

# A STUDY ON THE BIOCHEMICAL & MORPHOLOGICAL CHANGES ON GROUNDNUT (ARACHIS HYPOGAEA) SEEDS EXPOSED TO PULSED MAGNETIC FIELD

## Abstract

Arachis hypogaeae seeds were exposed to a pulsed magnetic field of sine wave form with varying frequencies as 100, 500, 1000 Hz and constant intensity of about 1500 nT. The seeds were exposed to frequency of 100 Hz is taken as Test-1, 500 Hz as Test – 2, 1000 Hz as Test10– 3. Seeds are subjected to the high pulsed magnetic field for a time interval of 5 hours per day for 15 days. After the exposure time over, on the 16 th day, the estimations are carried out for carbohydrates, proteins, amino acids, nucleic acids (DNA & RNA), enzymes (Amylase & Protease). It is seen from the experiment that the magnetic field has enhanced the morphological and biochemical parameters of the seeds. From our investigation, it was studied that, Test 3 has maximum stimulating effect on the enzyme activity, Test 1 has shown increase in the biochemical parameters and Test 2 shows an increase in some biochemical parameters, but it is not steady as above two. Thus, this frequency might provide a feasible non – chemical solution for seeds germination. Therefore, it is evident that the use of varying magnetic field frequency will definitely proves to be a pretreatment catalyst in agriculture promoting vigor growth and good yield of crops. This is a best alternative way in place of pesticides will definitely help in protecting environment.

**Keyword:** Magnetic field, frequency, parameters, growth, crops

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## I. INTRODUCTION

The Earth behaves like a very large bar magnet with a north pole and a south pole. It is now believed that the Earth's magnetism is due to the magnetic effect of current which is flowing in the liquid core at the center of the Earth. Thus, the Earth is a huge electromagnet.

The origin of our knowledge of Magnetism has been lost in antiquity, only vague reference being available during years of the Christian era. It is claimed that Chinese scholars were aware of the mysterious property of Magnetism as early as 2600. The possibility that magnetic field might have an influence on the biological process has been long discussed. It has been well established that magnetic field has an influence on the germination of seeds, activation of protein formation and root growth. A survey of the plant life near high voltage transmission lines suggested that electric field caused a slight enhancement of growth.

The first studies were conducted by P.W.Savostin in 1930 who observed increase in the rate of elongation of wheat seedling under magnetic condition. Later, Murphy in 1942 reported changes in seed germination due to a magnetic field. Until the 19<sup>th</sup> century electricity and magnetism was treated as two different branches of physics. It was Ampere who theorized the influence of electricity and Magnetism on each other.

## II. MAGNETIC FIELD

The force they apply to other magnetic materials and moving electric charges, magnetic fields that surround magnetic objects and electric currents can be identified. Both the direction and the magnitude (or strength) of the magnetic field at any one site are known. A zone of space around a magnetized body or current is known as a magnetized region of space. carrying circuit where the magnetic force produced may be measured. a problem identified in the area surrounding a magnet or electric current that is identified by the presence of a magnetic force that can be measured at every location in the area and by the presence of magnetic poles.

- 1. Definition:** The "magnetic field"—a force of magnetism emanating from the magnet—is depicted by lines. When the lines of force are close together (turned) and when they are far apart (blue), the magnetic field is at its strongest.
- 2. Magnetic Force:** A magnetic field exerts a magnetic force, also called Lorentz-force,  $F_m$  on a charged particle moving with velocity  $v$

$$F_m = qv \times B$$

where the arrows are multiplied to produce a new arrow that is perpendicular to the magnetic field and velocity directions. This equation gives the definition of the magnetic field (the force acting on a unit charge travelling at a unit speed) and gives rise to the SI unit known as 1 Tesla (T).

The magnetic field is stationary and is referred to as a magnetostatic field when it surrounds a permanent magnet or a wire carrying a constant electric current in one direction.

Its magnitude and direction are constant at any given site. The magnetic field is constantly changing in strength and direction around an alternating current or a fluctuating direct current. Continuous lines of force or magnetic flux that leave north-seeking magnetic poles and enter south-seeking magnetic poles can be used to illustrate magnetic fields. The lines' density reveals how strong the magnetic field is. The field lines are congested or more dense, for example, at the poles of a magnet where the magnetic field is high. Where the magnetic field is weaker and further away, they fan out and lose density. Parallel straight lines that are evenly spaced apart represent a homogenous magnetic field.

### 3. Sources of Magnetic Field

- The magnetic fields are produced by the poles (north and south).
- If electrostatic charges move, they produce magnetic fields.
- Any charged particle that travels along a path will produce a magnetic field. It can also be impacted by an external magnetic field, on the other hand.
- A magnetic dipole, similar to one seen in an atom, might be produced by the separation of charges. (Positive nucleus surrounded by a cloud of negatively charged electrons).
- The mobility of electrons within a conductor is one possibility. Electrical current flowing via a wire.
- The electromagnetic force is one of the universe's four fundamental forces. The electromagnetic force, not the magnetic one. There won't be a magnetic field if there isn't any moving charge. Both phenomena are inextricably linked.

**4. Electromagnetic Field:** A property of space that results from the movement of an electric charge. Only an electric field will be created by a stationary charge in the surrounding area. There is also the creation of a magnetic field when the charge is traveling. A shifting magnetic field can likewise create an electric field. An electromagnetic field is created when the electric and magnetic fields interact. This field is thought to exist independently of any charges or currents (a stream of moving charges) to which it may be associated. When particular conditions are met, this electromagnetic field can be thought of as a wave that carries electromagnetic energy. Depending on the frequency, electromagnetic fields, waves, and impulses have distinct regions.

- ELF- occupy frequency band between 3 Hz and 3kHz (extremely low frequency region)
- VLF-occupy region between 3Hz to 30kHz(very low frequency region)
- ULF-occupy region of < 3Hz(ultra low frequency region) poles. Two magnets will be attracted by their opposite poles, and each will repel the like pole of the other magnet. Magnetism has many uses in modern life.

### 5. Generation of Magnetic Fields

- Static Magnetic Field: A simple bar magnet has got the magnetic lines of force travelling from its north (N) pole to its south (S) pole.
- DC Magnetic Field: If in the place of a magnet, we have a coil of wire carrying a Direct Current (DC) from a battery.

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- Pulsed Magnetic Field: With an Alternating Current (AC) generator in the place of a battery, we have a current surging forward and backward in the coil windings generating a magnetic field surging back and forth in the coil along its axis.

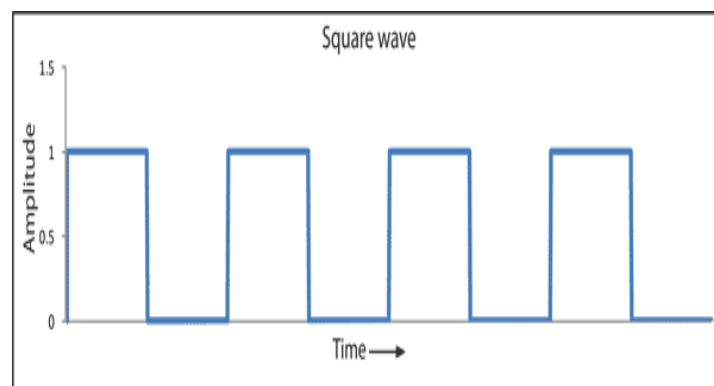
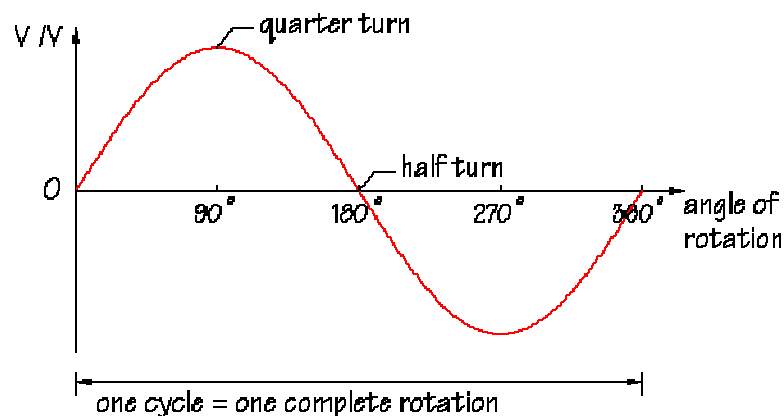
## 6. Parameters

There are 4 important parameters for PMF. They are,

- Amplitude
- Frequency
- Wave Shape
- Duration of Exposure

Four different wave forms are

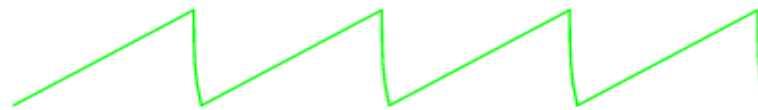
- Sine wave
- Square wave
- Ramp wave
- Pulse group



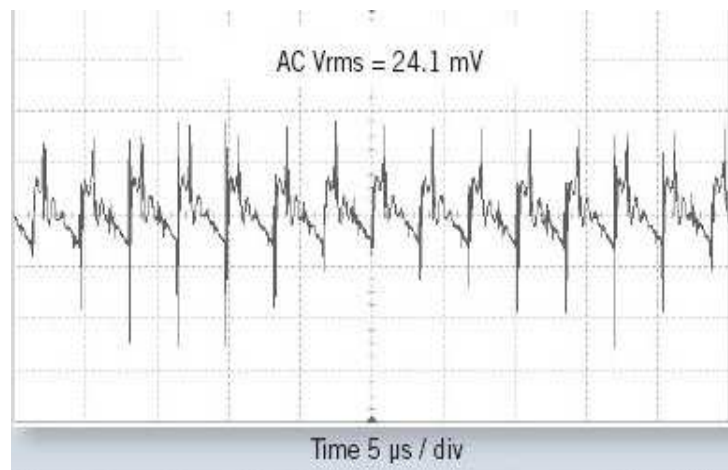
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Sawtooth waveform (RC circuit)



Ramp waveform (constant current)



- 7. Application of Pulsed Magnetic Field:** The pulsed magnetic field has been used in various fields like medicine, biotechnology, biomass, agriculture, genetics etc. healing, colitis/Irritable Bowel Syndrome, osteoarthritis, migraine headaches and more, PEMF uses electrical energy to direct a series of magnetic pulses through injured tissues whereby each magnetic pulse induce a tiny electrical signal that stimulate cellular repair.

### III. BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE

- 1. Arachis hypogaea (Ground Nut):** This is just one use for a pulsed magnetic field. The field germination rates of seeds can be increased by treating them with PMF since it speeds up seed germination, encourages further plant growth, and boosts grain and vegetable output.

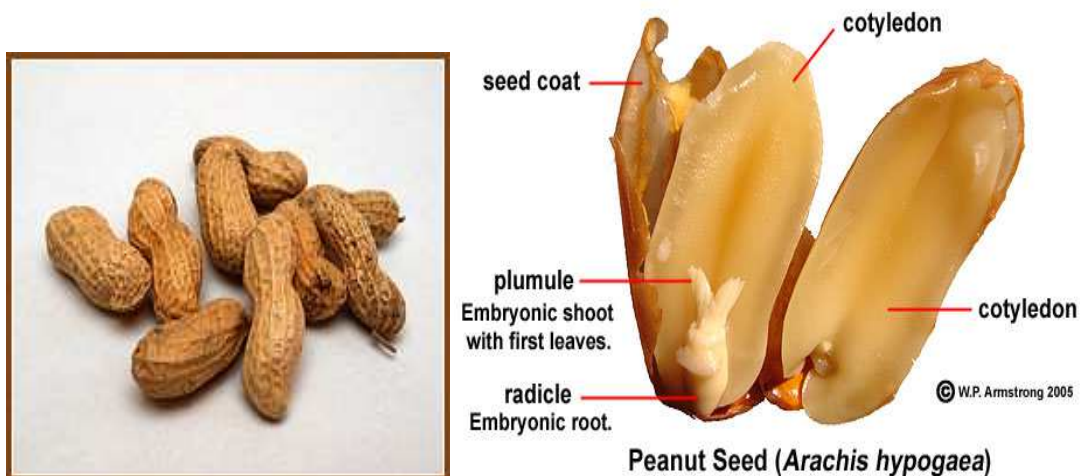
We will use groundnut in this instance as our sample for the pulsed magnetic field. Because they are legumes, peanuts work in symbiosis with particular Rhizobium bacteria to fix, or manufacture, their own nitrogen. *Arachis hypogaea* L. is the official scientific name of the self-pollinating plant species that produces peanuts.

- 2. Binomial Classification**

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- Domain : Eukarya
- Kingdom : Plantae
- Phylum : Magnoliophyta
- Class : Magnoliopsida
- Order : Fabales
- Family : Leguminosae
- Sub-family : Papilionaceae
- Genus : Arachis
- Species : hypogaea

The two subspecies of peanuts are hypogaea and fastigiata. The hypogaea subspecies, in general, mature later, have a high water requirement, have alternate branching patterns, and generate huge seed because they do not blossom on the main stem. The fastigiata subspecies has sequential branching, produces blooms on the main stem, matures quicker than the other subspecies, requires less water, and has less seedf production.



**Figure 1:** Peanut Seeds

- 3. Nutrients in Groundnut:** Nutrient-dense peanuts include more than 30 phytonutrients and vital minerals. Niacin, folate, fiber, magnesium, vitamin E, magnesium, and phosphorus are all nutrients that are abundant in peanuts. Additionally, they naturally lack salt and trans fats and have a protein content of roughly 25%, which is higher than that of any genuine nut.

#### 4. Nutritional value per 100g

Energy	2,385 KJ (570Kcal)
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Carbohydrate	21g
Sugar	0.0g
Dietary fiber	9g
Fat	48g
<b>Fatty acid</b>	
Saturated	3g
Monounsaturated	24g
Polyunsaturated	16g
Protein	25g
Water	4.26g
<b>Vitamins</b>	
Thiamine (vit.B1)	0.6 mg (52%)
Niacin(vit.B3)	12.9mg (86%)
Pantothenicacid	1.8mg (36%)
Vit. B6	0.3mg (23%)
Folate(vit.B9)	246µg (62%)
Vit.C	0.0g
Calcium	62mg (6%)
Iron	2mg (15%)
Magnesium	184mg (52%)
Phosphorus	336mg (48%)
Potassium	332mg (7%)
Zinc	3.3mg (35%)

## 5. Aim and Objective

- **Aim:** To determine the biochemical and morphological changes on groundnut seeds exposed to pulsed magnetic field.
- **Objective:** To evaluate if there is any changes in seeds after exposed to pulsed magnetic field of beneficial parameters such as carbohydrate, protein, amino acid, nucleic acid, and enzyme activities

## IV. MATERIALS

**1. Pulsed Magnetic Field Exposure:** A specifically constructed Controlled Magnetic Field (CMF) enclosure was used to produce the pulsed magnetic field (PMF) that was employed in the studies. The three-member coil system of the CMF enclosure, which was created using Fansleau and Braunbeck's fundamental equations, consists of two sets of circular coils, the inner two of which have a larger diameter than the outer two, and all four of which are positioned coplanarly and coaxially. The four coils are each wound with the same number of turns of enameled copper wire, and they are all electrically linked together in a configuration known as "series-aiding." The two sets of coils' diameter ratios and the distance (or spacing) between them are calibrated in such a way that the entire disc-shaped volume between the inner (bigger) coils provides the most homogenous (i.e., homogenous) magnetic field. A part in 5000 is about how homogeneous this arrangement. This Fansleau and Braunbeck coil system is an improved version of the traditional Helmholtz 2-coil system that offers a vast volume of extremely

uniform magnetic field that is 20 to 30 times larger than that provided by a Helmholtz coil with identical physical dimensions. A function generator (PLATE: 3) that allows for precise control of the output current's intensity, frequency, and waveform powers the coil system with pulsed electric current. Consequently, the coil system is giving a highly homogeneous or uniform pulsating magnetic field along its axis. An UPS system is integrated into the supply circuit, which provides uninterrupted power regardless of any power failures, to ensure that the alternating current power supply to the function generator (domestic electric power) is not stopped during the PMF exposure. Regarding the PMF presentation geometry, all of the CMF coil assemblies were maintained with their axes vertical, allowing the PMF axis to pass through the test objects vertically.

The Madras Institute of Magnetobiology's magnetic standardization lab uses high-precision magnetometers and current measuring equipment to properly calibrate the coil assemblies that were designed and made there. Using a magnetometer to make these measurements .

The PMF for exposure of dry seeds is obtained from a standard function generator, wherein a “carrier wave” of frequency 100 Hz is “frequency - modulated” by another wave of 0.3 Hz. In principle with the above system the input pulsating magnetic field will be a constant intensity where whose frequency pulses at 0.3 sec frequency.

- 2. Exposure Details:** 50g of Ground nut seeds are taken in 3 packets. The seeds are exposed to pulsed magnetic field of frequency [ $T_1$ - 100 Hz,  $T_2$  – 500 Hz,  $T_3$  – 1000 Hz] with intensity  $\pm 1500$  nT, current of 30mA using sine wave for 5hrs duration per day for a period of 15 days. Seeds without exposure to pulsed magnetic field served as control. The seeds exposed to PMF are in dry condition.

- **Control** - Seeds not exposed to magnetic field
- **Test 1( $T_1$ )** - Seeds exposed to 100 Hz
- **Test 2( $T_2$ )** - Seeds exposed to 500 Hz
- **Test 3( $T_3$ )** - Seeds exposed to 1000 Hz

## PLATE 1

### Arachis hypogaeae (GROUND NUT) Seeds Exposed to Pulsed Magnetic Field



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## V. RESULTS & DISCUSSIONS

1. **Morphological Analysis:** 25 seeds from each exposed samples were counted and soaked separately for overnight. After the seeds were soaked overnight the seeds were sown in three different pots. The unexposed control seeds were also sown in separate pot. The seeds were allowed to germinate and the studies of their growth parameters like there root and shoot length, fresh and dry weights were studied on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of germination. The seeds started emerging on the 4 th day of germination. On the 7<sup>th</sup> day, under control - 2 plants, in T1 – 4 plants, T2 – 5 plants and in T3 - 3 plants were grown.

S.NO	PARAMETER	CONTROL	TEST - 1	TEST - 2	TEST - 3
1	Percentage of Germination	60	28	<b>84</b>	32
2	Shoot Length	9.00	14.00	<b>23.50</b>	19.00
3	Root Length	2.00	4.00	<b>5.50</b>	5.00
4	Fresh Weight	3.34	3.10	<b>4.81</b>	4.17
5	Dry Weight	1.68	1.26	<b>2.36</b>	1.91
6	Moisture content	49.64	59.28	50.94	<b>54.16</b>

2. **Moisture Content:** By obtaining the fresh and dry weight of the samples, the moisture content of the samples, control, T1, T2, T3 were calculated using formula:

$$\text{Moisture Content} = \frac{(\text{Fresh Weight}) - (\text{Dry Weight})}{\text{Fresh Weight}} * 100$$

**PLATE: 3**

**Germination of Peanuts**



**PLATE: 4**

**Analysis of Seedlings**



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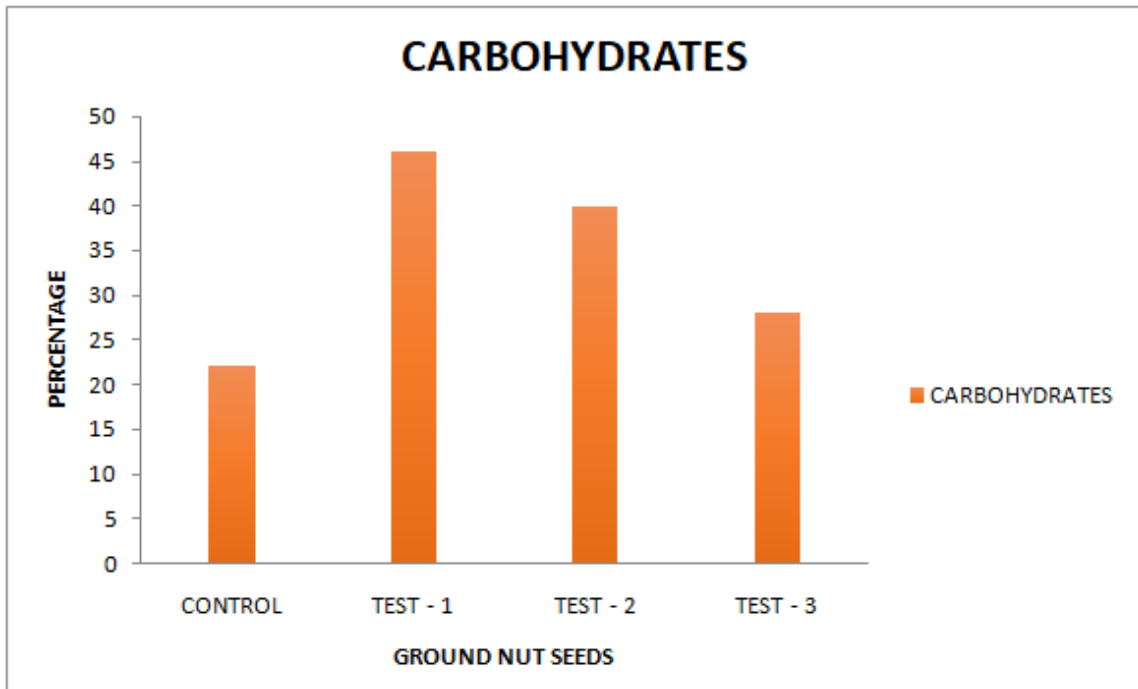
In order to pre-treat seeds, a pulsed magnetic field must be applied to them. It encourages more plant development, speeds up seed germination, and increases grain and vegetable crop yields. Magnetic fields fluctuate throughout time, which affects the bio-electric field within or surrounding the cell and alters how permeable the cell membrane is. Depending on the type of magnetic therapy employed, such as the magnetic field's strength, frequency, or exposure time, the beneficial benefits on seedlings have been observed in a number of circumstances. During development, plants convert various growth responses into physical and chemical signals (such as light, gravity, phytohormones, etc.). These environmental or physiological studies open the door for cellular, biochemical, and molecular development projects in the future. In order to pre-treat seeds, a pulsed magnetic field must be applied to them. It encourages more plant development, speeds up seed germination, and increases grain and vegetable crop yields. Magnetic fields fluctuate throughout time, which affects the bio-electric field within or surrounding the cell and alters how permeable the cell membrane is. Depending on the type of magnetic therapy employed, such as the magnetic field's strength, frequency, or exposure time, the beneficial benefits on seedlings have been observed in a number of circumstances. During development, plants convert various growth responses into physical and chemical signals (such as light, gravity, phytohormones, etc.). These environmental or physiological studies open the door for cellular, biochemical, and molecular development projects in the future.

### Analysis of Biochemical Parameters

S.NO	Parameter	Control	Test - 1	Test - 2	Test - 3
1	<b>Carbohydrates</b>	22	<b>46</b>	40	28
2	<b>Protein</b>	80	88	14	<b>100</b>
3	<b>Amino Acids</b>	3.9	3	<b>4</b>	3.4
4	<b>Protease</b>	<b>3.5</b>	0.7	<b>2.6</b>	0.5
5	<b>DNA</b>	80	<b>224</b>	168	136
6	<b>RNA</b>	360	368	<b>376</b>	160
7	<b><math>\alpha</math> - Amylase</b>	40	32	56	<b>88</b>
8	<b><math>\beta</math> - Amylase</b>	0.04	0.08	<b>0.11</b>	0.04

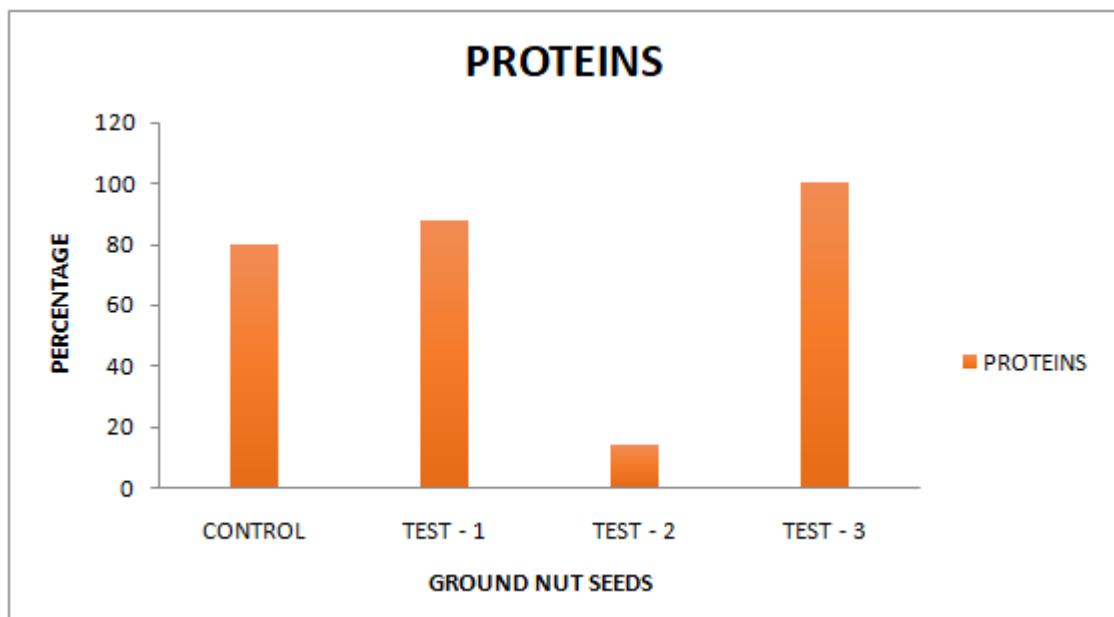
The present study has been framed with the objective to study the effect of pulsed magnetic fields on various biochemical parameters of *Arachis hypogaea* seeds.

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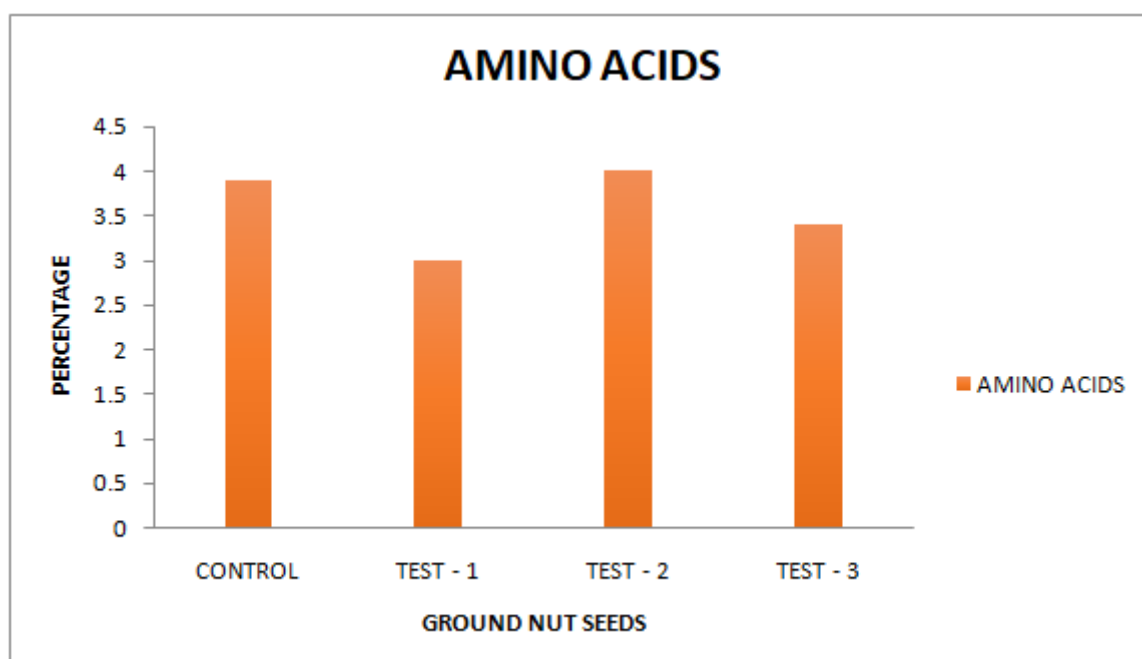
**Figure 1:** Estimation of Carbohydrates

In experiments conducted to estimate the amount of **carbohydrate** showed a gradual increase in Test-1, Test-2 and Test-3 when compared to control. Analysis of the total content of carbohydrates present in the given samples shows that there is only a slight variance in the level of carbohydrates compared to that of the control. The total amount of carbs remained relatively unchanged when PMF was raised. (Yu. I. Novitsky *et al.*, November 2001).



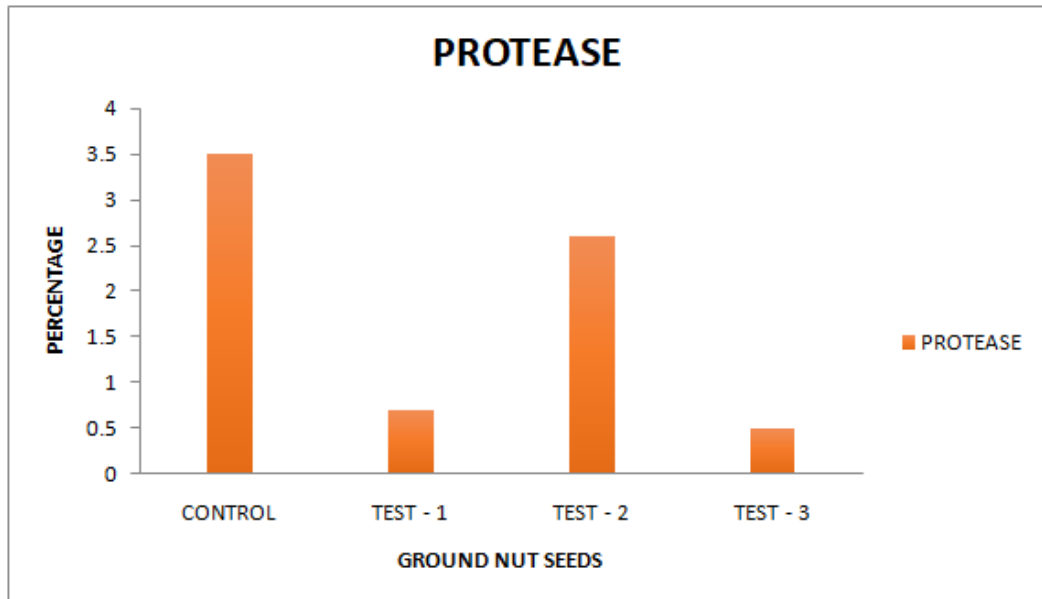
**Figure 2:** Estimation of Proteins

The amount of **protein** present in the given sample was estimated by the Lowry's method. There is an increase in the Test 2, Test 1 and Test 3 values as compared to the control. The increase in the protein content is supported by the works of SemaAlikamanoglu and Ayse Sen, "stimulation of growth and some biochemical parameters by magnetic field in wheat tissue cultures". Sema Alikamanoglu<sup>(37)</sup> (2011) studied the effects of magnetic field (2.9 to 4.8 mT by  $1\text{ms}^{-1}$ ) applied to mature embryos of wheat variety. They determined the various physiological and biochemical parameters (protein, enzyme activities). Protein content in mature embryo culture exposed to magnetic field showed increase by compared to control respectively.



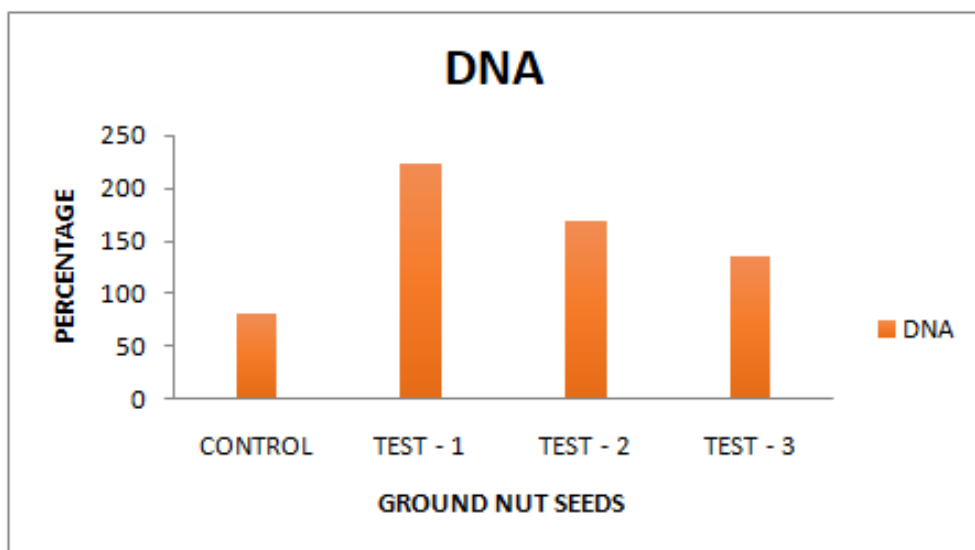
**Figure 3:** Estimation of Aminoacids

The **amino acid** content of our samples has been determined. There is only slight variations with control and Test-2. Test-1 and Test-3 are less compared to control (unexposed seeds). These results are supported in the paper ELF magnetic fields boost the uptake of amino acids by *Vicia faba* L. roots and modify ion transport across the plasma membrane. B.C. Stange and others (38). (2002) demonstrated a substantial increase in amino acid uptake into undamaged roots in *Vicia faba* seedlings exposed to a 10 T 50 Hz square wave magnetic field for 40 min together with a radioactive pulse. A square wave of 100 T and 50 Hz resulted in a more subdued growth.



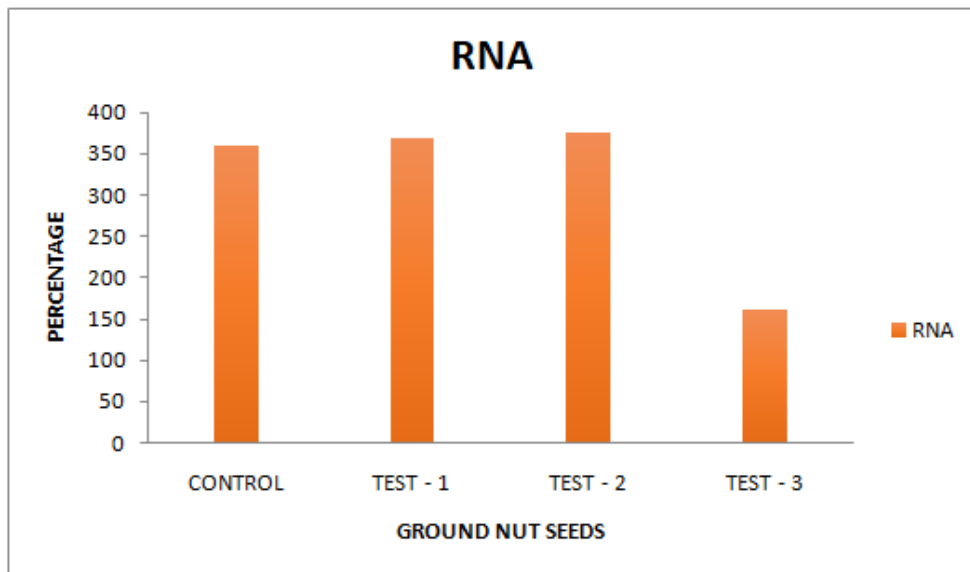
**Figure 4:** Estimation of Protease

According to the current study, exposed seeds had less protease activity than the control seeds, which were not treated. An enzyme called protease is responsible for the process of proteolysis, which involves breaking down long protein chains into smaller pieces by severing the peptide bonds that connect amino acid residue. P. Rajendra (39) examined the "effects of power frequency electromagnetic field on growth of germinating *Vicia faba* L., the broad bean" in his research. A model system, the growing *Vicia faba* seedling, was used in the experimental investigations to determine the effects of continuous and delayed exposure to power frequency electromagnetic field at 5, 50, and 100 T. On the second and fourth days of their investigation, they examine physiological variables, biochemical components, and enzyme activities.



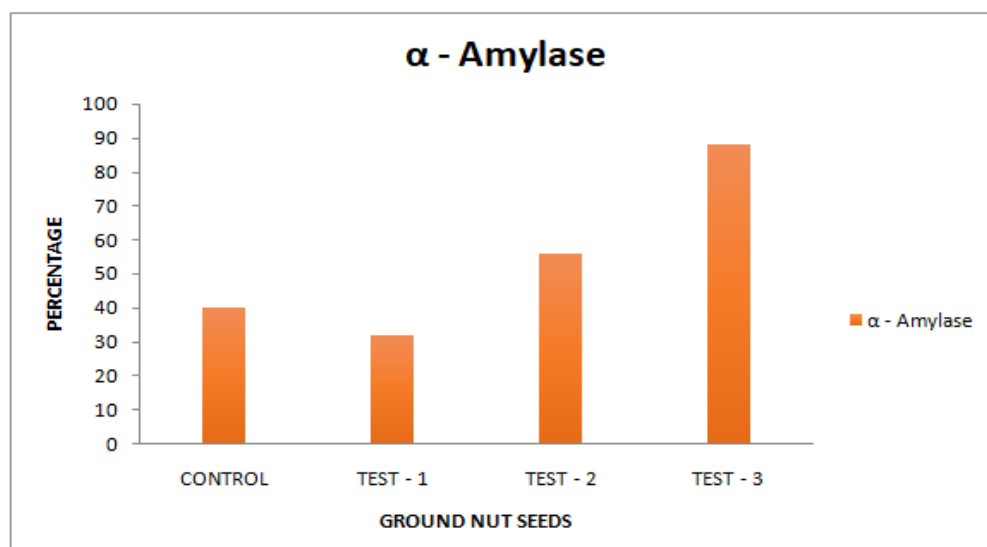
**Figure 5:** Estimation of DNA

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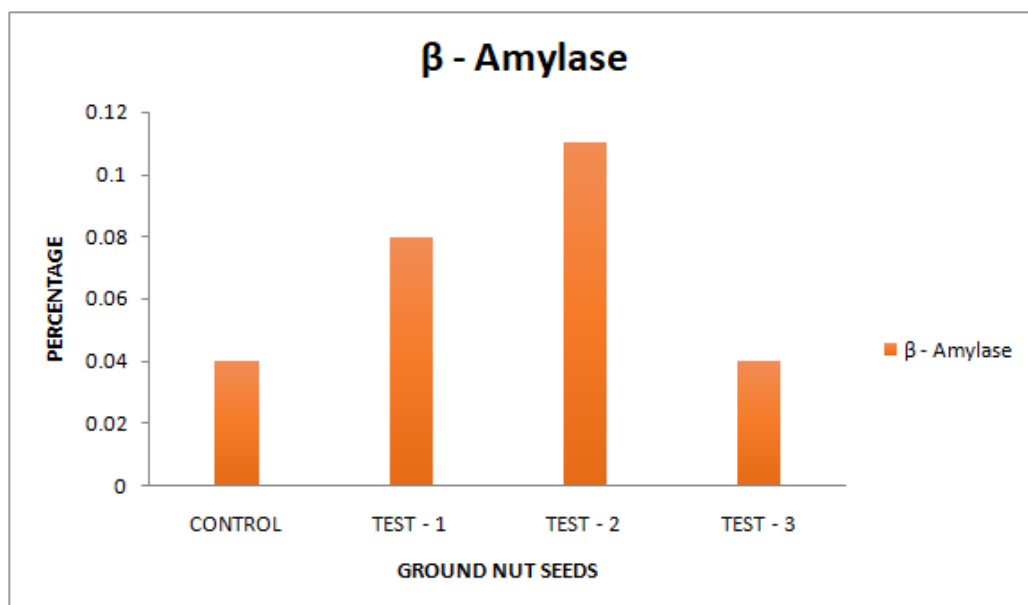
**Figure 6:** Estimation of RNA

In the experiments conducted to estimate the **Nucleic acid content** it is seen that there is an increase in all the test values in the amount of DNA as compared to the control. Similarly there is an increase in Test-2 as compared to control in the amount of RNA. Test-1 showed equal value of control were Test-3 is less than control preliminary studies by **M.Racuciu et.al**,<sup>(40)</sup> 2006, applied five different static magnetic field induction values, ranging from 50mT to 250mT, for 14 days (*Zea mays*). They looked into how chlorophyll, carotenoid, and nucleic acid underwent biochemical changes. In contrast to the control sample, the average nucleic acid level is increased in low magnetic field energy density, however an inhibitory effect on the average nucleic acid level was seen with increasing magnetic field energy density.



**Figure 7:** Estimation of  $\alpha$  - Amylase





**Figure 8:** Estimation Of  $\beta$  – Amylase

In experiments conducted to estimate the **enzyme activity**,  $\alpha$ -Amylase showed a marked gradual increase in Test 1, Test 2 as compared to the control. Test 3 decreased drastically compared to that of control, Test 1 and Test 2. In the case of  $\beta$ -Amylase, the enzyme activity is seen increased in Test-1 and Test-2 compared to control. Jyotsna Bhardwaj et.al<sup>(41)</sup>, Biochemical and biophysical changes associated with magneto priming in germinating cucumber seeds. The activity of hydrolytic enzymes were greater than untreated control (2012)

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