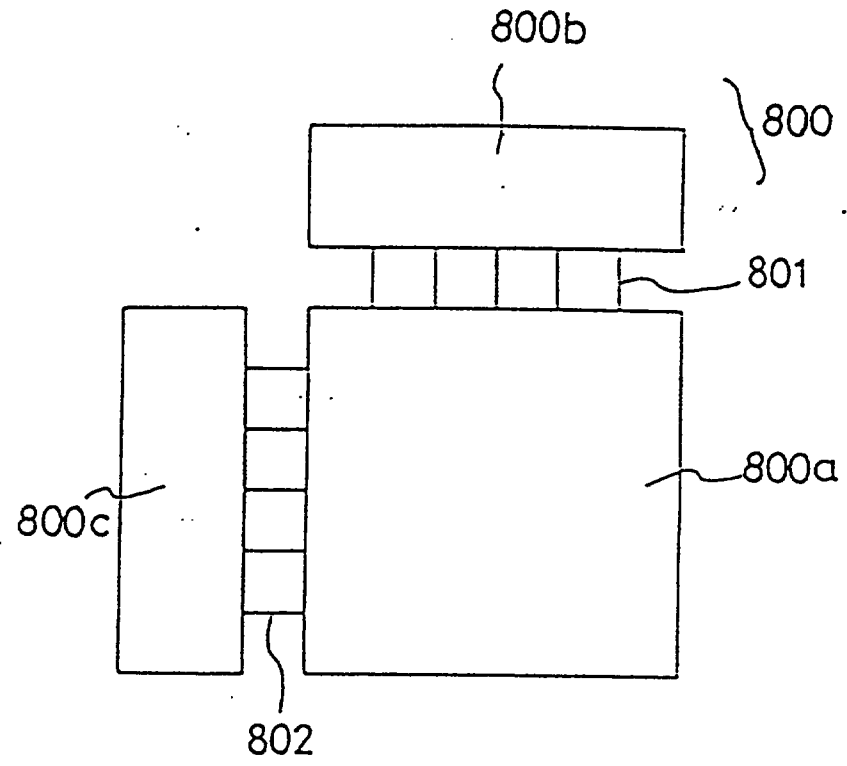


Fig. 13

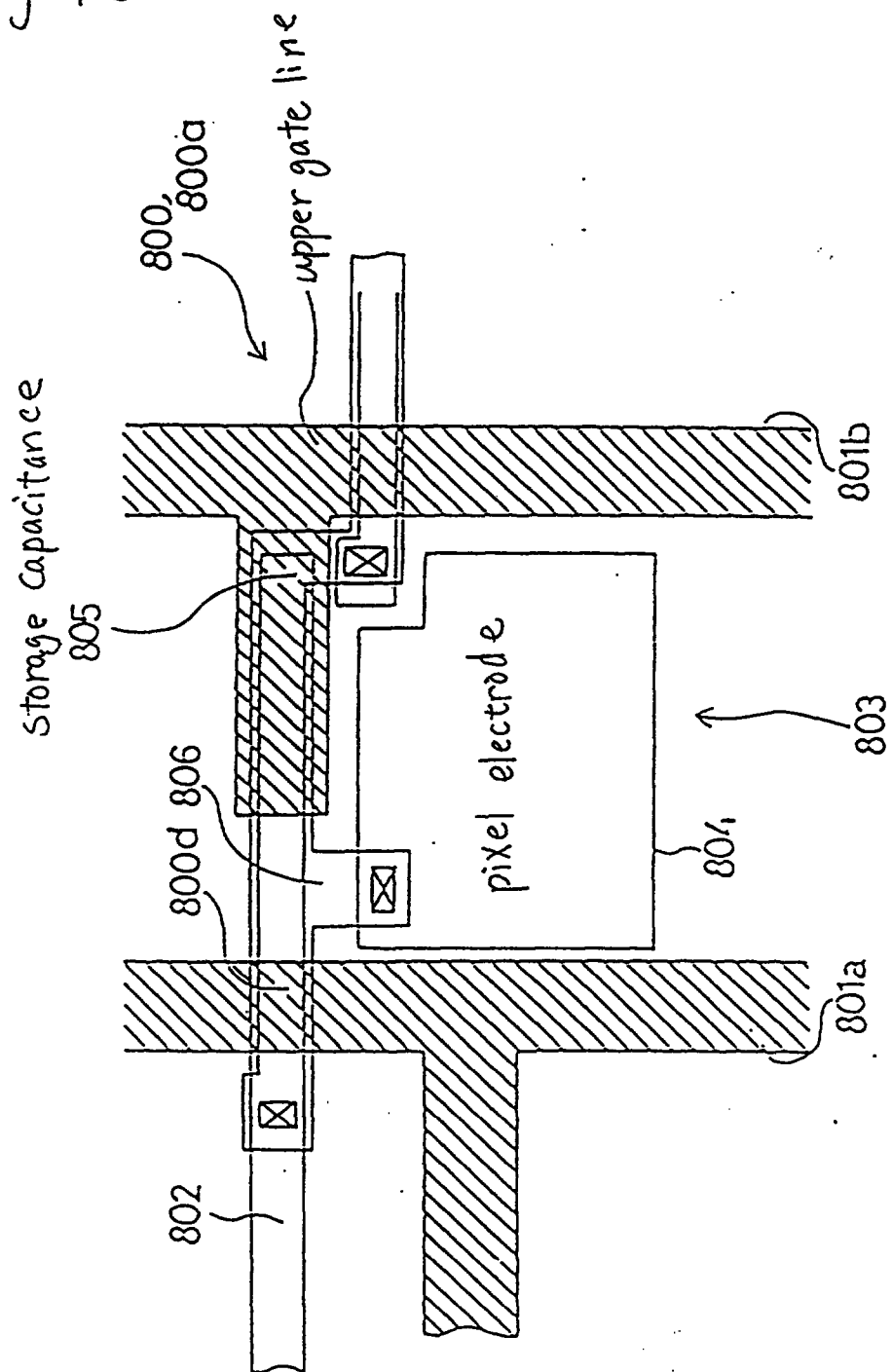


Fig. 14

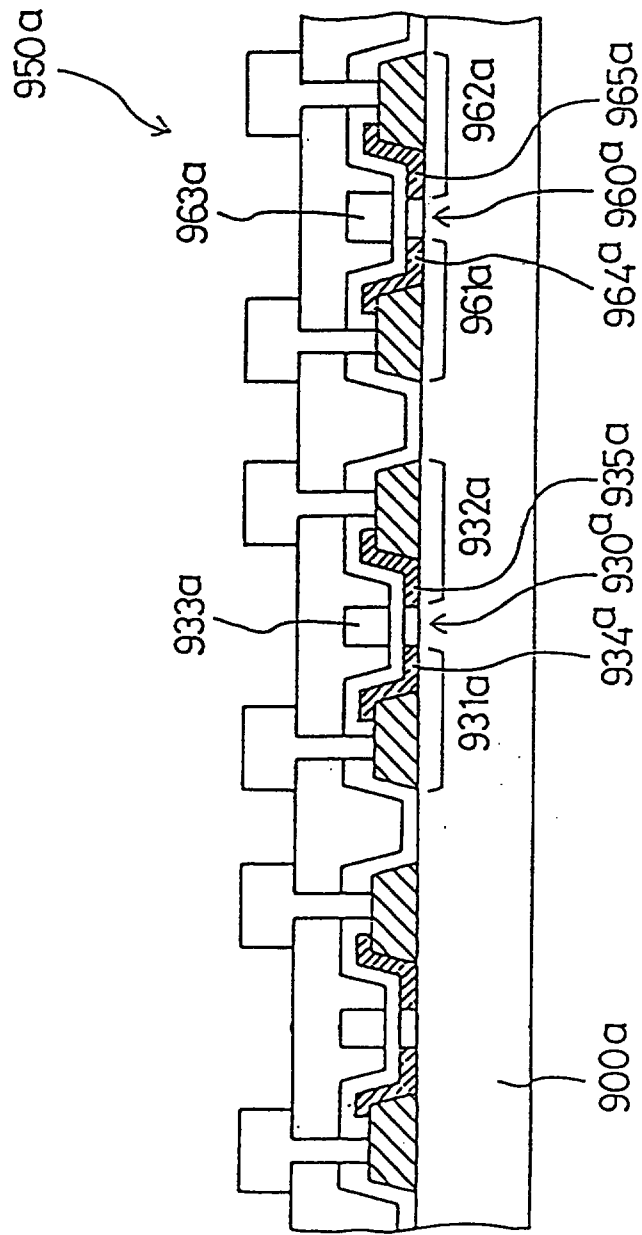
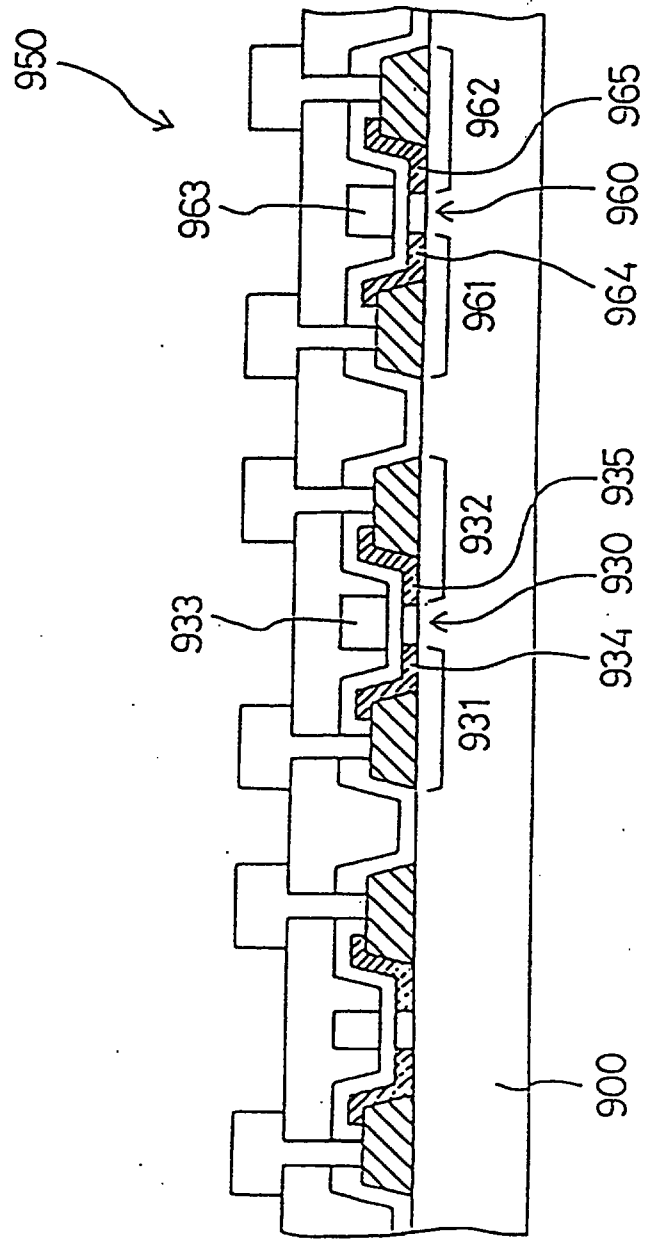
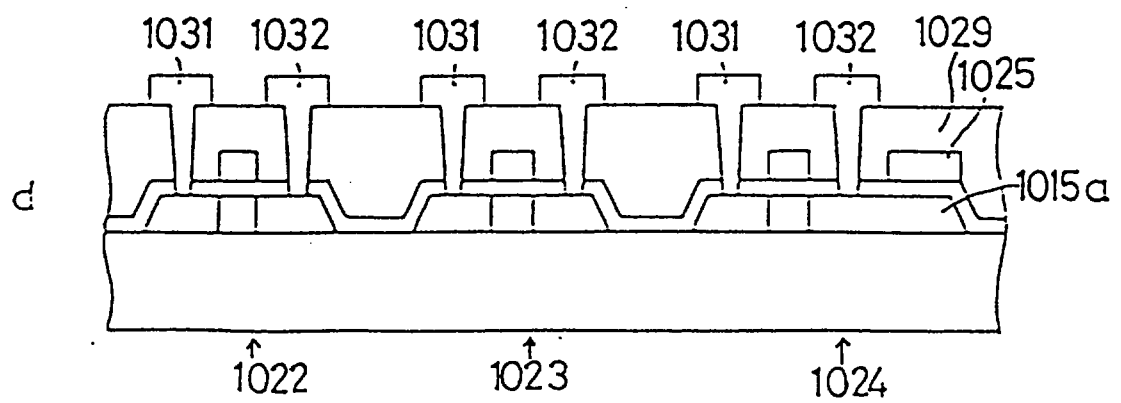
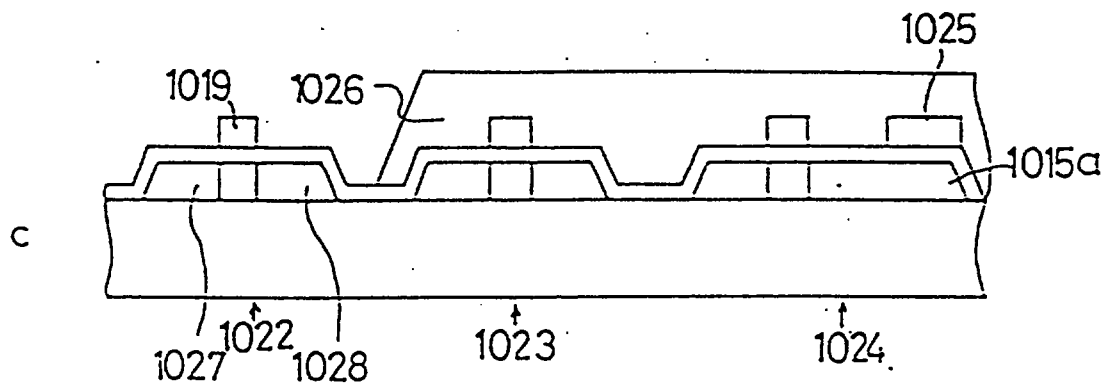
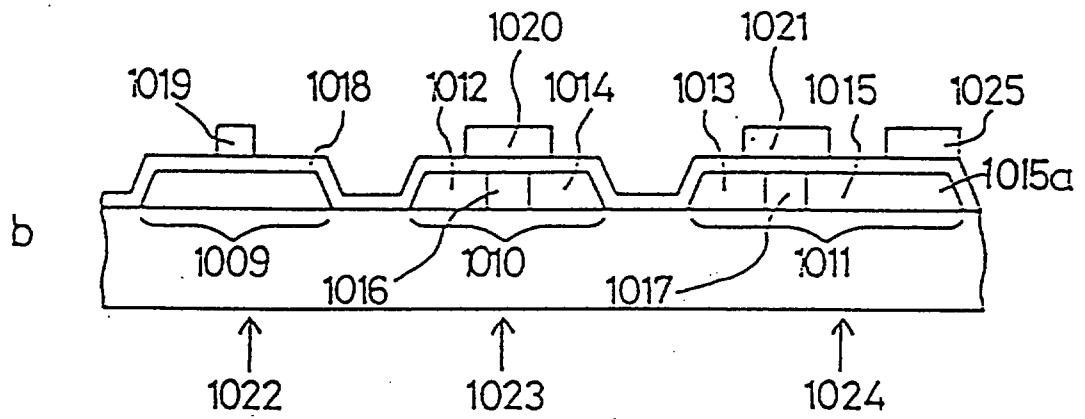
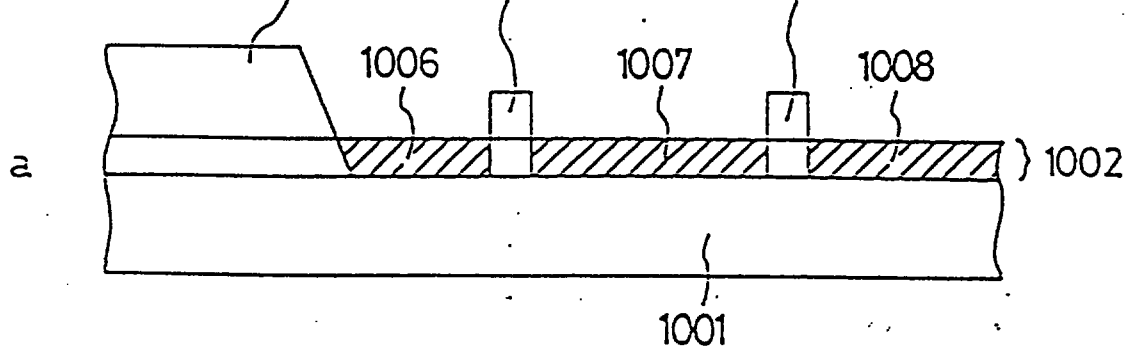
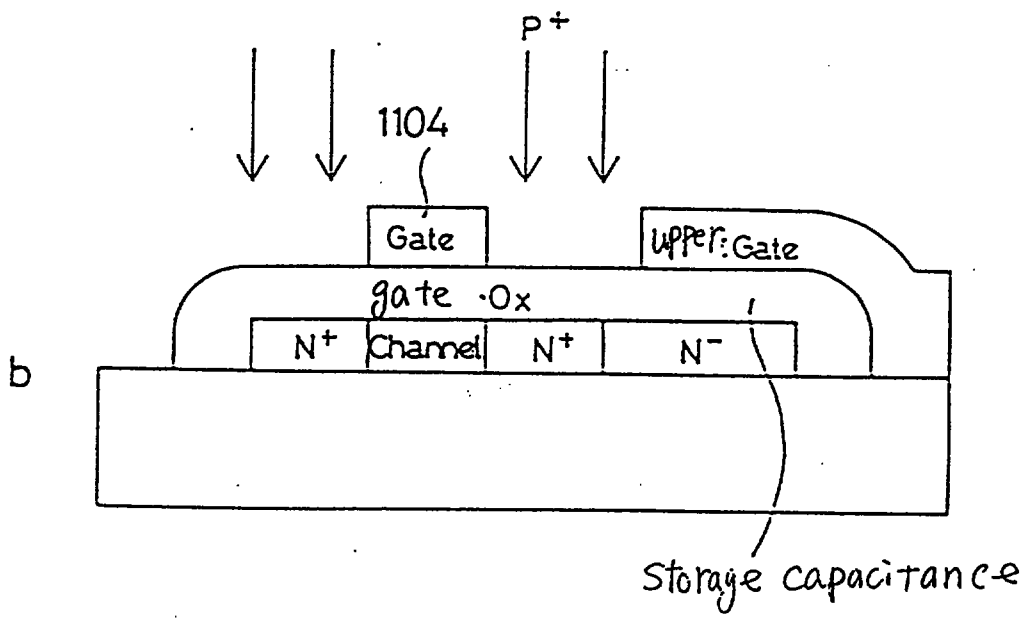
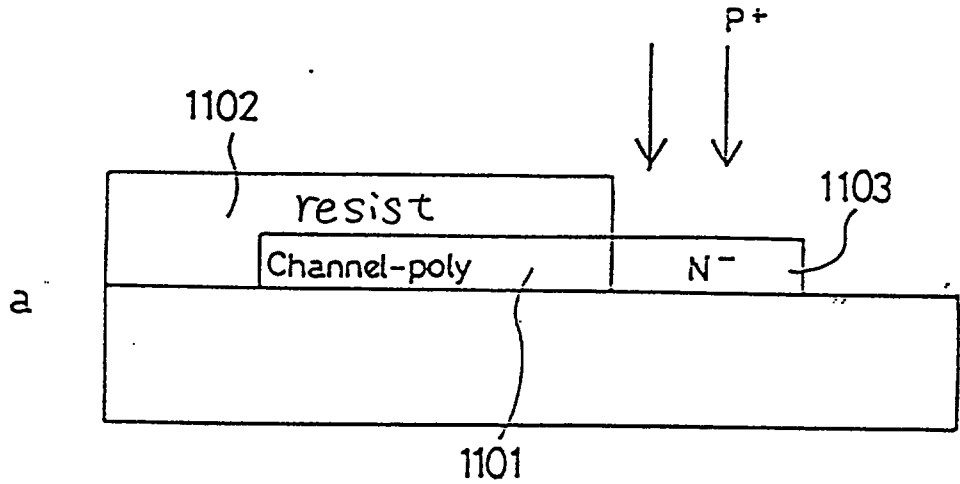
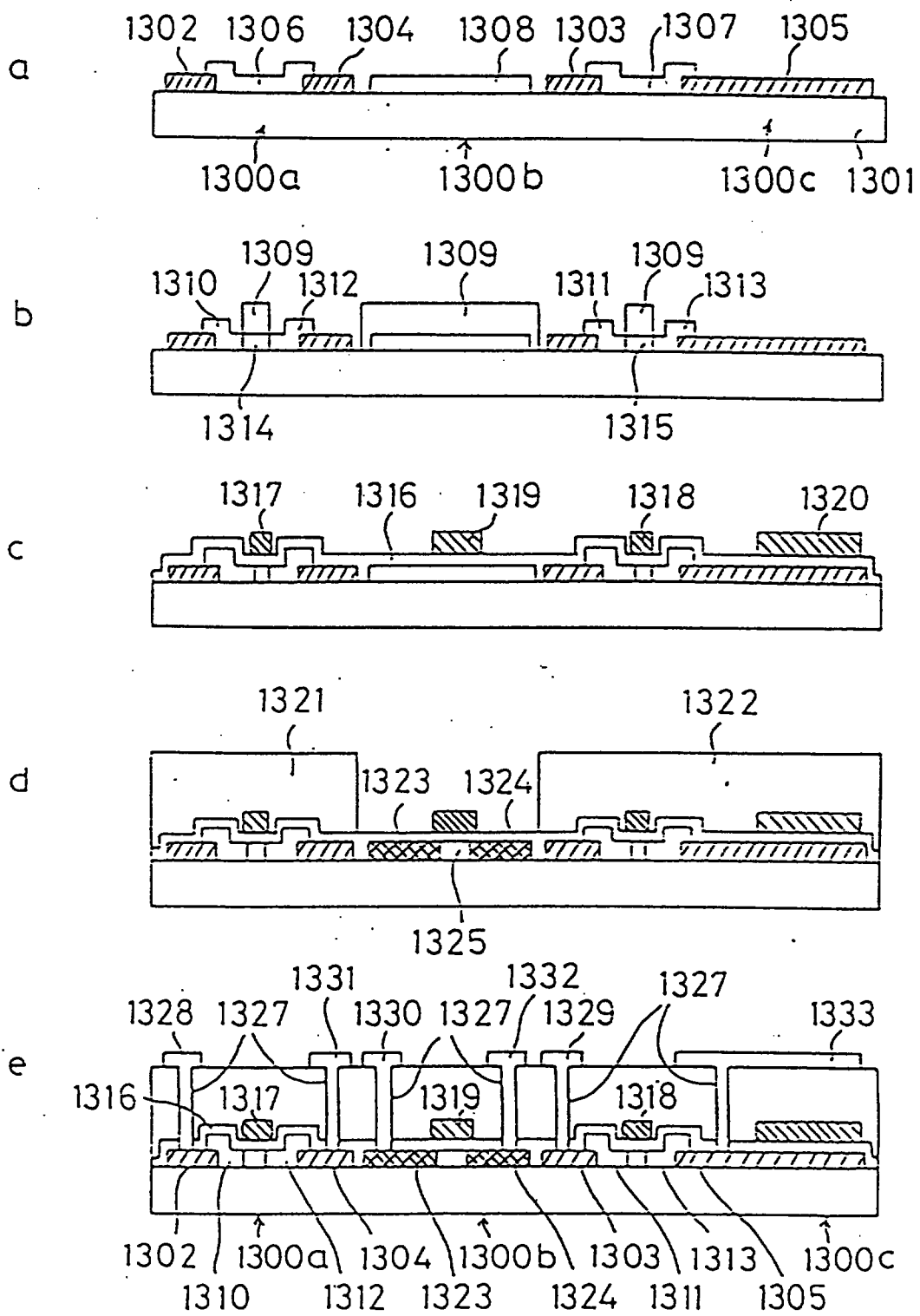


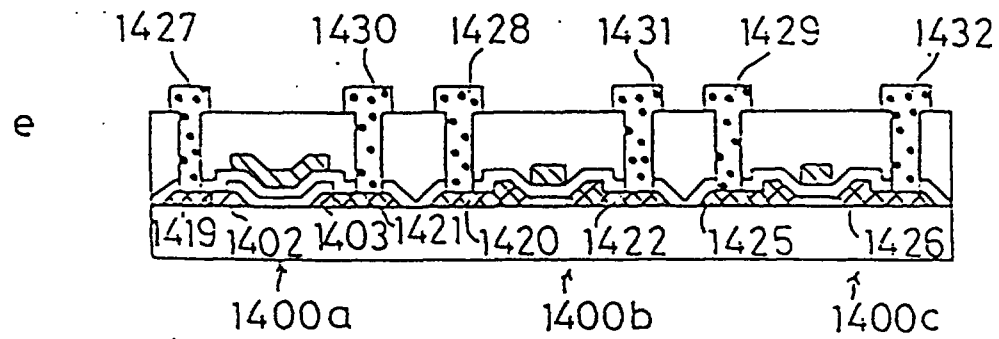
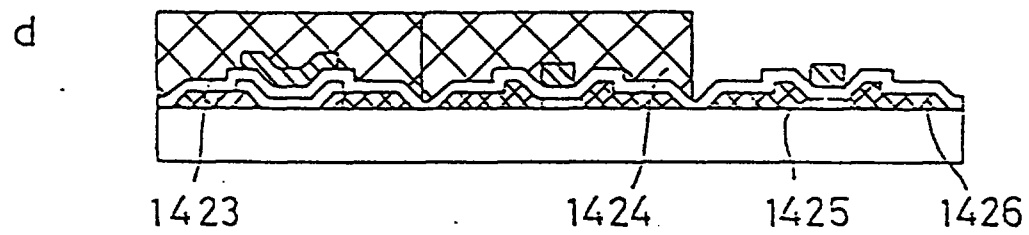
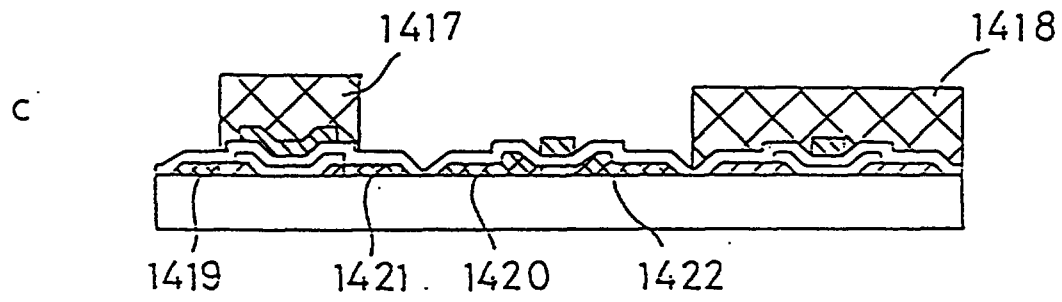
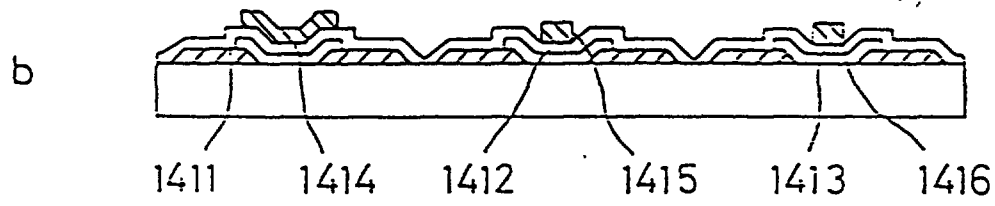
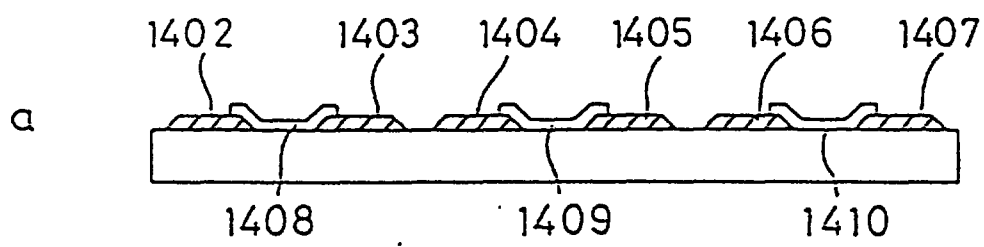
Fig. 15











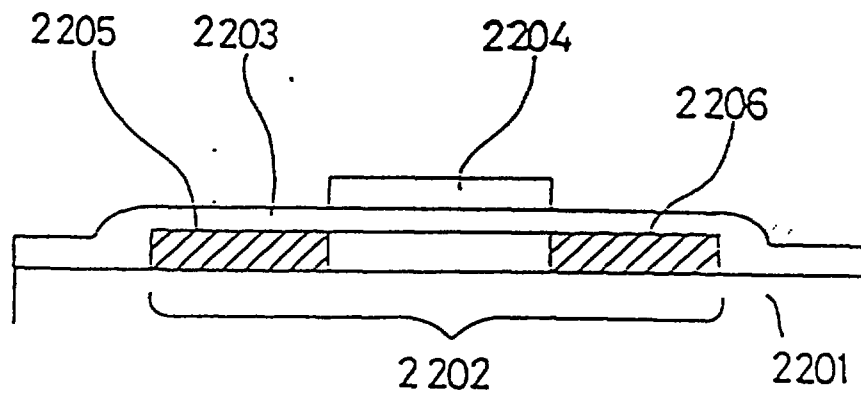
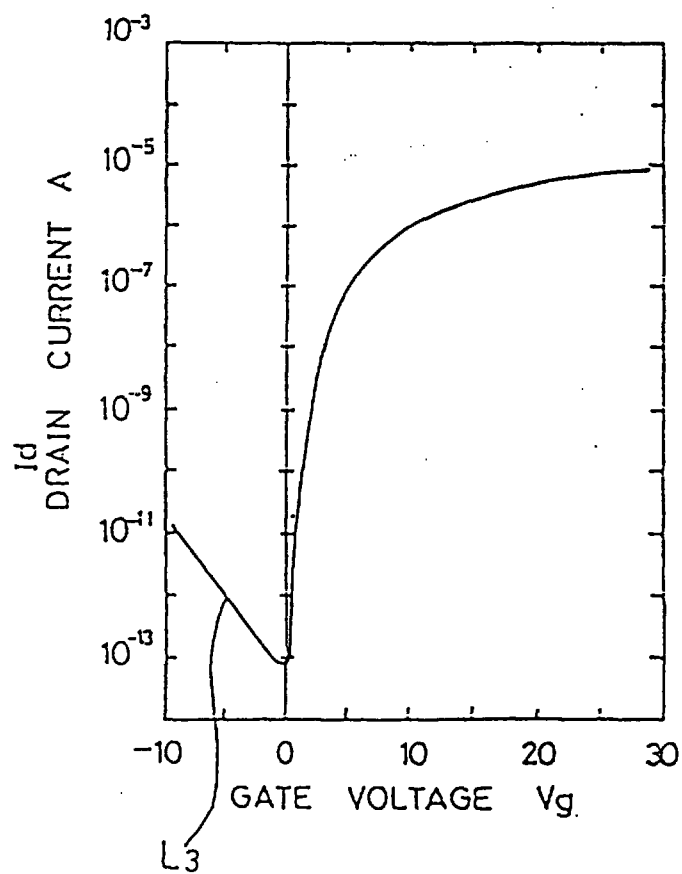
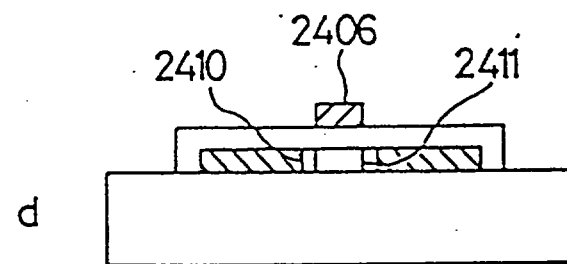
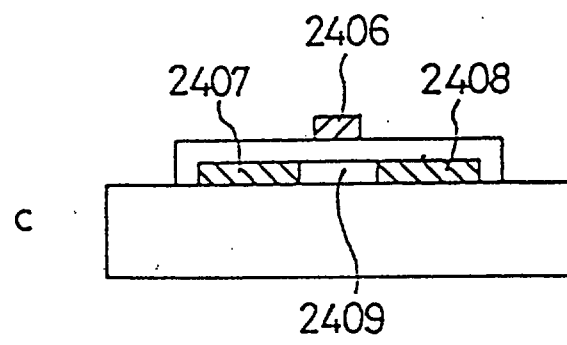
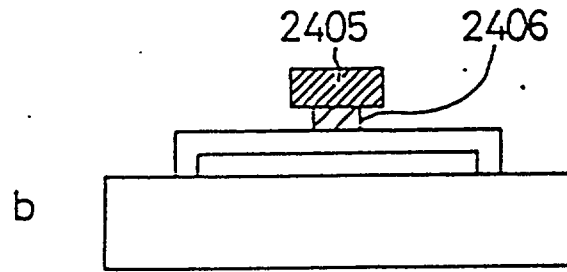
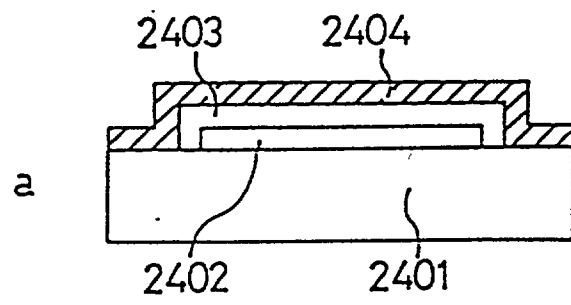


Fig. 21





THIN FILM TRANSISTOR, SOLID DEVICE, DISPLAY DEVICE AND MANUFACTURING METHOD OF A THIN FILM TRANSISTOR

Technical Field

The present invention relates to a thin film transistor, a solid device such as a semiconductor device, a display device such as a liquid crystal display panel, and a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor. More particularly, the present invention pertains to an improved technique of electrical characteristics of a thin film transistor.

Background Art

In an active matrix substrate of a liquid crystal display panel and so on, a thin film transistor on board as its switching element is, as is shown in Figure 20, for instance, formed in such a way that a source area 2205 and a drain area 2206 are self-aligned, by after forming a gate oxidation film 2203 on the face of a silicon layer 2202 on the surface of a substrate 2201, implanting ions to it, with a gate electrode 2204 on the surface of 2203 as a mask, to make a part of the silicon layer electrically-conductive. A thin film transistor having a structure shown in Figure 20, however, as is shown by a solid line L3 in Figure 21, has a problem that an intense drain current flows even when a negative gate voltage is applied (off state)

hole is implanted. The intensity of a drain current tends to be determined by the voltage applied to between a gate electrode 2204 and a drain area 2206, and density of a trap energy level in a silicon layer corresponding to a drain area 2206 and an end of a gate electrode 2204 near a drain area 2206. Accordingly, a structure may be adopted where a ratio of on-off current is increased by employing a drain structure whose field strength is weakened (LDD structure) by establishing a low concentration area at an end of a drain area corresponding to an end of a gate electrode. In order to manufacture a thin film transistor with this LDD structure, a following manufacturing method has been adopted conventionally. First, as is shown in Figure 22(a), after forming a pattern 2402 consisting of a silicon film on the face of a substrate 2401, its face is covered with a gate insulation film 2403, on the surface of which an electrically-conductive film 2404, which is to constitute a gate electrode, is formed.

Second, as is shown in Figure 22(b), a resist pattern 2405 is formed on the face of an electrically-conductive film 2404 by employing a photolithography technique. By performing an etching selectively, with the resist pattern 2405 used as a mask, a gate electrode 2406, thinner than a resist pattern, is formed.

Third, in an ion implantation method, by implanting impurities which are to be a donor or an acceptor, as much as $1 \times 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ for instance, a source area 2407 and a drain area 2408 are formed in a

Fourth, a resist pattern 2405 is removed. In order to form an LDD structure, as is shown in Figure 22(d), by implanting impurities about $1 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ in an ion implantation method, with a gate electrode 2406 as a mask, low concentration areas 2410 and 2411 are formed in an area corresponding to an end of a gate electrode 2406.

In a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor with a conventional LOO structure, however, because after a gate electrode 2406 is formed, a source area 2407, a drain area 2408 and low concentration areas 2410 and 2411 are formed, when a silicon film to which impurities are implanted is heat-treated at about 1000°C to activate the impurities, a gate electrode 2406 is also heated. Therefore, there arises a problem that only materials having high heat resistance such as a silicon compound can be used as materials of a gate electrode 2406, at the expense of its electric resistance and so on. If signals are transmitted by employing wires formed simultaneously with a gate electrode 2406, as in an active matrix substrate of a liquid crystal display panel, signals are retarded much on account of the high electric resistance. There is an alternative method in which the impurities are activated by irradiating a laser beam partially without giving heat stress to a gate electrode 2406. In this method, density of trap energy level is increased because the crystalline state which was disturbed by the implantation of impurities cannot be restored sufficiently. Hence an off current increases, and

the object of the present invention lies in realizing a thin film transistor, a solid device such as a semiconductor device, a display device such as a liquid crystal display panel, which can improve electrical characteristics such as off-current characteristics by the improvement of the composition of source and drain areas and a gate electrode, and a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor.

Disclosure of Invention

In order to solve the above-mentioned problems, in a thin film transistor according to the present invention, a channel area which can form a channel between a source area and a drain area, and a gate electrode which confronts the channel area through a gate insulation film on the face of the channel area are set up on the face of a substrate. In a source area and a drain area, an area which overlaps an end of a gate electrode through a gate insulation film is a low concentration area formed in a process prior to that of a gate electrode, area whose impurity concentration is under $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$, for instance. That is to say, a source area and a drain area have a structure where the areas are formed in a process prior to that of a gate electrode, and have a low concentration area overlapping a gate electrode, or a source area and a drain area have a structure where the areas as a whole are a low concentration area formed in a process prior to that of a gate electrode and its end overlaps the gate electrode.

but are formed before a gate electrode is formed. Accordingly, when the implanted impurities are activated, a gate electrode is not formed yet. Therefore, it is possible to activate impurities without being restricted by the heat resistance of components of a gate electrode. More particularly, when a thin film transistor is formed in a low-temperature process, since a channel area can be crystallized after the implantation of impurities, density of a trap energy level can be reduced in a drain area corresponding to an end of a gate electrode and its neighborhood. Furthermore, as it is a low concentration area of a source area and a drain area that confronts the gate electrode, electric field strength is small at the end of a gate electrode. Hence, the improvement of an off current characteristics of a thin film transistor can be obtained.

When a thin film transistor according to the present invention is formed in a low-temperature process in which the process highest temperature is restrained under about 600°C , it is desirable that an activation process to form a low concentration area serve as a crystallization treatment of a channel area at the same time.

That is, after forming a silicon film to constitute a low concentration area and a channel area, impurities are implanted selectively, and then the crystallization treatment is performed and the impurities are activated at the same time. As a crystallization treatment, the following methods can be adopted: a laser annealing method, in which a silicon film is crystallized by irradiating a

silicon film is crystallized by annealing it for a long time at a low temperature and impurities are activated at the same time; or a rapid thermal annealing method (RTA method), in which a silicon film is crystallized by lamp annealing it and impurities are activated simultaneously.

In the present invention, it is desirable to reduce a parasitic resistance by setting up a low resistance area which connects to a low concentration area with a high impurity concentration, or a low resistance area which connects to a low concentration area with a thick film respectively in a source area and a drain area. It is also possible to form a channel area, a source area and a whole drain area or a part of it in a different process.

It is desirable for a film in a low concentration area to have an equal thickness to a film in a channel. Or it is desirable to set up the thickness of a film in a low concentration area thin compared to the thickness of a depletion layer which is formed in such a condition that the thickness is determined by the impurity concentration in a low concentration area when potential is applied to a gate electrode. The thickness of a film in a low concentration area is set up, for instance, under about 500Å .

Such a thin film transistor can be used in various solid devices such as a three-dimensional integrated circuit (semiconductor device) and an image sensor. It is also possible to make a display device such as a liquid crystal display panel, with a thin film

a thin film transistor according to the present invention of an n-channel type thin film transistor, while in a CMOS circuit of a drive circuit area formed on the same substrate together with an active matrix array, it is possible to use an n-channel type thin film transistor of the same structure as a thin film transistor and a p-channel type thin film transistor formed in a self-aligned way to a gate electrode. As another combination, conversing the structure of an n-channel type thin film transistor and a p-channel type thin film transistor, it is possible for the p-channel type thin film transistor to be of the structure according to the present invention, and for the p-channel type thin film transistor to be self-aligned. In this case, the pixel part is constituted of a p-channel type thin film transistor.

In a pixel part, while a thin film transistor according to the present invention is used, in a drive circuit formed on the same substrate together with an active matrix array, for any thin film transistor constituting a CMOS circuit, an n-channel type thin film transistor and a p-channel type thin film transistor which are formed in a self aligned way to a gate electrode can be used.

Whichever combination is employed to constitute a thin film transistor in a pixel part and a drive circuit, the impurity concentration of each area should be, for instance, over about $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ in a source area and a drain area of a self-aligned thin film transistor, and under about $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ in a low concentration

transistor may sometimes be equal to that of a film in a low concentration area of a non-self aligned thin film transistor.

In an active matrix array, storage capacitance is usually connected in series to a drain area of a thin film transistor constituting a pixel area. The storage capacitance can be formed, for example, with a scanning line in prior stage as an upper electrode, a gate insulation film of a thin film transistor as a capacitor insulation film, and an extended area formed by extending a drain area of a thin film transistor as a lower electrode.

However, when a thin film transistor is made employing a conventional technique, that is, when source and drain areas are formed after a gate electrode is formed, after a gate electrode is formed, ions cannot be implanted to the lower part, therefore a process needs to be added to form a lower electrode under a gate line of the prior stage. In a thin film transistor according to the present invention, by contrast, since at least a low concentration area is formed before a gate electrode is formed, an extended area can be made in a drain area to be used as a lower electrode thanks to this process.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a sectional view showing a structure of a thin film transistor according to the first embodiment of the present

Figure 2(a) is a graph showing off current characteristics of a thin film transistor shown in Figure 1; Figure 2(b) is a graph showing off current characteristics of a thin film transistor according to the comparative embodiment;

Figure 3(a) is an illustration showing a parasitic capacitance of a thin film transistor shown in Figure 1; Figure 3(b) is an illustration showing a parasitic capacitance of a thin film transistor according to the comparative embodiment;

Figures 4(a) to (d) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor shown in Figure 1 ;

Figures 5(a) to (c) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to the second embodiment of the present invention;

Figures 6(a) to (d) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to the third embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 7 is a sectional view showing a structure of a thin film transistor according to the fourth embodiment of the present invention:

Figures 8(a) to (c) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to the fifth embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 9 is a sectional view showing a structure of a thin film transistor according to the sixth embodiment of the present

showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor shown in Figure 9;

Figures 11(a) to (e) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a CMOS circuit (semiconductor device) equipped with a thin film transistor according to the seventh embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 12 is a block diagram showing a constitution of a liquid crystal display panel;

Figure 13 is a plan view showing a constitution of each pixel area in a pixel part of a liquid crystal display panel shown in Figure 12;

Figure 14 is a sectional view of a thin film transistor formed on an active matrix substrate of a liquid crystal display panel according to the eighth embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 15 is a sectional view of a thin film transistor formed on an active matrix substrate of a liquid crystal display panel according to the ninth embodiment of the present invention;

Figures 16(a) to (d) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor formed on an active matrix substrate of a liquid crystal display panel according to the tenth embodiment of the present invention;

Figures 17(a) and (b) are process sectional views showing a part of a method of manufacturing a storage capacitor in a pixel part in a conventional liquid crystal display panel;

crystal display panel according to the eleventh embodiment of the present invention;

Figures 19(a) to (e) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor formed on an active matrix substrate of a liquid crystal display panel according to the twelfth embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 20 is a sectional view showing a constitution of a transistor;

Figure 21 is a graph showing off current characteristics of a conventional thin film transistor; and,

Figures 22(a) to (d) are sectional views showing a manufacturing method of another conventional thin film transistor.

Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention

A thin film transistor according to the present invention will be explained below with reference to the drawings.

First Embodiment

Figure 1 is a sectional view showing a constitution of a thin film transistor according to the present embodiment.

In this figure, a thin film transistor 110 of the present embodiment is formed on an insulation substrate 111 made from glass, quartz or sapphire and so on, and has on the face of the insulation substrate 111 an n^- source area 112 and an n^- drain area 113 consisting of an n^-

$1 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of phosphorus is added, and a channel area 114 which lies between an n^- source area 112 and an n^- drain area 113 and connects these areas. The n^- source area 112, the n^- drain area 113 and the channel area 114 are silicon films made by crystallizing amorphous silicon, and because the n^- source area 112, the n^- drain area 113 and the channel area 114 are determined by the presence of impurities, the thickness of films of the n^- source area 112, the n^- drain area 113 and the channel area 114 are approximately the same, that is, about 400Å. On the surfaces of the n^- source area 112, the n^- drain area 113 and the channel area 114, there are a gate insulation film 115 consisting of an insulation film such as a silicon oxidation film to cover them all, and a gate electrode 116 formed on the face of the gate insulation film 115. This gate electrode 116 is made from materials appropriate to the function of devices to be loaded with a thin film transistor 110, such as metal and a transparent electrically conductive film. The gate electrode 116, the n^- source area 112 and the n^- drain area 113 are not made self-alignedly, and the overlapping area of one side end 117 of the gate electrode 116 and an end 118 of the n^- source area 112, and that of the other side end 119 of the gate electrode 116 and the end 120 of the n^- drain area 113 are relatively large. Note that 121 is an interlayer insulation film, through the contact holes 122 and 123 of which a source electrode 124 and a drain electrode 125 connect electrically-

since an n^- source area 112 and an n^- drain area 113 are formed before a gate electrode 116 is formed, when implanted impurities are activated in forming an n^- source area 112 and an n^- drain area 113, a gate electrode 116 is not formed yet. Accordingly, if an LCD of a large area or a high pixel density LCD is fabricated by employing a metal electrode with low sheet resistance, for instance, on the gate electrode 116, the heat resistance does not restrict the activation condition of the impurities implanted to the n^- source area 112 and the n^- drain area 113. In other words, as the impurities implanted to make the n^- source area 112 and the n^- drain area 113 can be activated sufficiently, and at the same time the crystalline state which was disturbed by the implantation of impurities can be restored enough, density of a trap energy level at the end 120 of the n^- drain area 113 corresponding to the other side end 119 of a gate electrode 116 and its neighborhood can be reduced. And as the n^- drain area 113 is a low concentration area, electric field strength is small near a gate electrode 116. Hence, the improvement of off current characteristics of a thin film transistor 110.

Moreover, an n^- drain area 113 and its neighborhood are thin and are both about 400Å thick. The density of a trap energy level which may cause an off current tends to increase as a film becomes thick. Therefore, as the n^- drain area 113 and its neighborhood are thin, the density of a trap energy level in the areas is decreased, which makes the off current reduce more. As can be seen in Figure

and in Figure 2(b) where gate voltage-drain current characteristics of various thin film transistors in which a drain area and its neighborhood are 2000Å as a comparative embodiment, are shown by a solid line L2, it is confirmed that an off current is smaller in the embodiment in which a drain area and its neighborhood are thinner (400Å thick), and that off current characteristics of a thin film transistor according to the present embodiment are good.

Furthermore, in a thin film transistor 110 according to the present embodiment, an n⁻ drain area 113 near an end of a gate electrode 116 is flat, hence a electric field convergence occurs less often between the other side end 119 of a gate electrode 116 and an end 120 of a drain electrode 113.

In a thin film transistor 110 in the present embodiment, although an overlapping area of an n⁻ source area 112, an n⁻ drain area 113 and a gate electrode 116 is large, the amount of impurities implanted to an n⁻ source area 112 and an n⁻ drain area 113 is about $1 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ while the thickness is about 400Å, therefore the parasitic capacitance between a gate electrode 116 and an n⁻ source area 112, for instance, is minimum. In other words, in this embodiment, noting that the thickness of a depletion layer created by a potential between a gate electrode 116 and an n⁻ source area 112 is determined by the impurity concentration of an n⁻ source area 112 if the potential is fixed, the thickness of an n⁻ source area 112 is set

112, as shown in Figure 3(a), the first capacity C1 corresponding to a gate insulation film 115, the second capacity C2 corresponding to a depletion layer 126, and the third capacity C3 corresponding to a side of a substrate 111 are connected in series, and their combined capacity is small. By contrast, when an n⁻ source area 112 is thick, as shown in Figure 3(b), the lower face of a depletion layer 126 lies halfway in the thickness direction of an n⁻ source area 112, and only the first capacity C1 corresponding to a gate insulation film 115 and the second capacity C2 corresponding to a depletion layer 126 are connected in series, so their combined capacity is big. Note that here the thickness of an n⁻ source area 112 is set up at about 400Å according to the impurity concentration, $1 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ but that the thickness of an n⁻ source area 112 can be set up so that a depletion layer 126 may reach the lower face of an n⁻ source area 112 (side of a substrate 111) according to the impurity concentration. Concretely, an n⁻ source area 112 may sometimes be as thin as about 100Å, considering the limitation of a process on control of impurity concentration.

Next, referring to Figures 4(a) to (d), a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor in this embodiment will be explained.

Figures 4(a) to (d) are all process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor in this embodiment.

First, as is shown in Figure 4(a), on the surface of an

instance, a sputtering process or LPCVD method in an atmosphere of the temperature of 550°C to 600°C, and by patterning the amorphous silicon film to form a pattern 202 (amorphous silicon film). Note that although it is possible to inject impurities after an amorphous silicon film is crystallized by the irradiation of a laser beam, the implantation of impurities causes the crystalline state to be disturbed, therefore another restoration treatment will be necessary. Accordingly, in this embodiment, after the implantation of impurities, a crystallization treatment is performed, which activates the impurities at the same time.

That is, after an amorphous silicon film is patterned, a resist pattern 203 is removed, and as is shown in Figure 4(b), after another resist pattern 204 is formed, using 204 as a mask, by ion implanting phosphorus, an n⁻ source area 212 (low concentration area) and an n⁻ drain area 213 (low concentration area) having an impurity concentration of about $5 \times 10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}$ are formed. Of a pattern 202 of an amorphous silicon film, an area to which phosphorus was not implanted becomes a channel area 214.

Then, after a resist pattern 204 is removed, an amorphous silicon film (pattern 202) is annealed by irradiating a laser beam to polycrystallize the amorphous silicon film and to activate the impurities implanted to it simultaneously. Alternatively, an amorphous silicon film is annealed for about four hours in a nitrogen atmosphere of the temperature of about 600°C, for example, (solid

necessity, a plasma hydrogen treatment is performed in an atmosphere of the temperature of 350°C , or an amorphous silicon film is rapid-thermal-annealed both to crystallize the amorphous silicon film and to activate the impurities implanted to it.

Next, as is shown in Figure 4(c), after a gate insulation film 215 is formed on the surface of an amorphous silicon film (an n^{-} source area 212, an n^{-} drain area 213, and a channel area 214), a gate electrode 216 made from such a material as metal on the surface of the gate insulation film 215. The side ends 217 and 218 of the gate electrode 216 confront the ends 219 and 220 of the n^{-} source area 212 and the n^{-} drain area 213.

Subsequently, as is shown in Figure 4(d), after an interlayer insulation film 221 is formed on the surface of a gate electrode 216, contact holes 222 and 223 are made on it, and using these contact holes 222 and 223, as shown in Figure 1, a source electrode 124 and a drain electrode 125 are connected to an n^{-} source area 212 and a drain electrode 213 respectively to fabricate a thin film transistor

As is clear from the above discussion, in a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor 110 according to this embodiment, after impurities are implanted to a silicon film such as an amorphous silicon film, a crystallization treatment is performed on an amorphous silicon film, and the crystallization treatment itself activates the

treatment, whose crystalline state is not broken by the injection of impurities, density of trap energy level does not increase, hence a thin film transistor 110 whose off current characteristics are good can be manufactured efficiently. Note that the silicon film can be a polycrystalline silicon film instead of the amorphous silicon film used in this embodiment.

Second Embodiment

With reference to Figures 5 (a) to (c), a thin film transistor according to the second embodiment of the present invention and its manufacturing method will be explained below.

Figures 5 (a) to (c) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing process of a thin film transistor in this embodiment.

A thin film transistor in the present embodiment, like a thin film transistor according to the first embodiment, has a structure shown in Figure 5(c) to improve on-off characteristics.

A thin film transistor 300 has, on the face of an insulation substrate 301 made from glass, quartz, sapphire and so on, an n⁻ source area 302 (low concentration area) and an n⁻ drain area 303 (low concentration area) to which about $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of phosphorus is added, and on their surfaces the transistor 300 has a channel-forming area 304 consisting of a thin film made from silicon such as

a channel area 304 and an n⁻ drain area 303, there is a gate insulation film 305 such as a silicon oxidation film. An end of a gate electrode 308 on the surface of 305 overlaps an n⁻ source area 302 and an n⁻ drain area 303 through a gate insulation film 305.

In order to manufacture a thin film transistor 300 of such a structure, first, as is shown in Figure 5(a), after an n⁻ silicon thin film made from such materials as polycrystalline silicon to which about $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of phosphorus, for instance, is added is built up about 1500Å on the face of an insulation substrate 301, the n⁻ silicon thin film is etched selectively to form an n⁻ source area (low concentration area) and an n⁻ drain area 303 (low concentration area). Subsequently, on the faces of an n⁻ source area 302 and an n⁻ drain area 303, a channel area 304 consisting of a silicon thin film made from such materials as polycrystalline silicon of the thickness of about 1000Å is formed to connect 302 and 303. Then the whole device is thermal oxidated to form a gate insulation film 305 consisting of a silicon oxidation film, on the surface of which a gate electrode material 306 is formed consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film, a polycrystalline silicon film to which impurities are added, and so on.

As is shown in Figure 5(b), of the surface of a gate electrode material 306, on the area on which a gate electrode is to be made, a resist pattern 307 is formed employing such a technique as a

end of an n- source area 302 and an end of an n - drain area 303 through a gate insulation film 305.

Then a registration pattern 307 is removed. After that, as is shown in Figure 5(c), an interlayer insulation film 309 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed as in a usual process. After a contact hole 310 is formed in an interlayer insulation film 309, a source electrode 311 and a drain electrode 312, consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film and so on, are connected to an n - source area 302 and an n - drain area 303, respectively.

As is clear from the above explanation, in a thin film transistor 300 in the present embodiment, as in a thin film transistor according to the first embodiment, since an n - source area 302 and an n - drain area 303 are formed before a gate electrode 308 is formed, an n - source area 302 and an n - drain area 303 can be formed in an ideal condition without being restricted by the heat resistance of materials to constitute a gate electrode 308. Hence, the improvement of off current characteristics.

Third Embodiment

With reference to Figures 6(a) to (d), a thin film transistor according to the third embodiment of the present invention and its manufacturing method will be explained below.

Figures 6(a) to (d) are process sectional views showing a part

a thin film transistor according to the first embodiment, aims at improving on current characteristics in addition to the improvement of off characteristics by forming areas of different concentrations in a source area and a drain area. As is shown in Figure 6(d), the transistor has, on the surface of an insulation substrate 401 made from such materials as glass, an n^+ source area 412 (low resistance area of high concentration) and an n^- source area 405 (low concentration area) on the source area side, and an n^+ drain area 413 (low resistance area of high concentration) and an n^- drain area 406 (low concentration area) on the drain area side. An end of a gate electrode 409 overlaps an end of an n^- source area 405 and an end of an n^- drain area 406 of low concentration through a gate insulation film 408, while a source electrode 420 and a drain electrode 421 connect to an n^- source area 412 and an n^+ drain area 413 of high concentration.

In order to manufacture a thin film transistor 400 of such a structure, first, as is shown in Figure 6(a), about 1500Å of a silicon thin film, made from polycrystalline silicon and so on, is built up on an insulation substrate 401 made from such materials as glass.

Subsequently, a resist pattern 403 is formed employing such a technique as a photolithography technique, and with 403 used as a mask, a silicon thin film is etched selectively to form a silicon pattern 402.

pattern 404 used as a mask, phosphorus is ion implanted to form an n^- source area 405 and an n^- drain area 406 of about $1 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$. An area on which an ion implantation was not performed becomes a channel area 407.

Third, after a resist pattern 404 is removed, the whole device is thermal oxidated to form a gate insulation film 408 consisting of a silicon oxidation film, as is shown in Figure 6(c). This heat-treating process also has an effect of activating the implanted ions. Then a gate electrode 409 is formed consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film, a polycrystalline silicon film to which impurities are added, and so on. A gate electrode 409 overlaps a part of an n^- source area 405 and an n^- drain area 406 through a gate insulation film 408.

Fourth, as is shown in Figure 6(d), after an interlayer insulation film 410 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed, contact holes 411 are formed in it. Then with an interlayer insulation film 410 used as a mask, phosphorus is ion implanted. At the same time the implanted ions are activated by irradiating a laser beam to form an n^+ source area 412 and an n^+ drain area 413 of about $5 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

Subsequently, as in a usual manufacturing method, a source electrode 420 and a drain electrode 421, consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film and so on, are connected to their respective n^+ source area 412 and n^+ drain area 413.

409 is formed. Accordingly, if a gate electrode 409 is made from such materials as metal, the impurities implanted to an n⁺ source area 405 and an n⁺ drain area 406 can be activated sufficiently without being restricted by the heat resistance of the material, and at the same time the crystalline state disturbed by the implanted impurities can be restored enough, hence density of trap energy level can be reduced at an end of an n⁺ drain area 406 and in its neighborhood. And since an n⁺ electric drain area 406 is a low concentration area, electric field strength is small near a gate electrode 409. Hence, the improvement of off current characteristics of a thin film transistor 401.

Furthermore, of a source area and a drain area, the area which can influence such features as on-off characteristics is a low concentration area, while the area to which a source electrode 420 and a drain electrode 421 connect is a high concentration area, therefore parasitic resistance is low and a strong on current can be obtained.

Fourth Embodiment

Instead of a thin film transistor according to the third embodiment, a thin film transistor illustrated in Figure 7 can achieve an improvement of on-off characteristics and an on current.

Figure 7 is a sectional view of a thin film transistor in this embodiment in the channel direction. A thin film transistor 430 has a pattern consisting of a silicon thin film made from such materials

containing about $5 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of phosphorus, an n^- source area 434 and an n^- drain area 435 containing about $5 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of boron, and a channel-forming area 436 containing about $1 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of boron. On their surface, there is a gate insulation film 437 consisting of an insulation film such as a silicon insulation film, on the-surface of which there is a gate electrode 438 consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film and so on. An end of a gate electrode 438 overlaps ends of an n^- source area 434 and an n^- drain area 435 through a gate insulation film 437. On their face, there is an interlayer insulation film 439 consisting of an insulation film such as a silicon oxidation film, and contact holes 440 are formed in it. A source electrode 441 and a drain electrode 442, consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film and so on, connect to an n^- source area 432 an n^+ drain area 433 through the contact holes 440 formed in 439.

In a thin film transistor 430 of such a structure, though the explanation of its manufacturing method is omitted, since an n^- source area 434 and an n^- drain area 435 overlapping an end of a gate electrode 438 are formed before a gate electrode 438 is formed, if a gate electrode 438 is made from such materials as metal, the impurities implanted to an n^- source area 434 and an n^- drain area 435 can be activated sufficiently without being restricted by the heat resistance of the material. It also has an advantage that the crystalline state which was disturbed by the implanted impurities can

characteristics is a low concentration area, while there is also a high concentration area (an n^+ source area 432 and an n^+ drain area 433), therefore parasitic resistance is low and a strong on current can be obtained.

Fifth Embodiment

Next, with reference to Figures 8(a) to (c), a thin film transistor according to the fifth embodiment of the present invention and its manufacturing method will be explained.

Figures 8(a) to (c) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing process of a thin film transistor in this embodiment.

A thin film transistor in this embodiment, compared to a thin film transistor according to the second embodiment, by forming areas of different concentrations in a source area and a drain area, the improvement of on current characteristics as well as the improvement of off characteristics is intended. As is shown in Figure 8(c), of the surface of an insulation substrate 453 made from glass and so on, a thin film transistor 450 has on the source area side an n^- source area 458 (high concentration area) containing about $1 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of boron and an n^- source area 452 (low concentration area) containing about $1 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of boron, and on the drain area side, an n^- drain area 459 (high concentration area) containing about $1 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of boron and an n^- drain area 451 (low concentration area) containing

source electrode 462 and a drain electrode 463 connect to an n^+ source area 458 and an n^+ drain area 459 of high concentration.

In order to fabricate a thin film transistor 450 of such a structure, first, as is shown in Figure 8(a), a silicon thin film of low concentration, made from polycrystalline silicon and so on, and of the thickness of about $1500\text{\AA}$, to which about $1 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of boron is added, is formed on an insulation substrate 453 made from glass, quartz, sapphire and so on. Then by etching the silicon thin film selectively, a p source area 452 and a p drain area 451 are formed.

On the faces of a p source area 452 and a p drain area 451, a channel area 454 consisting of a silicon thin film made from such materials as polycrystalline silicon whose thickness is $250\text{\AA}$ is formed in such a way as to connect 452 and 451. Then, a gate insulation film 455 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed on the whole surface by employing an ECR-CVD method. And a gate electrode 456 is formed consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film, polycrystalline silicon film to which impurities are added, and so on. An end of a gate electrode 456 overlaps an end of a p source area 452 and an end of a p drain area 453 through a gate insulation film 455.

Then, as is shown in Figure 8(b), a resist pattern 457 is formed to cover a fixed area of a p source area 452 and a p drain area 453 employing such a technique as a light exposure technique.

usual process, as is shown in Figure 8(c), after an interlayer insulation film 460 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed, a contact hole 461 is formed in it. Then a source electrode 462 and a drain electrode 463, consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film and so on, are connected to a p^+ source area 458 and a p^+ drain area 453, respectively.

In a thin film transistor 450 fabricated in this way, because a p^- source area 452 and a p^- drain area 453 are formed before a gate electrode 456 is formed, it has effects similar to those of a thin film transistor according to the second embodiment. Furthermore, since a p^+ source area 458 and a p^+ drain area 459 are formed, a transistor 450 has small parasitic resistance and can get large on current.

Sixth Embodiment

Figure 9 is a sectional view showing a structure of a thin film transistor according to the sixth embodiment of the present invention.

In this figure, a thin film transistor 500 in this embodiment is also formed on an insulation substrate 501 made from glass, quartz, sapphire and so on, and its source area 502 has a p^- source area 503, which is a p^- silicon film of the thickness of about $500\text{\AA}$ to which about $1 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of boron is added, and a p^+ source area 504 (thick,

hand, has a p⁻ drain area 506, which is a p⁻ silicon film of the thickness of about 500Å to which about $1 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of boron is added, and a p⁺ drain area 507 (thick, low resistance area of high concentration), which is a p⁺ silicon film to which about $1 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of boron is added and which has the thickness of about 2000Å. Between a source area 502 and a drain area 505, there are a channel area 508, consisting of a silicon film and so on, formed in such a way as to connect to the areas 502 and 505, a gate insulation film 509, consisting of an insulation film such as a silicon oxidation film to cover the whole areas, and a gate electrode 510, constituted by such materials as metal and a transparent electrically-conductive film formed on the surface of this gate insulation film 509. A gate electrode 510, a source area 502 and a drain area 505 are not formed in a self-aligned way, and one side end 511 of a gate electrode 510 and a p⁻ source area 503 (end) of a source area 502 confront with a relatively large overlapping area. Similarly, the other side end 512 of a gate electrode 510 and a p⁻ drain area 506 (end) of a drain area 505 confront with a relatively large overlapping area. 513 is an interlayer insulation film. A source electrode 516 and a drain electrode 517 connect electrically-conductively to a p⁺ source area 504 of a source area 502 and a p⁺ drain area 507 of a drain area 505 through contact holes 514 and 515 in the interlayer insulation film 513.

strength is small near a gate electrode 510. Hence the improvement of off current characteristics.

A source area 502 and a drain area 505 are not constituted in a self-aligned way to a gate electrode 510. In other words, a source area 502 and a drain area 505 are not formed by an ion implantation with a gate electrode 510 used as a mask, but a source area 502 and a drain area 505 are formed before a gate electrode 510 is formed, therefore impurities implanted to a source area and a drain area can be activated without being restricted by the heat resistance limit of a gate electrode, even if the heat resistance of a gate electrode 510 is as low as 600°C , for instance. Accordingly, since the crystalline state which was disturbed by the implantation, of impurities can be restored sufficiently density of a trap energy level of a drain area 505 corresponding to an end of a gate electrode 510 and its neighborhood can be reduced. Hence the further improvement of off current characteristics of a thin film transistor 500.

A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor of such a structure will be explained referring to Figures 10(a) to (c).

Figures 10(a) to (c) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor in this embodiment.

First, as is shown in Figure 10(a), on an insulation substrate 601 made from glass, quartz, sapphire and so on, about $2000\text{\AA}$ of an amorphous silicon thin film to which about $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of boron is

Second, on the surface of p⁺ areas 602 and 603, about 250Å of an amorphous silicon film 604 is formed in such a way as to connect these areas. Then a registration pattern 605 is formed on 604.

Third, as is shown in Figure 10(b), with a resist pattern 605 used as a mask, p⁻ areas 606 and 607 of the concentration of about $5 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ are formed by ion implantation of boron, for instance.

A p⁺ area 602 and a p⁻ area 606 become a source area 608, while a p⁺ area 603 and a p⁻ area 607 become a drain area 609. And the area to which ions were not implanted, because of the masking of a resist pattern 605, becomes a channel area 610.

Fourth, after a resist pattern 605 is stripped, in a nitrogen atmosphere of the temperature of about 600°C, for instance, by performing an annealing for about four hours (solid phase crystallization method: SPC method), an amorphous silicon film is crystallized, and at the same time the impurities implanted to p⁺ areas 602 and 603 and p⁻ areas 606 and 607 are activated.

Fifth, in an ECR-CVD method, a gate insulation film 611 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed on the whole surface.

Sixth, a gate electrode material made from such materials as metal is built up on the face of a gate insulation film 611, and by etching selectively the gate electrode material employing such a technique as a light exposure technique, a gate electrode 612 is

Subsequently, following a usual process, as is shown in Figure 10(c), after an interlayer insulation film 615 consisting of a silicon oxidation film, and contact holes 616 and 617 are formed, a source electrode which electrically-conductively connects to a high concentration area of a source area (p^+ area 602), and a drain electrode which electrically-conductively connects to a high concentration drain area of a drain area (p^+ area 603) are formed to constitute a thin film transistor 500 illustrated in Figure 9.

Seventh Embodiment

With reference to Figures 11(a) to (e), one embodiment of a semiconductor device equipped with a CMOS circuit consisting of a thin film transistor according to the first to sixth embodiments will be explained below.

As is shown in Figure 11(e), a CMOS circuit 700 of a semiconductor device in this embodiment has an n-channel type thin film transistor 700a and a p-channel type thin film transistor 700b on the surface of the same insulation substrate 701 made from such materials as glass, quartz and sapphire. In any thin film transistor, it is an n⁻ source area 706, an n⁻ drain area 707, a p⁻ source area 708 and a p⁻ drain area 709 (low concentration areas) that ends of gate electrodes 714 and 715 overlap through gate insulation films 712 and 713. On the other hand, it is an n⁻ source area 719, a p⁻ source

In order to manufacture a CMOS circuit 700 of such a structure, first, as is shown in Figure 11(a), on the surface of an insulation substrate 701 made from such materials as glass, quartz and sapphire, a silicon thin film of the thickness of about $700\text{\AA}$ made from polycrystalline silicon and so on, is formed. Then by selectively etching the thin film, patterns 702, 703, 704, and 705 of a silicon thin film are formed. Afterwards, in a well-known method, phosphorus is ion implanted to patterns 702 and 703 of a silicon thin film to make the patterns about $5 \times 10^{18}\text{cm}^{-3}$ of an n^- source area 706 and an n^- drain area 707, respectively. On the other hand, boron is ion implanted to patterns 704 and 705 of a silicon thin film to make the patterns about $5 \times 10^{18}\text{cm}^{-3}$ of a p^- source area 708 and a p^- drain area 709, respectively.

Then, as is shown in Figure 11(b), channel-forming areas 710 and 711, consisting of a silicon thin film of the thickness of about $1000\text{\AA}$ made from such materials as polycrystalline silicon, are formed so that an n^- source area 706 and an n^- drain area 707, and a p^- source area 708 and a p^- drain area 709, are connected respectively. And the whole device is thermal oxidated to form gate insulation films 712 and 713 consisting of a silicon oxidation film. This thermal oxidation treatment has an effect of activating impurities in an n^- source area 706, an n^- drain area 707, a p^- source area 708 and a p^- drain area 709 to which ions were implanted. Next, gate

films 712 and 713. Ends of gate electrodes 714 and 715 overlap ends of an n⁻ source area 706, an n⁻ drain area 707, a p⁻ source area 708 and a p⁻ drain area 709 through gate insulation films 712 and 713.

As is shown in Figure 11(c), after an interlayer insulation film 716 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed, contact holes 717 are formed in it. Then employing such a technique as a photolithography technique, a resist pattern 718 to cover the side of a p⁻ source area 708 and a p⁻ drain area 709 (the side of a p-channel type thin film transistor 700b) is formed. With the resist pattern 718 and an interlayer insulation film 716 used as masks, about 5×10^{21} cm⁻³ of an n⁺ source area 719 and an n⁺ drain area 720 are formed by ion implantation of phosphorus.

After a resist pattern 718 is removed, as is shown in Figure 11(d), employing such a technique as a photolithography technique, a resist pattern 721 to cover the side of an n⁻ source area 706 and an n⁻ drain area 707 (the side of an n-channel type thin film transistor 700a) is formed. With the resist pattern 721 and an interlayer insulation film 716 used as masks, about 5×10^{21} cm⁻³ of a p⁺ source area 722 and a p⁺ drain area 723 are formed by ion implantation of boron.

After a resist pattern 721 is removed, respective impurities which were ion implanted are activated by irradiating a laser beam. After that, as is shown in Figure 11(e), as in a usual process, source electrodes 724 and 725 and drain electrodes 726 and 727,

723, respectively.

An n-channel type thin film transistor 700a and a p-channel substrate type thin film transistor 700b formed on the same insulation substrate 701 have improved off current characteristics and on current characteristics.

Eighth Embodiment

A structure of an active matrix substrate with peripheral circuits of a liquid crystal display panel built-in as a typical device equipped with a thin film transistor will be explained below as the eighth embodiment of the present invention.

Figure 12 is a block diagram showing a whole constitution of an active matrix substrate in this embodiment. As is shown in the figure, an active matrix substrate 800 is divided into a pixel part 800a and peripheral circuit parts 800b and 800c (drive circuit parts). In a pixel part 800a, as is shown in Figure 13, a pixel area 803 is sectioned by scanning lines (gate lines) 801a and 801b (80t) connected to a peripheral circuit part 800b (scanning line drive circuit), and by a signal line 802 connected to a peripheral circuit part 800c (signal line drive circuit). A pixel part 800a has a thin film transistor 800d, which switches over a state in which the side of a signal line 802 and the side of a pixel electrode 804 are connected to the state in which they are broken, based on scan signals from a scanning line 801a. The thin film transistor 800d must have a small

a high operating speed. Accordingly, it is possible to use a thin film transistor according to the present invention in a pixel part 800a, and a self-aligned thin film transistor in peripheral circuit parts 800b and 800c.

The constitution will be explained below.

In Figure 14, a thin film transistor formed in a pixel part of an active matrix substrate in this embodiment and three thin film transistors 900a, 930a and 960a formed in peripheral circuit parts are shown in a row.

In Figure 14, shown on the right of the figure is an n-channel type thin film transistor 960a formed in a pixel part, shown in the middle of the figure is an n-channel type thin film transistor 930a formed in peripheral circuit parts, and shown on the left of the figure is a p-channel type thin film transistor 900a formed in peripheral circuit parts. In peripheral circuit parts, a CMOS circuit is composed of a p-channel type thin film transistor 900a and an n-channel type thin film transistor 930a.

Of these thin film transistors 900a, 930a and 960a, an n-channel type thin film transistor 960a used in a pixel part, as was explained in the first to seventh embodiments, a source area 961a and a drain area 962a are formed in a non-self-aligned way to a gate electrode 963a, and the transistor 960a confronts an end of a gate electrode 963a with the n⁻ source area 964a (low concentration source area) and an n⁻ drain area 965a (low concentration drain area). P-

panel, a pixel electrode is connected electrically-conductively to a drain area 962a of an n-channel type thin film transistor 960a in a pixel part, but that in the following explanation, it is illustrated as a structure in which a usual aluminum electrode is connected electrically-conductively to a drain area, as in a source area 961a.

In an active matrix substrate 950a of such a structure, an n-channel type thin film transistor 960a has an LDD structure in a pixel part, and has a structure in which density of trap energy level is reduced, therefore its off current is decreased. An n-channel type thin film transistor 900a and a p-channel type thin film transistor 930a formed in peripheral circuit parts, on the other hand, have a self-aligned structure with small parasitic capacitance. Therefore, the operating speed in peripheral circuit parts is never sacrificed.

Ninth Embodiment

A constitution of an active matrix substrate with peripheral circuits of a liquid crystal display panel built-in according to the ninth embodiment will be explained below.

An active matrix substrate with peripheral circuits built-in in this embodiment and an active matrix base with peripheral circuits built-in according to the eighth embodiment have the same basic structure, but they differ in the combination of thin film transistors used in a pixel area and peripheral circuit parts (drive circuit

number of masks used in a manufacturing process of an active matrix substrate 800 without sacrificing the operating speed in peripheral circuit parts 800b and 800c.

The structure of the thin film transistor will be explained below.

Figure 15 is a sectional view showing a constitution of a thin film transistor formed in a pixel part of an active matrix substrate and a thin film transistor formed in peripheral circuit parts in a liquid crystal display panel illustrated in Figures 12 and 13.

In Figure 15, shown on the right of the figure is an e-channel type thin film transistor 960 formed in a pixel part, shown in the middle of the figure is an n-channel type thin film transistor 930 formed in peripheral circuit parts, and shown on the left of the figure is a p-channel type thin film transistor 900 formed in peripheral circuit parts. In peripheral circuit parts, a CMOS circuit is composed of a p-channel type thin film transistor 900 and an n-channel type thin film transistor 930.

Of these thin film transistors 900, 930 and 960, in an n-channel type thin film transistor 960 used in a pixel part and an n-channel type thin film transistor 930 formed in peripheral circuit parts, as was explained in the first to seventh embodiments, source areas 931 and 961 and drain areas 932 and 962 are formed in a non-self-aligned way to gate electrodes 933 and 963, and the transistors 960 and 930 confront ends of gate electrodes 933 and 963 with the n-

A p-channel type thin film transistor 900 formed in peripheral circuit parts, on the other hand, has a self-aligned structure. Note that in a liquid crystal display panel, a pixel electrode is connected electrically-conductively to a drain area 962 of an n-channel type thin film transistor 960 in a pixel part, but that in the following explanation, it is illustrated as a structure in which a usual aluminum electrode is connected electrically-conductively to the drain area, as in a source area 961.

In an active matrix substrate 950 of such a structure, an n-channel type thin film transistor 960 has an LDD structure in a pixel part, and has a structure in which density of trap energy level is reduced, therefore its off current is decreased. An n-channel type thin film transistor 930 formed in peripheral circuit parts, on the other hand, is not self-aligned, therefore it has larger parasitic capacitance than a self-aligned structure, and there is a fear of its operating speed being low. However, either an n-channel type thin film transistor or a p-channel type thin film transistor has a self-aligned structure with small parasitic capacitance (in this embodiment, a p-channel type thin film transistor is self-aligned). Furthermore, even in a non-self-aligned thin film transistor, since source and drain areas overlapping a gate electrode are low concentration areas, the parasitic capacitance can be almost ignored when it is biased in the direction in which a depletion layer extends.

Taking that into consideration, if a CMOS circuit is formed to

film transistor have a self-aligned structure. Accordingly, in this embodiment, since two types of thin film transistors are formed on an active matrix substrate 950, productivity can be raised by decreasing the number of masks used in a manufacturing process of an active matrix substrate, compared to an active matrix substrate 950a according to the eighth embodiment in which three types of thin film transistors are employed.

Tenth Embodiment

Figures 16 (a) to (d) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of each thin film transistor in a pixel part and peripheral circuit parts when two types of thin film transistors are formed on an active matrix substrate of a liquid crystal display panel, as in the ninth embodiment.

First, as is shown in Figure 16(a), on the surface of an insulation substrate 1001 made from glass, quartz, sapphire and so on, about 500Å of an amorphous silicon film 1002, for instance, is built up. Resist patterns 1003, 1004 and 1005 are formed on 1002. With these patterns used as masks, phosphorus is ion implanted to form low concentration areas 1006, 1007 and 1008 containing about $1 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of impurities.

Second, an amorphous silicon film 1002 is annealed by the irradiation of a laser beam to polycrystallize the film and activate the impurities injected to it simultaneously.

1009 and 1010 become active areas of a p-channel type thin film transistor and an n-channel type thin film transistor in peripheral circuit parts, respectively, while a silicon thin film pattern 1011 becomes an active area of an n-channel type thin film transistor in a pixel part. And the above mentioned low concentration areas 1006, 1007 and 1008 become n⁻ source areas 1012 and 1013 (low concentration source areas) and n⁻ drain areas 1014 and 1015 (low concentration drain areas) of an n-channel type thin film transistor. The area in an active areas 1010 and 1011 of an n-channel type thin film transistor to which impurities are not implanted becomes channel areas 1016 and 1017.

Fourth, after a gate insulation film 1018 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed on the whole surface in an ECR-CVD method, respective gate electrodes 1019, 1020 and 1021 made from such materials as metal are formed on the surface. Of respective gate electrodes 1019, 1020 and 1021, ends of gate electrodes 1020 and 1021 to form n-channel type thin film transistors 1023 and 1024 confront n⁻ source areas 1012 and 1013 and n⁻ drain areas 1014 and 1015 through a gate insulation film 1018. In an extended part 1015a (lower electrode) in a drain area 1015 of a thin film transistor 1024 used in a pixel part, a storage capacitance is composed of an overlapping gate electrode 1025 in an upper state.

Fifth, as is shown in Figure 16 (c), employing such a technique as a photolithography technique, a resist pattern 1026 to cover a

source area 1027 and a drain area 1028 of the impurity concentration of about $5 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ are formed self-alignedly in a thin film transistor 1022.

Sixth, after a resist pattern 1026 is removed, impurities are activated by irradiating a laser beam. The irradiation of a laser beam is performed to activate impurities to lower their resistance, not to restore the crystalline state disturbed by the implanted impurities. A p-channel type thin film transistor 1022 used in peripheral circuit parts need not have a small off current. Accordingly, in this process, it is sufficient to lower the resistance of the impurities by activating them by the irradiation of a laser beam. The restoration of the crystalline state is not required.

Seventh, as is shown in Figure 16(d), an interlayer insulation film 1029 is formed. Making use of contact holes in 1029, a source electrode 1031 and a drain electrode 1032 are connected electrically-conductively to respective thin film transistors 1022, 1023 and 1024.

As is clear from the above explanation, in a manufacturing method of an active matrix substrate in this embodiment, as mask patterns used in the implantation of impurities, two mask patterns 1003 and 1026 can be employed. By contrast, if both an n-channel type thin film transistor and a p-channel type thin film transistor to form peripheral circuit parts have a self-aligned structure, and a thin film transistor used in a pixel part has a structure according to the

embodiments. Hence, the production cost can be reduced by decreasing the number of masks without sacrificing the operating speed and so on.

Note that in this embodiment, a thin film transistor used in a pixel part is an n-channel type, but that it remains in the domain of the present invention if it is a p-channel type.

In a liquid crystal display panel, as is shown in Figure 13, to form a storage capacitance 805 in a pixel part, there is a tendency that a structure in which an extended part is established on the side of a drain area, and scanning lines in an upper state overlap the extended part is adopted. In order to form a storage capacitance having this structure, in a conventional manufacturing method as a comparative example, as is shown in Figures 17(a) and (b), after a resist mask 1102, which was made by opening a hole at an end of a polycrystalline silicon film 1101, is formed, ions are implanted to make an extended part 1103 a low concentration area, and then with a gate electrode 1104 used as a mask, impurities of high concentration are ion implanted. According to a manufacturing method in this embodiment, as is shown in Figures 16(a) and (b), in a process in which impurities of low concentration are implanted, an extended part 1015a becomes a low concentration area automatically. In subsequent processes, as is shown in Figure 16(b), when gate electrodes 1019, 1020 and 1021 are formed, a scanning line 1025 in an upper state formed simultaneously with the electrodes should be made

without adding other processes.

Eleventh Embodiment

Figures 18(a) to (e) are process sectional views showing a part of a manufacturing method of a matrix substrate with peripheral circuits of a liquid crystal display panel built-in, in which a CMOS circuit in a drive part is composed of an n-channel type thin film transistor having a non-self-aligned structure and a p-channel type thin film transistor having a self-aligned structure with small parasitic capacitance which can operate at a high speed, and in which an n-channel type thin film transistor in a pixel part has a non self-aligned structure.

in the figures, n-channel type thin film transistors 1300a and 1300c have a source area and a drain area consisting of silicon films of different thickness. Gate electrodes 1317 and 1318 overlap a part of n⁻ source areas 1310 and 1311 and n⁻ drain areas 1312 and 1313, which are thin and of under $1 \times 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$ of impurity concentration through a gate insulation film 1316. In a p-channel type thin film transistor 300b, on the other hand, a p⁺ source area 1323 and a p⁻ drain area 1324 are formed to be self-aligned to a gate electrode 1319.

The area consisting of thick silicon films in a source area and a drain area of an n-channel type thin film transistors 1300a and

is prevented.

In order to manufacture a matrix substrate of such a structure, first, as is shown in Figure 18(a), on an insulation substrate 1301 made from glass, quartz, sapphire and so on, n^+ source areas 1302 and 1303 and no drain areas 1304 and 1305, consisting of n^+ silicon thin films such as polycrystalline silicon with the thickness of about 2000Å to which about $5 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of phosphorus is added, are formed. Silicon patterns 1306 and 1307 of the thickness of about 500Å are formed on the surface to connect 1302 and 1304, 1303 and 1305, respectively. At the same time, a silicon pattern 1308 to form a p-channel type thin film transistor 300b is formed.

Then, as is shown in Figure 18(b), a resist pattern 1309 is formed employing a photolithography technique, and with 1309 used as a mask, an ion injection is performed to make a part of silicon thin film patterns 1306 and 1307 of about $5 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of concentration. The area becomes n^+ source areas 1310 and 1311 and drain areas 1312 and 1313 of a thin film transistor of so-called GOLDD type (gate overlap LDD type). The area in silicon patterns 1306 and 1307 to which ions were not injected becomes channel areas 1314 and 1315.

After a resist pattern 1309 is stripped, by the irradiation of a laser beam on the whole surface, implanted impurities are activated and crystalline grains in channel areas 1314 and 1315 are enlarged at the same time to improve the characteristics of a

oxidation film is formed on the whole surface, on the surface of which gate electrodes 1317, 1318 and 1319, made from metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film, polycrystalline silicon film to which impurities are added and so on, are formed. Gate electrodes 1317 and 1318 overlap a part of n⁻ source areas 1310 and 1311 and drain areas 1312 and 1313 through a gate insulation film 1316. And a part of an n⁺ drain area 1305 of a thin film transistor used in a pixel part overlaps a gate electrode 1320 in an upper state through a gate insulation film 1316 to form a storage capacitance.

Next, as is shown in Figure 1 a (d), employing a photolithography technique, resist patterns 1321 and 1322 to cover an n-channel type thin film transistor 1300a and an n-channel type thin film transistor 1300c in a pixel part are formed. With the resist patterns used as masks, boron is ion implanted to form a p⁺ source area 1323 and a p⁺ drain area 1324 of about $5 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$. The area to which ions were not implanted becomes a channel-forming area 1325.

After resist patterns 1321 and 1322 are removed, impurities are activated by the irradiation of a laser beam. After that, as in a usual process, as is shown in Figure 18(e), after an interlayer insulation film 1326 consisting of a silicon oxidation film is formed, contact holes 1327 are made in it. Through these contact holes 1327, source electrodes 1328, 1329 and 1330 are connected to an n⁺ source area 1302, an n⁺ source area 1303 and a p⁺ source area,

film transistor in a pixel part.

As was explained above, in this embodiment, since an n⁺ source area 1311 and an n⁺ drain area 1313 are activated before gate electrodes 1317 and 1318 are formed, the material of a gate electrode 1318 can be selected without being restricted by the activation condition. Therefore a gate electrode 1318 can be made from metal.

In setting up an n-channel type thin film transistor 1300c with a small off current in a pixel part, it has the same structure as that of an n-channel type thin film transistor 1300a in peripheral circuit parts, therefore its manufacturing process can be simplified.

In this case, too, since a p-channel type thin film transistor 1300b to form a CMOS circuit in peripheral circuit parts has a self-aligned structure, the operating speed is not sacrificed. And since there is no need to consider off current characteristics, a p-channel type thin film transistor 1300b can be composed of a source area and a drain area of high concentration consisting of one silicon pattern to minimize the increase of the number of processes.

Twelfth Embodiment

In this embodiment, an n-channel type thin film transistor is used in a pixel part of a liquid crystal display with peripheral circuits built-in, and a CMOS circuit is composed of a self-aligned thin film transistor with small parasitic capacitance which can

Figures 19(a) to (e) are process sectional views.

As is shown in Figure 19(e), in an active matrix substrate in this embodiment, on a common insulation substrate 1401, in a pixel part, there is an n-channel type thin film transistor 1400a having a so-called GOLDD structure, while in peripheral circuit parts, there is a CMOS circuit composed of an n-channel type thin film transistor 1400b and a p-channel type thin film transistor 1400c having a self-aligned structure.

In order to manufacture these thin film transistors, first, as is shown in Figure 19(a), about 1000Å, for instance, of a polycrystalline silicon thin film, is built up on the surface of an insulation substrate 1401 made from such materials as glass, and silicon thin film patterns 1402, 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406 and 1407 are formed by selectively etching the silicon thin film. Then, phosphorus is ion implanted to the whole surface to make the silicon thin film patterns 1402, 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406 and 1407 of about $5 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ of concentration.

Then channel areas 1408, 1409 and 1410 consisting of a silicon thin film such as about 1000Å of polycrystalline silicon film are formed in such a way as to connect silicon thin film patterns 1402 and 1403, patterns 1404 and 1405, and patterns 1406 and 1407, respectively.

As is shown in Figure 19(b), the whole surface is thermal

gate electrodes 1414, 1415 and 1416 consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film, a polycrystalline silicon film to which impurities are added and so on, are formed in the fixed area on the surface of gate insulation films 1411, 1412 and 1413. A gate electrode 1414 overlaps a part of n^- silicon thin film patterns 1402 and 1403 through a gate insulation film 1411. Gate electrodes 1415 and 1416, on the other hand, do not overlap n^- silicon thin film patterns 1404 and 1405, respectively.

As is shown in Figure 19(c), employing a photolithography technique, resist patterns 1417 and 1418 are formed in such a way as to cover at least ends of gate electrodes of a p-channel type thin film transistor and an n-channel type thin film transistor in a pixel part. With the resist patterns used as masks, phosphorus is ion implanted to form n^+ source areas 1419 and 1420 and n^+ drain areas 1421 and 1422.

After resist patterns 1417 and 1418 are removed, as is shown in Figure 19(d), employing a photolithography technique and others, resist patterns 1428 and 1424 are formed in an area to cover an n-channel type transistor and an n-channel type transistor in a pixel part. With these patterns used as masks, boron is ion implanted to form a p^+ source area 1425 and a p^+ drain area 1426 of about $5 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

After resist patterns 1417 and 1418 are removed, as is shown

and 1432 consisting of metal, a transparent electrically-conductive film and so on, are connected to n^+ source areas 1419 and 1420, a p^+ source area 1425, n^+ drain areas 1421 and 1422, and a p^+ drain area 1426, respectively. An n-channel type thin film transistor 1400a having a so-called GOLDD structure is formed in a pixel part, while n-channel type and p-channel type thin film transistors 1400b and 1400c having a self-aligned structure are formed in peripheral circuit parts.

Industrial Applicability

As is clear from the above explanation, according to the present invention, the area to overlap ends of a gate electrode in a source area and a drain area through a gate insulation film is a low concentration area formed in a process prior to that in which a gate electrode is formed. Therefore, according to the present invention, when impurities implanted to a source area and a drain area are activated, a gate electrode is not yet formed. Accordingly, since impurities can be activated without being restricted by the heat resistance of components of a gate electrode, and the disturbance of the crystalline state caused by the implantation of impurities can be restored sufficiently, density of a trap energy level in a drain area and its neighborhood can be reduced. And since a drain area overlaps a gate electrode in a low concentration area, field strength in that area is small. Hence, the improvement of off current characteristics of a

implantation of impurities to a silicon film, in addition to the raise of productivity owing to the decrease of the number of processes, there is an advantage of the further improvement of off current characteristics because the crystalline state is not disturbed by the implantation of impurities after the crystallization treatment.

When the thickness of films in a low concentration area is equal to that of films in a channel area, the surface is flattened and an electric field does not concentrate locally, hence the improvement of off current characteristics. If films in a low concentration area are thinner than a depletion layer determined by the impurity concentration, the depletion layer reaches the lower face of the low concentration area, and the capacitance connected in series increases, therefore the parasitic capacitance decreases.

If an area with a thick film which connects to a low concentration area, or a high concentration area is set up in a source area and a drain area, since the areas reduce the parasitic resistance, the operating speed is not sacrificed.

In a liquid crystal display panel with said thin film transistor (n-channel type thin film transistor) built-in in a pixel part, if the same n-channel type thin film transistor is employed in a CMOS circuit in a drive circuit part and if a p-channel type thin film transistor to constitute a CMOS circuit with an n-channel type thin film transistor has a self-aligned structure, processes can be

circuit part, off current characteristics are not imposed strict conditions. So the increase of the number of processes can be minimized by forming the transistor as an integral high concentration area.

Furthermore, if an extended area which is formed at the same time with a low concentration area and so on, and which is to form a storage capacitance between it and a gate line in an upper state, is formed in a drain area of a liquid crystal display panel, a storage capacitance can be composed making use of other processes.

1. A thin film transistor characterized in that it has a channel area which can form a channel between a source area and a drain area on a surface of a substrate, and a gate electrode which confronts said channel area through a gate insulation film on a surface of said channel area, and in that in said source area and said drain area an area which overlaps ends of said gate electrode through said gate insulation film is a low concentration area formed in a process prior to that in which said gate electrode is formed.

2. A thin film transistor according to claim 1 characterized in that the impurity concentration of said low concentration area is equal to or less than $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

3. A thin film transistor according to claim 1 or 2 characterized in that said low concentration area is an area on which the crystallization treatment is applied after impurities are implanted to a silicon film formed on the surface of said substrate.

4. A thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 3 characterized in that said source area and said drain area have a low resistance area which connects to said respective low concentration area with a high impurity concentration.

respective low concentration area with a film thicker than the film in said low concentration area.

6. A thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 5 characterized in that said channel area. Low resistance area of and said drain area are areas formed in separate processes.

7. A thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 6 characterized in that the thickness of the film of said low concentration area is equal to that of the thickness of said channel forming area.

8. A thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 7 characterized in that the thickness of the film of said low concentration area is thinner than a depletion layer formed in a state in which the thickness is determined by the impurity concentration in said low concentration area when a potential is applied to said gate electrode.

9. A thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 8 characterized in that the thickness of the film of said low concentration area is equal to or less than about 500Å.



11. A solid device characterized in that it has a CMOS circuit composed of a thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 9, and a thin film transistor which has a converse electric conductivity type from said thin film transistor, and a source area and a drain area thereof are formed self-alignedly to a gate electrode.

12. A display device characterized in that it has a thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 9 as a pixel transistor in an active matrix array.

13. A display device according to claim 12 characterized in that said drain area has an extended area which is formed simultaneously with its component part and which is to form a storage capacitance between it and a scanning line in an prior stage.

14. A display device according to claim 12 or 13 characterized in that in a drive circuit formed on the same substrate together with said active matrix array, a CMOS circuit thereof has a thin film transistor having the same non-self-aligned structure as said thin film transistor, and a thin film transistor whose electric conductivity type is converse from that of the thin film transistor and which is formed self-alignedly to a gate electrode.



circuit thereof is composed of an n-channel type thin film transistor and a p-channel type thin film transistor formed self-alignedly to a gate electrode.

16. A display device according to claim 14 or 15 characterized in that of thin film transistors formed on said substrate, the thickness of a film of a source area and a drain area of said self-aligned thin film transistor is equal to that of the thickness of the film of said low concentration area of said non-self-aligned thin film transistor.

17. A display device according to any one of claims 14 to 16 characterized in that a source area and a drain area of said self-aligned thin film transistor have an impurity concentration of over about $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$, while said low concentration area of said non-self-aligned thin film transistor has an impurity concentration of under about $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

18. A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to claim 1 characterized in that a process in which said low concentration area is formed on the surface of said substrate is performed at least before a process in which said gate electrode is formed.

19. A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according



implanted to the inside of said silicon film also activates the impurities.

20. A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to claim 18 characterized in that said crystallization treatment is a laser annealing method in which a laser beam is irradiated to said silicon film to crystallize the film, and to activate the impurities inside the film at the same time.

21. A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to claim 18 characterized in that said crystallization treatment is a solid phase crystallization method in which said silicon film is annealed in a low temperature for a long time to crystallize the film, and to activate the impurities inside the film at the same time.

22. A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to claim 18 characterized in that said crystallization treatment is a rapid thermal annealing method in which said silicon film is lamp annealed to crystallize the film, and to activate the impurities inside the film at the same time.



A thin film transistor which can improve such electric characteristics as off current characteristics, and a manufacturing method of a thin film transistor. A thin film transistor (110) has an n⁻ source area (112) and an n⁻ drain area (113) consisting of an n⁻ silicon film (low concentration area) of about 400Å, which is a silicon film made by performing a crystallization treatment such as an SPC method on an amorphous silicon, and the crystallization treatment is carried out after the implantation of impurities to activate the impurities at the same time. A gate electrode (116) is a metal electrode, and is formed after an n⁻ source area (112) and an n⁻ drain area (113) are formed. A gate electrode (116), an n⁻ source area (112) and an n⁻ drain area (113) are not formed self-alignedly.

Figure 1

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which can form a channel between a source area and a drain area on a surface of a substrate, and a gate electrode which confronts said channel area through a gate insulation film on a surface of said channel area, and in that in said source area and said drain area which overlaps ends of said gate electrode through said gate insulation film is a low concentration area formed in a process prior to that in which said gate electrode is formed, and a impurity concentration of said low concentration area is equal to or less than $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

2. A thin film transistor according to claim 1 characterized in that said low concentration area is an area on which the crystallization treatment is applied after impurities are implanted to a silicon film formed on the surface of said substrate.

3. A thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 2 characterized in that said source area and said drain area have a low resistance area which connects to said respective low concentration area with a high impurity concentration.

4. A thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 2 characterized in that said source area and said drain area have a low resistance area which connects to said respective low concentration area with a film thicker than the film in said low concentration area.

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source area and said drain area are areas formed in separate processes.

6. A thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 5 characterized in that the thickness of the film of said low concentration area is equal to that of the thickness of said channel-forming area.

7. A thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 6 characterized in that the thickness of the film of said low concentration area is thinner than a depletion layer formed in a state in which the thickness is determined by the impurity concentration in said low concentration area when a potential is applied to said gate electrode.

8. A thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 7 characterized in that the thickness of the film of said low concentration area is equal to or less than about 500 Å.

9. A solid device characterized in that it has a thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 8.

10. A solid device characterized in that it has a CMOS circuit composed of a thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 8, and a thin film transistor which has a converse electric conductivity type from said thin film transistor, and a source area and a drain area thereof are formed self-alignedly to a gate electrode.

11. A display device characterized in that it has a thin film transistor according to any one of claims 1 to 8 as a pixel transistor in an active matrix array.

its component part and which is to form a storage capacitance between it and a scanning line in an prior stage.

13. A display device according to claim 11 or 12 characterized in that in a drive circuit formed on the same substrate together with said active matrix array, a CMOS circuit thereof has a thin film transistor having the same no-self-aligned structure as said thin film transistor, and a thin film transistor whose electric conductivity type is converse from that of the thin film transistor and which is formed self-alignedly to a gate electrode.

14. A display device according to claim 11 or 12 characterized in that in a drive circuit formed on the same substrate together with said active matrix array, a CMOS circuit thereof is composed of an n-channel type thin film transistor and a p-channel type thin film transistor formed self-alignedly to a gate electrode.

15. A display device according to claim 13 or 14 characterized in that of thin film transistors formed on said substrate, the thickness of a film of a source area and a drain area of said self-aligned thin film transistor is equal to that of the thickness of the film of said low concentration area of said non-self-aligned thin film transistor.

16. A display device according to any one of claims 13 to 15 characterized in that a source area and a drain area of said self-aligned thin film transistor have an impurity concentration for over about $1 \times$

10²⁰ cm⁻³.

17. A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to claim 1 characterized in that a process in which said low concentration area is formed on the surface of said substrate is performed at least before a process in which said gate electrode is formed.

18. A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to claim 17 characterized by forming a silicon film to form at least said low concentration area so that crystallization treatment applied on said silicon film after impurities are implanted to the inside of said silicon film also activates the impurities.

19. A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to claim 17 characterized in that said crystallization treatment is a laser annealing method in which a laser beam is irradiated to said silicon film to crystallize the film, and to activate the impurities inside the film at the same time.

20. A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to claim 17 characterized in that said crystallization treatment is a solid phase crystallization method in which said silicon film is annealed in a low temperature for a long time to crystallize the film, and to activate the impurities inside the film at the same time.

21. A manufacturing method of a thin film transistor according to claim 17 characterized in that said crystallization treatment is a rapid

same time.