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(54) **Method and apparatus for processing video pictures**

(57) The present invention relates to a method for processing video signals for display on a display panel comprising a matrix array of cells which could only be "ON" or "OFF", wherein the time duration of a video field is divided into N sub-fields during which the cells can be activated, each sub-field comprising at least an addressing period and a sustaining period, the duration of which corresponding to the weight associated with said sub-field, said method comprising at least a priming period, characterized in that the position of the priming period is determined as follows :

- determination of a sustain threshold value D for a given addressing speed and panel technology,
- calculation of the number of sustain pulses in each sub-field n, n being such that $1 \leq n < N$,
- if the number of sustain pulses is above or equal to D, addition of a priming pulse before at least the sub-field n + 1.

This method is mainly applicable to plasma display panel.

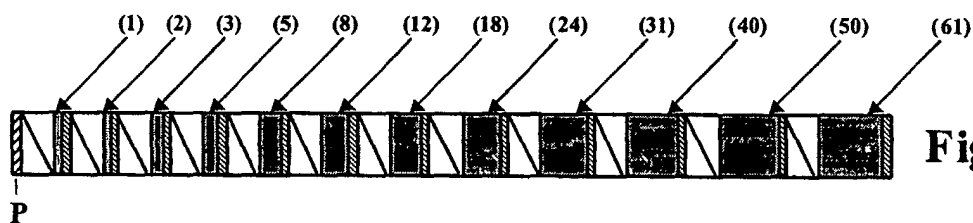


Fig 3a



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 03 00 0172

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
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CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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