



(12) **United States Patent**  
**Cho**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 11,894,405 B2**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Feb. 6, 2024**

(54) **IMAGE SENSOR PACKAGE**

(56) **References Cited**

(71) Applicant: **Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.**,  
Suwon-si (KR)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

(72) Inventor: **Kyongsoon Cho**, Incheon (KR)

4,015,366	A	4/1977	Hall, III	
4,280,590	A	7/1981	Polizzi	
RE31,023	E	9/1982	Hall, III	
4,973,011	A	11/1990	Wilson	
5,314,070	A	5/1994	Ciarlei	
5,619,839	A	4/1997	Peppard et al.	
6,392,309	B1	5/2002	Wataya et al.	
6,780,015	B2	8/2004	Swaine et al.	
7,239,937	B2	7/2007	Slemker et al.	
7,356,379	B2	4/2008	Slemker et al.	
8,304,708	B2	11/2012	Shimoda et al.	
8,477,223	B2	7/2013	Itonaga	
8,828,629	B2	9/2014	Kaneko et al.	
9,167,228	B2	10/2015	Monari et al.	
9,991,301	B2	6/2018	Yamamoto et al.	
10,312,276	B2	6/2019	Chien et al.	
10,717,581	B2	7/2020	Sullivan et al.	
2009/0267170	A1*	10/2009	Chien .....	H01L 27/14618 257/434
2011/0281064	A1	11/2011	Murphy et al.	
2012/0012606	A1	1/2012	Longley et al.	
2015/0255500	A1*	9/2015	Akahoshi .....	H01L 24/19 257/434
2016/0107009	A1	4/2016	Cordani	
2016/0107010	A1	4/2016	Cordani	

(73) Assignee: **SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO., LTD.**, Suwon-si (KR)

(\* ) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 315 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **17/331,092**

(22) Filed: **May 26, 2021**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2022/0139984 A1 May 5, 2022

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Nov. 4, 2020 (KR) ..... 10-2020-0146318

(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**H01L 27/146** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**  
CPC .. **H01L 27/14623** (2013.01); **H01L 27/14618** (2013.01); **H01L 27/14636** (2013.01); **H01L 27/14685** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**  
CPC ..... H01L 27/14623; H01L 27/14618; H01L 27/14636; H01L 27/14685; H01L 23/04; H01L 24/14; H01L 24/17; H01L 24/46; H01L 24/49

See application file for complete search history.

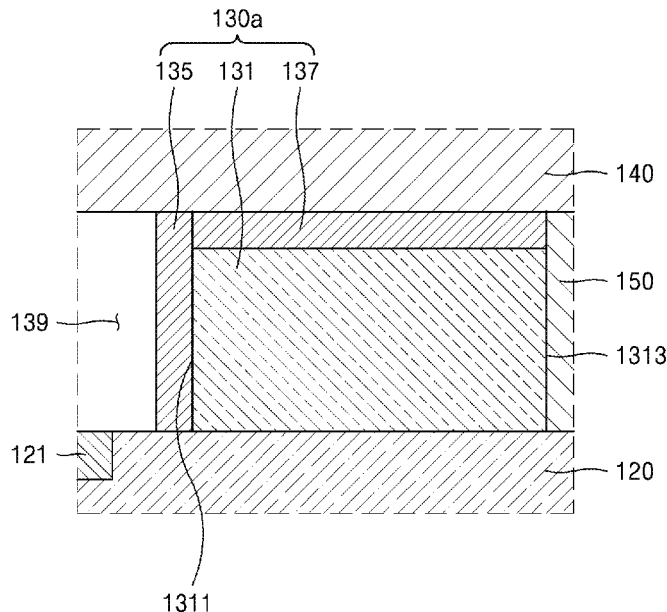
(Continued)  
*Primary Examiner* — Jonathan Han

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Muir Patent Law, PLLC

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An image sensor package includes a package substrate; an image sensor chip disposed on the package substrate; a dam structure disposed on the image sensor chip and including a dam main body having an opening and a first light absorption layer disposed on an inner wall of the dam main body; a transparent substrate on the dam structure; and an encapsulant contacting the image sensor chip and an outer wall of the dam main body.

**19 Claims, 20 Drawing Sheets**



(56)

**References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

2016/0172399	A1	6/2016	Nakata	
2017/0098272	A1	4/2017	Brockman et al.	
2018/0226447	A1	8/2018	Miao et al.	
2018/0359437	A1	12/2018	Watanabe	
2019/0043904	A1*	2/2019	Chien .....	H01L 27/14618
2019/0082152	A1	3/2019	Aistov	
2020/0083270	A1	3/2020	Yamamoto	
2020/0111829	A1*	4/2020	Fan .....	H01L 27/14683
2020/0312897	A1*	10/2020	Hsieh .....	H01L 27/14683
2020/0350357	A1*	11/2020	Hung .....	H01L 27/14618

\* cited by examiner

FIG. 1

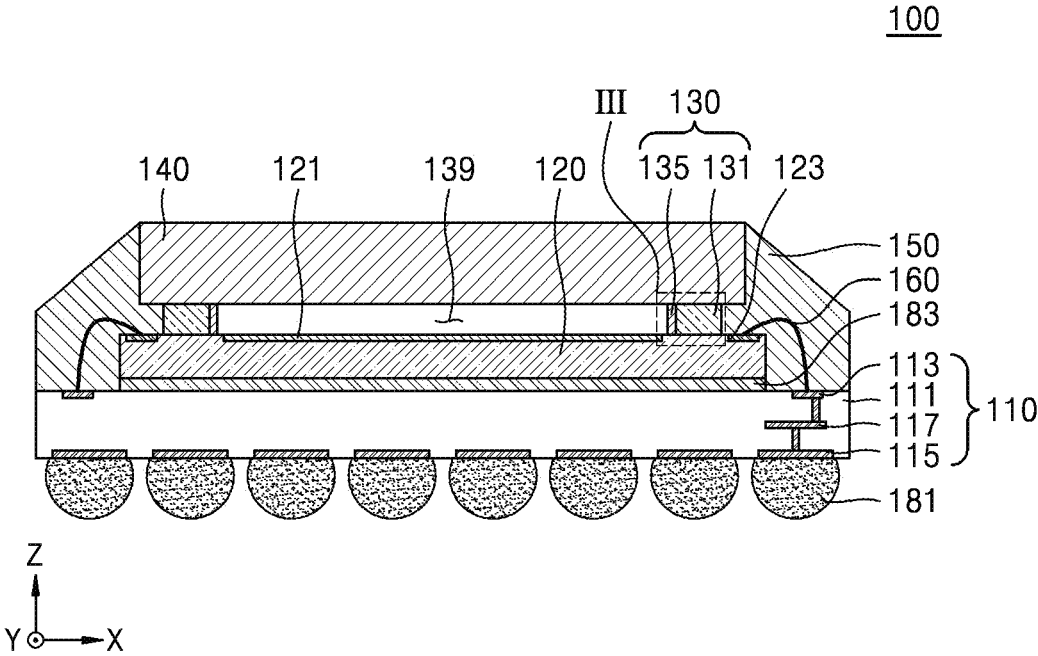


FIG. 2

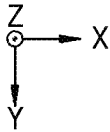
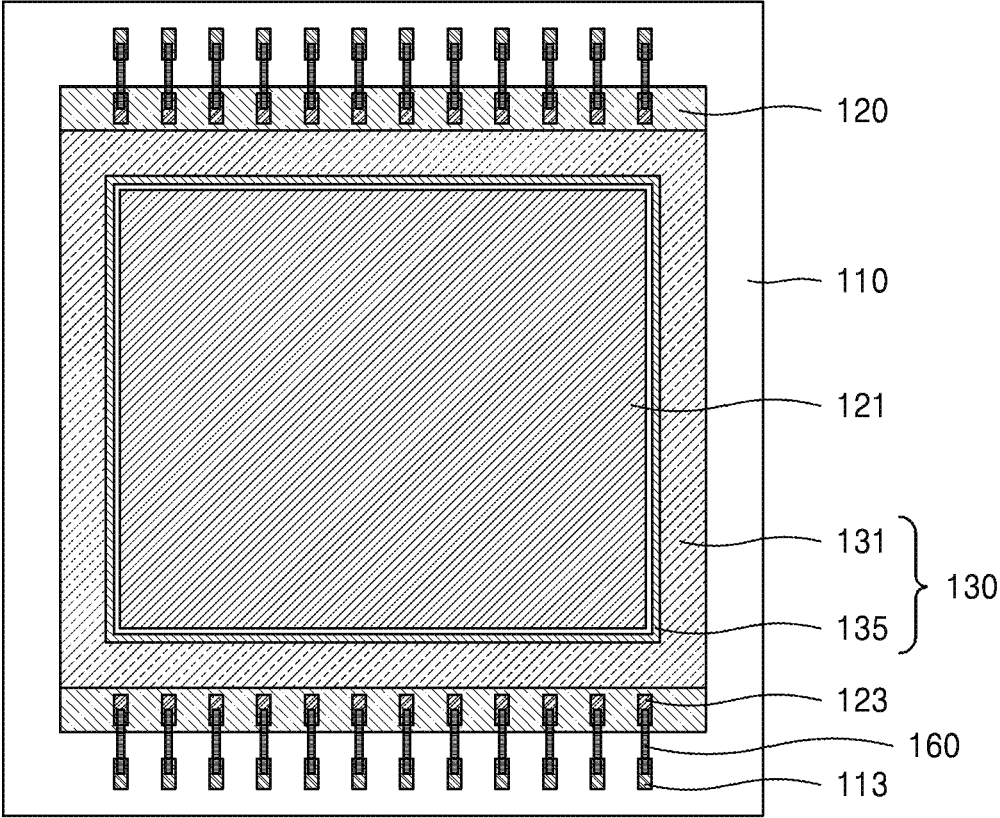


FIG. 3

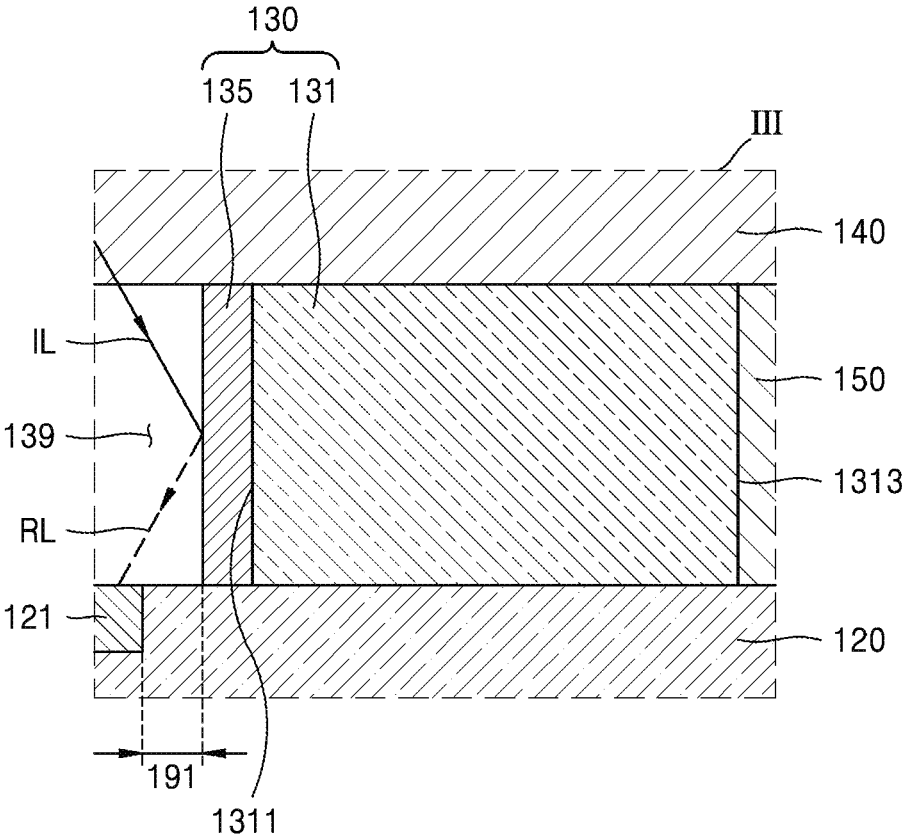


FIG. 4

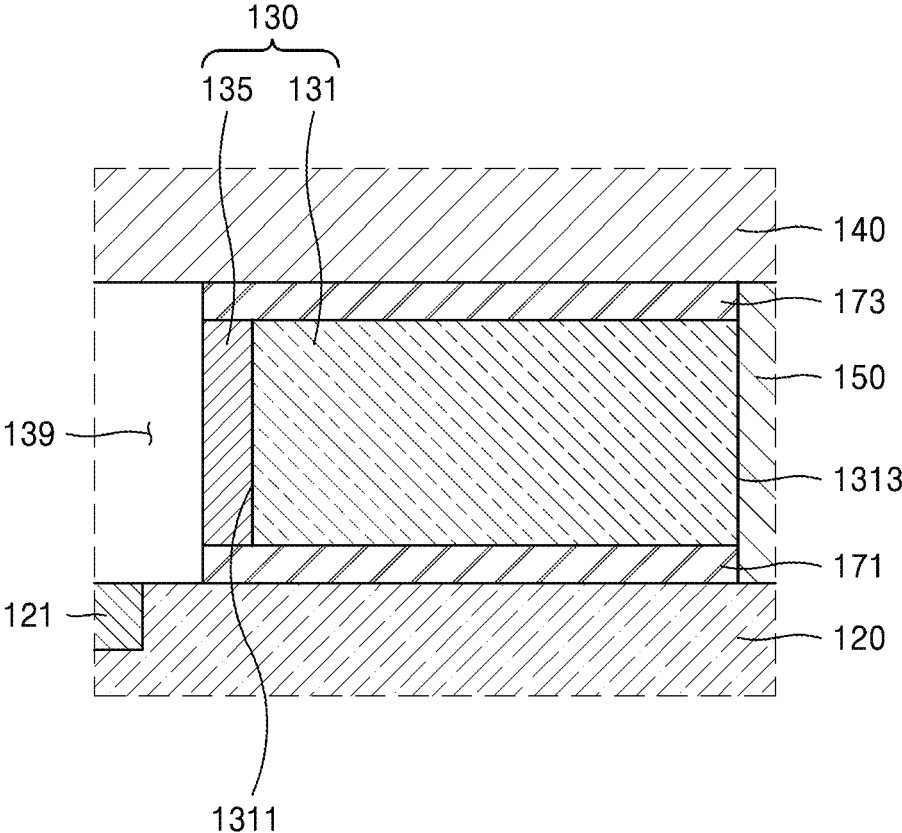


FIG. 5

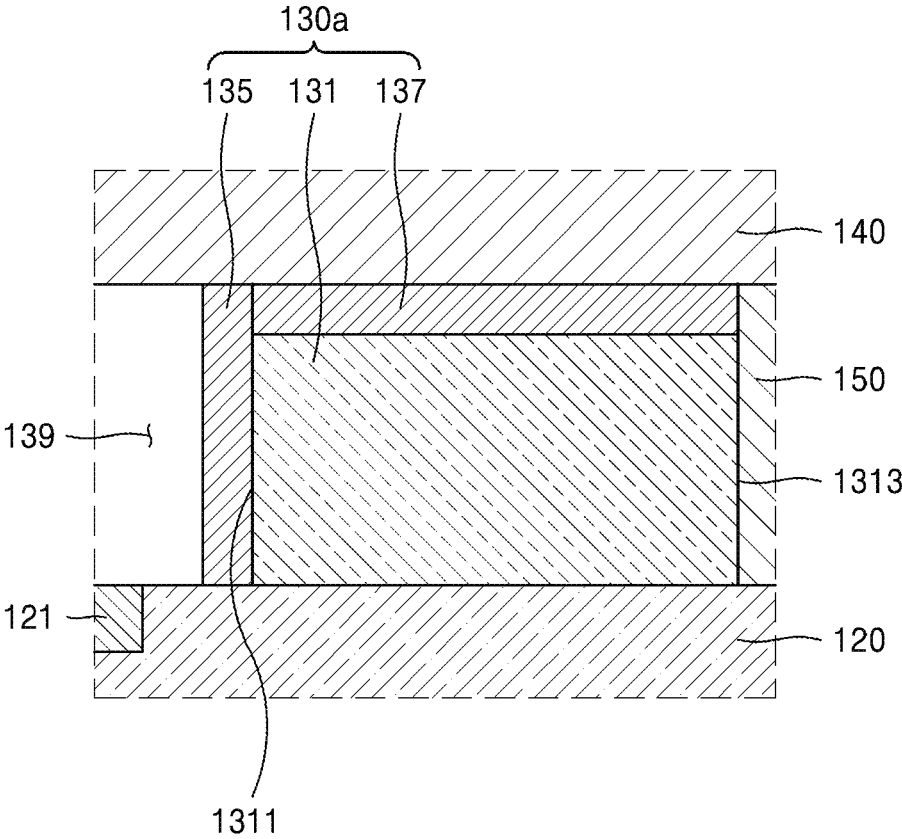


FIG. 6

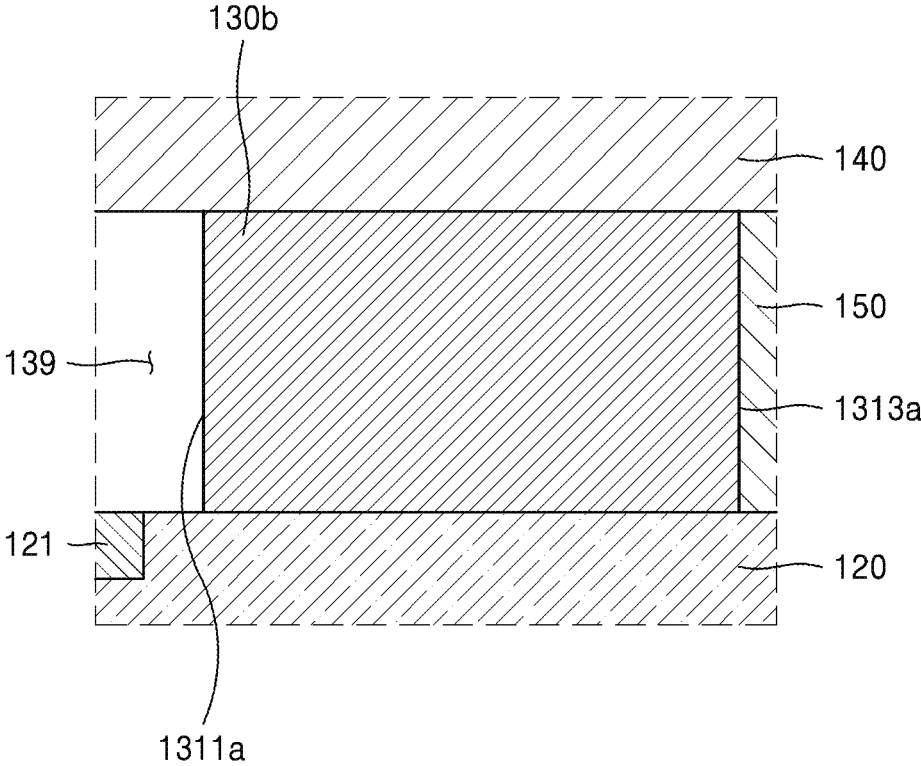




FIG. 7A

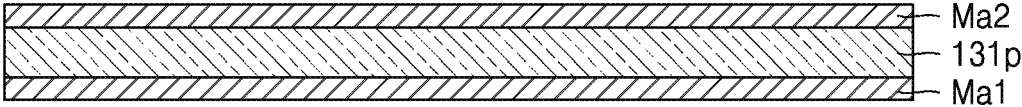


FIG. 7B

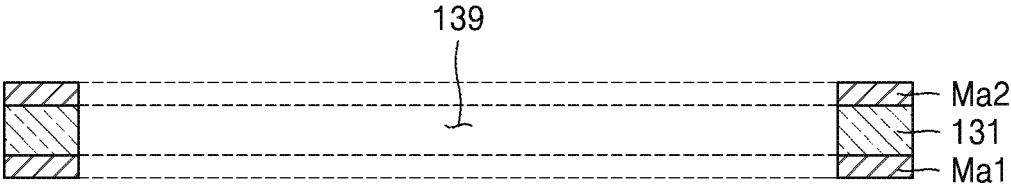


FIG. 7C

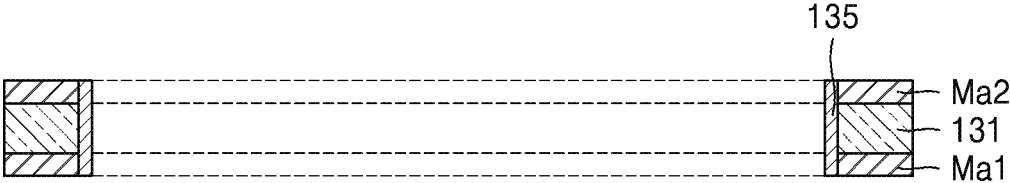


FIG. 7D



FIG. 8A

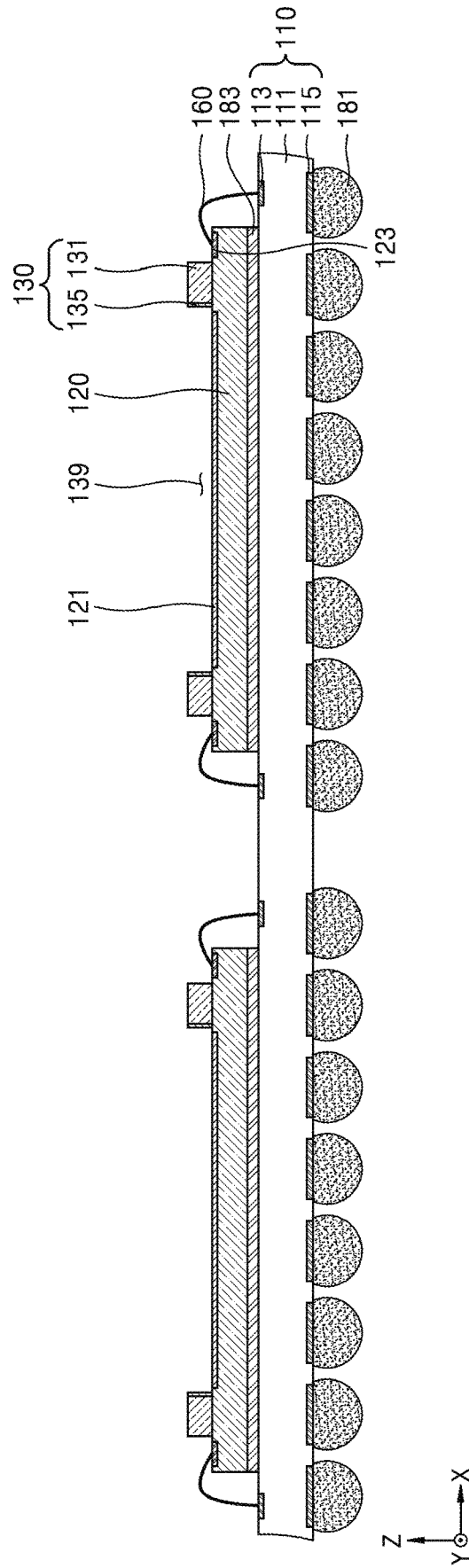






FIG. 9

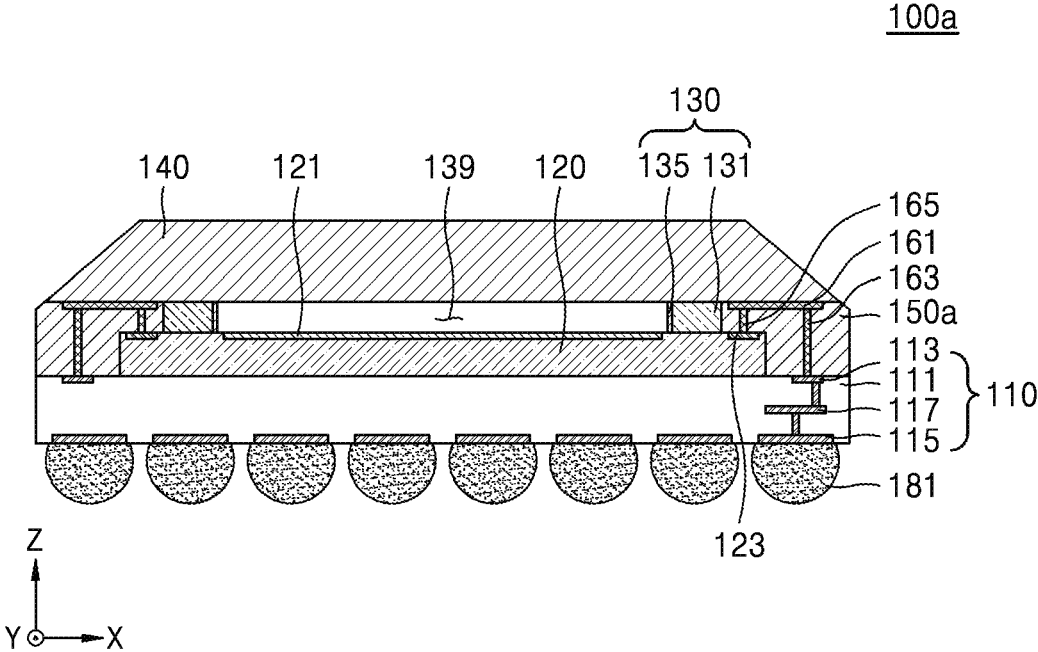




FIG. 10A

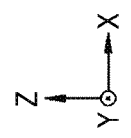
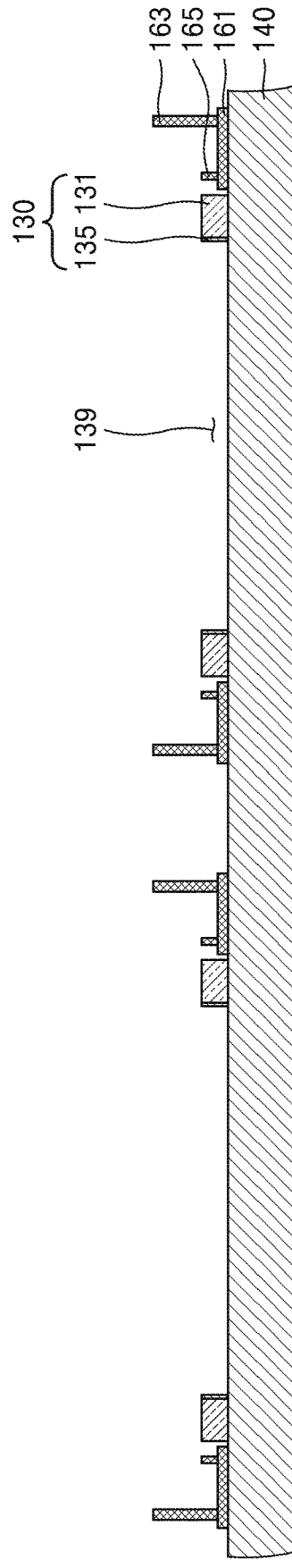


FIG. 10B

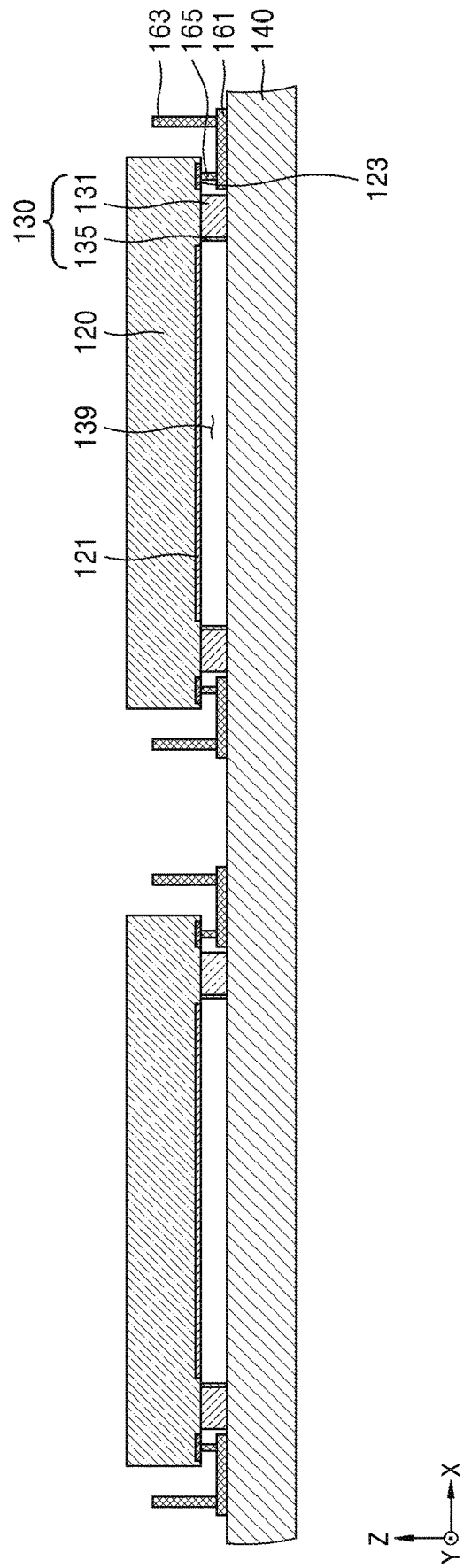


FIG. 10C

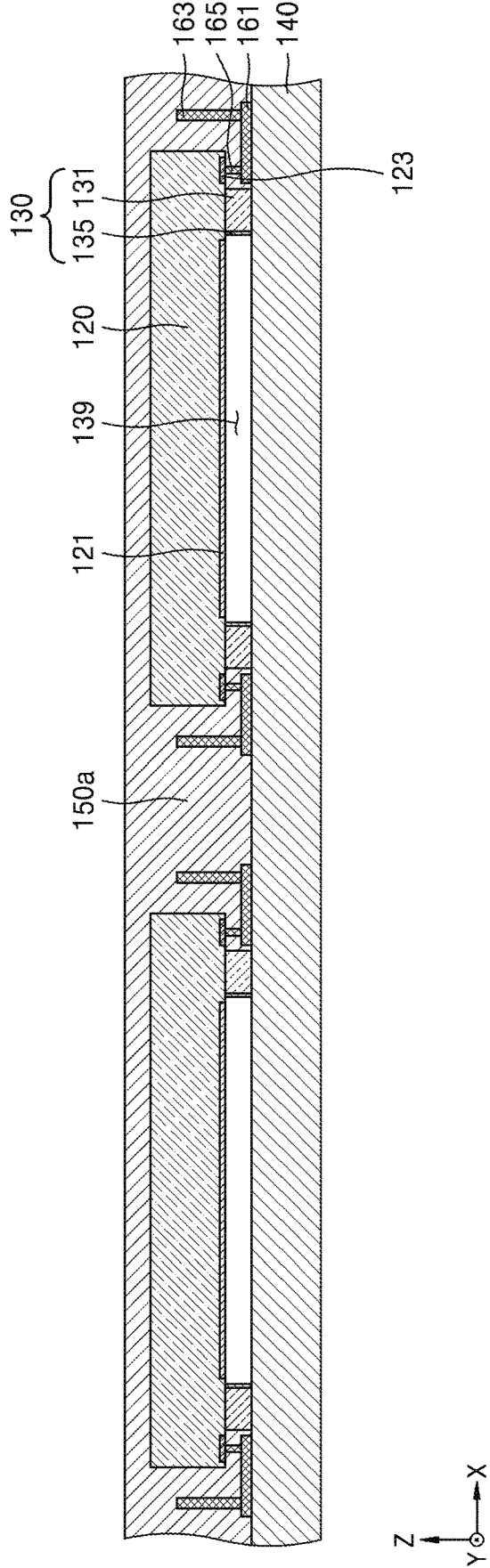


FIG. 10D

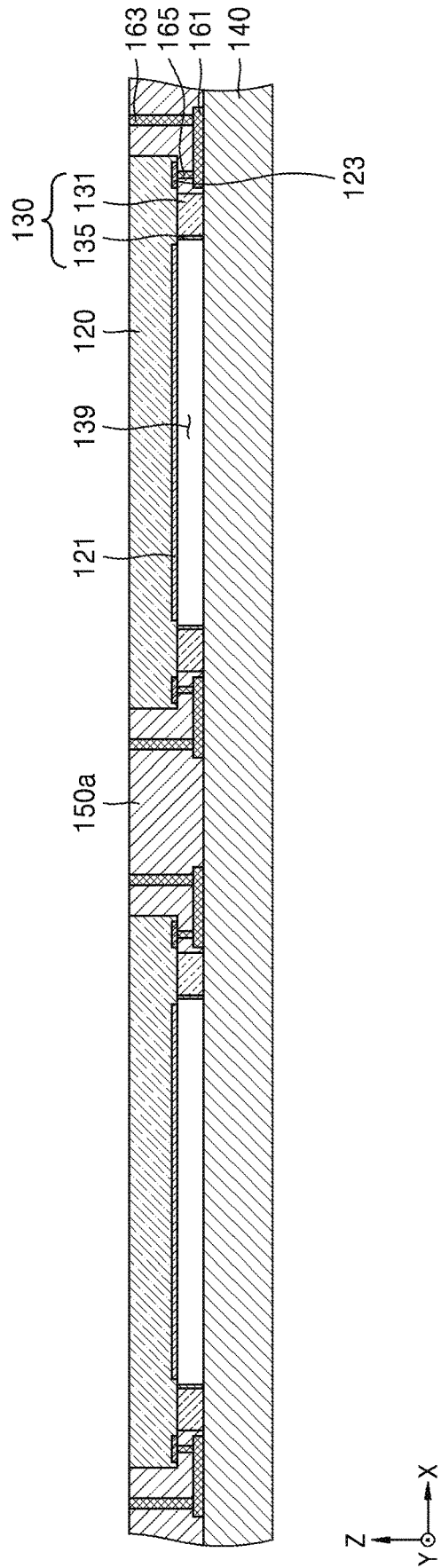


FIG. 10E

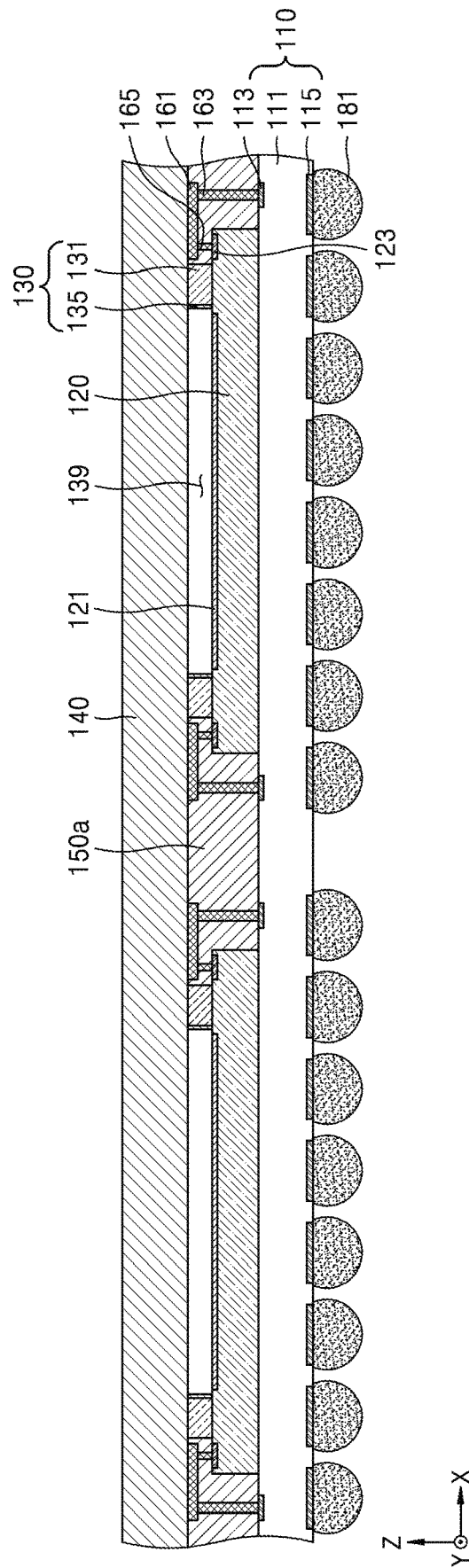
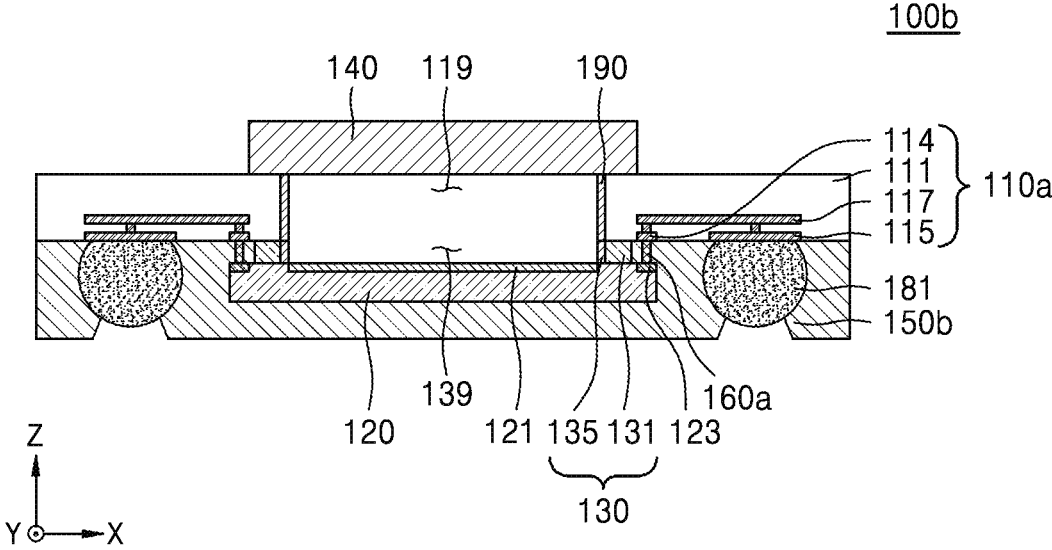


FIG. 11



1

**IMAGE SENSOR PACKAGE****CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

This application is based on and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 to Korean Patent Application No. 10-2020-0146318, filed on Nov. 4, 2020, in the Korean Intellectual Property Office, the disclosure of which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

**BACKGROUND**

The inventive concept relates to an image sensor package.

Image sensors that photograph a subject and convert the subject into electrical signals are used not only in general consumer electronic devices such as digital cameras, mobile phone cameras, and portable camcorders, but also cameras mounted on automobiles, security devices, and robots. Recently, in accordance with the rapid development of the electronics industry and user demand, electronic devices are more compact and lightweight, and accordingly, packages including image sensors have been required to be compact and lightweight.

**SUMMARY**

The inventive concept provides an image sensor package.

According to an aspect of the inventive concept, there is provided an image sensor package including: a package substrate; an image sensor chip on the package substrate; a dam structure on the image sensor chip and including a dam main body having an opening and a first light absorption layer on an inner wall of the dam main body; a transparent substrate on the dam structure; and an encapsulant contacting the image sensor chip and an outer wall of the dam main body.

According to another aspect of the inventive concept, there is provided an image sensor package including: an image sensor chip including a sensing region including a plurality of unit pixels and an outer region around the sensing region; a transparent substrate on the image sensor chip; and a dam structure disposed between the outer region of the image sensor chip and the transparent substrate and including a black pigment.

According to another aspect of the inventive concept, there is provided an image sensor package including: an image sensor chip including a sensing region including a plurality of unit pixels and an outer region around the sensing region; a dam main body disposed on the outer region of the image sensor chip and including an opening; a package substrate disposed on the dam structure and including a through hole communicating with the opening of the dam structure; a transparent substrate disposed on the package substrate to cover the through hole of the package substrate; and a light absorption layer disposed on at least one of an inner wall of the dam main body defining the opening and an inner wall of the package substrate defining the through hole of the package substrate.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Embodiments of the inventive concept will be more clearly understood from the following detailed description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which:

2

FIG. 1 is a cross-sectional view of an image sensor package according to example embodiments of the inventive concept;

FIG. 2 is a plan view of the image sensor package of FIG. 1 from which a transparent substrate and an encapsulant are removed;

FIG. 3 is an enlarged cross-sectional view of a region III in FIG. 1;

FIGS. 4 to 6 are each a cross-sectional view of a portion of an image sensor package according to example embodiments of the inventive concept;

FIGS. 7A to 7D are cross-sectional views for sequentially describing a method of manufacturing a dam structure, according to example embodiments of the inventive concept;

FIGS. 8A to 8C are cross-sectional views for sequentially describing a method of manufacturing an image sensor package, according to example embodiments of the inventive concept;

FIG. 9 is a cross-sectional view of an image sensor package according to example embodiments of the inventive concept;

FIGS. 10A to 10E are cross-sectional views for sequentially describing a method of manufacturing an image sensor package, according to example embodiments of the inventive concept; and

FIG. 11 is a cross-sectional view of an image sensor package according to example embodiments of the inventive concept.

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE EMBODIMENTS**

Hereinafter, embodiments of the inventive concept will be described in detail by referring to the accompanying drawings. Like reference numerals will be used for like elements in the drawings, and repeated descriptions thereof will not be given.

FIG. 1 is a cross-sectional view of an image sensor package **100** according to example embodiments of the inventive concept. FIG. 2 is a plan view of the image sensor package **100** of FIG. 1 from which a transparent substrate **140** and an encapsulant **150** are removed. FIG. 3 is an enlarged cross-sectional view of a region III in FIG. 1.

Referring to FIGS. 1 to 3, the image sensor package **100** may include a package substrate **110**, an image sensor chip **120**, a dam structure **130**, the transparent substrate **140**, and the encapsulant **150**.

The package substrate **110** may be, for example, a printed circuit board (PCB). The package substrate **110** may include a substrate base **111** including at least one material selected from among phenol resin, epoxy resin, and polyimide. For example, the substrate base **111** may be formed of a resin, e.g., a resin plate. In addition, the package substrate **110** may include an upper substrate pad **113** disposed on an upper surface of the substrate base **111** and a lower substrate pad **115** disposed on a lower surface of the substrate base **111**. An inner wiring pattern **117** configured to electrically connect the upper substrate pad **113** to the lower substrate pad **115** may be provided in the substrate base **111**. Although not particularly shown in FIG. 1, the package substrate **110** may further include an upper passivation layer that covers the upper surface of the substrate base **111** and has an opening exposing the upper substrate pad **113**, and a lower passivation layer that covers the lower surface of the substrate base **111** and has an opening exposing the lower substrate pad **115**.

As used herein, components described as being “electrically connected” are configured such that an electrical signal can be transferred from one component to the other (although such electrical signal may be attenuated in strength as it is transferred and may be selectively transferred).

Spatially relative terms, such as “beneath,” “below,” “lower,” “above,” “upper” and the like, may be used herein for ease of description to describe one element’s or feature’s relationship to another element(s) or feature(s) as illustrated in the figures. It will be understood that the spatially relative terms are intended to encompass different orientations of the device in use or operation in addition to the orientation depicted in the figures. For example, if the device in the figures is turned over, elements described as “below” or “beneath” other elements or features would then be oriented “above” the other elements or features. Thus, the term “below” can encompass both an orientation of above and below. The device may be otherwise oriented (rotated 90 degrees or at other orientations) and the spatially relative descriptors used herein interpreted accordingly.

For example, the upper substrate pad **113** and the lower substrate pad **115** may each include or be formed of a metal such as copper (Cu), aluminum (Al), tungsten (W), titanium (Ti), tantalum (Ta), indium (In), molybdenum (Mo), manganese (Mn), cobalt (Co), tin (Sn), nickel (Ni), magnesium (Mg), rhenium (Re), beryllium (Be), gallium (Ga), or ruthenium (Ru), or a combination thereof.

The upper substrate pad **113** may be a pad to which a conductive connection member for electrically connecting the package substrate **110** to the image sensor chip **120** is connected. For example, a conductive wire **160** may extend between the upper substrate pad **113** of the package substrate **110** and a connection pad **123** of the image sensor chip **120**, and electrically connect the connection pad **123** of the image sensor chip **120** to the upper substrate pad **113** of the package substrate **110**.

The lower substrate pad **115** may function as a pad to which an external connection terminal **181** is attached. The external connection terminal **181** may be connected to the lower substrate pad **115** through an opening of the lower passivation layer. The external connection terminal **181** may be, for example, a solder ball. The external connection terminal **181** may electrically connect the image sensor package **100** to an external device.

The image sensor chip **120** may be mounted on the package substrate **110**. The image sensor chip **120** may include a first surface and a second surface opposite to the first surface. For example, the image sensor chip **120** may be attached onto an upper surface of the package substrate **110** through a chip adhesion member (a chip adhesive) **183** disposed on the second surface of the image sensor chip **120**. The chip adhesion member **183** may include or may be, for example, a die attach film. For example, the image sensor chip **120** may include a complementary metal-oxide-semiconductor (CMOS) image sensor (CIS) and/or a charge-coupled device (CCD).

The first surface of the image sensor chip **120** may include a sensing region **121** and an outer region around the sensing region **121**.

The sensing region **121** of the image sensor chip **120** may include a pixel array including a plurality of unit pixels. The plurality of unit pixels may be arranged in the form of a two-dimensional array on the first surface of the image sensor chip **120**. The plurality of unit pixels may be, for example, an array of passive pixel sensors or an array of active pixel sensors. The plurality of unit pixels may each include a photodiode sensing light, a transfer transistor

transferring a charge generated by the photodiode, a floating diffusion region storing the transferred charge, a reset transistor periodically resetting the floating diffusion region, and a source follower buffering a signal according to a charge in the floating diffusion region.

A plurality of color filters and a plurality of micro lenses sequentially disposed on the plurality of unit pixels may be disposed on the sensing region **121** of the image sensor chip **120**. The plurality of color filters may include, for example, a red (R) filter, a blue (B) filter, and a green (G) filter. Alternatively, the plurality of color filters may include a cyan (C) filter, a yellow (Y) filter, and a magenta (M) filter. One of the R filter, the B filter, and the G filter or one of the C filter, the Y filter, and the M filter may be disposed on each of the plurality of unit pixels. The plurality of unit pixels may each recognize a single color (e.g., one of the above describe colors) by sensing components of separate incident light. The plurality of micro lenses may concentrate light incident on the sensing region **121** to the plurality of unit pixels.

The outer region of the image sensor chip **120** may be a region around the sensing region **121** and may include a region to which the dam structure **130** is attached. In addition, the outer region of the image sensor chip **120** may include a pad region in which the connection pad **123** is disposed. The connection pad **123** may be electrically connected to the plurality of unit pixels in the sensing region **121**. The connection pad **123** may include or be formed of a metal such as Cu, Al, W, Ti, Ta, In, Mo, Mn, Co, Sn, Ni, Mg, Re, Be, Ga, or Ru, or a combination thereof.

The dam structure **130** may be disposed on the outer region of the image sensor chip **120**. The dam structure **130** may be disposed on the image sensor chip **120** to surround the sensing region **121** in a plan view so that the sensing region **121** of the image sensor chip **120** is not covered by the dam structure **130**. The dam structure **130** may include an opening **139** for exposing the sensing region **121** of the image sensor chip **120**. A plane area of the opening **139** of the dam structure **130** may be greater than a plane area of the sensing region **121** of the image sensor chip **120**. For example, the dam structure **130** may have a rectangle shape having a rectangular opening **139** in the middle, and the area of the opening **139** in a plan view may be greater than the area of the sensing region **121** in the plan view. The dam structure **130** may have a ring shape continuously extending along an edge of the sensing region **121** in a plan view. For example, the dam structure **130** may have a rectangular ring shape.

The transparent substrate **140** may be disposed on the dam structure **130**. The transparent substrate **140** may be attached onto the dam structure **130** so that the opening **139** of the dam structure **130** is covered by the transparent substrate **140**. As the transparent substrate **140** is disposed to cover the opening **139** of the dam structure **130**, a cavity may be formed between the first surface of the image sensor chip **120**, a lower surface of the transparent substrate **140**, and the dam structure **130**.

The transparent substrate **140** may include or be formed of a material having a high light transmittance rate. For example, the transparent substrate **140** may include or be formed of glass or a polymer. For example, the transparent substrate **140** may further include a filter for passing or blocking light of a particular wavelength band.

The encapsulant **150** is disposed on the package substrate **110** and may surround the image sensor chip **120**, the dam structure **130**, and the transparent substrate **140**. For example, the encapsulant **150** may be formed to cover a side



wall of the image sensor chip 120, an outer wall 1313 of the dam structure 130, and a side wall of the transparent substrate 140. The encapsulant 150 may not cover an upper surface of the transparent substrate 140 so that the upper surface of the transparent substrate 140 may be exposed. For example, the encapsulant 150 may be formed by injecting an insulating resin onto the package substrate 110 and curing the insulating resin. While the encapsulant 150 is formed, the dam structure 130 may block flow of a material constituting the encapsulant 150 into the inside of the opening 139 of the dam structure 130, thereby preventing the encapsulant 150 from being filled between the sensing region 121 and the transparent substrate 140.

In example embodiments, the encapsulant 150 may include or be formed of an epoxy-group molding resin, a polyimide-group molding resin, or the like. For example, the encapsulant 150 may include or be formed of an epoxy molding compound (EMC).

In embodiments of the inventive concept, the dam structure 130 may include a light absorbing material configured to absorb light IL incident on the dam structure 130. For example, the dam structure 130 may include a black pigment, and at least a portion of the dam structure 130 may be colored black.

In example embodiments, the dam structure 130 may include a dam main body 131 and a first light absorption layer 135 disposed on a surface of the dam main body 131.

The dam main body 131 may extend continuously along the edge of the sensing region 121 of the image sensor chip 120 and may include the opening 139. The dam main body 131 may have a ring shape surrounding the sensing region 121 in a plan view. The dam main body 131 may include an inner wall 1311 defining the opening 139 and the outer wall 1313 covered by the encapsulant 150. For example, the dam main body 131 may include at least one selected from among polyimide, epoxy, and a metal.

The first light absorption layer 135 may be disposed on the inner wall 1311 of the dam main body 131 defining the opening 139. The first light absorption layer 135 may be formed to cover at least a portion of the inner wall 1311 of the dam main body 131. The first light absorption layer 135 may entirely cover the inner wall 1311 of the dam main body 131, or may partially cover the inner wall 1311 of the dam main body 131. In a plan view, the first light absorption layer 135 may have a ring shape continuously extending along the inner wall 1311 of the dam main body 131. In addition, the first light absorption layer 135 may extend from a lower end of the inner wall 1311 of the dam main body 131 to an upper end thereof. For example, the first light absorption layer 135 may extend from a bottom of the inner wall 1311 of the dam main body 131 to a top of the inner wall 1311 of the dam main body 131.

A light absorption rate of the first light absorption layer 135 may be between about 90% to about 100%. In example embodiments, the light absorption rate of the first light absorption layer 135 may be 95% or more. Here, the light absorption rate may refer to an average absorption rate for light in a wavelength band of the light IL incident on the first light absorption layer 135. For example, the light IL may be visible light, and the light absorption rate may be calculated with respect to visible light. For example, the light absorption rate may be calculated with respect to a wavelength band between 300 nm and 740 nm.

In example embodiments, the first light absorption layer 135 may include a light absorbing material. For example, the first light absorption layer 135 may include a black pigment. For example, the first light absorption layer 135 may include

a carbon-group color pigment or a carbon-group colorant. For example, the first light absorption layer 135 may include carbon black. When the first light absorption layer 135 includes a black pigment, the inner wall 1311 of the dam structure 130 may be colored black. When the inner wall 1311 of the dam structure 130 is colored black, the light IL incident on the dam structure 130 may be mostly absorbed by the dam structure 130, and an amount of reflected light RL reflected from the dam structure 130 may be significantly reduced.

According to example embodiments of the inventive concept, because the inner wall 1311 of the dam structure 130 includes the first light absorption layer 135 including a material having a high light absorption rate, light may be prevented from being reflected from the dam structure 130 and irradiated to the sensing region 121 of the image sensor chip 120. Accordingly, a flare phenomenon, which occurs by the reflected light RL that is reflected from the dam structure 130 and reaches the sensing region 121 of the image sensor chip 120, may be prevented, and thus, the quality of an image obtained using the image sensor chip 120 may be improved. For example, the flare phenomenon may be a phenomenon that one or more pixels of the image sensor chip 120 receive reflected light from a dam structure 130 or another in addition to intended incident light from an object so that an image formed by the image sensor chip 120 has a brighter region than an intended and/or supposed image at a corresponding region to the one or more pixels of the image sensor chip 120. The flare phenomenon may degrade the image quality of images obtained by the image sensor chip 120 because brightness of an image obtained by the image sensor chip 120 in part does not correspond to the real image.

In addition, according to example embodiments of the inventive concept, because the flare phenomenon due to the reflection of light from the dam structure 130 is prevented, the dam structure 130 may be disposed to be adjacent to the sensing region 121 of the image sensor chip 120. For example, a distance 191 between the dam structure 130 and the sensing region 121 of the image sensor chip 120 may be 80  $\mu\text{m}$  or less. Because the dam structure 130 may be disposed to be adjacent to the sensing region 121 of the image sensor chip 120, a size of the outer region of the image sensor chip 120 may be reduced, and accordingly, miniaturization of the image sensor chip 120 and miniaturization of the image sensor package 100 may be achieved.

The image sensor package 100 may further include a memory chip and/or a logic chip, in addition to the image sensor chip 120. In example embodiments, the image sensor package 100 may include a 3D-CIS stack structure in which the image sensor chip 120, the logic chip, and the memory chip are stacked in a vertical direction (e.g., a Z-direction) on the package substrate 110. In example embodiments, the image sensor package 100 may include different types of chips, components such as passive elements/components, and the like, which are electrically connected to each other and configured to operate as one system.

For example, the memory chip may include a volatile memory chip and/or a nonvolatile memory chip. The volatile memory chip may include or may be, for example, a dynamic random access memory (DRAM), a static RAM (SRAM), a thyristor RAM (TRAM), a zero capacitor RAM (ZRAM), or a twin transistor RAM (TTRAM). The non-volatile memory chip may include or may be, for example, a flash memory, a magnetic RAM (MRAM), a spin-transfer torque MRAM (STT-MRAM), a ferroelectric RAM (FRAM), a phase change RAM (PRAM), a resistive RAM

(RRAM), a nanotube RRAM, a polymer RAM, or an insulator resistance change memory. For example, the logic chip may include or may be a microprocessor, a graphics processor, a signal processor, a network processor, a chipset, an audio codec, a video codec, and/or an application processor.

FIGS. 4 to 6 are each a cross-sectional view of a portion of the image sensor package 100 according to example embodiments of the inventive concept. FIGS. 4 to 6 each illustrate a region corresponding to the region III in FIG. 1.

Referring to FIG. 4, the image sensor package 100 may include a first adhesive layer 171 disposed between the dam structure 130 and the image sensor chip 120 and a second adhesive layer 173 disposed between the dam structure 130 and the transparent substrate 140. The first adhesive layer 171 may be disposed on a lower surface of the dam structure 130 to attach the dam structure 130 to the image sensor chip 120. The second adhesive layer 173 may be disposed on an upper surface of the dam structure 130 to attach the dam structure 130 to the transparent substrate 140.

Referring to FIG. 5, a dam structure 130a may include the dam main body 131, the first light absorption layer 135 on the inner wall 1311 of the dam main body 131 defining the opening 139, and a second light absorption layer 137 on an upper surface of the dam main body 131.

The second light absorption layer 137 may be formed to cover at least a portion of the upper surface of the dam main body 131. The second light absorption layer 137 may entirely cover the upper surface of the dam main body 131, or may partially cover the upper surface of the dam main body 131. The second light absorption layer 137 may include the same material as or a similar material to that of the first light absorption layer 135, and may have substantially the same characteristics (e.g., light absorption rate) as the ones of the first light absorption layer 135.

Terms such as “same,” “equal,” “planar,” or “coplanar,” as used herein when referring to orientation, layout, location, shapes, sizes, compositions, amounts, or other measures do not necessarily mean an exactly identical orientation, layout, location, shape, size, composition, amount, or other measure, but are intended to encompass nearly identical orientation, layout, location, shapes, sizes, compositions, amounts, or other measures within acceptable variations that may occur, for example, due to manufacturing processes. The term “substantially” may be used herein to emphasize this meaning, unless the context or other statements indicate otherwise. For example, items described as “substantially the same,” “substantially equal,” or “substantially planar,” may be exactly the same, equal, or planar, or may be the same, equal, or planar within acceptable variations that may occur, for example, due to manufacturing processes.

The second light absorption layer 137 may be disposed between the transparent substrate 140 and the upper surface of the dam main body 131 and may be configured to absorb light incident on an upper surface of the dam structure 130a. The second light absorption layer 137 may absorb the light incident on the dam structure 130a together with the first light absorption layer 135, thereby preventing the light from reaching the sensing region 121 by being reflected from the dam structure 130a or transmitting through the dam structure 130a. Accordingly, the flare phenomenon may be prevented, and image quality obtained from the image sensor chip 120 may be improved. For example, the second light absorption layer 137 may be helpful to reduce unintended light that reaches to the image sensing region 121 of the image sensor chip 120.

Referring to FIG. 6, a dam structure 130b may uniformly include a light absorbing material as a whole. For example, the dam structure 130b may include a base material including a resin and a light absorbing material that is substantially uniformly distributed in the base material. For example, the dam structure 130b may include a black pigment, and the dam structure 130b may be entirely colored black. For example, each of an inner wall 1311a, an outer wall 1313a, an upper surface, and a lower surface of the dam structure 130b may be colored black.

In certain embodiments, the dam structure 130b may be formed of a black material, e.g., homogeneously. Using a homogeneous black material for the dam structure 130b may be beneficial for reducing manufacturing steps. On the other hand, using a dam structure 130 including a dam main body 131 and a light absorption layer 135/137 may be beneficial for choosing materials for the respective dam main body 131 and light absorption layer 135/137. For example, the dam main body 131 may be formed of a reliable material for the structure and to protect the opening 139 without side effects, and the light absorption layer 135/137 may be formed of a material having a high absorption rate of light without side effects.

FIGS. 7A to 7D are cross-sectional views for sequentially describing a method of manufacturing the dam structure 130, according to example embodiments of the inventive concept.

Referring to FIG. 7A, a preliminary dam main body 131p having a plate shape is prepared, and a first mask layer Ma1 covering a lower surface of the preliminary dam main body 131p and a second mask layer Ma2 covering an upper surface of the preliminary dam main body 131p are formed.

Referring to FIGS. 7A and 7B, a hole penetrating the preliminary dam main body 131p, the first mask layer Ma1, and the second mask layer Ma2 is formed. For example, the hole penetrating the preliminary dam main body 131p, the first mask layer Ma1, and the second mask layer Ma2 may be formed by a laser drilling process. As the hole penetrating the preliminary dam main body 131p, the first mask layer Ma1, and the second mask layer Ma2 is formed, the dam main body 131 having the opening 139 may be manufactured from the preliminary dam main body 131p.

Referring to FIG. 7C, the first light absorption layer 135 may be formed on the inner wall 1311 of the dam main body 131. For example, the first light absorption layer 135 may be formed by a coating process, a spraying process, or a printing process. For example, the first light absorption layer 135 may be formed by attaching a film including a light absorbing material onto the inner wall 1311 of the dam main body 131. While the first light absorption layer 135 is formed, the lower surface and the upper surface of the dam main body 131 are covered by the first mask layer Ma1 and the second mask layer Ma2, respectively, and thus a light absorbing material is not formed on the lower surface and the upper surface of the dam main body 131.

Referring to FIGS. 7C and 7D, the first mask layer Ma1 and the second mask layer Ma2 are removed. As the first mask layer Ma1 is removed, the lower surface of the dam main body 131 may be exposed, and as the second mask layer Ma2 is removed, the upper surface of the dam main body 131 may be exposed.

In some example embodiments, a light absorbing material may be coated on at least one of the lower surface and the upper surface of the dam main body 131. For example, in order to form the dam structure 130 including the first light absorption layer 135 on the inner wall 1311 of the dam main body 131 and the second light absorption layer 137 on the

upper surface of the dam main body **131** as illustrated in FIG. **5**, the first mask layer **Ma1** covering the lower surface of the preliminary dam main body **131p** in FIG. **7A** may be formed, but the second mask layer **Ma2** covering the upper surface of the preliminary dam main body **131p** in FIG. **7A** may not be formed. In this case, in a process of forming the first light absorption layer **135**, the second light absorption layer **137** covering the upper surface of the dam main body **131** may also be formed.

FIGS. **8A** to **8C** are cross-sectional views for sequentially describing a method of manufacturing an image sensor package, according to example embodiments of the inventive concept. Hereinafter, a method of manufacturing the image sensor package **100** shown in FIGS. **1** to **3** will be described with reference to FIGS. **8A** to **8C**.

Referring to FIG. **8A**, the package substrate **110** is prepared, and the image sensor chip **120** may be mounted on the package substrate **110**. The image sensor chip **120** may be attached onto the package substrate **110** through the chip adhesion member **183** disposed between the second surface of the image sensor chip **120** and the package substrate **110**.

After the image sensor chip **120** is mounted on the package substrate **110**, the conductive wire **160** electrically connecting the upper substrate pad **113** of the package substrate **110** to the connection pad **123** of the image sensor chip **120** may be formed. The conductive wire **160** may be formed through a wire bonding process and may include or be formed of a conductive material such as gold (Au), copper (Cu), or the like.

After the conductive wire **160** is formed, the dam structure **130** of the image sensor chip **120** is disposed. The dam structure **130** may be disposed on the outer region of the image sensor chip **120**, and the sensing region **121** of the image sensor chip **120** may be exposed through the opening **139** of the dam structure **130**.

Referring to FIG. **8B**, the transparent substrate **140** is disposed on the dam structure **130**. The transparent substrate **140** may be attached onto the dam structure **130** to cover the opening **139** of the dam structure **130**.

Referring to FIG. **8C**, the encapsulant **150** covering the side wall of the image sensor chip **120**, the outer wall **1313** of the dam structure **130**, and a side wall of the transparent substrate **140** is formed on the package substrate **110**. In order to form the encapsulant **150**, an encapsulating material may be injected onto the package substrate **110**, and the encapsulating material may be cured. While the encapsulant **150** is formed, the dam structure **130** may block flow of the encapsulating material into a space between the lower surface of the transparent substrate **140** and the sensing region **121** of the image sensor chip **120**.

After the encapsulant **150** is formed, a sawing process may be performed on the result of FIG. **8C**. As the encapsulant **150** and the package substrate **110** are cut by the sawing process, the result of FIG. **8C** may be divided into single image sensor packages **100** in a single package unit as illustrated in FIG. **1**.

FIG. **9** is a cross-sectional view of an image sensor package **100a** according to example embodiments of the inventive concept. Hereinafter, a difference between the image sensor package **100** described with reference to FIGS. **1** to **3** and the image sensor package **100a** of FIG. **9** will be mainly described.

Referring to FIG. **9**, the image sensor package **100a** may include a package substrate **110**, an image sensor chip **120**, a dam structure **130**, a transparent substrate **140**, and an encapsulant **150a**. In FIG. **9**, the image sensor package **100a** includes the dam structure **130** illustrated in FIGS. **1** to **3**, but

the image sensor package **100a** may include any one of the dam structures **130a** and **130b** described with reference to FIGS. **5** and **6**.

The encapsulant **150a** is disposed on the upper surface of the package substrate **110** and may cover the side wall of the image sensor chip **120** and the outer wall **1313** of the dam structure **130**. The encapsulant **150a** may cover the lower surface of the transparent substrate **140**, and may not cover the side wall and the upper surface of the transparent substrate **140** so that the side wall and the upper surface of the transparent substrate **140** are exposed to the outside (e.g., outside the encapsulant **150a**).

The image sensor package **100a** may include a conductive connection pattern **161**, a first conductive connector **163**, and a second conductive connector **165**. The conductive connection pattern **161**, the first conductive connector **163**, and the second conductive connector **165** may collectively form a conductive connection member for electrically connecting the image sensor chip **120** to the package substrate **110**.

The conductive connection pattern **161** may be formed on the lower surface of the transparent substrate **140** and may have a line shape extending along the lower surface of the transparent substrate **140**. For example, the conductive connection pattern **161** may be formed on the lower surface of the transparent substrate **140** by performing a wiring process. The first conductive connector **163** may extend between the conductive connection pattern **161** and the upper substrate pad **113** of the package substrate **110**. The first conductive connector **163** may have a column or bump shape extending in a vertical direction between the conductive connection pattern **161** and the upper substrate pad **113** of the package substrate **110**. The first conductive connector **163** may electrically connect the conductive connection pattern **161** to the upper substrate pad **113** of the package substrate **110**. The second conductive connector **165** may have a column or bump shape extending in a vertical direction between the conductive connection pattern **161** and the connection pad **123** of the image sensor chip **120**. The second conductive connector **165** may electrically connect the conductive connection pattern **161** to the connection pad **123** of the image sensor chip **120**. FIG. **9** shows that corners of the transparent substrate **140** are inclined with respect to the top surface of the transparent substrate **140**. This may be formed by the sawing process cutting the result of FIG. **8C** into the single image sensor package **100a**. In certain embodiments, the inclined corners of the transparent substrate **140** may be formed by an additional chamfering process to reduce/prevent cracks and/or chips in the transparent substrate **140**.

FIGS. **10A** to **10E** are cross-sectional views for sequentially describing a method of manufacturing an image sensor package, according to example embodiments of the inventive concept. Hereinafter, a method of manufacturing the image sensor package **100a** illustrated in FIG. **9** will be described with reference to FIGS. **10A** to **10E**.

Referring to FIG. **10A**, the transparent substrate **140** is prepared, and the conductive connection pattern **161**, the first conductive connector **163**, and the second conductive connector **165** are formed on the transparent substrate **140**. After the conductive connection pattern **161**, the first conductive connector **163**, and the second conductive connector **165** are formed, the dam structure **130** is disposed on the transparent substrate **140**.

Referring to FIG. **10B**, the image sensor chip **120** is disposed on the dam structure **130**. The image sensor chip **120** may be disposed on the dam structure **130** so that the

11

first surface of the image sensor chip 120 provided with the sensing region 121 and the connection pad 123 faces the transparent substrate 140. The image sensor chip 120 may be disposed on the dam structure 130 to cover the opening 139 of the dam structure 130 and such that the connection pad 123 of the image sensor chip 120 is in contact with the second conductive connector 165. In order to electrically connect the connection pad 123 of the image sensor chip 120 to the second conductive connector 165, for example, a thermocompression bonding process may be performed.

It will be understood that when an element is referred to as being “connected” or “coupled” to or “on” another element, it can be directly connected or coupled to or on the other element or intervening elements may be present. In contrast, when an element is referred to as being “directly connected” or “directly coupled” to another element, or as “contacting” or “in contact with” another element, there are no intervening elements present at the point of contact.

Referring to FIG. 10C, the encapsulant 150a covering the side wall of the image sensor chip 120 and the outer wall 1313 of the dam structure 130 is formed on the transparent substrate 140. In order to form the encapsulant 150a, an encapsulating material may be injected onto the transparent substrate 140, and the encapsulating material may be cured. While the encapsulant 150a is formed, the dam structure 130 may block flow of the encapsulating material into a space between the lower surface of the transparent substrate 140 and the sensing region 121 of the image sensor chip 120.

Referring to FIG. 10D together with FIG. 10C, a polishing process may be performed on the result of FIG. 10C. The polishing process may include, for example, a backgrinding process and a chemical mechanical polishing process. The polishing process may be performed at least so that the first conductive connector 163 is exposed through the encapsulant 150a. A portion of the encapsulant 150a and a portion of the image sensor chip 120 may be removed by the polishing process. As a result of the polishing process, a polished surface of the encapsulant 150a, a polished surface of the image sensor chip 120, and a polished surface of the first conductive connector 163 may be coplanar.

Referring to FIG. 10E, the result of FIG. 10D is turned over and disposed on the package substrate 110. The result of FIG. 10D may be disposed on the package substrate 110 so that the first conductive connector 163 is aligned with and connected to (e.g., contact) the upper substrate pad 113 of the package substrate 110. In order to connect the first conductive connector 163 to the upper substrate pad 113 of the package substrate 110, for example, a thermocompression bonding process may be performed. Alternatively, a conductive film may be interposed between the result of FIG. 10D and the package substrate 110. For example, an ACF (anisotropic conductive film) or a conductive material/pattern may be interposed between the upper substrate pad 113 of the package substrate and the first conductive connector 163.

After the result of FIG. 10D is disposed on the package substrate 110, a sawing process may be performed on the result of FIG. 10E. By the sawing process, the transparent substrate 140, the encapsulant 150a, and the package substrate 110 may be cut. When the transparent substrate 140, the encapsulant 150a, and the package substrate 110 are cut, the result of FIG. 10E may be divided into single image sensor packages 100a as illustrated in FIG. 9.

FIG. 11 is a cross-sectional view of an image sensor package 100b according to example embodiments of the inventive concept. Hereinafter, a difference between the

12

image sensor package 100 described with reference to FIGS. 1 to 3 and the image sensor package 100b of FIG. 11 will be mainly described.

Referring to FIG. 11, the image sensor package 100b may include a package substrate 110a, an image sensor chip 120, a dam structure 130, a transparent substrate 140, and an encapsulant 150b. In FIG. 11, the image sensor package 100b includes the dam structure 130 illustrated in FIGS. 1 to 3, but the image sensor package 100b may include any one of the dam structures 130a and 130b described with reference to FIGS. 5 and 6 instead of the dam structure 130 of FIG. 11.

The image sensor chip 120 may be disposed on a lower surface of the package substrate 110a, and the dam structure 130 may be disposed between the image sensor chip 120 and the lower surface of the package substrate 110a. The image sensor chip 120 and the package substrate 110a may be electrically connected through a conductive connector 160a extending between a substrate pad 114 provided on the lower surface of the package substrate 110a and the connection pad 123 of the image sensor chip 120.

The package substrate 110a may include a through hole 119 vertically penetrating the package substrate 110a. The through hole 119 of the package substrate 110a may communicate with the opening 139 of the dam structure 130. For example, the through hole 119 and the opening 139 are open to each other. The transparent substrate 140 may be attached onto the package substrate 110a so that the through hole 119 of the package substrate 110a is covered.

The through hole 119 of the package substrate 110a may have a horizontal width (i.e., a width in an X-direction and/or a Y-direction) that is substantially the same as that of the opening 139 of the dam structure 130. In this case, an inner wall of the package substrate 110a defining the through hole 119 of the package substrate 110a may be substantially in a straight line. For example, the inner wall of the package substrate 110a and the inner wall 1311 of the dam main body 131 may be coplanar in respective portions vertically corresponding to (e.g., vertically overlapping) each other. This may be beneficial for miniaturization of the image sensor package 100b in that the total area of the first light absorption layer 135 and a third light absorption layer 190 (described below) in a plan view is minimized. In some example embodiments, the through hole 119 of the package substrate 110a may have a horizontal width that is substantially different from that of the opening 139 of the dam structure 130. For example, the horizontal width of the through hole 119 of the package substrate 110a may be greater than that of the opening 139 of the dam structure 130. This may be beneficial for image sensor packages which need a wide incident angle of light in that pixels of the image sensor packages in the vicinity of the inner walls may receive light in a wider angle than the ones described above. Alternatively, the horizontal width of the through hole 119 of the package substrate 110a may be less than that of the opening 139 of the dam structure 130.

The encapsulant 150b is disposed on the lower surface of the package substrate 110a and may cover the side wall of the image sensor chip 120 and the outer wall 1313 of the dam structure 130. In addition, the encapsulant 150b may cover a portion of the external connection terminal 181, and may have an opening exposing the external connection terminal 181.

The image sensor package 100b may include a third light absorption layer 190 disposed on the inner wall of the package substrate 110a. The third light absorption layer 190 may be formed to cover at least a portion of the inner wall

## 13

of the package substrate **110a**. The third light absorption layer **190** may entirely cover the inner wall of the package substrate **110a**, or may partially cover the inner wall of the package substrate **110a**. In a plan view, the third light absorption layer **190** may have a ring shape continuously extending along the inner wall of the package substrate **110a**. In addition, the third light absorption layer **190** may extend from a lower end of the inner wall of the package substrate **110a** to an upper end thereof. For example, the third light absorption layer **190** may extend from a bottom of the inner wall of the package substrate **110a** to a top of the inner wall of the package substrate **110a**. The third light absorption layer **190** may include a material that is the same as or similar to that of the first light absorption layer **135** of the dam structure **130**, and may have substantially the same characteristics.

According to example embodiments of the inventive concept, because a light absorption layer including a material having a high light absorption rate is disposed on the inner wall of the package substrate **110a** and the inner wall **1311** (in FIG. 3) of the dam structure **130**, light may be prevented from being reflected from the inner wall of the package substrate **110a** and the inner wall **1311** of the dam structure **130** and irradiated to the sensing region **121** of the image sensor chip **120**. Accordingly, a flare phenomenon, which occurs by the light that is reflected from the inner wall of the package substrate **110a** and the inner wall **1311** of the dam structure **130** and reaches the sensing region **121** of the image sensor chip **120**, may be prevented, and thus, the quality of an image obtained by using the image sensor chip **120** may be improved.

While the inventive concept has been particularly shown and described with reference to embodiments thereof, it will be understood that various changes in form and details may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. An image sensor package comprising:
  - a package substrate;
  - an image sensor chip on the package substrate;
  - a dam structure on the image sensor chip and comprising
    - a dam main body having an opening and a first light absorption layer on an inner wall of the dam main body;
    - a transparent substrate on the dam structure; and
    - an encapsulant contacting the image sensor chip and an outer wall of the dam main body,
 wherein the dam structure further comprises a second light absorption layer on an upper surface of the dam main body, and
    - wherein the second light absorption layer vertically overlaps the whole dam main body.
2. The image sensor package of claim 1, wherein the first light absorption layer comprises a carbon-group colorant.
3. The image sensor package of claim 1, wherein the first light absorption layer has a light absorption rate of 95% or more.
4. The image sensor package of claim 1, wherein the second light absorption layer is between the transparent substrate and the dam main body.
5. The image sensor package of claim 1, further comprising:
  - a first adhesive layer between the dam structure and the image sensor chip; and
  - a second adhesive layer between the dam structure and the transparent substrate.
6. The image sensor package of claim 1, wherein the encapsulant covers a side wall of the transparent substrate.

## 14

7. The image sensor package of claim 1, wherein the encapsulant covers a lower surface of the transparent substrate, and does not cover a side wall of the transparent substrate.

8. The image sensor package of claim 1, further comprising a conductive wire electrically connecting a substrate pad of the package substrate to a connection pad of the image sensor chip.

9. The image sensor package of claim 1, further comprising:

- a conductive connection pattern extending along a surface of the transparent substrate;
- a first conductive connector extending between the conductive connection pattern and a substrate pad of the package substrate; and
- a second conductive connector extending between the conductive connection pattern and a connection pad of the image sensor chip.

10. The image sensor package of claim 1, wherein the first light absorption layer extends from an upper end of the inner wall of the dam main body to a lower end thereof, and has a ring shape continuously extending along the inner wall of the dam main body in a plan view.

11. An image sensor package comprising:

- an image sensor chip including a sensing region including a plurality of unit pixels and an outer region around the sensing region;
- a transparent substrate on the image sensor chip;
- a dam structure disposed between the outer region of the image sensor chip and the transparent substrate and including a black pigment,
- a first adhesive layer disposed between the dam structure and the image sensor chip and attaching the dam structure to the image sensor chip; and
- a second adhesive layer disposed between the dam structure and the transparent substrate and attaching the dam structure to the transparent substrate.

12. The image sensor package of claim 11, wherein the dam structure comprises:

- a dam main body having a ring shape extending along an edge of the sensing region of the image sensor chip; and
- a first light absorption layer disposed on an inner wall of the dam main body and including the black pigment.

13. The image sensor package of claim 12, wherein the dam structure is disposed between the transparent substrate and the dam main body, and further comprises a second light absorption layer including the black pigment.

14. The image sensor package of claim 11, further comprising:

- a package substrate disposed between the dam structure and the transparent substrate and having a through hole communicating with an opening of the dam structure;
- a conductive connector extending between a substrate pad of the package substrate and a connection pad of the image sensor chip; and
- a third light absorption layer disposed on an inner wall of the package substrate defining the through hole of the package substrate.

15. The image sensor package of claim 11, further comprising an encapsulant covering a side wall of the image sensor chip, a side wall of the transparent substrate, and an outer wall of the dam structure.

16. An image sensor package comprising:

- an image sensor chip including a sensing region including a plurality of unit pixels and an outer region around the sensing region;

**15**

a dam main body disposed on the outer region of the image sensor chip and including an opening;  
a package substrate disposed on the dam main body and including a through hole communicating with the opening of the dam main body;  
a transparent substrate disposed on the package substrate to cover the through hole of the package substrate;  
a wiring pattern extending in horizontal direction and embedded in the package substrate, the wiring pattern electrically connected to a first substrate pad and a second substrate pad, the first and second substrate pads formed on a lower surface of the package substrate;  
a connection pad formed on an upper surface of the image sensor chip;  
a connection conductor electrically connecting the connection pad and the first substrate pad;  
an external connection terminal disposed on the second substrate pad and electrically connected to the second substrate pad; and

**16**

a light absorption layer disposed on at least one of an inner wall of the dam main body defining the opening and an inner wall of the package substrate defining the through hole of the package substrate.

5 **17.** The image sensor package of claim **16**, wherein the light absorption layer comprises a black pigment and has a light absorption rate of 95% or more.

10 **18.** The image sensor package of claim **16**, wherein the light absorption layer entirely covers the inner wall of the dam main body and the inner wall of the package substrate.

**19.** The image sensor package of claim **16**, wherein the package substrate comprises a first substrate pad and a second substrate pad, and further comprises:

15 a conductive connector extending between the first substrate pad of the package substrate and a connection pad of the image sensor chip; and  
an external connection terminal on the second substrate pad of the package substrate.

\* \* \* \* \*