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After 6 years of building up experience with analytical method development in a pharmaceutical company I got the opportunity to start up the application laboratory for Dionex in the BeNeLux as early as 1978. It all started with chromatography of small inorganic and organic ions. Later the development of carbohydrates analysis by ion chromatography started in combination with direct amperometric detection.

About four years ago the opportunity occurred to begin a PhD study at the Parasitology department of the Leiden University Medical Center.

This department is directed by Professor Deelder and includes a strong glycan analysis group equipped with high-end mass spectrometers and related instrumentation aimed at applications in parasitology biomedical and clinical glycomics.

I am highly interested in combining anion exchange chromatography, pulsed amperometric detection with mass spectrometry for underivatized carbohydrates. This combination with MS is indeed a challenge specially to gain sensitivity required for biomedical research and structure elucidation. Developments in R&D of Dionex and the interest of the Leiden University Medical Center created the possibility to investigate these challenges.