

[54] RENTICULAR LENS, SURFACE LIGHT SOURCE, AND LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY APPARATUS	4,573,764	3/1986	Bradley	348/786
	4,730,897	3/1988	McKechnie	359/452
	4,919,518	4/1990	Ogino	359/457

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[30] Foreign Application Priority Data

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Apr. 16, 1993	[JP]	Japan	5-112397
Jun. 16, 1993	[JP]	Japan	5-168376

[51] Int. Cl.⁶ G02B 27/10; G02B 17/00; G03B 21/60

[52] U.S. Cl. 359/619; 359/591; 359/621; 359/455

[58] Field of Search 359/455, 456, 359/615, 619, 591, 625, 639, 640, 707, 620, 621, 622, 626, 627, 628, 454, 459, 592, 597

[57] ABSTRACT

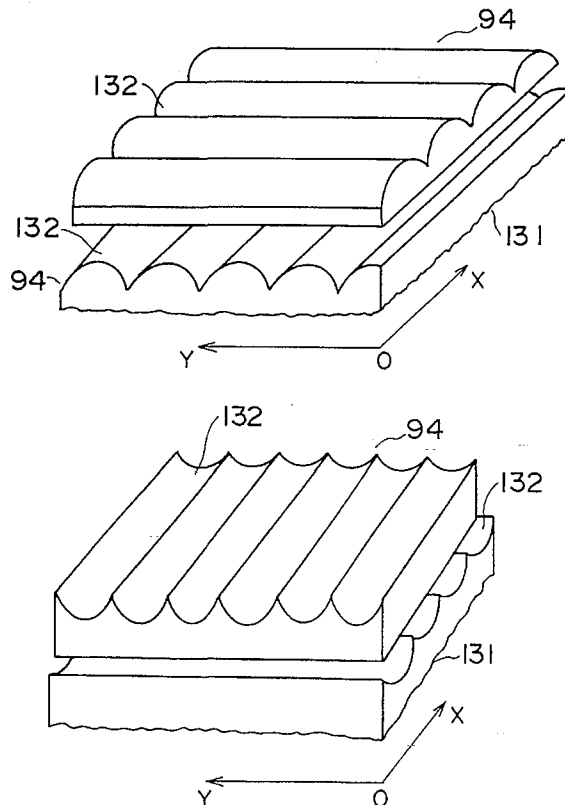
A lenticular lens has a light transmitting substrate and a plurality of lens elements formed on the light transmitting substrate. The lens elements are defined in such a way that ridges thereof are aligned in parallel with each other, wherein $30^\circ \leq \theta_{10\%} \leq 100^\circ$ and $R \leq 20\%$, where $\theta_{10\%}$ is a diffusing angle range with respect to normal of the one surface in the case that when light is entered from the opposite surface and transmitted from the one surface, the intensity of the light transmitted is equal to or more than 10% of the intensity of the light transmitted in a peak direction of a main lobe; and R is the ratio of side lobes to main lobe. The intensity of side lobes which causes light loss and light stray can be remarkably reduced. Light can be equally and isotropically focused on in a predetermined diffusing angle range.

[56] References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,432,010	2/1984	Oguino	348/786
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62 Claims, 47 Drawing Sheets



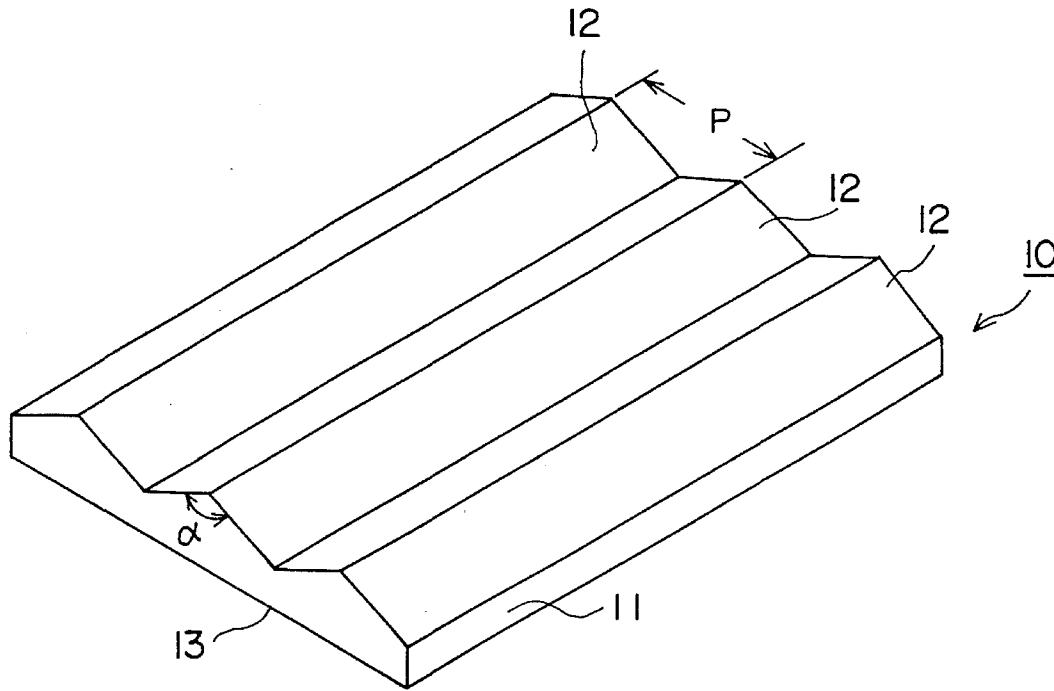


FIG. 1

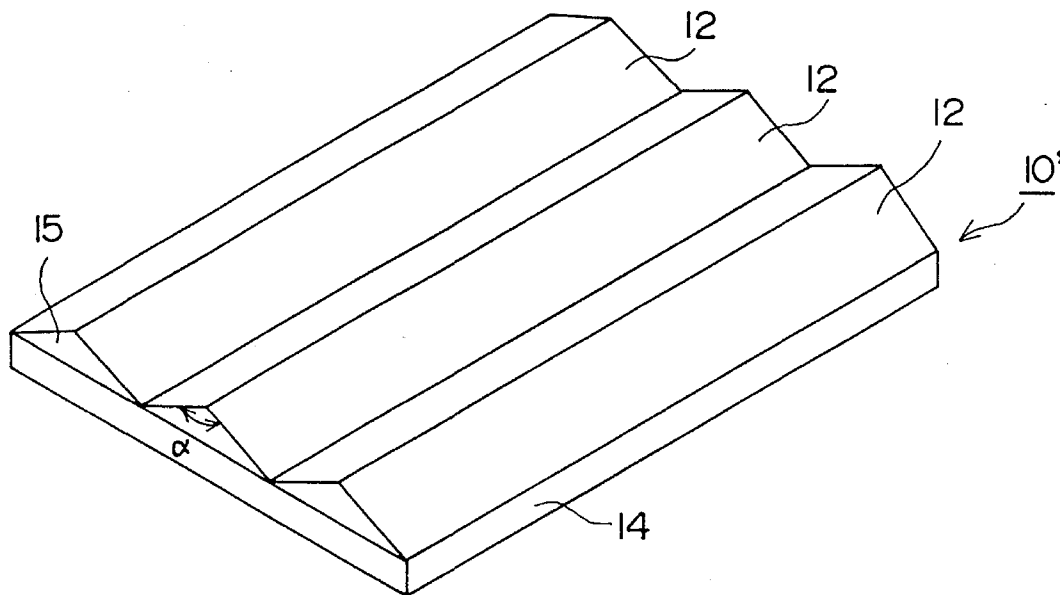
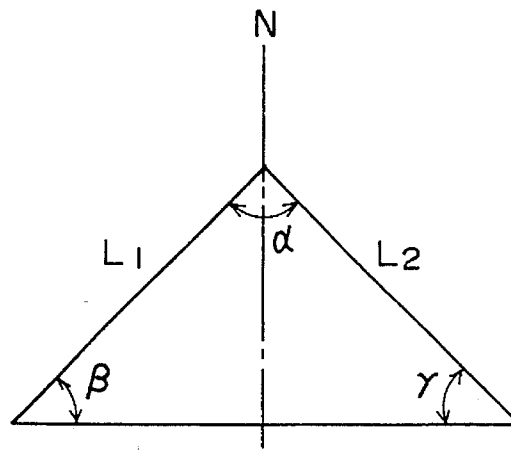


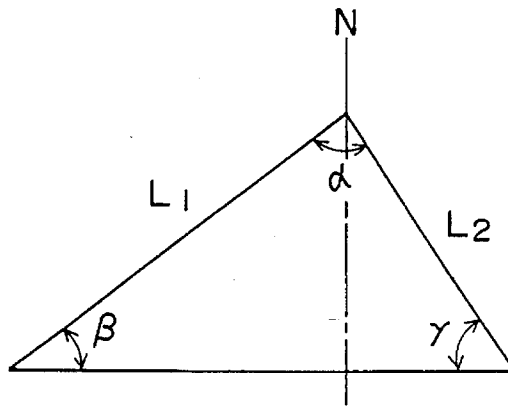
FIG. 2



$$\beta = \gamma = \frac{180^\circ - \alpha}{2}$$

$$L_1 = L_2$$

FIG. 3



$$\beta \neq \gamma, \quad \alpha + \beta + \gamma = 180^\circ$$

$$L_1 \neq L_2$$

FIG. 4

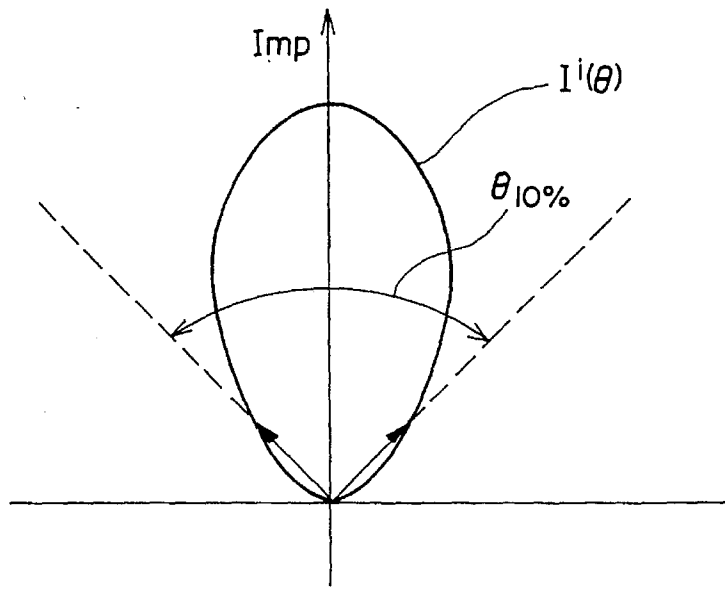


FIG. 5

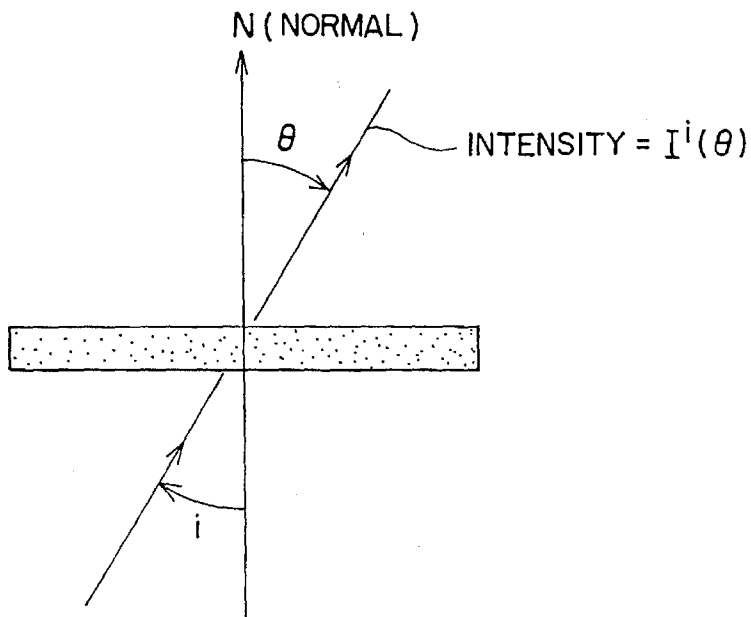


FIG. 6

FIG. 7A

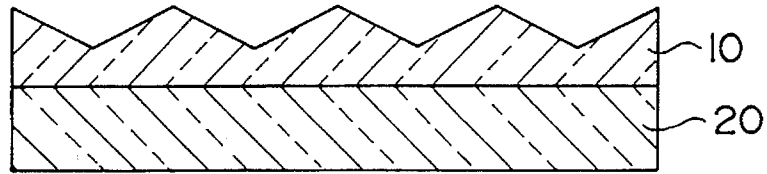


FIG. 7B

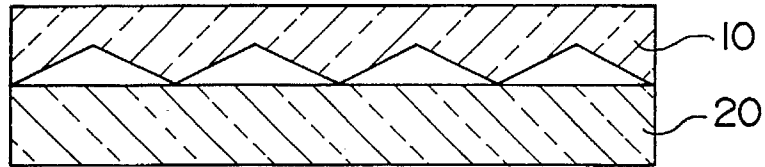


FIG. 8A

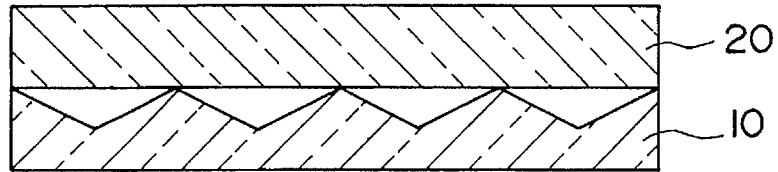
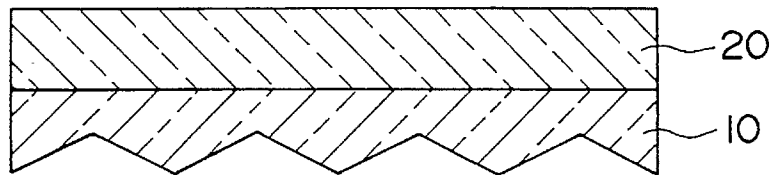


FIG. 8B



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