

# How to cook a perfect egg

As an egg cooks, the proteins first denature and then coagulate. When the temperature exceeds a critical point, reactions begin and proceed faster as the temperature increases.

- In the egg white the proteins start to coagulate for temperatures above 63 °C, while in the yolk the proteins start to coagulate for temperatures above 70 °C.
- For a soft boiled egg, the white needs to have been heated long enough to coagulate at a temperature above 63 °C, but the yolk should not be heated above 70 °C.
- For a hard boiled egg, the center of the yolk should be allowed to reach 70 °C. The following formula expresses the time  $t$  it takes (in seconds) for the center of the yolk to reach the temperature  $T_y$  (in Celsius degrees):

$$t = \frac{M^{2/3} c \rho^{1/3}}{K \pi^2 (4\pi/3)^{2/3}} \ln \left[ 0.76 \frac{T_o - T_w}{T_y - T_w} \right]$$

Here,  $M$ ,  $\rho$ ,  $c$ , and  $K$  are properties of the egg:

- $M$  is the mass,
- $\rho$  is the density,
- $c$  is the specific heat capacity,
- $K$  is thermal conductivity.
- Relevant values are  $\rho = 1.038 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ,  $c = 3.7 \text{ J g}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$ , and  $K = 5.4 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ W cm}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$



## Constants

Density of Egg

$$\rho_{egg} = 1.038 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3}$$

Specific Heat Capacity of egg

$$c_{egg} = 3.7 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{g K}}$$

Thermal Conductivity of Egg

$$K_{egg} = 5.14 \cdot 10^{-3} \frac{\text{W}}{\text{cm K}}$$

## Inputs

Temperature of water

$$Temp_{water} = 353.15 \text{ K}$$

Temperature of Egg

$$Temp_{egg} = 283.15 \text{ K}$$

Temperature of yolk

$$Temp_{yolk} = 343.15 \text{ K}$$

Range of mass of egg

$$Mass_{egg} = [0.047, 0.05 \dots 0.067] \text{ kg}$$

## Calculations

Vectorizing function for different range of mass to get time

$$t = \frac{Mass_{egg} \cdot c_{egg} \cdot \rho_{egg}^{\frac{2}{3}}}{K_{egg} \cdot \pi^2 \cdot \left(\frac{4 \cdot \pi}{3}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}}} \cdot \ln \left( 0.76 \cdot \left( \frac{Temp_{egg} - Temp_{water}}{Temp_{yolk} - Temp_{water}} \right) \right)$$

## Outputs

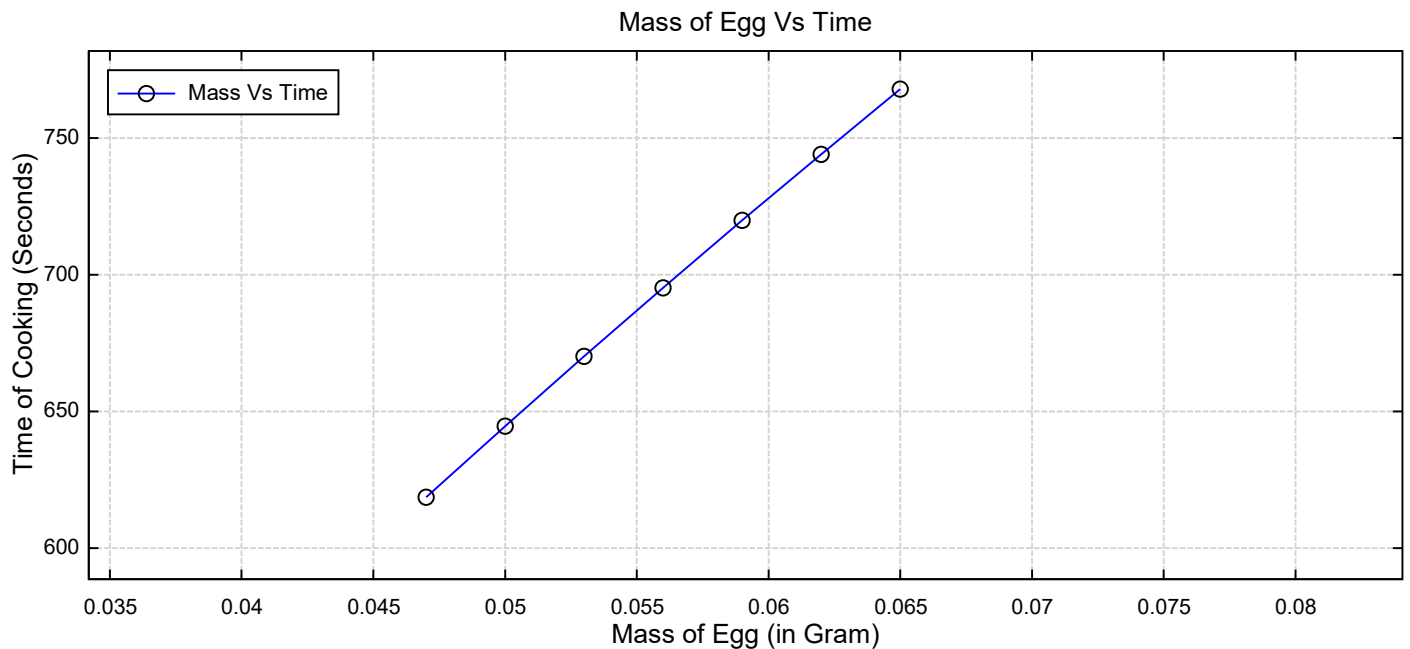
Range of Mass of Egg

Specific cooking time for corresponding value of mass of Egg

$$Mass_{egg} = \begin{bmatrix} 47 \\ 50 \\ 53 \\ 56 \\ 59 \\ 62 \\ 65 \end{bmatrix} \text{ g} \quad t = \begin{bmatrix} 10.3108 \\ 10.745 \\ 11.1706 \\ 11.5883 \\ 11.9985 \\ 12.4019 \\ 12.7988 \end{bmatrix} \text{ min}$$

## Graphical Output

Plot = augment (Mass<sub>egg</sub>, t)



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$$t = \frac{M^{2/3}c\rho^{1/3}}{K\pi^2(4\pi/3)^{2/3}}\ln[0.76\frac{T_o - T_w}{T_y - T_w}]$$

Here, M, ρ, c, and K are properties of the egg:

- M is the mass,
- ρ is the density,
- c is the specific heat capacity,
- K is thermal conductivity.
- Relevant values are ρ = 1.038 g cm−3, c = 3.7 Jg−1 K−1, and K = 5.4 10−3 W cm−1 K−1

```
In [ ]: import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

```
In [ ]: Mass_of_egg = np.linspace(0.047,0.067,50) #Chicken egg mass
rho = 1038 #Basis
c = 3700 #Basis
K = 5.4*10**-1 #Basis
Temp_of_egg = 283.15 # Inputs in kelvin
Temp_of_water = 353.15 # Inputs in kelvin
Temp_of_yolk = 343.15 # Inputs in kelvin
```

```
In [ ]: t = Mass_of_egg**(2/3)*c*rho**(1/3) / (K * np.pi**2 * (4*np.pi/3)**(2/3))
```

```
In [ ]: Log_temp = np.log(0.76 * ((Temp_of_egg-Temp_of_water)/(Temp_of_yolk-Temp_of_water)))
```

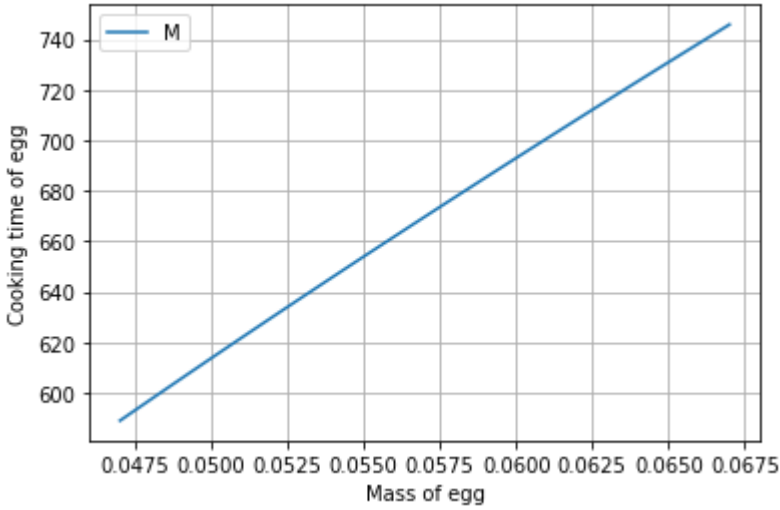
```
In [ ]: # t
```

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In [ ]: egg_cooking_time = t*Log_temp
```

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In [ ]: egg_cooking_time
```

```
Out [ ]: array([588.86120985, 592.26553565, 595.66010539, 599.04502998,
        602.42041809, 605.78637631, 609.14300913, 612.49041905,
        615.8287066 , 619.15797043, 622.47830731, 625.78981223,
        629.09257842, 632.38669739, 635.672259 , 638.94935148,
        642.21806149, 645.47847414, 648.73067304, 651.97474034,
        655.21075677, 658.43880165, 661.65895295, 664.87128733,
        668.07588013, 671.27280546, 674.46213617, 677.64394391,
        680.81829917, 683.98527128, 687.14492846, 690.29733783,
        693.44256543, 696.58067626, 699.71173431, 702.83580255,
        705.95294298, 709.06321666, 712.16668368, 715.26340325,
        718.35343367, 721.43683236, 724.51365588, 727.58395998,
        730.64779954, 733.70522869, 736.75630072, 739.80106819,
        742.83958289, 745.87189586])
```

```
In [ ]: plt.plot(Mass_of_egg,egg_cooking_time)
plt.xlabel('Mass of egg', fontsize = 10)
plt.ylabel('Cooking time of egg', fontsize = 10)
plt.legend("Mass of egg v/s time")
plt.grid()
plt.show()
```



```
In [ ]:
```