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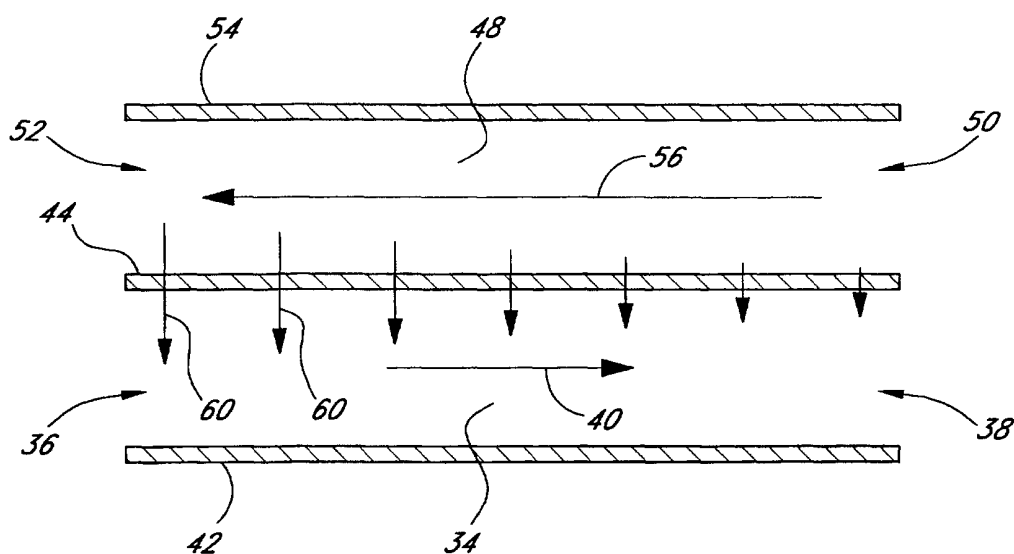
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(54) Title: SEQUENTIAL FRACTIONATION APPARATUS AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: A fractionation apparatus comprises two channels coupled through a semi-permeable membrane. A time and position dependent concentration of precipitation reagent is produced in one of the channels. Sample entities such as macromolecules or cells introduced into this channel are eluted therefrom at different times depending on their solubility or mobility in the presence of the precipitation reagent.



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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inter national Application No  
PCT/US 00/05807

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 G01N30/00 G01N15/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 G01N C07K B01D C02F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, INSPEC

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 628 204 A (MAES JEAN PIERRE) 9 December 1986 (1986-12-09) column 9, line 1-36; figure 4 ---	1, 25, 26, 29, 32, 33
X	US 5 366 622 A (GEYER STEPHAN) 22 November 1994 (1994-11-22)  column 3, line 1-29 ---	1, 7, 8, 11, 25, 26, 29
X	US 4 147 621 A (GIDDINGS JOHN C) 3 April 1979 (1979-04-03)  column 6, line 3 -column 7, line 38; figure 6  ----- -/--	1, 3, 15, 25, 26, 29, 32-34, 49, 53

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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