

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An anti-ejection apparatus for wafer units of ring-shaped frames and wafers integrated together via adhesive tapes, respectively, the anti-ejection apparatus being for use as a detachable attachment to a cassette including a pair of side plates, whose inner surfaces are provided with pluralities of insertion slots, each insertion slot of one of the side plates facing a corresponding one of the insertion slots of the other side plate, to be inserted with the wafer units, respectively, a rear stop portion configured to support the wafer units at rear edges thereof, and an opening formed between the paired side plates on a side opposite the rear stop portion, by which the anti-ejection apparatus prevents accidental ejection of the wafer units from the cassette, the anti-ejection apparatus comprising:

a lock bar configured to be detachably provided on one of the side plates on a side of the opening, the lock bar includes:

a main body alternately having a plurality of lock portions and a plurality of unlock portions in a top-down direction, the lock portions being located at heights corresponding to those of the associated insertion slots and being configured to enable blocking of the associated insertion slots, and the unlock portions being configured to enable unblocking of the associated insertion slots,

a pair of attachment parts, the pair of attachment parts includes a top attachment part and a bottom attachment part, each of the attachment parts extends from each of longitudinally opposite ends of the main body, respectively, and

a plurality of attachment fixtures disposed on each of the attachment parts so as to allow the pair of attachment parts to detachably secure the main body of the lock bar on an upper portion and a bottom portion of the one side plate, respectively,

a guide pin positioned below the bottom portion of the one side plate and protruding downward from the bottom attachment part of the main body so that, when the guide pin is pressed upward at a lower end portion thereof, the guide pin biases the lock bar upward,

wherein the lock bar is configured so that, when the guide pin is pressed upward at the lower end portion thereof, the lock bar is biased upward to bring the unlock portions into register with the associated insertion slots, by which the unlock portions and the associated insertion slots are communicated with each other and the cassette is brought into an open state that the wafer units are able to be inserted and taken out through the opening, and

wherein the lock bar is also configured so that, when the pressing of the lower end portion of the guide pin is cancelled, the lock bar moves downward by an own weight thereof

to make the unlock portions assume different heights from the associated insertion slots in the top-down direction, by which the associated insertion slots are blocked by the lock portions and the cassette is brought into a closed state that accidental ejection of the wafer units inserted in the insertion slots of both the side plates is able to be prevented.