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# Prediction of Yarn Strength from Fiber Properties using Fuzzy ARTMAP

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## ABSTRACT

The count-strength-product (CSP) of cotton yarn is a complex function of fiber properties and spinning performance. The traditional way of predicting yarn CSP is using linear multiple regression. The correlation coefficient between actual CSP and predicted CSP obtained from linear regression is almost always less than 0.9. In this paper, we used a Fuzzy ARTMAP network to predict yarn CSP from fiber properties and spinning performance. Fiber properties and spinning data were used as inputs to  $ART_a$ , and yarn CSP was used as  $ART_b$  input. Our objectives are: better prediction of the quality of the end product, and to determine the optimum set of fiber properties to make reliable predictions. Several experiments were designed with different combinations of fiber properties (based on the measuring instruments used in collecting those properties) as  $ART_a$  inputs. To improve relative accuracy of prediction, three voter networks were used in each experiment. During training, order of the training data was scrambled to create 3 ARTMAP networks. The  $ART_b$  templates in the voter networks indicates the range of CSP for any particular inputs to the  $ART_a$ . Since CSP is a continuous analog value, the boundary of  $ART_b$  templates is usually not fixed among the voters. To improve absolute accuracy of prediction, we took a Fuzzy OR function among the three chosen voter templates during recall to reduce the span of the range. When predicting, each  $ART_b$  template is represented by its center of gravity. In each experiment, the correlation coefficient between the actual and the predicted CSP was better than 0.95. A combination of all fiber properties from traditional and Advanced Fiber Information System (AFIS) tests made marginally better prediction than any other combination of fiber properties including when fiber properties from all the tests were fed into  $ART_a$ .

## Introduction

The prerequisite for success of cotton textile manufacturers in today's global market is reliable, cost-effective quality control. The primary mechanism for achieving this is (a) appropriate blending of cotton and (b) proper setting of textile machinery both being based on measurements of critical fiber properties. The prerequisite for improved cotton fiber selection and blending is development of models that more accurately predicts processing efficiency and yarn quality based on objective fiber properties. Achieving this will require development of an adequate database and application of sophisticated estimation and prediction methodologies. Yarn properties depend on fiber quality and spinning performance. Usual method of predicting yarn qualities, e.g., count-strength-product, tenacity, elongation etc. is linear regression analysis. One of the drawbacks in statistical prediction is that the model, generally a linear model, should be predefined. Ethridge et. al. showed that prediction could be improved with a nonlinear model [1]; they included few quadratic and logarithmic functions of fiber properties in their model. Neural networks could be used to predict a relationship between yarn quality and fiber properties in the absence of prior knowledge of the mathematical model.

In this experiment, we used Fuzzy ARTMAP as the prediction machine. When the size of the training set is small with respect to the dimension of input vector, Fuzzy ARTMAP prediction function is more reliable than a multi-layer perceptron using back-propagation algorithm [2, 3]. Besides it provides

valuable insight of the pattern from template output. All independent variables in the experiment can be a potential input to the prediction machine. The independent variables include fiber properties, spinning data (e.g., yarn count, spin process), and cotton type (upland or ELS). The only dependent variable would be count-strength-product of the yarn. Fiber properties of each sample was measured using traditional method and the fineness/maturity measurements from the Shirley F/MT (8 properties), HVI or the Spinlab High Volume Instrument (8 properties), short fiber measurements from AFIS or the Uster Advanced Fiber Information System (5 properties). Another aspect of this project is to determine the optimum collection of fiber properties to make reliable quality prediction. Elimination of any fiber property measurement would save both time and money, in terms of equipment cost.

To make this paper self sustained we included full description of Fuzzy ARTMAP learning in Section II. Section III discusses the experiments and results.

## Section II

### Operation of Fuzzy ARTMAP

Fuzzy ARTMAP is a supervised clustering algorithm that operates on vectors with analog or binary valued elements. In a Fuzzy ARTMAP, categories formed by two Fuzzy ART units  $ART_a$  and  $ART_b$ , are associated via a MAP field as category and class respectively. During training, like supervised learning, independent variables are fed to the inputs of  $ART_a$  (input training signal) and dependent variables to the  $ART_b$  input (output training signal). In the recall phase, inputs are supplied only to the  $ART_a$ , and the template chosen at  $ART_b$  will serve as the predicted output. Function of the MAP field in between them is to ensure maximum code compression at  $ART_a$  templates for minimum predictive error at  $ART_b$  templates. This is done by a method called "match-tracking."

**Summary of Fuzzy ART:** Individually, both the  $ART_a$  and  $ART_b$  units works as Fuzzy ART units.

Each Fuzzy ART unit has three layers of nodes called  $F_0$ ,  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  layers respectively. Inputs to Fuzzy ART unit are in the complement code form to reduce a phenomenon called category proliferation [4]. If the input layer  $F_0$  has  $M$  nodes (i.e., input vector is  $M$ -dimensional), then  $F_1$  layer will have  $2M$  nodes. For  $N$  output nodes at  $F_2$  layer there will be  $N \times 2M$  top down weight vector  $\mathbf{w}_j$ , connecting each  $F_2$  layer node with  $F_1$  layer.  $\mathbf{w}_j$  is also known as the long-term-memory (LTM) trace or templates. Fuzzy ART dynamics are determined by a choice parameter  $>0$ ; a learning rate parameter  $[0, 1]$ ; and a vigilance parameter  $[0, 1]$ .

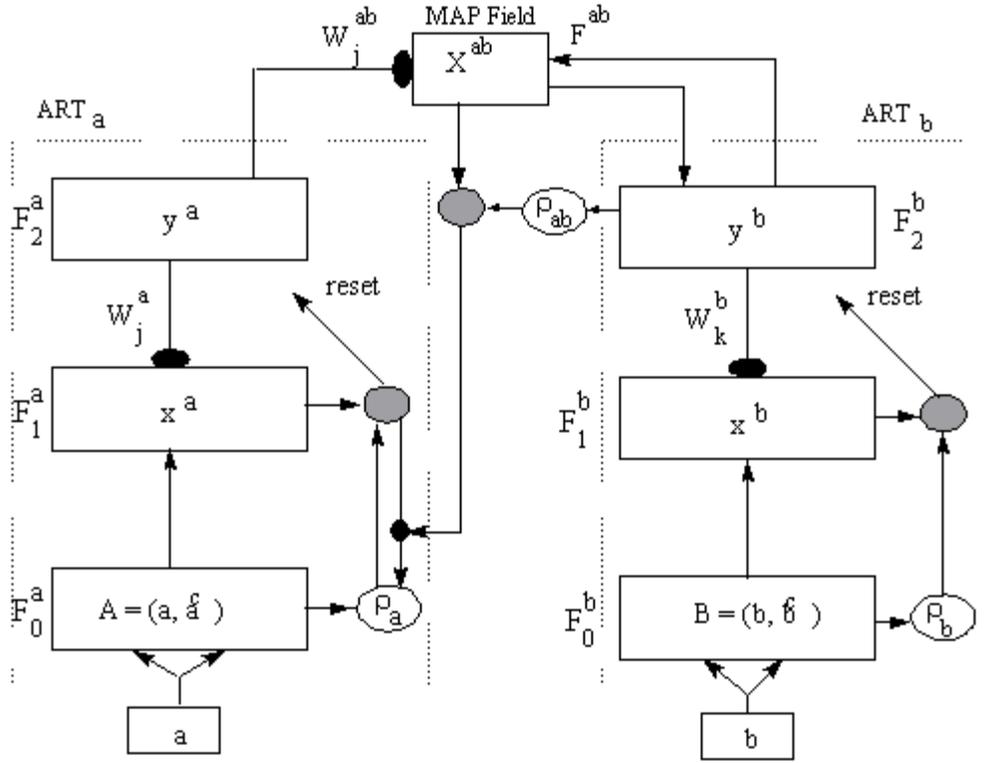


Figure 1: Architecture of Fuzzy ARTMAP [2].

Following notations will be used throughout the material regarding Fuzzy ART inputs and outputs at each layer.

1. M-dimensional input to  $F_0$  layer,  $\mathbf{A} = [\mathbf{a}]$ ;  $\mathbf{A}$  is normalized, i.e.,  $a_i$  is  $[0, 1]$ .
2. 2M-dimensional output of  $F_0$  layer,  $\mathbf{I} = (\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}^c) =$  input to  $F_1$  layer;

where,  $\mathbf{a}^c =$  complement of  $\mathbf{a}$ , i.e.,  $a_i^c \equiv 1 - a_i$ .

1. Output of  $F_1$  layer is  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{2M})$ , where,

$$x_j = \begin{cases} I & \text{if } F_2 \text{ is inactive} \\ I \wedge w_j & \text{if the } j\text{th } F_2 \text{ node is active} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

$\mathbf{x}$  serves as the system output in recall phase.

1. Input to  $F_2$  layer is given by choice function  $T_j(\mathbf{I})$ . For each input  $\mathbf{I}$  and  $F_2$  node  $j$ , the choice function  $T_j$  is defined by

$$T_j(\mathbf{I}) = \frac{|I \wedge w_j|}{\alpha + |w_j|}, \quad (2)$$

where the fuzzy AND, or intersection operator  $()$  is defined by:

$$(\mathbf{p} \mathbf{q})_i = \min(p_i, q_i) \quad (3)$$

and where the norm  $\|\cdot\|$  is defined by:

$$\|\mathbf{p}\| = \sum_{i=1}^M p_i \quad (4)$$

for any M-dimensional vectors  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$ . For notational simplicity,  $T_j(\mathbf{I})$  is

written as  $T_j$  when the input  $\mathbf{I}$  is fixed.

1. Output of  $F_2$  layer is  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_N)$ . When Jth category is chosen,

$y_J = 1$ ; and  $y_j = 0$  for  $j \neq J$ .

The system is said to make a category choice when at most one  $F_2$  node can become active at a given time. The category choice is indexed by J, where,  $T_J = \max\{T_j; j = 1, \dots, N\}$ . If more than one  $T_j$  is maximal, the category j with the smallest index is chosen. In particular node becomes committed in the order  $j=1, 2, 3$ , etc. this rule eliminates the need for any bottom-up weights between  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  layers (some authors prefer to use them [5]).

In the training phase, the system learns by resonance and mismatch.  $F_1$  layer output  $\mathbf{x}$  represents a compressed coding of input  $\mathbf{I}$ , and vigilance parameter determines the minimum confidence between  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{I}$  to accept the coding. The system is said to be in resonance if the match function  $\|\mathbf{x}\| / \|\mathbf{I}\|$  of the chosen category meets the vigilance criterion:

$$\frac{\|\mathbf{x}\|}{\|\mathbf{I}\|} = \frac{\|\mathbf{I} \wedge \mathbf{w}_j\|}{\|\mathbf{I}\|} \geq \rho \quad (5)$$

Template  $\mathbf{w}_j$  then incorporate the pattern according to learning rule. Mismatch reset occurs if

$$\frac{\|\mathbf{I} \wedge \mathbf{w}_j\|}{\|\mathbf{I}\|} < \rho$$

The value of the choice function  $T_J$  is set to zero for the duration of the input presentation to prevent the persistent selection of the same category during search. A new index J is then chosen by  $T_j$ . The search process continues until the chosen j satisfies vigilance criterion. An  $F_2$  node is said to become committed when it is being selected by any input pattern for the first time.

The Fuzzy ART top-down weights follow outstar learning [2]. Learning by  $\mathbf{w}_j$  is gated by  $\mathbf{y}$ . When a category J is chosen ( $\mathbf{w}_J$  at resonance with  $\mathbf{I}$ ), weights  $w_{ji}$  change via learning rule. Templates associated with other nodes  $j \neq J$  remain unchanged. The weight vector  $\mathbf{w}_J$  is updated according to the equation

$$\mathbf{w}_J^{(new)} = \rho \mathbf{I} \wedge \mathbf{w}_J^{(old)} + (1 - \rho) \mathbf{w}_J^{(old)} \quad (6)$$

Initially,  $w_{ji}(0) = 1.0$ , for all j and i. Templates corresponding to an uncommitted node is the same as

initial weight. Each LTM trace  $w_{ji}$  is monotonically nonincreasing through time and hence converges to a limit.

Fast learning corresponds to setting  $\alpha = 1.0$ . During fast learning, adaptive weights reach their asymptote on each input representation. If  $0 < \alpha < 1$  it is called slow learning. A special type of slow learning, called fast-commit slow-encode, is one in which fast learning occurs when the chosen  $F_2$  node is uncommitted, and slow learning occurs when it is committed.

**Geometric interpretation of Fuzzy ART:** In fast learn scenario, a committed template  $w_J$ , which has coded input patterns  $I_1 = (a(1), a^c(1)), I_2 = (a(2), a^c(2)), \dots, I_P = (a(P), a^c(P))$ , can be written as :

$$w_J = I_1 \wedge I_2 \wedge \dots \wedge I_P = \left( \bigwedge_{i=1}^P a(i), \bigwedge_{i=1}^P a^c(i) \right) = \left( \bigwedge_{i=1}^P a(i), \left\{ \bigvee_{i=1}^P a(i) \right\}^c \right) = (u_J, v_J)^c \quad (7)$$

Thus, the weight vector  $w_J$ , can be represented, geometrically, in terms of two points,  $u_J$ , and  $v_J$ , in the  $M$ -dimensional space. Also, it can be represented geometrically as a hyper-rectangle with endpoints  $u_J$ , and  $v_J$ . With the same reasoning, any input vector  $I = (a, a^c)$  is equivalent to a point in the hyper-space. When a template becomes committed for the first time, it is a point in space or a hyper-rectangle of size zero. As more and more inputs are coded into the template the size of the hyper-rectangle gets bigger and bigger. Note that, the size of the hyper-rectangle with endpoints  $u_J$ , and  $v_J$  is taken to be equal to  $|v_J - u_J|$  [2, 6].

$$\text{Now, } |w_J| = \sum_i (u_J)_i + \sum_i [1 - (v_J)_i] = M - |v_J - u_J|$$

i.e., the size of the hyper-rectangle  $R_j$  is :

$$|R_j| = M - |w_j|$$

But, for vigilance criteria,  $|w_j| \geq \rho M$ . Thus,

$$|R_j| \leq (1 - \rho)M$$

When  $|R_j| \rightarrow 0$ , the template represents rare inputs or outliers. As  $|R_j|$  gets bigger than zero or  $|w_j|$  gets smaller than  $M$ , more and more input points are mapped inside the hyper-rectangle. This second situation represents generalization among input patterns.

**Effect of alpha:** To explain the effect of choice factor  $\alpha$ , let us write the equation of choice function one more time.

$$T_j(I) = \frac{|I \wedge w_j|}{\alpha + |w_j|} \quad (2)$$

From the above equation it is clear that if  $\alpha \gg |w_j|$ ,  $T_j$  is proportional to  $|I \wedge w_j|$  only; and  $T_j$  can pick uncommitted node over committed nodes. So, initially a safe limit would be to keep  $\alpha < M$ .

Now, any committed weight template can be described as a subset template, mixed template or superset

template of an input  $I$ . In a subset template,  $w_{ji} \leq I_i$  for all  $i$ ; i.e.,  $|I \wedge w_j| = |w_j|$ . On the other hand, in a superset template,  $w_{ji} \geq I_i$  for all  $i$ ; or,  $|I \wedge w_j| = |I_j| \leq |w_j|$ . For a mixed template,  $|I \wedge w_j|$  is less than both  $|w_j|$  and  $|I_j|$ . Due to the complement coding nature of the input patterns, superset templates cannot be created in a Fuzzy ART architecture with fast learning or fast-commit slow-recode learning; all superset templates are uncommitted templates.

When  $\alpha$  is very small ( $\alpha \rightarrow 0$ ), choice function is biased to select a subset template, because  $T_j$  is very close to 1 for a subset template. But to prevent selecting a mixed node over a subset node  $\alpha$  has to be still smaller than some threshold value. Let  $w_1$  be a subset node and  $w_2$  be a mixed node of input pattern  $I$ . To choose  $w_1$  before  $w_2$ :

$$\frac{|w_1|}{\alpha + |w_1|} > \frac{|w_2 \wedge I|}{\alpha + |w_2|}$$

or,  $\alpha < \frac{|w_1|(|w_2| - |w_2 \wedge I|)}{|w_2 \wedge I| - |w_1|}$

To find a maximum limit for  $\alpha$ :

$$\max\{|w_2 \wedge I|\} M,$$

$$\min\{|w_1|\} M;$$

therefore,  $\alpha_{\max} < \frac{\rho(|w_2| - |w_2 \wedge I|)}{1 - \rho}$ .

For binary input patterns  $(|w_2| - |w_2 \wedge I|) = 1$ . But for analog patterns it can be extremely small depending on the scaling of the input vector. For  $\rho = 0.5$  and  $(|w_2| - |w_2 \wedge I|) = 0.001$  (corresponding to a maximum scale factor of 1000),  $\alpha$  has to be smaller than 0.001 to prevent choosing a mixed node before any subset node. Biasing towards selecting a subset node first would ensure maximum code compression; all the hyper-rectangles will try to acquire its maximum allowed area set by the vigilance parameter.

Geometrically, a subset template is one which encloses input point inside its hyper-rectangle and for mixed template the input point lies outside of the hyper-rectangle.

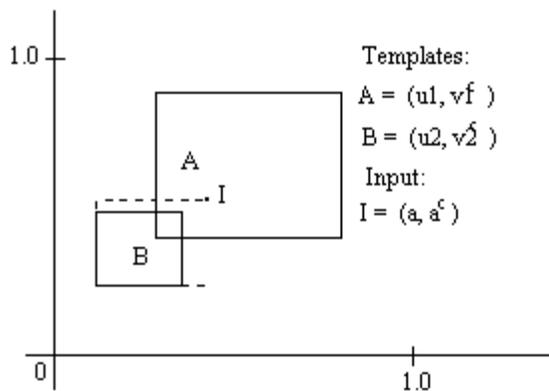


Figure 2: Geometrical representation of 2-D templates A and B. A is a subset template for I, but B is a mixed template. For 0, I will select template A first, but for B will be selected first because the new template involving B and I (dashed box) will be smaller than original template A.

**Fuzzy ARTMAP summary:** Let us denote  $ART_a$  input  $\mathbf{I} = \mathbf{A} = (\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}^c)$  and  $ART_b$  input  $\mathbf{I} = \mathbf{B} = (\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{b}^c)$ . Variables in  $ART_a$  or  $ART_b$  are designated by superscripts a or b. For  $ART_a$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^a (x_1^a, \dots, x_{2M_a}^a)$  denotes the  $F_1^a$  output vector;  $\mathbf{y}^a (y_1^a, \dots, y_{N_a}^a)$  denotes the  $F_2^a$  output vector; and  $\mathbf{w}_j^a = (w_{j,1}^a, w_{j,2}^a, \dots, w_{j,2M_a}^a)$  denotes the  $j$ th  $ART_a$  weight vector. For  $ART_b$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^b (x_1^b, \dots, x_{2M_b}^b)$  denotes the  $F_1^b$  output vector;  $\mathbf{y}^b (y_1^b, \dots, y_{N_b}^b)$  denotes the  $F_2^b$  output vector; and  $\mathbf{w}_k^b = (w_{k,1}^b, w_{k,2}^b, \dots, w_{k,2M_b}^b)$  denotes the  $k$ th  $ART_b$  weight vector.  $ART_a$  and  $ART_b$  are linked via an inter-ART module,  $F^{ab}$ , called a map field. For the map field,  $\mathbf{x}^{ab} (x_1^{ab}, \dots, x_{N_b}^{ab})$  denotes the  $F^{ab}$  output vector and  $\mathbf{w}_j^{ab} = (w_{j,1}^{ab}, w_{j,2}^{ab}, \dots, w_{j,N_b}^{ab})$  denotes the weight vector from the  $j$ th  $F_2^a$  node to  $F^{ab}$ . Components of vectors  $\mathbf{x}^a$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^b$ , and  $\mathbf{x}^{ab}$  are reset to zero between input presentations. Initially, each weight is set equal to one. Note, that  $|A| = M_a$  and  $|B| = M_b$  for all input vectors  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  for complement coding.

**Map field activation:** Map field  $F^{ab}$  is activated when one of the  $ART_a$  or  $ART_b$  categories become active. When the  $J$ th  $F_2^a$  node is chosen,  $F_2^a$   $F^{ab}$  input is proportional to the weight vector  $\mathbf{w}_J^{ab}$ . When the  $K$ th  $F_2^b$  node is chosen, the  $F^{ab}$  node  $K$  is activated by one-to-one pathways between  $F_2^b$  and  $F^{ab}$ . If both  $ART_a$  and  $ART_b$  are active, the  $F^{ab}$  activity reflects the degree to which a correct prediction has been made. With fast learning,  $F^{ab}$  remains active only if  $ART_a$  predicts the same category as  $ART_b$ , via the weight vector  $\mathbf{w}_J^{ab}$ , or if the chosen  $ART_a$  category  $J$  has not yet learned an  $ART_b$  prediction. In summary, the  $F^{ab}$  output vector  $\mathbf{x}^{ab}$  obeys

$$x^{ab} = \begin{cases} y^b \wedge w_J^{ab} & \text{if the } J\text{th } F_2^a \text{ node is active and } F_2^b \text{ is active} \\ w_J^{ab} & \text{if the } J\text{th } F_2^a \text{ node is active and } F_2^b \text{ is inactive} \\ y^b & \text{if } F_2^a \text{ is inactive and } F_2^b \text{ is active} \\ 0 & \text{if } F_2^a \text{ is inactive and } F_2^b \text{ is inactive} \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

If the prediction  $w_J^{ab}$  is disconfirmed by  $y^b$ , the mismatch event triggers an  $ART_a$  search for a new category.

**Match tracking** : At the start of each input presentation the  $ART_a$  vigilance parameter  $\rho_a$  equals a baseline vigilance,  $\bar{\rho}_a$ . The map field vigilance parameter is  $\rho_{ab}$ . Match tracking is triggered by a mismatch at the map field  $F^{ab}$ , that is, if

$$|x^a| < \rho_{ab} |y^b| = \rho_{ab} \quad (9)$$

Match tracking increases  $\rho_a$  until it is slightly larger than the  $ART_a$  match value,  $|A \wedge w_J^a| |A|^{-1}$ , where  $A$  is the input to  $F_1^a$  and  $J$  is the index of the active  $F_2^a$  node. After match tracking, therefore

$$|x^a| = |A \wedge w_J^a| < \rho_a |A| = \rho_a M_a$$

When this occurs,  $ART_a$  search leads either to  $ARTMAP$  resonance, where a newly chosen  $F_2^a$  node  $J$  satisfies both the  $ART_a$  matching criterion

$$|x^a| = |A \wedge w_J^a| \geq \rho_a |A|$$

and the map field matching criterion

$$|x^{ab}| = |y^b \wedge w_J^{ab}| \geq \rho_{ab} |y^b| = \rho_{ab}$$

or, if no such  $F_2^a$  node exists, to shutdown of  $F_2^a$  for the remainder of the input presentation. Since,  $w_{ij}^a(0) = w_{jk}^{ab}(0) = 1$  and  $0 < \rho_a, \rho_{ab} < 1$ ,  $ARTMAP$  resonance always occurs if  $J$  is an uncommitted node.

**Map field learning** : Weights  $w_{jk}^{ab}$  in  $F_2^a$   $F^{ab}$  path initially satisfy  $w_{jk}^{ab}(0) = 1.0$ .

During resonance with the  $ART_a$  category  $J$  active,  $w_J^{ab}$  approaches the map field vector  $\mathbf{x}^{ab}$ . With fast learning, once  $J$  learns to predict an  $ART_b$  category  $K$ , the association is permanent; i.e.,  $w_{JK}^{ab} = 1$  and  $w_{jK}^{ab} = 0$  ( $k \neq K$ ) for all time.

For slow learning mode at the map field, the learning rule is

$$\left( w_{jk}^{ab} \right)^{new} = \begin{cases} \left( w_{jk}^{ab} \right)^{old} & \text{if } j \neq J \\ \left( 1 - \lambda_{ab} \right) \left( w_{jk}^{ab} \right)^{old} + \lambda_{ab} x_k^{ab} & \text{if } j = J \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

where, the map field activity  $x_k^{ab} = 1$  when  $k$  is the correct  $ART_b$  category and  $x_k^{ab} = 0$  otherwise. The map field learning parameter  $\lambda_{ab}$  determines the rate of change of the map field weights. Small values of  $\lambda_{ab}$  cause the system to base its prediction on a long-term average of its estimate, while values of  $\lambda_{ab}$  near one allow adaptation to a rapidly changing environment.

### Section III

## Prediction of Yarn Properties from Fiber Properties

Fuzzy ARTMAP has been used in mapping yarn properties with clusters of fiber properties. About 180 bales of cotton fiber have been collected from all over the world. The fiber properties includes all measurements from the traditional method and Shirley F/MT, Spinlab High Volume Instrument (HVI), and Uster Advanced Fiber Information System (AFIS). All the fiber properties and the corresponding measurement techniques are listed in Table I.

Cotton fibers are also grouped as Upland and ELS cotton. Each bale of cotton were spun in yarns using different type of spinning process. Upland cottons were spun into rotor and ring. ELS cotton went through three types of spinning: card, comb and rotor.

Multiple yarn sizes were spun from each cotton bale sampled; yarn size is also included as input feature. The yarn properties used as ART-B input were count-strength product (CSP).

## Experiment

There are altogether five spinning processes have been used for two type of cotton. For ELS cotton there are: i) 36 card spun, ii) 36 rotor spun, iii) 50 comb spun. And, for upland cotton, there are iv) ring spun and v) rotor spun. Fiber properties for all 5 spins are collected in one database. The database is augmented by adding variables to designate cotton type, spin process and yarn count and CSP for each sample of yarn. To normalize, each variable is divided by the probable maximum value of that property as quoted by experts [7]. The properties which measure in percentage are kept as a fraction. Normalized CSP will be used as  $ART_b$  input while other variables will be  $ART_a$  inputs (24 variables). The database is divided into training set (210 samples) and test set (98 samples) by randomly picking up patterns.

Table I

Measurement	Properties
Traditional	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. stelometer</li> <li>2. elongation,</li> <li>3. span,</li> <li>4. uniformity</li> <li>5. shirley,</li> <li>6. micronaire</li> <li>7. F/MT maturity,</li> <li>8. F/MT fineness</li> </ol>

HVI	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strength,</li> <li>2. Elongation,</li> <li>3. Length,</li> <li>4. Uniformity,</li> <li>5. Micronaire,</li> <li>6. Reflectance,</li> <li>7. Yellowness,</li> <li>8. Leafgrade</li> </ol>
AFIS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. UQL,</li> <li>2. Mean length,</li> <li>3. Short fibers</li> <li>4. Diameter</li> <li>5. Neps</li> </ol>

To determine the effectiveness of a given fiber property measurement technique, e.g., HVI or AFIS, we performed different experiments with same  $ART_b$  input but different  $ART_a$  inputs. We broke the experiments by the type of measurements used in accumulating fiber properties. Three variables to designate cotton type, spin process and yarn count has to be kept in all experiments. The training set and test set are same for all experiments.

The description of experiments are:

1. Expt. 1 : 24 variables for  $ART_a$ , fiber properties from all three measurements.
2. Expt. 2 : 11 variables for  $ART_a$ , fiber properties from traditional test only.
3. Expt. 3 : 11 variables for  $ART_a$ , fiber properties from HVI test only.
4. Expt. 4 : 8 variables for  $ART_a$ , fiber properties from AFIS test only.
5. Expt. 5 : 16 variables for  $ART_a$ , fiber properties from traditional and AFIS.
6. Expt. 6 : 16 variables for  $ART_a$ , fiber properties from HVI and AFIS tests.
7. Expt. 7 : 19 variables for  $ART_a$ , fiber properties from traditional and HVI.

In each case, learning is continued for 100% performance on training set. With fast learning, training converged in 1-3 epochs. In all experiments we used  $\bar{\alpha}_a = 0.0$ ,  $\alpha_b = 0.98$  and  $\alpha_{ab} = 1.0$ . For each experiments optimum choice parameter was determined by several trial runs on training set; they ranged from 0.1 to 0.5. We allowed selection of mixed node in some occasions. Also, we fed the  $ART_b$  input temporally after  $ART_a$  has selected a node and primed a  $F_2$  node at  $ART_b$ . Priming limits category proliferation at  $ART_b$ , without priming it might select a different node first. Since the number of training sample is quite small, we used voting criteria to improve performance on the test set. Under each experiment we created three voter networks; they used same ARTMAP parameters but different order of training sample during learning.

## Results

The  $ART_b$  template in our experiment represent a line in rectangular co-ordinate system. From eq. (7) for weight  $w_J = (u_J, \{v_J\}^c)$ ,  $u_J$  and  $v_J$  represent minimum and maximum CSP value respectively coded by template  $w_J$ . Thus each committed template represent range of CSP value, when a input test pattern selects that template. CSP range is given by: from  $w_{j1}$  to  $(1- w_{j2})$  multiplied by CSP normalizing

factor (5000 in our experiment). When three voter network selects three different templates for same input pattern, we took Fuzzy OR (max operator) function among the templates to improve accuracy of prediction. For a given input pattern range of CSP are given by:

$$CSP_{\min} = \max(w_{J1}^1, w_{K1}^2, w_{L1}^3);$$

$$CSP_{\max} = 1 - \max(w_{J2}^1, w_{K2}^2, w_{L2}^3).$$

The interval  $(CSP_{\max} - CSP_{\min})$  is more compact than any of the individual voters and predicted value of CSP can be approximated by  $(CSP_{\max} + CSP_{\min})/2$ .

The correlation between actual CSP and predicted CSP for the test set is tabulated for each experiment. The average error is give in unit of CSP.

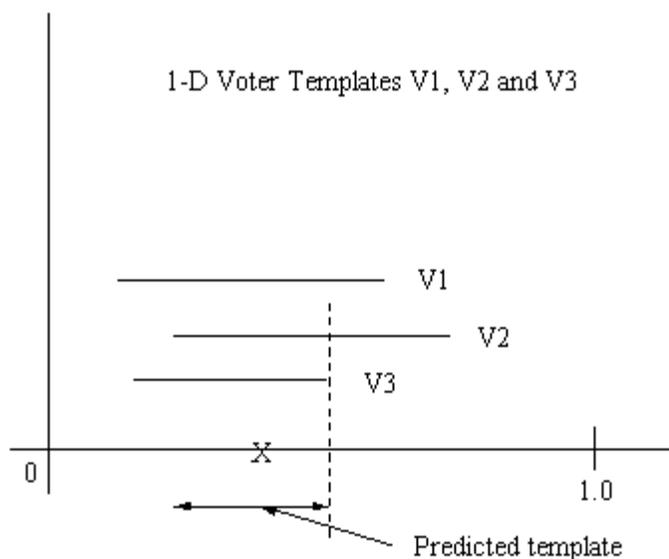


Figure 3: Improvement in accuracy is evident from ranges covered by 3 voter templates and the predicted template. Predicted template is fine enough to represent it by center of gravity marked X.

Table II

EXPT.	Input fiber properties	Correlation between actual and predicted CSP	Av. Error in CSP unit
1	All	0.9679	141.43
2	Traditional	0.9619	146.35
3	HVI	0.9662	151.53
4	AFIS	0.9567	168.24
5	Traditional & AFIS	0.9754	122.78
6	HVI & AFIS	0.9611	146.86
7	Traditional & HVI	0.9747	126.51

## Conclusions

We have investigated Fuzzy ARTMAP networks for yarn strength prediction. The results show that the network provide an effective method for CSP prediction. The quality of performance is almost constant under varying input condition at ART<sub>a</sub>, which indicates that some of the fiber properties might be linear combination of other fiber properties. It would be useful to pre-process the input data by principle component analysis to find out the independent variables. With more samples of cotton bales processed, we will make a complete comparison of statistical, Fuzzy ARTMAP and back-propagation methods for yarn property prediction in the next phase of research.

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