

Effect of heating on the oxidative stability of corn oil and soybean oil

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SUMMARY: The effects of conventional and microwave heating on the oxidative properties of corn and soybean oil were evaluated. The results showed that acid value, peroxide value, oxidative indices, total oxidation value, and *p*-anisidine values changed significantly with the rise in temperature ($p < 0.05$). The peroxide and *p*-anisidine values for corn oil (PV: 50.670 meqO₂/kg, *p*-AV: 8.248) were greater than soybean oil (PV: 41.694 meqO₂/kg, *p*-AV: 7.566) for conventional heating. The peroxide and *p*-anisidine values for soybean oil (PV: 6.545 meqO₂/kg, *p*-AV: 76.539) were greater compared to corn oil (PV: 5.074 meqO₂/kg, *p*-AV: 65.360) for microwave heating. The results concluded that microwave heating had a greater impact on the chemical degradation of the fatty acids of the oil. The FT-IR spectra showed peak changes at 3743 cm⁻¹ and 1739 cm⁻¹ and confirmed the rancidity of the oils from microwave heating due to the formation of secondary oxidation products. It was concluded that corn oil showed more oxidative changes compared to soybean oil.

KEYWORDS: *Corn and soybean oil; FT-IR analysis; Heating; Oxidative stability*

RESUMEN: *Efecto del calentamiento sobre la estabilidad oxidativa de aceites de maíz y de soja.* Se ha evaluado el impacto del calentamiento convencional y por microondas en las propiedades oxidativas de aceites de maíz y de soja. Los resultados mostraron que con el aumento de la temperatura, el índice de acidez, de peróxido, los índices de oxidación, el valor de oxidación total y los valores de *p*-anisidina cambiaron significativamente ($p < 0.05$). Los valores de peróxido y *p*-anisidina del aceite de maíz (PV: 50,670 meqO₂/kg, *p*-AV: 8.248) fueron mayores que para el aceite de soja (PV: 41,694 meqO₂/kg, *p*-AV: 7.566) para el calentamiento convencional. Los valores de peróxido y *p*-anisidina del aceite de soja (PV: 6,545 meqO₂/kg, *p*-AV: 76,539) fueron mayores en comparación con el aceite de maíz (PV: 5,074 meqO₂/kg, *p*-AV: 65,360) para el calentamiento por microondas. Los resultados concluyeron que el calentamiento por microondas tuvo más impacto en la degradación química de los ácidos grasos de los aceites. Los espectros FT-IR mostraron cambios máximos a 3743 cm⁻¹ y 1739 cm⁻¹, también confirmaron la rancidez de los aceites en el calentamiento por microondas mediante la formación de productos de oxidación secundarios. Se concluyó que el aceite de maíz mostraba más cambios oxidativos en comparación con el aceite de soja.

PALABRAS CLAVE: *Aceites de maíz y de soja; Análisis FT-IR; Calentamiento; Estabilidad oxidativa*

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1. INTRODUCTION

The oxidative stability of oil is affected not only by a change in temperature, but also by using different heating techniques and extraction processes (Bakhshabadi *et al.*, 2018 and 2017, Taghvaei *et al.*, 2015). Prolonged heating and frying processes are generally used for the preparation of food at home and in industries. Vegetable oils consist of molecules of esters derived from glycerol and have a different degree of unsaturation. Fatty acids like linoleic and linolenic acid and the fat-soluble vitamins (A, D, E, and K) of vegetable oils are the source of energy to the human body for better growth and healthy organs (El-Hadad *et al.*, 2010; Aluyor and Ori-Jesu, 2008).

The heating of oils at high temperature produces changes in the fatty acid constituents of triglyceride molecules, which alters the physicochemical properties of vegetable oil due to the change in chain length, unsaturation degree and position of unsaturation (Fasina *et al.*, 2006).

The rapid cooking and heating of food using a microwave is a common practice at the domestic level due to the ease of its usage and time-saving method (Caponio *et al.*, 2003). Microwave transmits heat that has high penetration power which reduces the time, effort and energy but creates serious health issues (Abbas *et al.*, 2016; Abbas *et al.*, 2017). Microwave irradiation causes changes in the chemical composition of edible oil during the process of hydrolysis, oxidation and polymerization reactions which produce rancid flavors and odor in the edible oil (Zahir *et al.*, 2017; Li *et al.*, 2018). The oxidative stability can be achieved by adding natural antioxidants to edible oil (Rafiee *et al.*, 2012; Taghvaei *et al.*, 2014).

Many studies have been carried out to assess the influence of conventional heating and microwave heating on the oxidative stability of edible oils. Sadoudi *et al.*, 2014 found that thermal heating sunflower oil at 99 ± 2 °C, causes a high level of deterioration by losing a significant amount of essential fatty acids (linoleic acid) with the development of oxidative rancidity. Adejumo *et al.*, 2015, worked on tiger nut oil extraction using thermal heating at 100 °C and found that heating decreased the oil yield, acid value, free fatty acid, peroxide value, and density. Several research studies reported the effect of microwave heating on physicochemical properties by measuring primary and secondary oxidation products, conjugated products, and fatty acids (Hussain *et al.*, 2015; Abbas *et al.*, 2016; Saeed *et al.*, 2014; Ghosh *et al.*, 2014; Li *et al.*, 2018; Aydinkaptan and Mazi, 2017). Lukesova *et al.*, 2009 studied the oxidative changes which occurred during the microwave heating of vegetable oils and found rapeseed oil to be the most suitable vegetable oil among soybean oil, corn oil and sunflower oil due to the fewer changes observed in conjugated dienes and peroxide value.

The current study was carried out to monitor the degradation of the triglycerides in corn oil and soybean oil upon conventional heating and microwave heating which reduce the physical and chemical characterizations of edible oils.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Potassium iodide (KI) from Merck (Darmstadt, Germany), hydrochloric acid (HCl), sodium thio-sulphate ($\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$), iso-octane (2,2,4-trimethylpentane) from Riedel-de Haë, Sigma-Aldrich (Buchs, Switzerland), ethanol ($\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$), iso-propanol ($\text{C}_3\text{H}_7\text{OH}$), trichloromethane (CHCl_3), *para*-anisidine reagent ($\text{C}_7\text{H}_9\text{ON}$), glacial acetic acid (CH_3COOH), potassium hydroxide (KOH) from BDH (England) were used for analysis. All of the reagents and solvents used were of analytical reagent grade.

One kilogram of corn and soybean seeds was purchased on September 2014 from a local market in Karachi, Pakistan. The oil was extracted from the seeds using an expeller machine (HDC, Model LTP-205, China). The extracted oils were filtered and stored in sealed glass bottles in the refrigerator (4 °C) for further analysis.

2.1. Thermal treatments

Samples of corn and soybean oil (50 mL) were heated in Pyrex glass beakers from 303 °K to 343 °K using a hot plate 78HW-1 Jiangsu, China (Mainland). Samples were taken at intervals of 10 °K in separate glass vials and stored until analysis.

Samples of corn and soybean oil (50 mL) were taken in Pyrex glass beakers and exposed to microwave irradiation (model DW-112 C, Pakistan) operating at the high power setting (800W, 2450MHz) for 0.5 min, 1 min, 2 min, 4 min, 6 min and 10 min. Samples were collected at each time interval. The temperature of each oil sample was noted using a thermometer. After each heating treatment, the microwave oven was stopped for 30 minutes to cool before starting the next heating. The collected samples were stored in sealed vials until further analysis. The temperature profiles of the oils after microwave irradiation exposure at different heating times are shown in Figure 1.

2.2. Density (ρ) and viscosity (η)

The density of corn oil and soybean oil samples was measured using a relative density bottle and Sartorius electronic balance (model BL-1505, Germany) with $\pm 0.001\text{g}$ uncertainty. The viscosity of corn oil and soybean oil samples was determined using Ostwald viscometer (techniconominal constant 0.05Cs/c, ASTMAD 445 England). The oil sample was poured into a viscometer and the time

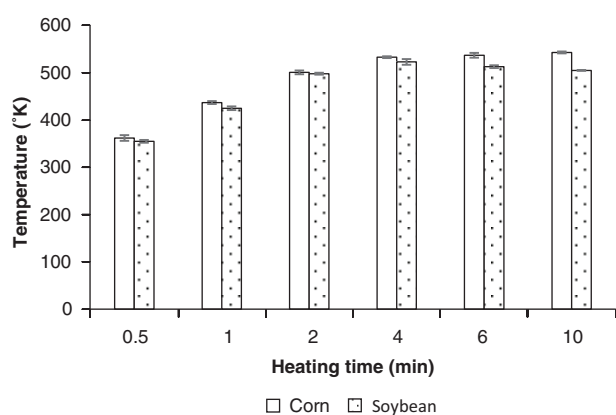


FIGURE 1. Impact of microwave heating time on the temperature of corn and soybean oil. Data are presented as the mean of triplicates with error bars denoting standard deviation.

of flow between the two marks of oil samples was measured using a stopwatch with a count of at least 0.2s. (Zahir *et al.*, 2017).

2.3. Oxidative indices

The acid value of the oil samples (S) was measured by dissolving 4 g oil in 50 mL 2-propanol and titrated with a 0.1 N potassium hydroxide solution using a phenolphthalein indicator. A blank (B) determination was also made with the same procedure without the oil sample. The acid value was determined through the reported approach of AOCS Cd 3-63, 1993:

$$AV = (S-B) * N * 56.11 / g_{oil} \quad \text{eq. (1)}$$

An accurately weighed 1 g oil sample (S) was dissolved in 15 mL of a 1 N ethanolic potassium hydroxide solution (KOH) and 10 mL double distilled water were added. Refluxed the contents for 40 minutes to convert the triglyceride molecules to glycerol. After cooling, titration was performed with 0.5 N hydrochloric acid (HCl) using phenolphthalein indicator. Blank (B) determination was also made using same procedure without oil samples. Saponification values were determined through the equation (AOCS Cd 3-25, 1997):

$$SV = (B-S) * N * 56.11 / g_{oil} \quad \text{eq. (2)}$$

A 5 g oil sample (S) was dissolved in a 30 mL mixture of acetic acid and chloroform which was further reacted with 0.5 mL of a saturated potassium iodide (KI) solution. After one minute of shaking, 30 mL water were added and the contents were shaken vigorously to liberate iodine from the organic to the aqueous layer. Iodine was titrated with a 0.1 N sodium thiosulphate solution using a starch indicator. A blank (B) determination was

made using the same procedure without the oil sample. Peroxide values were calculated using the equation (AOCS, 1997 method Cd 8-53):

$$PV = (S-B) * N * 1000 / g_{oil} \quad \text{eq. (3)}$$

A 5 g oil sample was dissolved in 25 mL iso-octane. The absorbance of the solution (A_b) at 350 nm was measured using iso-octane as the reagent blank. 5 mL of the above solution and 5 mL of iso-octane were pipetted out in separate test tubes which were further diluted with 1 mL of *p*-anisidine reagent (2.5% w/v in acetic acid). The absorbance of the sample solution (A_s) against the blank was recorded after 10 minutes at 350 nm using a UV-VIS spectrophotometer (UV-1800 Shimadzu, Koyoto Japan). The *p*-anisidine values for the oil samples were calculated using the equation (AOCS, 1997 method p2.4):

$$p-AV = 25 (1.2 * A_s - A_b) / g_{oil} \quad \text{eq. (4)}$$

2.4. UV-Spectroscopic indices

The contents of conjugated dienes (CDs) and conjugated trienes (CTs) in terms of specific extinctions at 232 nm and 268 nm, respectively were monitored using a UV-VIS spectrophotometer (UV-1800 Shimadzu, Koyoto Japan). The absorbances of the oil samples, properly diluted in iso-octane, were recorded and CDs and CTs values were calculated from the following equations (AOAC, 1997 p2.15):

$$CDs = (A_s - A_b) / b C \quad \text{eq. (5)}$$

$$CTs = (A_s - A_b) / b C \quad \text{eq. (6)}$$

Where A_s and A_b is the absorbance of the sample and blank, respectively, b is the path length and C represents the percent concentration of oil sample.

2.5. Fourier transform infra-red (FTIR) spectroscopic analysis

The FT-IR spectrometer (model IR-Prestige-21 Shimadzu Corporation, Kyoto, Japan) was used to record the spectra of the oil samples. A drop of each sample was poured between two disks of KBr to prepare a thin film. The spectra were scanned throughout the region from 4000 cm^{-1} to 400 cm^{-1} and recorded as percent transmittance values (Zahir *et al.*, 2017).

2.6. Statistical analysis

The statistical analysis of the experimental data was done by taking a triplicate measurement of the sets for all parameters and the values were reported in terms of mean \pm standard deviation (SD) in the

respective tables. Comparison of the mean values was made using analysis of variance (ANOVA) followed by Tukey's test on SPSS 15.0 at $\alpha = 0.05$ significant level.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The physicochemical properties of oils after treatments of conventional heating and microwave heating are reported in Tables 1 and 2. The results showed changes in physicochemical properties of edible oils brought on by the application of conventional and microwave heating.

3.1. Effect of heating on the density and viscosity of edible oil

The density and viscosity data explain the physical nature of oils. The presence of double bonds and length of the hydrocarbon chain in the triglyceride molecule affect the density and viscosity of oils. The values for densities and viscosities of the oil samples were decreased after conventional heating (Adejumo *et al.*, 2015), while they were increased after microwave heating (Li *et al.*, 2018). It was observed that corn oil had lower values of density and viscosity as compared to soybean oil. The higher amount of polyunsaturated fatty acids (linoleic acid) of corn

oil is responsible for lower density and viscosity values (Abbas *et al.*, 2016). Soybean oil had higher viscosity values due to the presence of less unsaturated fatty acids as compared to corn oil. After conventional heating, the kinetic energy of the oils was increased and the degradation of oil molecules takes place, which lowers the oil viscosity (Diamante and Lan, 2014). After the application of microwave heating, these unsaturated fatty acids were converted into high-molecular-weight polymeric compounds, cyclic compounds, dimers, trimers, and epoxides, resulting in the formation of a large molecule and led to an increase in viscosity values (Srivastava and Semwal, 2015; Li *et al.*, 2018).

3.2. Effect of heating treatment on acid value

The acid content of the oil is the measurement of fatty acids in oils. It was observed that with conventional heating, acid values were increased by 21.20% and 32.29% for corn oil and soybean oil, respectively. The same results were observed for the microwave heating of the oils for up to 1 min. Microwave heating at a higher temperature, with an increased exposure time of up to 10 min caused a 10.61% and a 44.56% decrease in the acid values of corn and soybean oil, respectively. Corn oil had a high amount of free fatty acids, as observed by the high

TABLE 1. Impact of conventional heating on the oxidative properties of corn oil and soybean oil

Temperature (°K)	d x10 ³ (kg/m ³)	η x10 ⁴ (Pa. s)	AV (mg/g)	PV (meqO ₂ /kg)	SV (mg/g)	p-AV	CDs	CTs	TOTOX
Corn Oil									
303	0.9080 ^c ±0.0001	35.741 ^c ±0.203	0.316 ^a ±0.011	34.610 ^a ±0.300	159.67 ^c ±2.517	6.271 ^a ±0.204	1.605 ^a ±0.100	1.493 ^a ±0.127	75.491 ^a ±0.802
313	0.9041 ^d ±0.0002	33.985 ^d ±0.418	0.325 ^b ±0.011	41.090 ^b ±0.207	145.00 ^d ±1.000	6.815 ^b ±0.400	1.643 ^b ±0.100	1.573 ^b ±0.112	88.995 ^b ±0.113
323	0.9004 ^c ±0.0004	33.557 ^c ±0.177	0.348 ^c ±0.011	44.580 ^c ±0.205	130.42 ^c ±1.506	7.474 ^c ±0.402	1.674 ^c ±0.100	1.623 ^c ±0.129	96.634 ^c ±0.811
333	0.8963 ^b ±0.0001	32.090 ^b ±0.204	0.369 ^d ±0.010	46.390 ^d ±0.300	122.00 ^b ±1.000	7.918 ^d ±0.200	1.693 ^d ±0.225	1.709 ^d ±0.051	100.70 ^d ±0.800
343	0.8908 ^a ±0.0002	31.655 ^a ±0.413	0.383 ^e ±0.010	50.670 ^e ±0.350	117.49 ^a ±0.500	8.248 ^e ±0.104	1.822 ^e ±0.101	1.759 ^e ±0.060	109.59 ^e ±0.802
Soybean Oil									
303	0.9093 ^a ±0.0004	37.690 ^a ±0.107	0.213 ^a ±0.010	27.047 ^d ±0.450	183.75 ^a ±1.010	6.061 ^b ±0.402	1.342 ^a ±0.179	1.586 ^c ±0.112	60.141 ^a ±1.300
313	0.9049 ^a ±0.0001	35.890 ^b ±0.351	0.249 ^b ±0.011	37.959 ^c ±0.401	181.00 ^a ±2.082	6.163 ^b ±0.402	1.399 ^a ±0.057	1.825 ^b ±0.101	82.081 ^b ±1.205
323	0.9007 ^b ±0.0003	34.573 ^c ±0.404	0.250 ^b ±0.010	40.860 ^b ±0.203	179.00 ^{a,b} ±1.523	6.796 ^{a,b} ±0.016	1.454 ^{a,b} ±0.100	1.834 ^b ±0.045	88.516 ^c ±0.422
333	0.8977 ^{b,c} ±0.0011	33.196 ^d ±0.251	0.261 ^{b,c} ±0.010	39.391 ^a ±0.400	175.00 ^{b,c} ±2.523	7.232 ^a ±0.300	1.539 ^b ±0.053	1.863 ^b ±0.019	86.014 ^d ±1.100
343	0.8949 ^c ±0.0002	32.075 ^e ±0.356	0.282 ^c ±0.011	41.694 ^a ±0.472	173.00 ^c ±2.001	7.566 ^a ±0.200	1.632 ^b ±0.050	2.079 ^a ±0.053	90.954 ^e ±0.758

The data are reported as the average of triplicates (N=3), ± standard deviation. The significant mean difference is indicated by different letters (a, b, c, d, e) ($P \leq 0.05$) according to Tukey test. d density, η viscosity, AV acid value, PV peroxide value, SV saponification value, p-AV para-anisidine value, CDs conjugated dienes, CTs conjugated trienes, TOTOX total oxidation value.

TABLE 2. Impact of microwave heating on the oxidative properties of corn oil and soybean oil

Heating time (min)	d x10 ³ (kg/m ³)	η x10 ⁴ (Pa. s)	AV (mg/g)	PV (meqO ₂ /kg)	SV (mg/g)	p-AV	CDs	CTs	TOTOX
Corn Oil									
0.5	0.9046 ^c ±0.0003	27.866 ^d ±0.105	1.007 ^a ±0.006	70.470 ^a ±0.104	146.11 ^c ±3.772	13.377 ^f ±0.089	13.536 ^c ±0.002	1.412 ^f ±0.001	154.32 ^a ±0.085
1	0.9055 ^c ±0.0002	31.453 ^c ±1.209	1.140 ^a ±0.501	50.00 ^b ±1.001	181.00 ^{b,c} ±1.326	47.510 ^e ±0.100	12.56 ^d ±0.003	2.205 ^e ±0.002	147.51 ^b ±2.025
2	0.9071 ^c ±0.0003	35.075 ^b ±0.111	1.111 ^a ±0.050	6.167 ^c ±0.253	213.08 ^{a,b} ±1.781	90.973 ^d ±0.042	10.78 ^e ±0.001	4.173 ^b ±0.003	103.31 ^c ±0.231
4	0.9100 ^b ±0.0006	36.355 ^b ±0.150	1.087 ^a ±0.054	5.803 ^c ±0.614	242.08 ^{a,b} ±1.211	77.127 ^c ±0.196	13.67 ^c ±0.004	4.442 ^a ±0.005	88.733 ^d ±0.738
6	0.9132 ^{a,b} ±0.0004	37.983 ^a ±0.500	1.027 ^a ±0.650	5.293 ^c ±0.507	272.76 ^a ±2.661	71.200 ^b ±0.087	17.83 ^b ±0.005	3.802 ^c ±0.002	81.786 ^e ±0.178
10	0.9167 ^a ±0.0002	39.058 ^a ±0.350	1.019 ^a ±0.011	5.074 ^c ±0.161	293.76 ^a ±1.361	65.360 ^a ±0.197	20.00 ^a ±0.082	3.544 ^d ±0.004	75.508 ^f ±0.034
Soybean Oil									
0.5	0.9059 ^d ±0.0001	27.470 ^f ±1.001	1.305 ^c ±0.400	47.193 ^a ±0.622	72.059 ^f ±2.462	12.032 ^f ±0.117	7.089 ^a ±0.000	1.059 ^e ±0.001	106.42 ^b ±0.285
1	0.9060 ^{c,d} ±0.0003	29.219 ^e ±1.105	2.078 ^a ±0.371	45.455 ^b ±0.478	100.20 ^e ±3.356	25.047 ^e ±0.230	6.4301 ^d ±0.032	1.436 ^d ±0.000	115.91 ^a ±0.818
2	0.9069 ^c ±0.0002	31.793 ^d ±0.114	1.846 ^b ±0.103	7.4725 ^c ±0.155	113.52 ^d ±2.756	63.386 ^d ±0.589	6.623 ^c ±0.005	3.518 ^a ±0.003	78.377 ^f ±0.201
4	0.9088 ^b ±0.0004	33.609 ^c ±0.357	1.279 ^c ±0.052	6.9444 ^d ±0.692	124.93 ^b ±2.200	63.835 ^c ±0.196	6.613 ^c ±0.003	3.470 ^{a,b} ±0.002	77.715 ^e ±0.742
6	0.9100 ^a ±0.0005	35.552 ^b ±0.450	1.184 ^d ±0.400	6.6556 ^{d,e} ±0.001	135.49 ^a ±2.224	70.828 ^b ±0.299	6.421 ^d ±0.001	3.279 ^c ±0.001	84.273 ^d ±0.203
10	0.9112 ^a ±0.0007	37.222 ^a ±0.202	1.152 ^d ±0.450	6.5445 ^e ±0.216	121.18 ^c ±0.011	76.539 ^a ±0.151	6.707 ^b ±0.002	3.4339 ^b ±0.001	89.771 ^c ±0.504

The data are reported as the average of triplicates (N=3), ± standard deviation. The significant mean difference is indicated by different letters (a, b, c, d, e, f) (P ≤ 0.05) according to Tukey test. d density, η viscosity, AV acid value, PV peroxide value, SV saponification value, p-AV *para*-anisidine value, CDs conjugated dienes, CTs conjugated trienes, TOTOX total oxidation value.

acid values. During repeated conventional heating, the degradation of triglycerides and the formation of fatty acids were observed by increased acid values (Halim *et al.*, 2016; Adejumo *et al.*, 2015). With microwave heating, the amount of fatty acids increased (Taghvaei *et al.*, 2014) and then these fatty acids degraded to hydro peroxides which were further converted to secondary oxidation products and lower acid values (Leong *et al.*, 2015). The acid values for corn oil showed greater degradation with microwave radiation exposure compared to soybean oil, which confirmed the oxidative stability of soybean oil (Adejumo *et al.*, 2015).

3.3. Saponification value

Oils with high saponification values are considered to be better edible sources which contain high proportions of low-molecular-weight and short-chain fatty acids (Adejumo *et al.*, 2015; Hussain *et al.*, 2015). The saponification value of soybean oil was higher compared to corn oil with conventional heating from 303 °K to 323 °K. Microwave heating (0.5 min to 10 min) increased the temperature from

343 °K to 543 °K compared to conventional heating. The lower saponification values for soybean oil with microwave heating compared to corn oil indicated less formation of short-chain fatty acids. The higher degradation rate of long-chain fatty acids to short-chain fatty acids is responsible for higher saponification values in corn oil (Rutkevicki *et al.*, 2016). It was concluded that conventional heating of oil samples converts the triglyceride molecules to glycerol and fatty acids which showed a 35.90% and 5.46% decrease in saponification values for corn oil and soybean oil, respectively. However, significant increases in saponification values for corn oil (101.05%) and soybean oil (68.17%) were observed with microwave heating due to an increase in the amount of short-chain fatty acids (Rutkevicki *et al.*, 2016).

3.4. Peroxide value

The peroxide value is the chemical property used to measure the extent of rancidity in oils. Fresh oil has lower peroxide values compared to oxidized oil. The results tabulated in Tables 1 and 2 reveal

that the peroxide values for corn oil are high compared to soybean oil. The conventional heating of oil showed a 46.40% and 54.14% increase in the amount of hydro peroxides due to the process of oxidation of fatty acids. The same observation was made for canola seed oil (Jalili *et al.*, 2017). The peroxide values of microwave heated oil were initially increased upon irradiation but the continuous exposure of microwave irradiation showed 92.79% and 86.13% decreases in peroxide values with increased heating time, which resulted in the formation of secondary oxidation products by the breaking of hydro peroxides (Abbas *et al.*, 2016; Ghosh *et al.*, 2014).

3.5. *P*-anisidine value

The peroxide value cannot be used to determine the rancidity of oil at higher heating temperatures due to the instability of hydro peroxides. Various volatile and non-volatile compounds, including dimers, trimers, alcohols, polymers, and other secondary oxidation products are produced by the degradation of hydro peroxides, which strongly affects the stability of the oil and makes it more rancid. This fact led to the representation of rancidity of oil in terms of the *p*-anisidine value (*p*-AV) and total oxidation value (TOTOX value). The *p*-anisidine value of edible oil samples determines the amount of hydro peroxides as well as the aldehydic and ketonic forms of products (Leong *et al.*, 2015). During conventional heating, *p*-anisidine values were increased by 31.53% and 24.83% for corn oil and soybean oil, respectively. Microwave heating showed a 536.13% increase in the *p*-anisidine values in soybean oil; whereas the *p*-anisidine values in the corn oil samples were initially increased by 580.0% (Ghosh *et al.*, 2014) and then further heating caused a 256.82% decrease. *P*-anisidine values were high for

microwave irradiated oil samples compared to conventional heated oil samples, which showed more chemical deterioration in oils due to exposure to microwave irradiation (Abbas *et al.*, 2016).

3.6. Total oxidation value

The total oxidation value (TOTOX) expresses the oxidation state of the oil. The lower value of total oxidation signified better nutritional value of the oil. TOTOX values were calculated by the equation (Halim *et al.*, 2016);

$$\text{TOTOX value} = p\text{-AV} + (2 \times \text{PV}) \quad \text{eq. (7)}$$

The results reported in Tables 1 and 2 reveal that the soybean oil samples had low TOTOX value compared to the corn oil. The lower TOTOX values for soybean oil indicated higher nutritional value than corn oil. It was also observed that corn oil showed 45.17% and 51.07% increases in TOTOX values, whereas soybean oil showed increases of 51.23% and 15.64% with conventional and microwave heating, respectively. It was also noticed that oil samples exposed to microwave irradiation had higher TOTOX values compared to the conventionally heated oil samples. (Abbas *et al.*, 2016). The effect of conventional heating (343 °K) and microwave heating (0.5 min) on the oxidative properties of oils are represented in Figure 2.

3.7. UV-spectroscopic indices

UV-spectroscopic indices in terms of conjugated dienes (CDs) and conjugated trienes (CTs) were monitored at 232 nm and 268 nm, respectively. The conjugated dienes (CDs) and conjugated trienes (CTs)

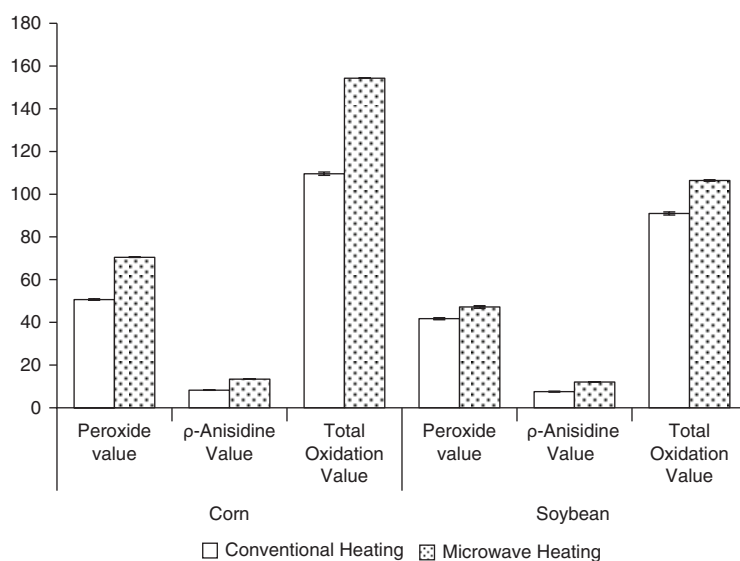


FIGURE 2. Effect of conventional heating (343 °K) and microwave heating time (0.5 min) on oxidative properties of corn and soybean oil. Data are presented as the mean of triplicates with error bars denoting standard deviation.

in the oil were generated by the rearrangement of double bond positions in the monounsaturated fatty acids and polyunsaturated fatty acids, respectively (Li *et al.*, 2018). Oils that have low mono and polyunsaturated fatty acids exhibit low formation of conjugated dienes and conjugated trienes, respectively. Increased values of CDs and CTs upon conventional and microwave heating, indicated the degradation of hydro peroxides and formation of conjugated dienes and conjugated trienes for both oils. Corn oil showed greater values of CDs and low values of CTs compared to the soybean oil. Corn oil contains a high amount of monounsaturated fatty acids, so, the formation of dienes was higher, which was confirmed by greater values of CDs (Ghosh *et al.*, 2014). The conventional heating of corn and soybean oil showed 13.52% and 21.61% increases; whereas microwave heating showed 47.75% and 5.38% increases in CD values, respectively. On the other hand, the

conventional heating of corn and soybean oil showed 17.82% and 31.08% increases in CT values; whereas microwave heating showed 150.99% and 224.26% increases in CT values, respectively. A previous report on Perah seed oil (Li *et al.*, 2018) and pumpkin seed oil (Abbas *et al.*, 2017) also confirmed the significant increase in CDs and CTs with increasing heating periods. The oxidative stability of oil decreased with the increase in UV-spectroscopic indices of oils. The low CD and CT values for soybean oil mean better oxidative stability upon conventional and microwave heating.

3.8. Fourier transform infra-red spectroscopy

The Fourier Transform Infra-Red Spectroscopy analysis was used to study the oxidative rancidity of oils. Figures 3 and 4 show the FT-IR spectra of corn oil and soybean oil, respectively, with different heating

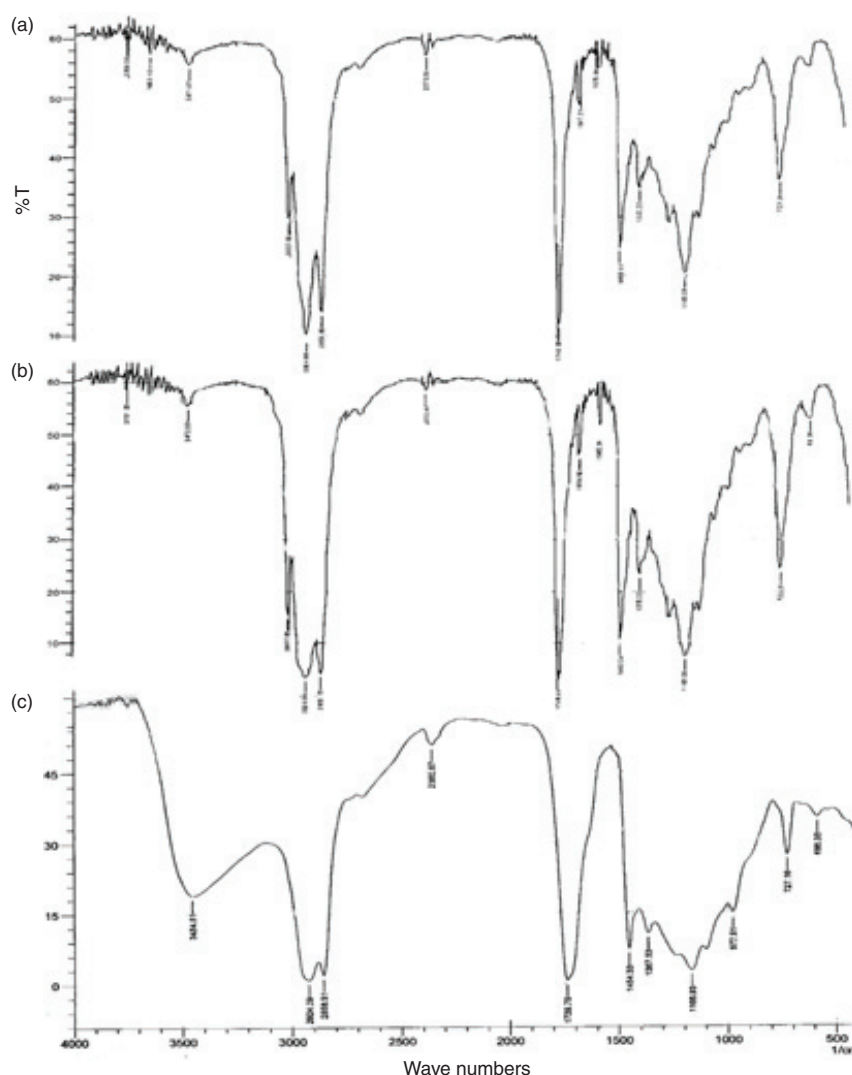


FIGURE 3. FTIR spectra of corn oil (a) fresh oil, (b) conventional heating at 343 °K, (c) microwave heating for 10 min.

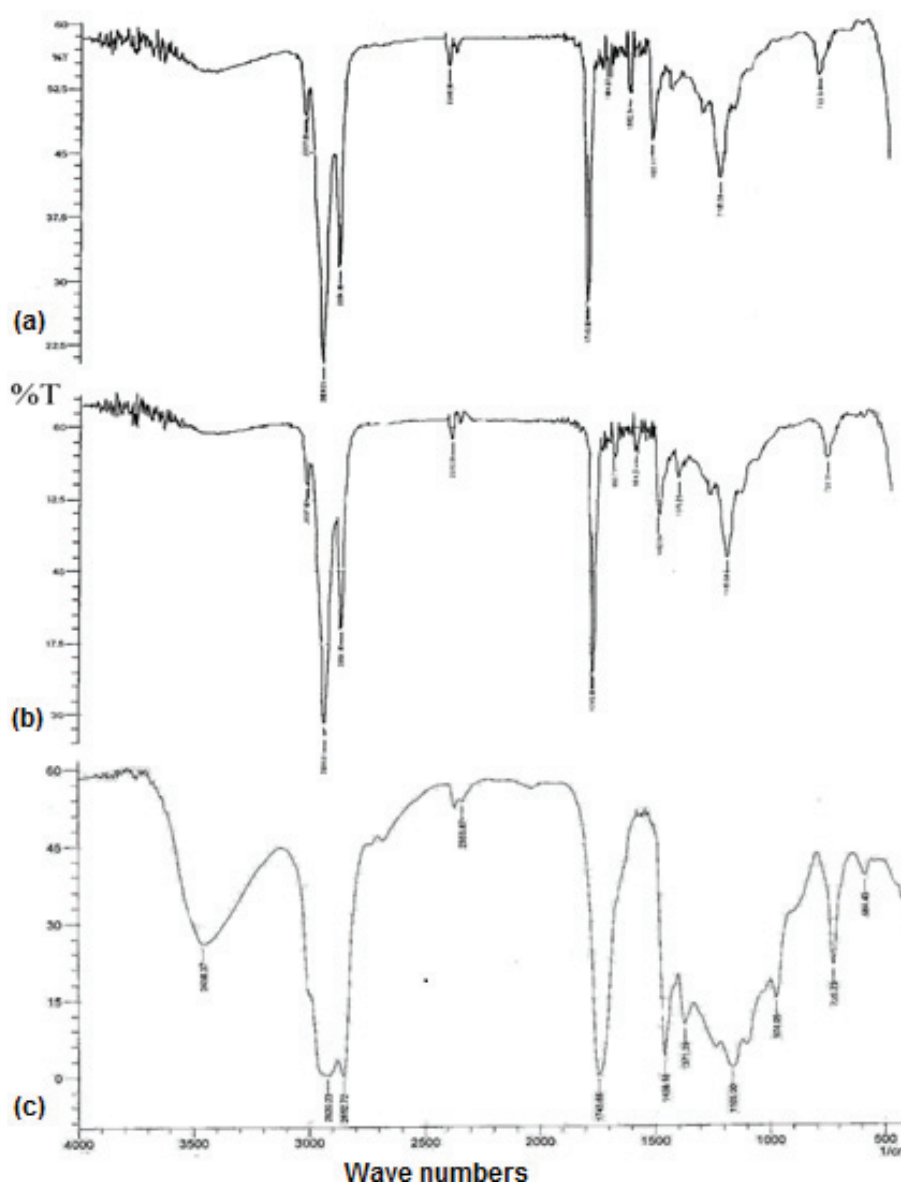


FIGURE 4. FTIR spectra of soybean oil, (a) fresh oil, (b) conventional heating at 343 °K, (c) microwave heating for 10 min.

treatments. During the continuous heating process, the hydrolysis of oil takes place, which resulted in an increase in the amount of hydro peroxides, free fatty acids, mono glycerides, and diglycerides. The formation of secondary oxidation products and characterization of the oils were made through the intensities and frequencies of the peaks and bands in the FT-IR spectra (Zahir *et al.*, 2017; Sadoudi *et al.*, 2014).

The assignment of the vibrations of functional groups in the infrared spectra of the oils are as follows: 3471.87–3441.01 cm^{-1} (OH stretching vibration of hydro peroxides and FFAs of $\equiv\text{C-H}$), 3100–3000 cm^{-1} (strong peak of $-\text{CH}$ (sp^2 and sp) stretching vibration of *cis*-double bonds in unsaturated fatty acids) (linoleic and linoleic acyl group), 3000–2850 cm^{-1} (Two peaks of CH_3 symmetric stretching and

sp^2 CH_2 asymmetric stretching of aldehyde, which confirms the presence of aldehydes), 2679.13 cm^{-1} ($-\text{C}=\text{O}$ fermi resonance) (Wu *et al.*, 2015), 1745 cm^{-1} (aliphatic ester $-\text{C}=\text{O}$ stretching in the carbonyl group of triglycerides, which means the oil has high nutritional value) (Srivastava *et al.*, 2015).

The FT-IR spectra of heated oil samples show a peak at around 3300 cm^{-1} , which indicates the formation of hydro peroxides, as observed by Srivastava *et al.*, 2015. The intensity of the *cis*-double bond near 3008 cm^{-1} remained almost unaltered or suffered a very slow shifting towards smaller values during oxidative stress. The bands at 2927 cm^{-1} and 2854 cm^{-1} increased their absorbance due to surrounding chemical changes as a consequence of the oxidation process (Abbas *et al.*, 2017). Intensity at 1745 cm^{-1}

was increased on heating as hydro peroxides decomposed to carbonyl compounds which are secondary oxidation products (carbonyl compounds i.e. aldehydes, ketones, dimers, trimers etc.) and shifted the peak towards a lower frequency $\sim 1728\text{ cm}^{-1}$ (Srivastava *et al.*, 2015). The smallest variations in the intensities at 2854 cm^{-1} and 1745 cm^{-1} were observed for conventional heating, which was justified by the small variations in CD and CT values. Similar observations were reported by Srivastava *et al.*, 2015 in heated virgin coconut oil. The intensity of the band near 1465 cm^{-1} tended to increase with the oxidative treatment. These increments were found to be higher in the microwave heated oil, indicating that oxidation proceeded more slowly in the conventional heated oil samples compared to the microwave heated one (Abbas *et al.*, 2017).

3.9. The degree of chain length and degree of branching

The peak heights of IR bands were used to calculate some ratios for the comparison of spectra. A symmetric deformation of CH_3 and CH_2+CH_3 appeared at 1375 cm^{-1} and at 1460 cm^{-1} , respectively. The measurement of the degree of branching was made by the ratios of A_{1375}/A_{1460} . The degree of

chain length was measured by the ratio of absorbance band of CH_2 rocking vibration at 720 cm^{-1} and CH_2+CH_3 or CH_3 symmetric deformation at 1375 cm^{-1} and 1460 cm^{-1} , respectively, or A_{720}/A_{1460} or A_{720}/A_{1375} (El-Bassoussi *et al.*, 2010).

The degree of branching and chain length was measured for all treated oil samples and reported in Table 3 for conventional and microwave heating. The results showed that the degree of branching and the degree of chain length of the fatty acids of the oils decreased as the oil was conventionally heated. Microwave irradiation increased the branching pattern and chain length of fatty acids. The results also revealed that the ratios of A_{1375}/A_{1460} had higher values for soybean oil compared to corn oil samples.

4. CONCLUSIONS

This study concerned the comparison of two heating techniques (conventional and microwave) on the basis of oxidative properties. Microwave heating may be easier and time-saving but it destroys the nutritional values of food, confirmed by observing the physicochemical properties of oils. The oxidative stability of corn oil and soybean oil was investigated using both techniques. Conventional heating was found to be a safer method for the preparation of food as less degradation of primary oxidation products was observed compared to microwave heating. It was concluded that microwave heating increased the degradation of hydro peroxides and the formation of secondary oxidation products which decreased the nutritional values of oils. The physicochemical parameters of the heated oil samples showed that the oxidation rate of the fatty acids in corn oil was higher compared to the soybean oil, which was also proven through FTIR spectra. On the basis of the results, it was concluded that the use of microwave heating depreciates the characteristics of oils and should be minimized for cooking food. Soybean oil exhibits more oxidative stability compared to corn oil and is better to be used as an edible source. The present study can be extended to evaluate the oxidative stability of oils upon frying with different food items.

TABLE 3. Impact of conventional heating and microwave heating on the degree of chain length and degree of branching of corn oil and soybean oil

Temperature (°K)	Degree of Chain Length		Degree of Branching
	A_{723}/A_{1375}	A_{723}/A_{1460}	A_{1375}/A_{1460}
Corn Oil (Conventional heating)			
303	0.9714	0.6410	0.6599
323	0.9659	0.6320	0.6446
343	0.9591	0.6304	0.6239
Soybean Oil (Conventional heating)			
303	0.9742	0.7091	0.6692
323	0.9682	0.694	0.6535
343	0.9607	0.6754	0.6381
Heating time (min)			
Corn Oil (Microwave heating)			
0.5	0.6037	0.4559	0.7208
1	0.6057	0.4735	0.7318
4	0.6591	0.4923	0.7469
10	0.6802	0.4965	0.7558
Soybean Oil (Microwave heating)			
0.5	0.5843	0.4417	0.6363
1	0.5899	0.4529	0.6502
4	0.6420	0.4677	0.6787
10	0.6656	0.4699	0.6986

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