pH lies between 7.3–7.5 (see Figure 2). Susz et al.4 found similar values for partially purified enzyme.

As may be seen from the Table, the addition of pyridoxal-5-phosphate is necessary for the full activity of the enzyme. Further increase in the coenzyme concentration has no appreciable effect. In contrast to the enzyme con-

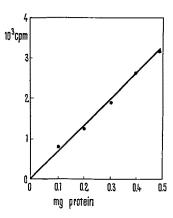


Fig. 4. The decarboxylation of L-glutamate in the relation to the amount of enzyme. The incubation has been carried out under standard conditions. Various concentrations of enzyme were obtained by the dilution of a single stock solution.

tained in the brain acetone powder<sup>5</sup>, SH-compounds do not increase the activity of GAD in the crude brain homogenate. In addition, this enzyme preparation does not require anaerobic incubation <sup>2,6</sup>.

Under given conditions, the reactions follows zero order kinetics for at least 1 h (Figure 3) and the measured radioactivity is directly proportional to the amount of the enzyme (Figure 4).

Quenching due to sodium hydroxide does not exceed 5% and it is lower than with 0.1 ml of 1M hyamine hydroxide.

Zusammenfassung. Beschreibung einer Ultramikromethode zur Bestimmung der Glutaminsäure-dekarboxylase, welcher die Aktivitätsmessung des durch die enzymatische Reaktion entstandenen <sup>14</sup>CO<sub>2</sub> zugrunde liegt. Die Reaktion wird in einem Spezialgefäss durchgeführt.

P. Kraus

Research Institute for Pharmacy and Biochemistry, Praha 3 (Czechoslovakia), 27 July 1967.

- <sup>4</sup> J. P. Susz, B. Haber and E. Roberts, Biochemistry 5, 2870 (1966).
- <sup>5</sup> E. Roberts and D. Simonsen, Biochem. Pharmac. 12, 113 (1963).
- <sup>6</sup> C. F. BAXTER and E. ROBERTS, J. biol. Chem. 236, 3287 (1961).

#### CONGRESSUS

# USA

## International Symposium on Turbulence of Fluids and Plasmas

Waldorf-Astoria Starlight Roof, New York City, 16-18 April 1968

Turbulence of Fluids and Plasmas is the topic of the eighteenth in the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn series of annual international symposia and will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City. The following tentative programme has been formulated: introduction to turbulence; theoretical and experimental descriptions of turbulent media; experimental diagnostic techniques and related interactions with turbulent media.

All correspondence should be addressed to: P.I.B. Symposium Committee, 333 Jay Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201, USA, Attn.: Jerome Fox, Executive Secretary.

### Israel

### Symposium on Permeability Problems

Jerusalem 2-9 July 1968

To be held by the Commission on Cell and Membrane Biophysics of the International Union for Pure and Applied Biophysics. The topics to be discussed will be: transport problems in animals and plants exposed to arid conditions; transport across epithelia; water transport in biological systems; physical chemistry of charged membranes; the theoretical interpretation of tracer fluxes. Further information can be obtained from each National Committee for Biophysics or Biophysical Society, or from the Secretariat, Symposium on Permeability Problems, Polymer Department, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot (Israel).