

**Time - Temperature Combination of Ohmic Heating System for Parboiling of Paddy**

**ABSTRACT**

The present study aimed to evaluate the Time - Temperature combination of Ohmic Heating System for Parboiling of Paddy. Parboiling of paddy is carried out in three steps, i.e. soaking, steaming and drying. Parboiling of paddy is a hydrothermal treatment, given prior to milling of paddy. Breakage during milling can be reduced and nutrients preserved in rice grain by prior gelatinization of starch. Parboiling of paddy results in a reduction of breakage. The most advantageous aspect of parboiling is the increase in the head yield of rice. The temperature and time profiles of parboiling of paddy with respect to voltage were studied by recording the temperature and time at voltage gradients 15.71, 16.07, 16.43, 16.79 and 17.14 V/cm during the ohmic heating process. The parboiling rate increased considerably as the voltage gradient was increased. The heating rate increased considerably as the voltage was increased. By ohmic heating parboiling method, soaking time was reduced and no need of boiler to generate steam in the steaming process. Soaking and steaming both processes was completed in the ohmic heating chamber for parboiling of paddy. Typical temperature profiles at five different voltage gradients 15.71, 16.07, 16.43, 16.79 and 17.14 V/cm up temperature of 96°C for paddy and water mixture of 1:3, (500 g paddy and 1500 ml water) was used for one experiment in the ohmic heating cylinder chamber. Time and temperature profiles indicated that with the increase in voltage gradient, the temperature was increased, and the parboiling time of samples was reduced meaning thereby that the slope of the curve for higher voltage was steeper than the slope of the curve for lower voltage.

**Keywords:** *Parboiling of paddy, Time, Temperature, Voltage Gradient, Regression curve.*

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The term parboiling means partial cooking of rice within the husk. Parboiling is a hydrothermal treatment. Parboiling of paddy is carried out in 3 steps, i.e. soaking, steaming, and drying. In the soaking process void spaces in the rice, kernels were

36 filled with water. Starch granules absorb water and swell causing an increase in the  
37 volume of paddy [1]. During steaming, soaked paddy is exposed to heat for a given  
38 duration so that the starch present in the rice kernel gets gelatinized. During the  
39 gelatinization, process starch swells and fills the voids. Starch gelatinization during  
40 parboiling process is limited by the reaction of starch below 85°C and by diffusion of  
41 water above 85°C. In heating, the energy weakens the granule structure and more  
42 surfaces become available for water absorption [2].

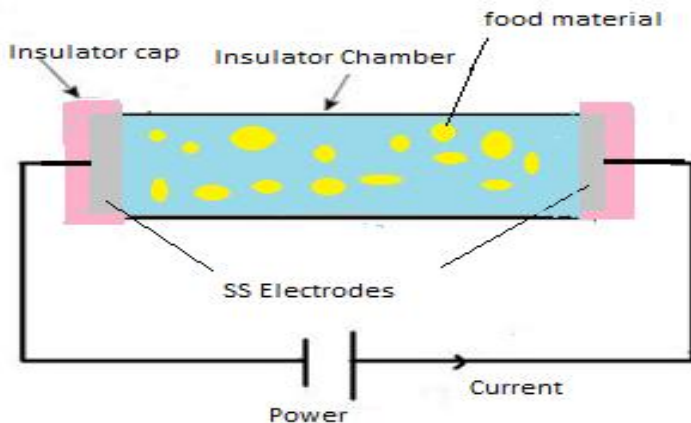
### 43 1.1. Principle of ohmic heating

44 An ohmic heater is an electrical heating device that uses a liquid's own  
45 electrical resistance to generate the heat. Ohmic heating works on the principle of  
46 Ohm's law of electricity [3]. The passage of electric current through an electrically  
47 conductive food material obeys Ohm's law and heat is generated due to the electrical  
48 resistance of food.

$$V \propto I$$
$$V = IR \dots\dots\dots eq.1$$

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51 Where, V = Voltage (volt),  
52 I = Current (ampere),  
53 R = Resistance (Ohm)



54 **Plate.1** Principle of ohmic heating

55 Ohmic heating is one of the excellent alternative methods of heating, this  
56 technique shows much promise especially in food industry over the last few decades  
57 because there is an increasing shift from batch thermal operation towards  
58 continuous high temperature and short time processing of foods [4].  
59

60 In the traditional parboiling plant steaming process of soaked paddy is carried  
61 out in parboiling tank by direct injection of steam generated in the steam boiler which  
62 is fitted outside the rice mill in utility section. Boiler unit consists of a boiler, fuel tank,  
63 water tank, economizer, air preheater, mounting accessory, water supply, insulated  
64 piping from boiler up to parboiling tank [5]. The entire boiler unit needs separate care  
65 and for this purpose, a certified boiler operator with helper needs to be maintained  
66 and paid throughout the year, which adds to the processing cost of parboiling rice  
67 [6]. If this heating system may be replaced with ohmic heating system, then it will be  
68 possible to simply attach two electrodes on the two opposite faces of parboiling tank  
69 which will help in resistance/ohmic heating of entire mass of paddy soaked in water  
70 housed inside the parboiling tank [7]. **The present study aims to evaluate the Time -**  
71 **Temperature combination of Ohmic Heating System for Parboiling of Paddy.**  
72 Therefore, in this study, an experimental set-up of ohmic heating was developed for  
73 parboiling of paddy.

## 74 2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

75 **This section deals** with the description of theoretical consideration,  
76 **engineering principle**, materials used, experimental plan and description of device  
77 and instruments, to achieve the objective of the present investigation. The present  
78 research work on **“Investigation on Application of Ohmic Heating for Parboiling**  
79 **of Paddy”** was undertaken in the Department of Post-Harvest process & Food  
80 Engineering, College of Agricultural Engineering, JNKVV, Jabalpur.

81 In the present study, an experimental set-up of ohmic heating was developed  
82 for parboiling of paddy in Department of Post Harvest Process and Food  
83 Engineering, College of Agricultural Engineering, JNKVV, Jabalpur. In the  
84 experimental set-up (T-type) PVC pipe of 29 cm length from end cap to end cap, 19  
85 cm height of ‘T’ of the PVC pipe, 10.75 cm diameter and 2.5 mm thickness has been  
86 selected for construction of the ohmic heating chamber [8]. Stainless steel (SS), rod  
87 with 1.2cm diameter and 10cm length was selected as an electrode material  
88 because of its accuracy and suitability are good for food products. The distance  
89 between two electrodes has been kept as 14cm to pass maximum voltage gradient  
90 of 17.4 V/cm from Indian domestic supply of 240V. To avoid unforeseen accidents,  
91 three insulator caps, made of PVC plastic were provided at three ends of T-shape  
92 container. One cap in vertical end of the container is removable when the material

93 was fed or removed from the container. Other two-insulator caps were fixed in both  
94 horizontal ends with electrodes. The copper coated (PT-100) temperature sensor  
95 was used to sense the temperature of 0-200 °C is placed at the centre of the heating  
96 chamber to control the temperature during ohmic heating [9]. The multi-function  
97 meter was used in ohmic heating system for monitoring the input voltage, ampere  
98 and frequency (Hz.) of the current and it is directly connected to the main source of  
99 the current and display all readings time to time during the processing of material.  
100 The wooden platform of ohmic heating system having 61cm width and 61cm length  
101 for supporting the whole ohmic heating system or also for supporting of metal stand  
102 having 26cm height including with 10cm clamp for holding the heating chamber of  
103 ohmic heating system [8,9,10].

104 The experimental set-up of ohmic heating (Plate 2.a and b) was fabricated, for  
105 parboiling of paddy.

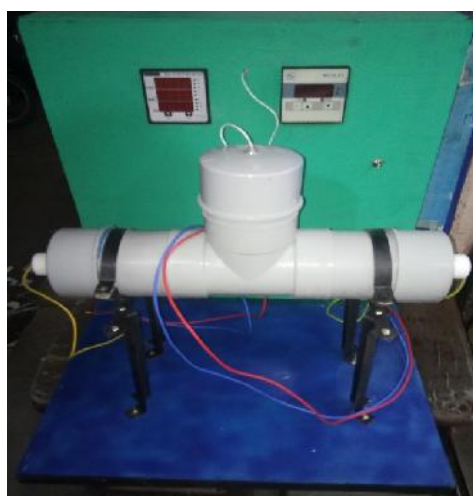


Plate 2.a Experimental set-up



Plate 2.b Temperature sensor with cap

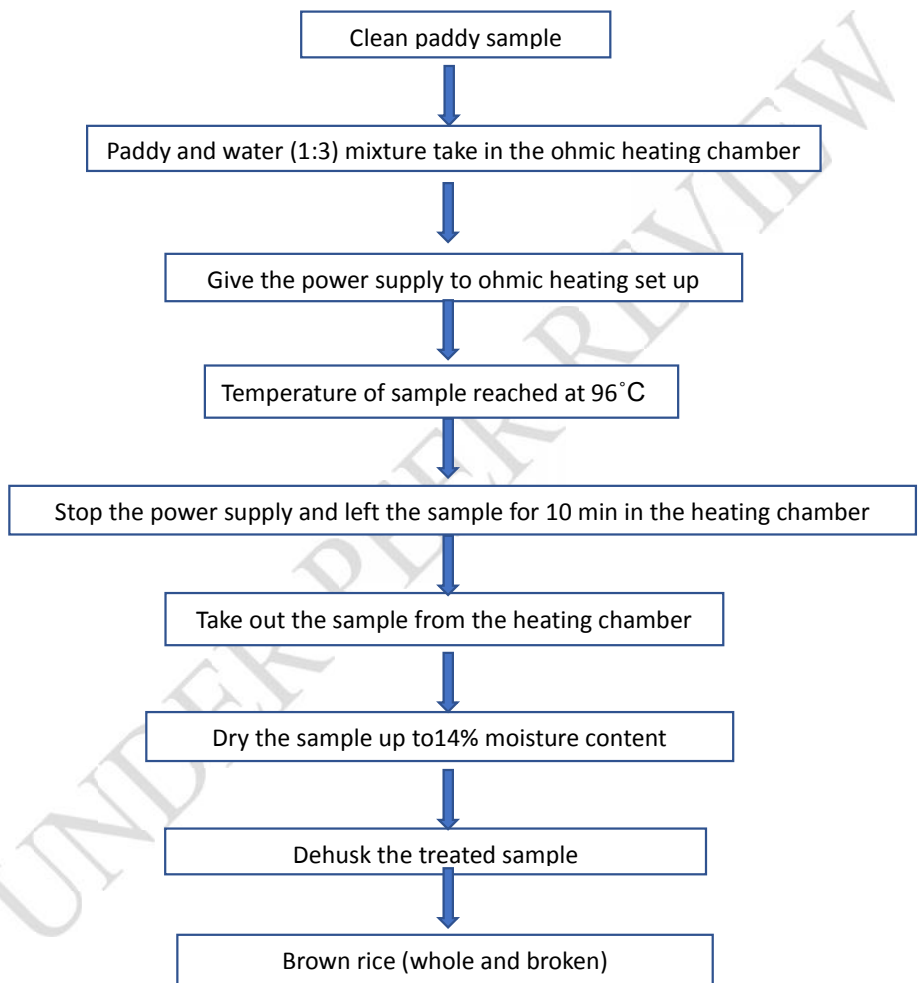
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## 107 2.1. Selection of variables

108 Input voltage gradients 15.71, 16.07, 16.43, 16.79 and 17.14 V/cm and the  
109 temperature of 96°C were taken as independent variables, whereas milling quality of  
110 parboiled paddy and process time during parboiling of paddy were considered as  
111 dependent variables [11].

112 **2.2. Preparation of raw material**

113 Selection of the 10 kg paddy as a sample of MTU1010, one of the most  
114 important varieties which is grown in the central part of India (Madhya Pradesh), was  
115 used in the study. Freshly harvested paddy grains were obtained from Directorate of  
116 Farms, JNKVV, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, India. 10 samples of 500g paddy were  
117 used in the setup for parboiling of paddy [12].



150  
151 **Fig 1.**Process flow for paddy processing; parboiling, drying and milling

152  
153 **2.3. Process of parboiling**

154 During the parboiling process, 10 samples were selected for the process and  
155 each sample was fed into the ohmic heating chamber, where a ratio of 1:3 was  
156 maintained for paddy and water. Now the power was supplied to ohmic heating  
157 system, observations were recorded at voltage gradients of 15.71, 16.07, 16.43,  
158 16.79 and 17.14 V/cm in the ohmic heating chamber at the time interval of 0, 10, 20,  
159 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160 170 and 180 min in the  
160 T type PVC ohmic heating chamber (plate no.3). The time required in attaining the  
161 temperature of 96°C for parboiling of paddy was noted and then power supply was  
162 switch off and the sample was left in the ohmic heating chamber for 10 min [13].  
163 Paddy was taken, and the remaining water was drained out and two observations  
164 were recorded at each voltage gradient, after parboiling of paddy by ohmic heating,  
165 first sample was sun dried for 1 hour and then shade drying was performed and the  
166 second sample was sun dried for five hours and then kept for shade drying [14].



167

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**Plate 3.** Parboiled paddy with water mixture.

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Samples were dried at 14% mc (wb) before taking it to milling. Milling was done for the treated paddy at the final stage of the process.



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**Plate 4.** Dried ohmic heated parboiled paddy sample

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Now the output of milled paddy as received from different openings (Husk, Broken and head rice) were collected and analysed as well as compared with the result of milling raw rice under similar milling conditions and the results were compared and tested to evaluate the effects and benefits of ohmic heating system [15].



178

179

**Plate 5.** Brown head rice of ohmic heated parboiled paddy

180

181 **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

182 Ohmic heating technology is the most important technology for the research  
183 purpose, professionalism and widely used for food processing industries because of  
184 its advantages over conventional heating technology. Researchers and food  
185 processing industries found superior quality product with minimal nutritional or quality  
186 degradation after using the ohmic heating technology. Its allow uniform and fast  
187 heating, simple process and designing ohmic heater is also relatively a simple task.

188 **3.1. Parboiling of paddy by ohmic heating**

189 The temperature and time profiles of parboiling of paddy with respect to  
190 voltage were studied by recording the temperature and time at voltage gradients of  
191 15.71, 16.07, 16.43, 16.79 and 17.14 V/cm during the ohmic heating process.  
192 Typical temperature profiles at five different voltage gradients of 15.71, 16.07, 16.43,  
193 16.79 and 17.14 V/cm up temperature of 96°C for paddy and water mixture of 1:3,  
194 (500g paddy and 1.5 litre water) was used for one experiment in the PVC ohmic  
195 heating cylinder chamber and are graphically represented in Fig. 2 to Fig. 6,  
196 respectively. All the graphs shown in the figures could be expressed in the form of  
197 the linear regression equation:

198 
$$Y = a + bx \quad \dots\dots\dots\text{eq. 3}$$

199 where,

200 Y = Temperature generated during ohmic heating for parboiling of  
201 paddy, °C

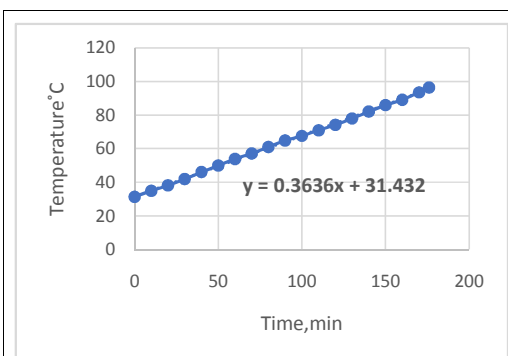
202 x = Time, min.

203 b = Slope (Rate of heating, dy/dx), °C/min

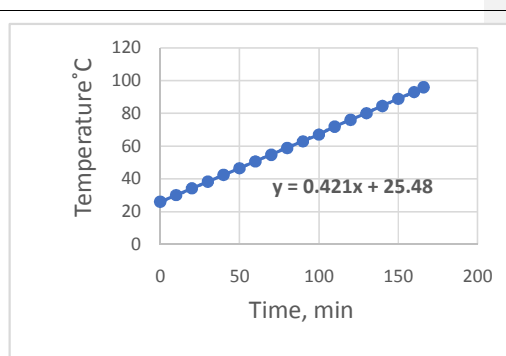
204 a = Regression coefficient

205 **3.2. The relationship between time and temperature at voltage gradient of**  
206 **15.71V/cm,**

207 The fig. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 show the relationship between the time taken to reach  
208 the temperature of 96°C for parboiling of paddy and a a voltage gradient of 15.71,  
209 16.07, 16.43, 16.79 and 17.14 V/cmV/cm. Fig. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 clearly depict that the  
210 temperature increased with increase in time. In this experiment time required in  
211 attaining the temperature of 96°C for parboiling of paddy was 176, 166, 156, 146 and



**Fig.2.**Temperature of 96°C at voltage gradient of 15.71V/cm for 176 min.



**Fig.3.**Temperature of 96°C at voltage gradient of 16.07 V/cm for 166 min.

212 136 mins respectively and then power supply was switch off and the sample was left  
 213 in the ohmic heating chamber for 10 min. Now two observations were recorded after  
 214 parboiling of paddy by ohmic heating, first sample was sun-dried for 1 hour and then  
 215 shade drying was performed and the second sample was sun dried for five hours  
 216 and then kept for shade drying. For this experiment linear regression equation  
 217 exhibiting the time-temperature relationship was

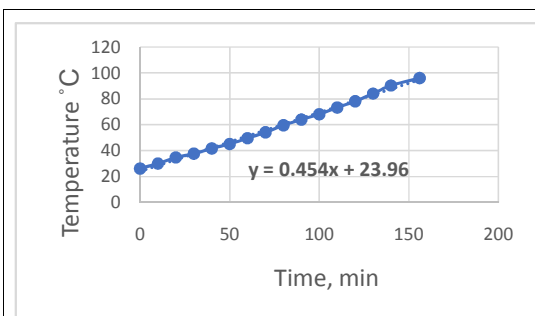
218 **Y = 0.3636x + 31.432.....eq.3**

219 **Y = 0.4211x + 25.488 .....eq.4**

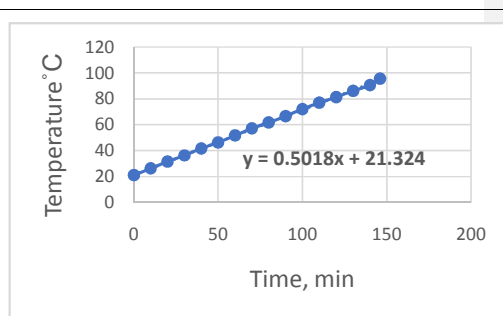
220 **Y = 0.454x + 23.96 .....eq.5**

221 **Y = 0.5018x + 21.324 .....eq.6**

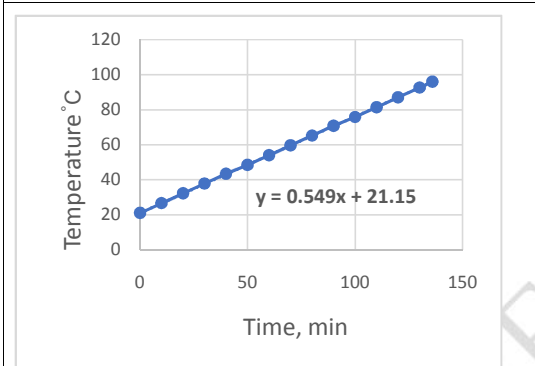
222 **Y = 0.5493x + 21.152.....eq.7**



**Fig.4.**Temperature of 96°C at voltage gradient of 16.43 V/cm for 156 min.



**Fig.5.**Temperature of 96°C at voltage gradient of 16.79 V/cm for 146 min.



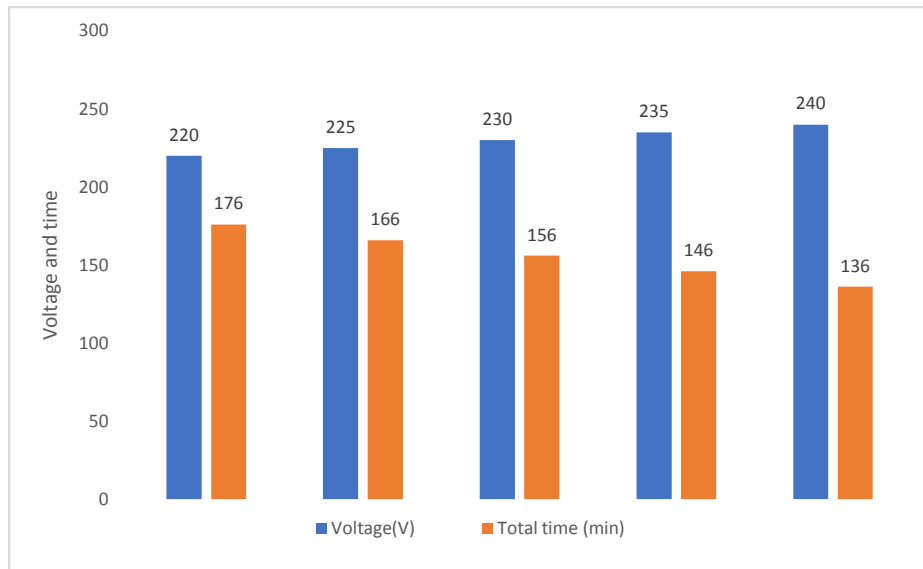
**Fig.6.**Temperature of 96°C at voltage gradient of 17.14 V/cm for 136 min.

223 **Source,** Aaradhana Patel. 2018. Investigation on Application of Ohmic Heating for  
 224 Parboiling of Paddy. Unpublished thesis, COAE, JNKVV, Jabalpur.

225 **Fig.** Regression curve between time and temperature at 15.71, 16.07, 16.43, 16.79  
 226 and 17.14 V/cm.

227 **3.3. Time is taken in parboiling to reach the temperature of 96°C at**  
 228 **different voltages of 220, 225, 230, 235 and 240V**

229 Temperature profiles indicate that with the increase in voltage from 220 V to  
 230 240 V, the parboiling time of samples was reduced 176 min to 136 min with respect  
 231 to voltage. This result is the same as that found by Zhong and Lima (2003). It is quite  
 232 obvious from Fig. 7 that the parboiling rate increased considerably as the voltage  
 233 was increased.



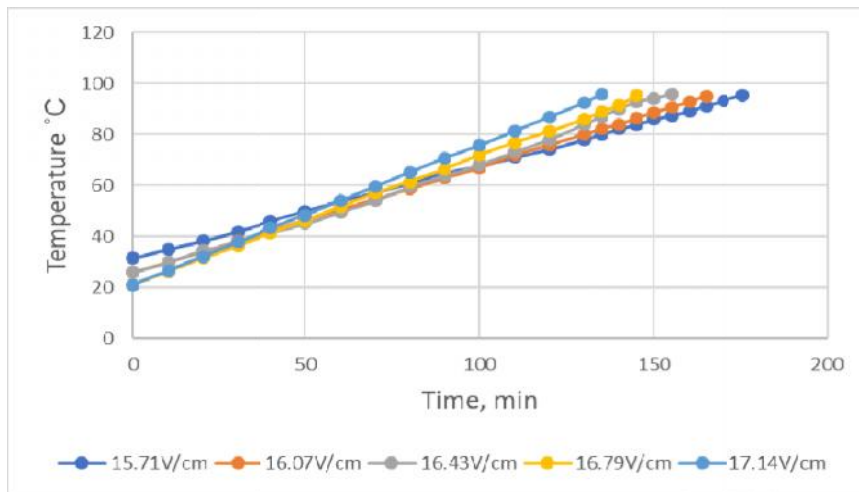
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235 **Source**, Aaradhana Patel. 2018. Investigation on Application of Ohmic Heating for  
 236 Parboiling of Paddy. Unpublished thesis, COAE, JNKVV, Jabalpur.

237 **Fig. 7.** Relationship between total time at 220, 225, 230, 235 and 240V

238 **3.4. Time is taken in parboiling to reach the temperature of 96°C at**  
 239 **voltage gradients of 15.71, 16.07, 16.43, 16.79 and 17.14 V/cm**

240 Fig. 8. shows that the heating rate increased considerably as the voltage was  
 241 Increased. Time and temperature profiles indicated that with the increase in voltage  
 242 gradient, the temperature was increased, and the parboiling time of samples was  
 243 reduced meaning thereby that the slope of the curve for higher voltage was steeper  
 244 than the slope of the curve for lower voltage. At higher voltage, the current passing  
 245 through the sample also increased, and this induced the faster heat generation.



246  
 247 **Source**, Aaradhana Patel. 2018. Investigation on Application of Ohmic Heating for  
 248 Parboiling of Paddy. Unpublished thesis, COAE, JNKVV, Jabalpur.

249 **Fig. 8.** Relationship between time and temperature at 15.71, 16.07, 16.43, 16.79 and  
 250 17.14 V/cm

251 **4. CONCLUSION**

252 Temperature profiles indicated that with the increase in voltage gradient from  
 253 15.71 V /cm to 17.14 V/cm, the parboiling time of samples was reduced 176 min to  
 254 136 min with respect to voltage. The parboiling rate increased considerably as the  
 255 voltage gradient was increased. Heating rate increased considerably as the voltage  
 256 was increased. Time and temperature profiles indicated that with the increase in  
 257 voltage gradient, the temperature was increased, and the parboiling time of samples  
 258 was reduced meaning thereby that the slope of the curve for higher voltage was  
 259 steeper than the slope of curve for lower voltage. By ohmic heating parboiling  
 260 method, soaking time was reduced and no need of boiler to generate steam in the  
 261 steaming process. Soaking and steaming both processes were completed in the  
 262 ohmic heating chamber for parboiling of paddy. From the linear regression  
 263 equations, it is evident that the slope of curve was increased (0.3636 -0.5493) with  
 264 increasing the voltage gradient 15.71 V /cm to 17.14 V/cm. It was observed,  
 265 increasing the voltage gradient reduces the parboiling time, which implies the  
 266 designing of parboiling tank should be rectangular cross-section having electrodes  
 267 fitted on broader face will result in a fast heating rate with high voltage gradient as  
 268 compared to that for a parboiling tank with square cross-section.

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