



US005196839A

United States Patent [19]

[11] Patent Number: **5,196,839**

Johary et al.

[45] Date of Patent: **Mar. 23, 1993**

[54] **GRAY SCALES METHOD AND CIRCUITRY FOR FLAT PANEL GRAPHICS DISPLAY**

[75] Inventors: **Arun Johary; Tetsuji Oguchi**, both of San Jose, Calif.

[73] Assignee: **Chips and Technologies, Inc.**, San Jose, Calif.

[21] Appl. No.: **598,582**

[22] Filed: **Oct. 15, 1990**

4,716,405	12/1987	Yamaguchi	340/723
4,739,313	4/1988	Oudshoorn et al. .	
4,742,346	5/1988	Gillette et al. .	
4,743,096	5/1988	Wakai et al.	340/793
4,746,981	5/1988	Nadan et al. .	
4,752,774	6/1988	Clerc et al.	340/793
4,808,991	2/1989	Tachiuchi et al.	340/793
4,827,255	5/1989	Ishii	340/793

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

2085257 9/1984 United Kingdom .

Primary Examiner—Alvin E. Oberley

Assistant Examiner—Richard Hjerpe

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Townsend and Townsend

Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 245,875, Sep. 16, 1988, abandoned.

[51] Int. Cl.⁵ **G09G 3/20**

[52] U.S. Cl. **340/793; 340/805**

[58] Field of Search **340/723, 767, 793, 805, 340/812; 358/240, 241, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459**

[57] ABSTRACT

A controller for providing O to N gray scales at a monochrome display. The monochrome display is of the type having an array of pixels energized by a display voltage over time to generate the gray scales. The controller generates a baseline time and uses the baseline time to provide gray scales at the display. In particular, each pixel is energized at least the baseline time for any gray scale above level 0 to reduce flicker in the display. In one embodiment, the baseline time corresponds to a point on the intensity response curve for the display at which the display exhibits a linear intensity response for a given display voltage versus time. In one embodiment, the baseline time is used to generate pixel on/off data to provide gray scales at the display. In yet another embodiment, the baseline time information is used to generate weighted clock information to provide gray scales at the display. In another aspect, the controller includes a plurality of programmable gray scale generators which provide pixel on/off data, weighted clock information, and black/white pixel data to provide gray scales at the display. One of the gray scale generators is selected and programmed depending on the identity of the display device.

[56] References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

3,590,156	6/1971	Easton .	
3,845,243	10/1974	Schmersal et al. .	
3,863,023	1/1975	Schmersal et al. .	
3,937,878	2/1976	Judice	340/793
4,021,607	5/1977	Amano	340/767
4,036,553	7/1977	Borel et al.	340/793
4,121,283	10/1978	Walker .	
4,193,095	3/1980	Mizushima	340/793
4,323,891	4/1982	Akashi .	
4,338,597	7/1982	Steiner et al. .	
4,399,435	8/1983	Urabe .	
4,427,979	1/1984	Clerc et al.	340/793
4,531,160	7/1985	Ehn	340/793
4,554,539	11/1985	Graves	340/793
4,556,876	12/1985	Shimizu et al.	340/812
4,563,676	1/1986	Leiningner .	
4,563,746	1/1986	Yoshida et al. .	
4,626,837	12/1986	Priestly .	
4,651,146	3/1987	Lucash et al. .	
4,684,935	8/1987	Fujisaku et al. .	
4,688,031	8/1987	Haggerty .	
4,703,318	10/1987	Haggerty .	

6 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

