

Neuroscience

We have focused this issue on neuroscience, particularly neurochemistry. Developing and manufacturing tools for neuroscience is how BAS began, and we continue to advance in that area. We are always looking for ideas about what to do next. What product can help improve data quality or make lab work just a bit more convenient? Our BAS brains have no monopoly on ideas. In fact, we all do better when we network human brains, just as we network all of our personal computers *via* the Internet.

The ideas for many BAS products and services originated in the minds of our customers. Microdialysis is one example. Derivatization of brain amino acids for LC/EC is another. Using enzyme reactors to determine acetylcholine is a third. Perhaps there is an idea in your lab that has commercial potential. If it doesn't fit into what BAS does, we are part of a network of companies and it is likely we might know another company with whom your idea is more compatible.

I think of the brain as an amazing electrochemical cell. There are incredible numbers of ion-derived impulses simultaneously shooting across a three dimensional matrix in ways we can appreciate only vaguely at this point. The more data we obtain, the more mysterious it all appears. September 11, Enron and the behavior of various factions in the Middle East only add to my respect for the complexity of our neuronal circuits. The brain has weaknesses, just like my Windows software that mysteriously performs "illegal operations" without any input from me.

It has been 30 years since I first took a look at neurotransmitters in the brain of a mouse. I was awed then by what the mouse could do. Now I keep bees, and I am even more awed by what the bees can do with so much less.


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