



## Investigation Of Fiber Length Change In Different Stages Of Ring Spinning Process

***Md. Rubel Khan, Assistant Professor***

Department of Yarn Engineering,  
Bangladesh University of Textiles, Bangladesh

***Md. Mamunur Rashid, Assistant Professor***

Department of Industrial and Production Engineering,  
Bangladesh University of Textiles, Bangladesh

***Sharif Ahmed, Assistant Professor***

Department of Yarn Engineering,  
Bangladesh University of Textiles, Bangladesh

***Md Ehsanur Rashid, Junior Executive***

Yarn Dyeing marketing,  
M.N. Dyeing, Printing & Washing Mills Ltd  
Gazipur, Bangladesh

***Raihan Ul Haque, Junior Executive***

Fabric Dyeing marketing,  
M.N. Dyeing, Printing & Washing Mills Ltd.  
Gazipur, Bangladesh

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### Abstract

Fiber length is one of the major fiber properties that influence yarn strength, evenness, product handle, product luster, and yarn hairiness. To assure yarn quality, fiber passes through a number of machinery during the spinning process, where it is subjected to various sorts of action that modifies the fiber length. As different process parameters are chosen based on fiber length, fiber length analysis throughout the spinning process will benefit in the

adjustment of machine parameters to produce better quality yarn. This study will reveal the chronological change in average fiber length at different stages of the carded ring spinning process, as well as a correlation analysis of length change among different phases, using correlation and regression methods. For five distinct mixing samples, raw cotton, card mat, carded sliver, breaker drawn sliver, finisher drawn sliver, roving, and yarn (pneumafil) were examined at each stage from raw cotton to ring frame. Then, using USTER AFIS PRO, all of the samples were numerically evaluated and statistically analyzed using Microsoft Excel 2016. A positive correlation between fiber length changes at several phases was observed in the experiment, with average fiber length increasing in carding, breaker drawing, finisher drawing, and simplex but decreasing in card mat and ring.

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**Keywords:** Fiber Length, Ring Spinning, Yarn Strength, Fiber Breakage

## **Introduction**

Fiber properties are known to be the significant indicators of yarn quality, with length, fineness, strength, maturity, and grade all contributing materially, albeit in varying degrees (Fiori, 1956; Fiori & Brown, 1951; Gregory, 1953; W. P. Virgin and Helmut Wakeham, 1956). Fiber length is one of the most crucial fiber characteristics (Cai, 2013; Kuang & Yu, 2015; Lin, 2012; Morais, 2020; Parsi, 2016), influencing the spinning limit (Faulkner, 2012), yarn strength (Fiori, 1954; Naylor, 2014; Ramey, 1977), yarn evenness and product handle (Frydrych, 1995; Ibrahim, 2018; Moon Won Suh, 1976), yarn hairiness (Barella & Manich, 2002; Informa, 2009; Matsuo, 2019; Pillay, 1964; Viswanathan, 1989), process performance, and spinning efficiency (Waters, 1966). However, the length of the fiber changes during the spinning process as it is subjected to various mechanical actions in various machines (Byatt, W. J., and Elting, 1958; Byatt, 1961; Carnaby, 1984; Goren, 1968; Lee, 1968; RA Pittman and JD Tallant, 1990; Shapiro, 1964; Sung Won, 1967; Tallant, 1966; Tallant & Pittman, 1968) that affect the yarn quality as well as the end product generated from the yarn. An examination was carried out in this study to assess fiber length change throughout various stages of ring spinning. Different samples were taken for this purpose from each stage of the cotton fiber mixing procedure in the card spinning process. The change in fiber length in each stage of spinning was studied using AFIS length measurement (Bragg & Shofner, 1993). The extent of the fiber length change—increment or decrement—was then determined, and the reasonable explanations of the alterations are described.

## Literature Review

Changes in fiber length at each stage of the spinning process are significant seeing as fiber length has a direct impact on yarn properties and the end product. Many researchers have tried to figure out why fiber length changes and have proposed numerous models to solve the problem. Previously, various researchers (Goren, 1968; Sung Won, 1967; Tallant, 1966) discussed fiber breakage and attempted to explain it using various models. After a few years, Robert and his coworkers investigated the relationship between cotton cleanliness and fiber breakage. They also demonstrated a method for measuring, tracking, and analyzing fiber breakage during the process (Robert, 2000; Robert & Blanchard, 1997). M. Krifa devised a finite mixture distribution model to parameterize the length distribution of cotton fibers in 2008. (Krifa, 2008). V. A. Wakankar and colleagues addressed several mechanisms responsible for different hook (trailing and leading) formation at the cylinder-doffer junction (Wakankar, 1961). According to S. Ahmad, friction and cohesion forces remove this hook during the drawing process (Ahmad, 2012). In the 1960s, John D. Tallant and associates examined The Effect of Short Fibers in Cotton on Processing Efficiency and Product Quality (Tallant, 1961b, 1961a; Tallant & Landstreet, 1960), and more recently, M. Krifa studied the bimodal and unimodal structure of fiber length distribution and its impact on fiber length distribution (Krifa, 2006). W. Zurek, M. Greszta, and I. Frydrych experimented with the theoretical consideration of fiber length and diameter changes in the process of yarn manufacturing in 1999. Based on AFIS results, they carried out their work, emphasizing on the combing process and noil extraction based assumptions (Zurek, 1999). In 2002, Zeidman and Sawhney examined cotton fiber length distribution and its effect on yarn strength to gain a better understanding of the length-strength relationship (Sawhney & Zeidman, 2002). They also attempted to simulate the strength of fiber assemblies in yarn. In 2007, G. Yan and C. Yu attempted to explain the comprehensive influence of fiber length and fineness on yarn strength, and they offered a plausible method to estimate the critical length represented by Zeidman (Yan & Yu, 2007). W. B. Faulkner and associates conducted a study on the relationships between ring-spun yarn quality and fiber in 2012 and discovered that yarn work-to-break was highly correlated with fiber bundle elongation (Faulkner, 2012). In the same year, Q. Lin and colleagues showed a correlation between fiber length statistics and length measurement and used a finite mixture model to develop a probability density function for fiber length (Lin, 2012). Y. Cai investigated the impacts of multiple length parameters and their combinations on yarn properties in 2013. (Cai, 2013). In 2014, K. Kuang and C Yu used the Finite Mixture Model to generate the fiber length probability density function of different cotton samples and compared it to other models. They discovered that test data could

fit very well within a 0.0045 error margin (Kuang & Yu, 2015). R. D. Parsi and colleagues examined the relationships between ring-spun yarn quality and fiber length in 2016 (Parsi, 2016). They used the AFIS tester for fiber testing and the UT3 tester for yarn testing. In 2020, J. Morais proposed a method to improve cotton fiber length measurement for laboratory analysis (Morais, 2020). The approach successfully lowers the discrepancies in fiber length parameters between industry-scale and laboratory-scale ginning, according to the researchers.

### Methodology

Five different mixing samples (MT1, MT2, MT3, MT4, and MT5) were collected from each phase of the card spinning process. The length of cotton fiber was then measured in Card Mat, Carding, Breaker Drawframe, Finisher Drawframe, Simplex, and Ring Frame machines using the Advance Fiber Information System (AFIS).

### Raw Material Selection

The research experiment was carried out in the running condition of Zaber Spinning Mills Ltd. Five mixing types were taken into account for fiber length analysis, each of which is pure cotton from different origins. Table 1 shows the five mixing ratios.

**Table 1.** Different mixing types with fiber origin and their percentage

Mixing Type	Fiber Origin and Percentage
Mixing type-1 (MT1)	Ivory coast (35%), Benin (30%), Mali (35%)
Mixing type-2 (MT2)	Ivory Coast (70%), Zambian (20%), Cameroon (5%), Sanker-06 (5%)
Mixing type-3 (MT3)	Ivory Coast (45%), Burkina Faso (20%), Mali (35%)
Mixing type-4 (MT4)	Ivory Coast (30%), Burkina Faso (35%), Mali (35%)
Mixing type-5 (MT5)	Ivory Coast (25%), Burkina Faso (40%), Mali (35%)

### Machinery used

Machine names, models, and parameters, as well as their values are provided in Table 2.

**Table 2.** Machine parameters used in the card spinning process

Machine	Parameter	Value	Machine	Parameter	Value
<b>Blow Room (Trutzschler)</b>	BDT	Advance d: 3mm	<b>Finisher Draw Frame (DX-8LT, Toyota)</b>	Del. Hank	0.120Ne
	CL-P	Roller rpm: 800		Del. Speed (m/min)	400
		Wing Setting = 3°		Roller Gauge	39*40*44mm
	CL-C3	Roller rpm:		Trumpet	3.8mm

		1100, 1800, 2300			
		Wing=10 <sup>0</sup> ,15 <sup>0</sup> ,25 <sup>0</sup>		Draft	8.25
<b>Carding (TC-06)</b>	Sliver Grain/yds	75.75	<b>Simplex (Toyota-FL-100)</b>	Back Draft	1.25
	Del. Hank	0.110 Ne		Del. Hank	0.90Ne
	Delivery Speed	210m/min (62Kg/h)		TPI / TM	1.13/1.119
	Flat Speed	310mm		Flyer speed	1050 rpm
	Cylinder Speed	560mm		Spacer	Green (6.5)
	Wing Setting	5°		Roller gauge	=9*21*20.5mm
				Break draft	1.21
<b>Breaker Draw Frame (D X-7AH, Toyota)</b>	Sliver (Grain/yds)	69.44	<b>Ring Frame</b>	Total draft	7.72
	Del. Hank	0.120 Ne		DCP and TCP	44 and 41
	Del. Speed (m/min)	450		Count	30 Ne
	Doubling	07		TPI / TM	22.09/4.0
	Roller Gauge	=39*43 mm		Spindle speed	16200 rpm
	Draft	7.30		Traveller No.	4/0(Bracker)
	Back Draft	1.35		Roller Gauge	44*60 mm

### Sample collection and test

Raw cotton, card mat, carded sliver, breaker drawn sliver, finisher drawn sliver, roving, and yarn (pneumafil) were sampled at each stage from raw cotton to ring frame. Finally, all of the samples were tested numerically by USTER AFIS PRO and statistically analyzed using Microsoft Excel 2016.

### Result and Discussion

Table 3 and Figures 1, 2, 4, and 5 display that fiber length was reduced in the blow room for MT1, MT2, MT4, and MT5. Fibers were beaten at various points in the blow room line, primarily in the coarse cleaner (CLP) and fine cleaner (CLC-3). They got broken because of this beating action, which results in a reduction in the average fiber length in the card mat. However, for MT3, the fiber length was increased because of the natural variability in raw material.

**Table 3.** Change in fiber length for different mixing types in different processing stages.

Processing Stage	Length (L) (In mm) Change in Length ( $\Delta L$ ) (In mm)									
	MT1 (L)	$\Delta L$	MT2 (L)	$\Delta L$	MT3 (L)	$\Delta L$	MT4 (L)	$\Delta L$	MT5 (L)	$\Delta L$
Raw cotton	30.30	0	31.23	0	28.70	0	28.70	0	28.12	0
Card Mat	29.60	-0.70	29.48	-1.75	29.40	+0.70	28.30	-0.40	27.90	-0.22
Carding	30.00	+0.40	29.97	+0.49	29.60	+0.20	29.00	+0.70	28.80	+0.90
Breaker Drawing	30.20	+0.20	29.65	-0.32	29.70	+0.10	29.20	+0.20	29.20	+0.40
Finisher Drawing	30.70	+0.50	30.26	+0.61	30.30	+0.60	29.90	+0.70	28.70	-0.50
Simplex	31.10	+0.40	30.11	-0.15	30.40	+0.10	29.80	-0.10	29.20	+0.50
Ring	29.90	-1.20	28.18	-1.93	28.90	-1.50	28.80	-1.00	28.00	-1.20

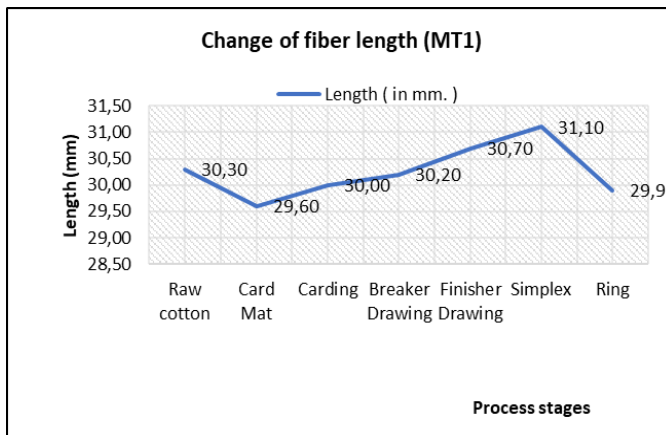


Figure 1. Change in Fiber length for MT1

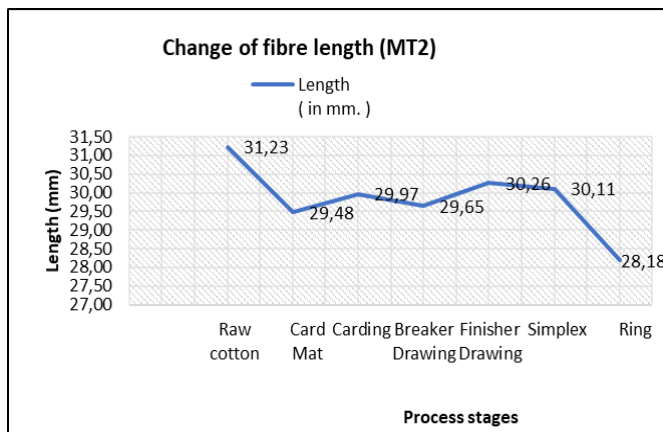


Figure 2. Change in fiber length for MT2

Table 3 and figures 1,2,3,4, and 5 display that fiber length increased during the carding process for all mixing types. Disentanglement of fiber neps,

and short fibers were removed as strips and dropping-1 during the carding process. For this reason, the average length of the fiber was increased. Table 3 and Figures 1, 3, 4, and 5 show that the fiber length was increased in the breaker drawing for MT1, MT3, MT4, and MT5. Drawing action is behind the removal of trailing and leading hooks in the breaker draw frame (Nield, 1953). As a result, fiber length was increased. However, an exception is seen in MT2 as a result of inherent variations in raw materials.

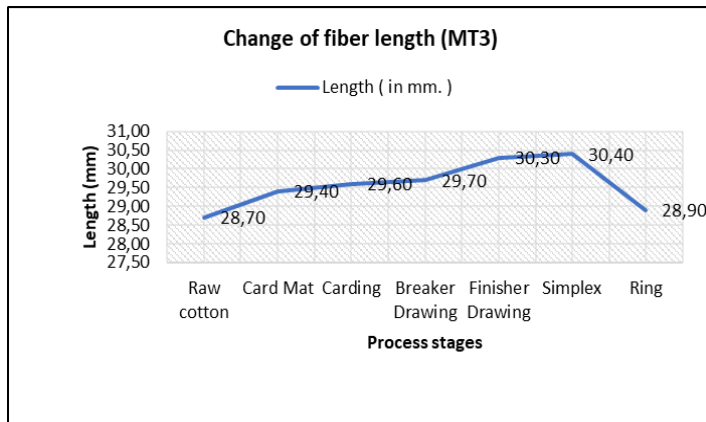


Figure 3. Change in fiber length for MT3

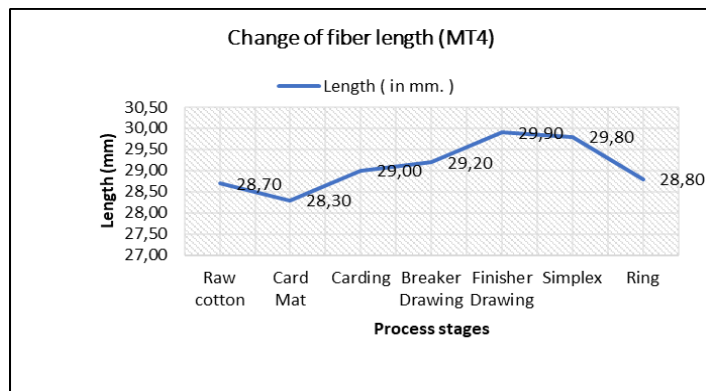
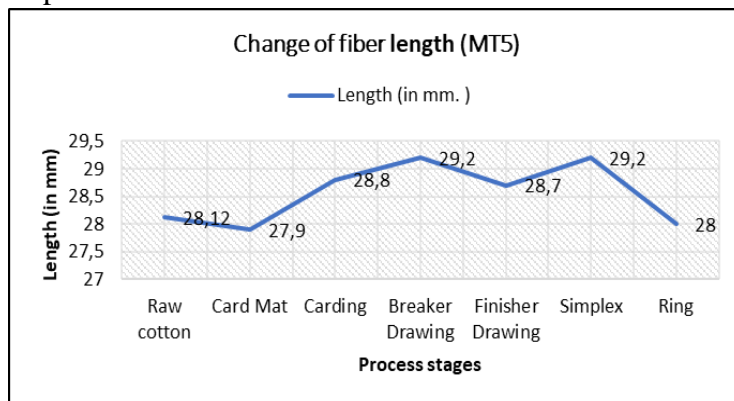


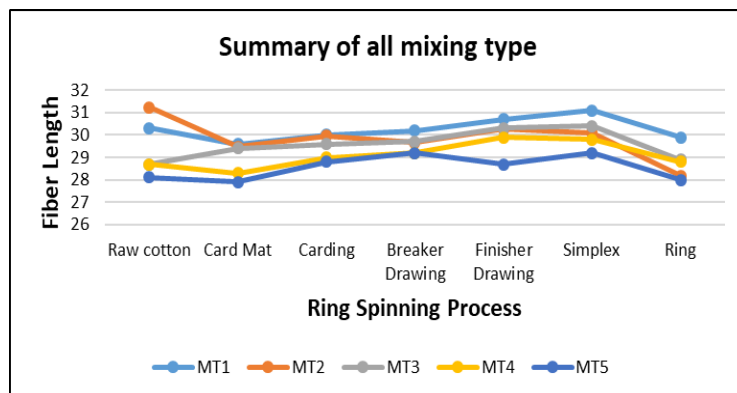
Figure 4. Change in fiber length for MT4

Fiber length was increased for finisher drawing for MT1, MT2, MT3, and MT4, as shown in table 3 and figures 1, 2, 3, and 4. Trailing and leading hooks were removed in the finisher draw frame by means of drawing action(Nield, 1953) that caused an increase in fiber length. However, Due to natural deviations in raw materials, there was an exception for MT5. Table 3 and figures 1, 3, and 5 reveal that fiber length increases in simplex for MT1, MT3, and MT5. In simplex, the trailing and leading hooks were deleted by drawing action. A waste reduction target of 0.5 percent had been set for the machine, and in this process, fly and short fibers were removed. As a result,

fiber length was increased. Due to inherent diversity in raw materials, there were a few exceptions for MT3 and MT5. Fiber length was reduced in the ring frame for all mixing types, as shown in table 3 and figures 1,2,3,4, and 5. In a ring frame, a higher draft was applied to manufacture yarn, which caused fibers to break and length to be shortened. In simplex, the trailing and leading hooks were deleted by drawing action. As a result, fiber length was increased. Several exceptions were seen for MT3 and MT5.



**Figure 5.** Change in fiber length for MT5



**Figure 6.** Summary of all mixing types for all process

A typical down-up-down pattern can be seen in figure 6. To begin, a descending trend for fiber length was noted from raw cotton to card mat. Second, a consistent upward trend in fiber length was observed from card mat to simplex. Finally, a downward pattern for fiber length is evident from simplex to ring. There are some anomalies, which are caused by inherent variations in the raw material.

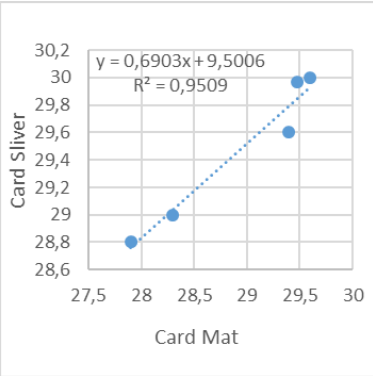
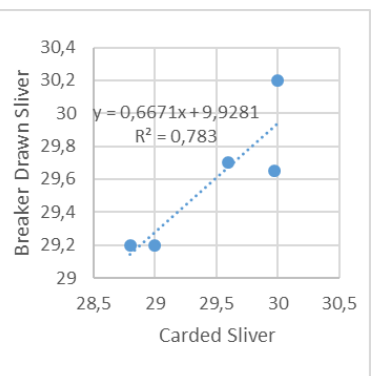
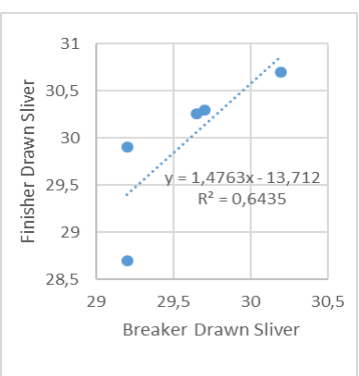


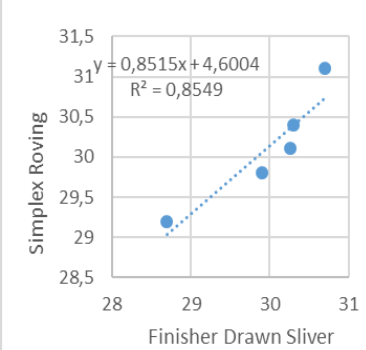
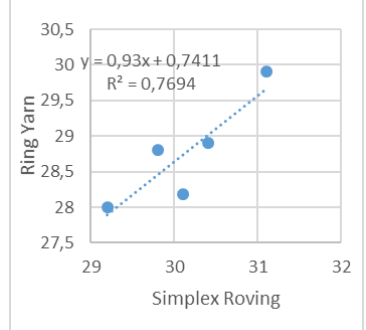
### Correlation analysis of fiber length change in different stages of Ring spinning process

Correlation Analysis is a statistical approach for determining whether or not two variables or datasets have a relationship and, if so, how strong that relationship is. Visualizing the findings of a set of data on a scatter graph is the best technique to get a generalized but more instantaneous interpretation of them. Any regression coefficient ( $R^2$ ) value between +0.5 and +1.0 indicates a very substantial positive correlation, implying that they both increase at the same time. A positive correlation between raw cotton and card mat is noticed in table 4 section 1. The regression coefficient,  $R^2$ , was 0.5611, and the regression line equation was  $y=15.74+0.4485x$ . Table 4 section 2 shows a positive correlation between card mat and card sliver. The regression coefficient,  $R^2$ , was 0.9509, and the regression line equation was  $y=0.69x+9.5006$ . A positive correlation between carded sliver and breaker drawn sliver is noticed in table 4 section 3. The regression coefficient was  $R^2=0.783$ , and the regression line equation was  $y=0.667x+9.928$ . A positive correlation between breaker drawn sliver and finisher drawn sliver is observed in table 4 section 4. The regression coefficient was  $R^2= 0.6435$ , and the regression line equation was  $y=1.476x-13.71$ . Table 4 section 5 shows a favorable relationship between finisher drawn sliver and simplex roving. The regression coefficient was  $R^2= 0.8549$ , and the regression line equation was  $y=4.60+0.85x$ . Table 4 section 6 indicates a positive correlation between simplex roving and ring yarn. The regression coefficient was  $R^2= 0.7694$ , and the regression line equation was  $y=0.741+0.93x$ . In all six sections, a positive correlation is detected, illustrating a positive correlation between fiber length changes at different phases.

**Table 4.** Correlation analysis of fiber length change in different stages.

Section	Correlation stages	Correlation values	Regression line- X=horizontal direction Y=Vertical direction
1	Correlation between Raw Cotton(x) and Card Mat(y)	Mean x ( $\bar{x}$ ): 29.41 Mean y ( $\bar{y}$ ): 28.936 Intercept (a): 15.74 Slope (b): 0.4485 Regression line equation: $y=0.4485x + 15.745$ Regression coefficient, $R^2= 0.5611$	

2	Correlation between Card Mat(x) and Card Sliver(y)	Mean $x$ ( $\bar{x}$ ): 28.936 Mean $y$ ( $\bar{y}$ ): 29.474 Intercept (a): 9.50 Slope (b): 0.69026 Regression line equation: $y=0.69x+9.5006$ Regression coefficient, $R^2=0.9509$	
3	Correlation between Carded Sliver(x) and Breaker Drawn Sliver(y)	Mean $x$ ( $\bar{x}$ ): 29.474 Mean $y$ ( $\bar{y}$ ): 29.59 Intercept (a): 9.93 Slope (b): 0.667 Regression line equation: $y=0.667x+9.928$ Regression coefficient, $R^2=0.783$	
4	Correlation between Breaker Drawn Sliver(x) and Finisher Drawn Sliver(y)	Mean $x$ ( $\bar{x}$ ): 29.59 Mean $y$ ( $\bar{y}$ ): 29.972 Intercept (a): -13.71 Slope (b): 1.476 Regression line equation: $y=1.476x-13.71$ Regression coefficient, $R^2=0.6435$	

5	Correlation between Finisher Drawn Sliver(x) and Simplex Roving(y)	Mean x ( $\bar{x}$ ): 29.972 Mean y ( $\bar{y}$ ): 30.122 Intercept (a): 4.60 Slope (b): 0.85 Regression line equation: $y=4.60+0.85x$ Regression coefficient, $R^2=0.8549$	
6	Correlation between Simplex Roving(x) and Ring Yarn(y)	Mean x ( $\bar{x}$ ): 30.122 Mean y ( $\bar{y}$ ): 28.756 Intercept (a): 0.74 Slope (b): 0.93 Regression line equation: $y=0.741+0.93x$ Regression coefficient, $R^2=0.7694$	

### Conclusion

For all mixing types, USTER AFIS PRO length measurements revealed a general down-up-down trend. Card mat and ring fiber length dropped, however, carding, breaker drawing, finisher drawing, and simplex fiber length increased. Although an anomaly is seen for MT3 due to natural variability in raw materials, the length of the fiber was significantly reduced at the card mat stage due to beating in the blow room line, which shortened the fiber length. Because of the higher drafting force in the ring frame stage, fiber breakage was substantial, reducing the average fiber length in the ring frame. The length of fiber was significantly increased during the carding stage because carding involves the disentanglement of fiber neps and the elimination of wastes, both of which raised the average fiber length. Since drafting action removes fiber hooks in the breaker drawing, finisher drawing, and simplex machine, the average fiber length was typically increased in all three stages. Nevertheless, some anomalies were observed in the breaker draw frame (MT2), finisher draw frame (MT5), and simplex (MT2, MT4), which are caused by natural deviation in raw materials. The correlation and regression analysis exhibited a positive correlation between each stage of yarn processing and fiber, with a regression coefficient ( $R^2$ ) ranging from 0.5611 to 0.9509, which will aid in anticipating changes in fiber length in due course. It will also

facilitate the fine-tuning of machine parameters in order to produce higher-quality yarn.

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