CLAIMS

1.A device, for processing a sample, the device including: an electrophoresis step provided on the device, the electrophoresis step including one or more channels including an electrophoresis channel which includes a separation length and a further part at one or both ends, one or both of the further parts, at least in part, extend in the direction of gravity.

2. A device according to claim 1, in which one or both of the further parts have a vertical portion.

3. A device according to claim 1 or claim 2 in which the electrophoresis channel has a first end access location towards one end of the channel and the electrophoresis channel has a second end access location towards the other end of the channel, the first end access location and the second end access location being provided in the same horizontal plane.

4. A device according to claim 3 in which there is a less than 0.1% hydrostatic pressure differential between the first end access location and the second end access location.

5. A device according to any preceding claim in which the electrophoresis channel has a side channel, the side channel is connected to the sample feed channel and the electrophoresis channel has a second side channel.

6. A device according to claim 5 in which the first side channel extends, at least in part, in the direction of gravity, to the electrophoresis channel.

7. A device according to claim 5 or claim 6 in which the second side channel, at least in part, extends in the direction of gravity.

8. A device according to claim 6 in which the second side channel has a first vertical portion and a second vertical portion.

9. An instrument for analysing a sample, the instrument including: a device having an electrophoresis step and being provided according to any of claims 1 to 8.

10. A method of operating a device to process a sample, the method including: introducing a sample to an electrophoresis step; processing the sample in the electrophoresis step; obtaining a result, wherein the device is provided according to nay of claims 1 to 8.

CLAIMS

1.A device, for processing a sample, the device including:

a sample feed channel provided on the device;

an electrophoresis step provided on the device, the electrophoresis step including:

one or more channels, the one or more channels including:

an electrophoresis channel which includes a separation length; and

a further part at one end in the form of a channel and connected to a first end access location in the form of a port;

a further part at the other end in the form of a channel and connected to a second end access location, in the form of a port;

wherein both of the further parts in the form of a channel, at least in part, extend in the direction of gravity, the first access location and the second access location in the form of ports being provided in the same horizontal plan;

the electrophoresis channel has a side channel, wherein the side channel is connected to the sample feed channel, wherein the side channel extends, at least in part, in the direction of gravity, to the electrophoresis channel;

a second side channel connected to the electrophoresis channel, wherein the second side channel, at least in part, extends in the direction of gravity.

2. A device according to claim 1, in which one or both of the further parts in the form of channels have a vertical portion.

3. A device according to claim 1 in which there is a less than 0.1% hydrostatic pressure differential between the first end access location and the second end access location.

4. A device according to claim 1 in which the second side channel has a first vertical portion and a second vertical portion.

5. A device according to claim 1 in which the side channel is connected to a port and the second side channel is connected to a port, and the positions of all of the ports are positioned in a common horizontal plan.

6. An instrument for analysing a sample, the instrument including: a device having an electrophoresis step and being provided according to any of claims 1 to 5.

7. A method of operating a device to process a sample, the method including: introducing a sample to an electrophoresis step; processing the sample in the electrophoresis step; obtaining a result, wherein the device is provided according to any of claims 1 to 5.