

longitudinally along the first and second sides, the electrophoresis medium filling the groove up to the steps.

51. Apparatus according to claim 50 wherein the electrophoresis medium comprises a gel.
52. Apparatus according to claim 51 wherein the gel comprises an agarose gel.
53. Apparatus according to claim 51 wherein the gel comprises an acrylamide gel.
54. Apparatus according to claim 50 comprising first and second buffer reservoirs respectively located at first and second ends of the groove.
55. Apparatus according to claim 54 comprising first and second electrodes respectively in the first and second buffer reservoirs wherein the first and second electrodes are connected to the electrophoresis power supply.
56. Apparatus according to claim 55 comprising a hinged frame wherein the first and second electrodes are mounted on the hinged frame and the hinged frame is movable between a first position wherein the first and second electrodes are in the first and second buffer reservoirs and a second position wherein the first and second electrodes are removed from the first and second buffer reservoirs.
57. Apparatus according to any of claims 50 to 56 wherein the groove has a width in the range of 3 mm to 11 mm.
58. Apparatus according to any of claims 50 to ~~57~~56 wherein the groove has a depth in the range of 6 mm to 12 mm.
59. Apparatus according to any one of claims 50 to 58 comprising a loading well in the medium wherein a layer of the medium lies between the loading well and each of the first and second sides of the groove.
60. Apparatus according to any one of claims 46 to 59 wherein the mechanism comprises a robot carrying a pipetter and the controller is configured to move a

82. A cassette according to claim 81 comprising a first comb having pins projecting into the loading wells.
83. A cassette according to claim 82 comprising a first set of features aligned with the loading wells of the plurality of channels, wherein the first comb is engaged with the first set of features.
84. A cassette according to claim 83 wherein the pins of the first comb are narrower than the grooves.
85. A cassette according to any one of claims 82 to 84 comprising a second comb having pins projecting into the extraction wells.
86. A cassette according to claim 85 wherein the pins of the second comb are wider than the pins of the first comb.
87. A cassette according to claim 85 or 86 comprising a second set of features aligned with the extraction wells of the plurality of channels, wherein the second comb is engaged with the second set of features.
88. A cassette according to any one of claims 77 to 87 wherein the first and second walls of the channels comprise one or more projections or indentations for retaining the medium at locations near each of the first and second buffer reservoirs.
89. A cassette according to any one of claims 77 to 88 wherein the groove has a width in the range of 3 mm to 11 mm.
90. A cassette according to any one of claims 77 to ~~89-88~~ wherein the groove has a depth in the range of 6 mm to 12 mm.
91. A cassette according to any one of claims 77 to 90 comprising a sterile peel-off cover adhered over the channel.