



Designation: D3822 – 07

## Standard Test Method for Tensile Properties of Single Textile Fibers<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D3822; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reappraisal. A superscript epsilon ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

### 1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the measurement of tensile properties of natural and man-made single textile fibers of sufficient length to permit mounting test specimens in a tensile testing machine.

1.2 This test method is also applicable to continuous (filament) and discontinuous (staple) fibers or filaments taken from yarns or tow. When the fibers to be tested contain crimp, or if the tow or yarns have been subjected to bulking, crimping, or texturing process, the tensile properties are determined after removal of the crimp.

NOTE 1—Testing of filaments taken from yarns or tow, included in this test method was originally covered in Test Method D2101, that is discontinued.

1.3 The words “fiber” and “filament” are used interchangeably throughout this test method.

1.4 This test method is also applicable to fibers removed from yarns, or from yarns processed further into fabrics. It should be recognized that yarn and manufacturing processes can influence or modify the tensile properties of fibers. Consequently, tensile properties determined on fibers taken from yarns, or from yarns that have been processed into fabrics, may be different than for the same fibers prior to being subjected to yarn or fabric manufacturing processes.

1.5 This test method provides directions for measuring the breaking force and elongation at break of single textile fibers and for calculating breaking tenacity, initial modulus, chord modulus, tangent modulus, tensile stress at specified elongation, and breaking toughness.

1.6 Procedures for measuring the tensile properties of both conditioned and wet single fibers are included. The test method is applicable to testing under a wide range of conditions.

1.7 As the length of the test specimen decreases, the tensile strength is likely to increase, but the accuracy of the tensile properties determined may decrease, which may require the need to increase the number of test specimens. This is

particularly true for those properties dependent on the measurement of elongation, since the shorter lengths increase the relative effect of slippage and stretching of the test specimens within the jaws of either clamp.

1.8 The values stated in either acceptable metric units or in other units shall be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system must be used independently of the other, without combining values in any way.

1.9 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

### 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*.<sup>2</sup>

D76 Specification for Tensile Testing Machines for Textiles

D123 Terminology Relating to Textiles

D629 Test Methods for Quantitative Analysis of Textiles

D1577 Test Methods for Linear Density of Textile Fibers

D1776 Practice for Conditioning and Testing Textiles

D2101 Test Method for Tensile Properties of Single Man-Made Textile Fibers Taken From Yarns and Tows (Withdrawn 1995)<sup>3</sup>

D2258 Practice for Sampling Yarn for Testing

D3333 Practice for Sampling Manufactured Staple Fibers, Sliver, or Tow for Testing

D4849 Terminology Related to Yarns and Fibers

E178 Practice for Dealing With Outlying Observations

### 3. Terminology

3.1 For all terminology relating to D13.58, Yarns and Fibers, refer to Terminology D4849.

3.1.1 The following terms are relevant to this standard: breaking force, breaking tenacity, breaking toughness, chord modulus, corresponding elongation, corresponding force,

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D13 on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D13.58 on Yarns and Fibers.

Current edition approved Jan. 1, 2007. Published February 2007. Originally approved in 1979. Last previous edition approved in 2001 as D3822 – 01. DOI: 10.1520/D3822-07.

<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto:service@astm.org). For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

<sup>3</sup> The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org).

elongation, elongation at break, elongation at specified force, fiber, filament, filament yarn, force at specified elongation, initial modulus, linear density, secant modulus, tangent modulus, tenacity, tow, yield point.

3.2 For all other terminology related to textiles, refer to Terminology **D123**.

#### 4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 Single-fiber specimens are broken on a constant-rate-of-extension (CRE) type tensile testing machine at a predetermined gage length and rate of extension. Using the force-extension curve, the breaking force and elongation at break are determined. The force-elongation curve and linear density are used to calculate breaking tenacity, initial modulus, chord modulus, tangent modulus, tensile stress at specified elongation, and breaking toughness.

#### 5. Significance and Use

5.1 Test Method D3822 using test specimens having gage lengths of 10 mm (0.4 in.) or greater is considered satisfactory for acceptance testing of commercial shipments since the test method has been used extensively in the trade for acceptance testing. Critical differences noted in **Tables 1 and 2** were obtained on man-made fibers having a gage length of 25.4 mm (1.0 in.) and 254 mm (10 in.). Natural fibers or fibers having lesser or greater gage lengths may provide different values and may require comparative testing. (See **5.1.1**.)

5.1.1 In cases of a dispute arising from differences in reported test results when using Test Method D3822 for acceptance testing of commercial shipments, the purchaser and the supplier should conduct comparative tests to determine if there is a statistical bias between their laboratories. Competent statistical assistance is recommended for the investigation of bias. As a minimum, the two parties should take a group of test specimens which are as homogeneous as possible and which are from a lot of material of the type in question. The test specimens should then be randomly assigned in equal numbers to each laboratory for testing. The average results from the two laboratories should be compared using Student's t-test for unpaired data and an acceptable probability level chosen by the two parties before the testing begins. If a bias is found, either its cause must be found and corrected or the purchaser and the supplier must agree to interpret future test results for that material in view of test results with consideration to the known bias.

5.2 The breaking tenacity, calculated from the breaking force and the linear density, and the elongation are fundamental properties that are widely used to establish limitations on fiber processing or conversion and on their end-use applications. Initial modulus is a measure of the resistance of the fiber to extension at forces below the yield point. The tangent modulus and tensile stress at specified elongation may be used to differentiate between the probable performance of fibers in processing and end-use performance. The breaking toughness is an indication of the durability of materials produced from the fiber.

5.3 It is recognized that computerized results are used extensively in the industry. When comparing results from two

**TABLE 1 Fiber Tensile Properties Using 25.4 mm (1 in.) Gage Length**  
**Critical Differences for the Conditions Noted<sup>A</sup>**

| Properties, Limits of Measure and Materials | Number of Observations in Each Average | Single-Operator Precision | Within-Laboratory Precision | Between-Laboratory Precision |
|---|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Breaking Tenacity, gf/tex:</i>           |  |                           |                             |                              |
| Acetate                                     | 1                                      | 0.17                      | 0.18                        | 0.24                         |
|   | 10                                     | 0.05                      | 0.08                        | 0.18                         |
|   | 20                                     | 0.04                      | 0.07                        | 0.18                         |
|   | 40                                     | 0.03                      | 0.06                        | 0.18                         |
| Aramid                                      | 1                                      | 14.05                     | 14.05                       | 14.05                        |
|   | 10                                     | 4.44                      | 4.44                        | 4.44                         |
|   | 20                                     | 3.14                      | 3.14                        | 3.14                         |
|   | 40                                     | 2.22                      | 2.22                        | 2.22                         |
| Nylon                                       | 1                                      | 0.78                      | 0.78                        | 0.82                         |
|   | 10                                     | 0.24                      | 0.27                        | 0.37                         |
|   | 20                                     | 0.17                      | 0.21                        | 0.32                         |
|   | 40                                     | 0.12                      | 0.17                        | 0.30                         |
| Polyester                                   | 1                                      | 0.53                      | 0.53                        | 0.57                         |
|   | 10                                     | 0.17                      | 0.17                        | 0.28                         |
|   | 20                                     | 0.12                      | 0.12                        | 0.25                         |
|   | 40                                     | 0.08                      | 0.08                        | 0.24                         |
| <i>Initial Modulus, gf/tex</i>              |  |                           |                             |                              |
| Acetate                                     | 1                                      | 7.32                      | 11.01                       | 16.64                        |
|   | 10                                     | 2.31                      | 8.55                        | 15.12                        |
|   | 20                                     | 1.64                      | 8.39                        | 15.03                        |
|   | 40                                     | 1.16                      | 8.31                        | 14.99                        |
| Aramid                                      | 1                                      | 266.1                     | 283.8                       | 367.1                        |
|   | 10                                     | 84.2                      | 129.5                       | 266.5                        |
|   | 20                                     | 59.5                      | 115.1                       | 259.7                        |
|   | 40                                     | 42.1                      | 107.1                       | 256.3                        |
| Nylon                                       | 1                                      | 6.26                      | 8.47                        | 15.54                        |
|   | 10                                     | 1.98                      | 6.04                        | 14.36                        |
|   | 20                                     | 1.40                      | 5.88                        | 14.29                        |
|   | 40                                     | 0.99                      | 5.79                        | 14.26                        |
| Polyester                                   | 1                                      | 21.84                     | 28.52                       | 38.99                        |
|   | 10                                     | 6.91                      | 21.35                       | 33.03                        |
|   | 20                                     | 4.88                      | 18.99                       | 32.66                        |
|   | 40                                     | 3.45                      | 18.67                       | 32.48                        |
| <i>Elongation at Break, %</i>               |  |                           |                             |                              |
| Acetate                                     | 1                                      | 7.29                      | 7.65                        | 8.64                         |
|   | 10                                     | 2.30                      | 3.28                        | 5.18                         |
|   | 20                                     | 1.63                      | 2.84                        | 4.92                         |
|   | 40                                     | 1.15                      | 2.60                        | 4.78                         |
| Aramid                                      | 1                                      | 1.25                      | 1.25                        | 1.53                         |
|   | 10                                     | 0.39                      | 0.39                        | 0.97                         |
|   | 20                                     | 0.28                      | 0.28                        | 0.93                         |
|   | 40                                     | 0.20                      | 0.20                        | 0.91                         |
| Nylon                                       | 1                                      | 17.93                     | 18.36                       | 22.43                        |
|   | 10                                     | 5.67                      | 6.92                        | 14.63                        |
|   | 20                                     | 4.01                      | 5.64                        | 14.01                        |
|   | 40                                     | 2.84                      | 4.87                        | 13.78                        |
| Polyester                                   | 1                                      | 14.97                     | 15.09                       | 17.82                        |
|   | 10                                     | 4.73                      | 5.10                        | 10.76                        |
|   | 20                                     | 3.35                      | 3.85                        | 10.23                        |
|   | 40                                     | 2.37                      | 3.04                        | 9.95                         |

<sup>A</sup> The critical differences were calculated using  $t = 1.960$ , which is based on infinite degrees of freedom.

laboratories using computerized tensile testers, the algorithms used to derive results must be examined for parity, that is, how the maximum slope and specimen failure or rupture are determined.

5.4 The breaking strength of wet fibers tested in air may be different from wet fibers tested while immersed.

5.4.1 Tests on wet specimens are usually made only on fibers which show a loss in breaking force when wet or when exposed to high humidity, for example, yarns made from animal fibers and man-made fibers based on regenerated and

**TABLE 2 Fiber Tensile Properties Using a 254 mm (10 in.) Gage Length**  
**Critical Differences for the Conditions Noted<sup>A</sup>**

| Properties, Limits of Measure and Materials | Number of Observations in Each Average | Single-Operator Precision | Within-Laboratory Precision | Between-Laboratory Precision |
|---|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Breaking Tenacity, gf/tex</i>            |  |                           |                             |                              |
| Acetate                                     | 1                                      | 0.19                      | 0.21                        | 0.23                         |
|   | 10                                     | 0.06                      | 0.10                        | 0.13                         |
|   | 20                                     | 0.04                      | 0.09                        | 0.13                         |
|   | 40                                     | 0.03                      | 0.09                        | 0.12                         |
| Aramid                                      | 1                                      | 8.73                      | 9.27                        | 9.68                         |
|   | 10                                     | 2.76                      | 4.15                        | 5.01                         |
|   | 20                                     | 1.95                      | 3.67                        | 4.61                         |
|   | 40                                     | 1.38                      | 3.40                        | 4.40                         |
| Nylon                                       | 1                                      | 0.69                      | 0.74                        | 0.83                         |
|   | 10                                     | 0.22                      | 0.33                        | 0.51                         |
|   | 20                                     | 0.15                      | 0.29                        | 0.49                         |
|   | 40                                     | 0.11                      | 0.27                        | 0.47                         |
| Polyester                                   | 1                                      | 0.69                      | 0.78                        | 0.79                         |
|   | 10                                     | 0.22                      | 0.42                        | 0.43                         |
|   | 20                                     | 0.15                      | 0.39                        | 0.40                         |
|   | 40                                     | 0.11                      | 0.38                        | 0.39                         |
| <i>Initial Modulus, gf/tex</i>              |  |                           |                             |                              |
| Acetate                                     | 1                                      | 4.02                      | 4.82                        | 5.29                         |
|   | 10                                     | 1.27                      | 2.95                        | 3.67                         |
|   | 20                                     | 0.90                      | 2.81                        | 3.56                         |
|   | 40                                     | 0.64                      | 2.74                        | 3.50                         |
| Aramid                                      | 1                                      | 191.8                     | 191.8                       | 243.7                        |
|   | 10                                     | 60.6                      | 60.6                        | 162.2                        |
|   | 20                                     | 42.9                      | 42.9                        | 156.4                        |
|   | 40                                     | 30.3                      | 30.3                        | 153.5                        |
| Nylon                                       | 1                                      | 4.85                      | 7.08                        | 10.71                        |
|   | 10                                     | 1.53                      | 5.38                        | 9.67                         |
|   | 20                                     | 1.08                      | 5.27                        | 9.60                         |
|   | 40                                     | 0.77                      | 5.21                        | 9.58                         |
| Polyester                                   | 1                                      | 12.25                     | 15.66                       | 17.11                        |
|   | 10                                     | 3.87                      | 10.50                       | 12.56                        |
|   | 20                                     | 2.74                      | 10.13                       | 12.26                        |
|   | 40                                     | 1.94                      | 9.95                        | 12.11                        |
| <i>Elongation at Break, %</i>               |  |                           |                             |                              |
| Acetate                                     | 1                                      | 8.23                      | 8.65                        | 8.82                         |
|   | 10                                     | 2.60                      | 3.72                        | 4.10                         |
|   | 20                                     | 1.84                      | 3.24                        | 3.66                         |
|   | 40                                     | 1.30                      | 2.96                        | 3.42                         |
| Aramid                                      | 1                                      | 0.64                      | 0.73                        | 0.77                         |
|   | 10                                     | 0.20                      | 0.41                        | 0.48                         |
|   | 20                                     | 0.14                      | 0.39                        | 0.46                         |
|   | 40                                     | 0.10                      | 0.37                        | 0.45                         |
| Nylon                                       | 1                                      | 14.80                     | 16.20                       | 16.20                        |
|   | 10                                     | 4.68                      | 8.09                        | 8.09                         |
|   | 20                                     | 3.31                      | 7.38                        | 7.38                         |
|   | 40                                     | 2.34                      | 7.00                        | 7.00                         |
| Polyester                                   | 1                                      | 13.77                     | 13.87                       | 15.35                        |
|   | 10                                     | 4.36                      | 4.65                        | 8.05                         |
|   | 20                                     | 3.08                      | 3.49                        | 7.44                         |
|   | 40                                     | 2.18                      | 2.72                        | 7.11                         |

<sup>A</sup> The critical differences were calculated using  $t = 1.960$ , which is based on infinite degrees of freedom.

modified cellulose. Wet tests are made on flax fiber to detect adulteration by failure to show a gain in breaking force.

## 6. Apparatus and Reagents

6.1 *Constant-Rate-of-Extension (CRE) Type Tensile Testing Machine*, conforming to Specification **D76**, having adequate response characteristics to properly record the characteristics of the force-elongation curve, or the stress-strain curve of the fibers under test at the rate of extension specified in **Table 3**. The capacity of the machine must be selected for the break on the recorded curve to fall within 20 to 90 % of full scale,

**TABLE 3 Rate of Extension<sup>A</sup>**

| Estimated Elongation at Break of Specimen, % | Rate of Extension, % of Initial Specimen Length/min |
|--|---|
| Under 8                                      | 10  |
| 8 to 100, incl.                              | 60  |
| Over 100                                     | 240   |

<sup>A</sup> For the optimum degree of comparability, tensile properties of filaments should be measured at the same rate of extension.

preferably within 50 to 90 % of full scale. It is permissible to use tensile testing machines that have a means of calculating and displaying the required results without the use of an autographic recorder. The tensile testing machine must be equipped with a tank to provide for breaking fibers immersed in a liquid, if tests on wet immersed specimens are required.

NOTE 2—Special force-measuring systems may be used to directly record the tenacity in cN/tex.

6.2 *Clamps*, with flat jaws for gripping the fiber specimens and designed to minimize slippage in the clamps during the test,

6.2.1 *Tabs*, when required, of thin plastic or other material for use with cementing techniques (See **Annex A1**); and

6.2.2 *Cement or Adhesive*—The adhesive must be capable of binding the tabs to the fibers without affecting the moisture content of the specimen.

NOTE 3—For wet testing, the tabs and adhesive must be waterproof.

6.3 *Container*, separate from the testing machine for wetting out specimens to be tested without immersion.

6.4 *Auxiliary Equipment*—The testing machine may be equipped with auxiliary equipment to permit the automatic recording of data or the calculation of any required tensile property. The auxiliary equipment must be capable of recording data and performing calculations in a manner consistent with the definitions and instructions for calculations as described in this test method.

6.5 *Area-Measuring Device*—An integrating accessory to the tensile testing machine or a planimeter. The device shall measure area with an accuracy of  $\pm 1$  %.

6.6 *Jig*, to aid in accurately mounting test specimens on tabs at the specified gage length.

6.7 *Distilled or Deionized Water*, for use in wet specimen testing.

6.8 *Wetting Agent, Nonionic*—For wet specimen testing, for example, Triton X-100<sup>4</sup> to make 0.1 % aqueous solution using water described in **6.7**.

## 7. Sampling

7.1 *Lot Sampling*—As a lot sample for acceptance testing, take at random the number of shipping containers directed in the applicable material specification or other agreement between the purchaser and supplier, such as an agreement to use Practice **D3333** or Practice **D2258**. Consider shipping containers to be the primary sampling units.

<sup>4</sup> Triton-X 100 is a registered trademark of Rohm & Haas.

NOTE 4—An adequate specification or other agreement between the purchaser or supplier requires taking into account the variability between shipping units, between packages, ends or other laboratory sampling unit within a shipping unit if applicable, and with specimens from a single package, end or other laboratory sampling unit to provide a sampling plan with a meaningful producer's risk, consumer's risk, acceptable quality level, and limiting quantity level.

7.2 *Laboratory Sample*—As a laboratory sample for acceptance testing, take at random from each shipping container in the lot sample the number of laboratory sampling units as directed in an applicable material specification or other agreement between purchaser and supplier such as an agreement to use Practice **D3333** or Practice **D2258**. Preferably, the same number of laboratory sampling units are taken from each shipping container in the lot sample. If differing numbers of laboratory sampling units are to be taken from shipping containers in the lot sample, determine at random which shipping containers are to have each number of laboratory units drawn.

7.2.1 *For Staple Fiber*—Take 50 g samples from laboratory sampling units.

7.2.2 *For Sliver (or Top) or Tow*—Take 1 m (1 yd) from the leading end which has a clean, uniform appearance from each laboratory sampling unit.

7.2.3 *For Yarns*—Take at least a 1 m (1 yd) length from each laboratory sampling unit.

7.3 *Test Specimens*—From each laboratory sampling unit, take 20 fiber specimens at random. If the standard deviation determined for the 20 specimens is more than a value agreed upon between the purchaser and supplier prior to testing, continue testing in groups of 20 specimens from the same laboratory sampling unit until the standard deviation for all specimens tested is not more than the agreed-to value or, by agreement, stop testing after a specified number.

7.3.1 Carefully remove twist before taking specimens from yarn. Using tweezers and grasping each specimen at one end, gently remove the required number of specimens from the laboratory sampling units for testing. In some cases, if specimens are not to be tested immediately, place them on a short-pile or plush surface for storage until ready to test.

## 8. Preparation of Test Specimens

8.1 Measure the linear density of each specimen as directed in Test Methods **D1577**.

8.2 If fibers are to be tabbed, select a technique from **Annex A1** or some other technique agreed upon by the purchaser and supplier.

8.3 For testing wet specimens without immersion, place the specimens in a container and submerge in a 0.1 % aqueous solution of a nonionic wetting agent in distilled or deionized water at ambient temperature until thoroughly soaked. (See **8.3.1** and **8.3.2**.)

8.3.1 The time of immersion must be sufficient to completely wet out the specimens, as indicated by no significant changes in breaking force, or elongation at break when followed by longer periods of immersion.

8.3.2 When desizing treatments are specified prior to wet testing, use desizing treatments that will not effect the normal physical property of the material as directed in Test Methods **D629**.

8.4 For wet specimens tested while immersed, proceed as directed in **11.2.2**.

## 9. Preparation of Test Apparatus

9.1 Select the appropriate force range for the fiber to be tested.

9.2 Verify that the tensile tester is within calibration as specified in the manufacturer's instructions.

9.3 Adjust the distance between the clamps to obtain the selected nominal gage length of at least 10 mm (0.4 in.) and, when applicable, 250 mm (10 in.) or more. The most common gage lengths are 10, 20, 25, and 250 mm (0.4, 0.4, 1.0 and 10 in.).

NOTE 5—The results obtained are normally subject to less error if the gage length is selected to be as large as possible, consistent with the length of fibers to be tested. When comparisons are to be made between different fibers or where it is necessary to obtain comparable results in different laboratories, it is advisable to use the same gage length for all tests, selecting it to accommodate the shortest fibers of interest.

9.3.1 If the fiber specimen is mounted on tabs before being placed in the testing machine, the distance between tabs defines the nominal gage length (See **Annex A1**).

9.4 Set the extension speed to provide the rate of elongation specified in **Table 3** for the gage length selected.

9.5 When using microprocessor automatic data gathering systems, set the appropriate parameters as defined in the manufacturer's instruction.

## 10. Conditioning

10.1 Precondition the specimens by bringing them to approximate moisture equilibrium in the standard atmosphere for preconditioning textiles as directed in Practice **D1776**.

10.2 After preconditioning, bring the test specimens to moisture equilibrium for testing in the standard atmosphere for testing textiles as directed in Practice **D1776** or, if applicable, in the specified atmosphere in which the testing is to be performed.

## 11. Procedure

11.1 Test the conditioned specimens in the standard atmosphere for testing textiles, which is  $21 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $70 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ) and  $65 \pm 2\%$  relative humidity.

11.2 Mount a test specimen in the jaws of the clamps, removing slack without stretching the specimen. The specimen must be straight within the jaws and extreme care must be taken to ensure that the fiber specimen lies on the line of action between the force-measuring device and the point where the fiber leaves the moving jaw face. Any misalignment that tends to produce transverse motion of the clamps and jaws will introduce errors in measurements of elongation and may contribute to premature fiber failure.



11.2.1 For testing wet specimens without immersion, remove a specimen from the water and immediately mount it in the clamps as directed in 11.1 and 11.2. Perform the test within two minutes after removal of the specimen from the water.

11.2.2 For testing wet specimens while immersed, secure the specimens into the clamps of the tensile tester and submerge in the tank containing a 0.1 % aqueous solution of a nonionic wetting agent in distilled or deionized water at ambient temperature until thoroughly soaked. (See 8.3.1 and 8.3.2.). Test while the specimens are immersed in the water bath.

NOTE 6—In general, it will be found that no one type of fiber mounting will be suitable for all types and sizes of fibers and experience may show that some mounting techniques are much more efficient than others. Experience and operator preferences have been found to be of importance in selecting the most satisfactory mounting methods for a given laboratory.

11.3 For specimens having crimp, use a pretension of 0.3 to 1.0 cN/tex (0.03 to 0.11 gf/d) to remove the crimp while the fiber is placed in the clamps. If certain fibers with a high degree of crimp require greater pretensioning than the amount specified, determine the minimum pretension as directed in Appendix XI of Test Method D1577. If, by visual examination, the crimp is not completely removed even at these greater force applications, record this fact.

11.4 Start the tensile testing machine and any associated auxiliary equipment, extending the fiber specimen to break at the selected extension speed and record the data of interest. For fibers of low stiffness, it may be advisable to first back off the moving jaw of the testing machine to allow the fiber to be slack at the time the testing machine is started.

11.5 After breaking the specimen, return the testing machine to its starting condition and remove all remains of the broken specimen from the clamp faces. Pieces of broken fiber remaining in the jaws may adversely affect the ability of the jaws to properly hold the succeeding specimens.

11.6 Test successive specimens as directed in 11.1-11.5 until the remaining specimens have been broken. If the number of fiber specimens failing at the jaw-fiber interface exceeds 5 % of the number tested, repeat the test after adjusting the jaw faces and clamping mechanism as described in 11.6.1-11.6.3.

11.6.1 If a specimen slips in the jaws, breaks at the edge or in the jaws, or, if for any reason attributable to faulty machine operation the result falls 20 % below the average of the breaking force for the set of specimens, discard the result and test another specimen. Continue until the required number of acceptable breaks have been obtained.

11.6.2 The decision to discard the results of a break shall be based on observation of the specimen during the test and upon the inherent variability of the fiber. It is difficult to determine the precise reason for certain specimens breaking near the edge of the jaws. If a jaw break is caused by damage to the specimen by the jaws, then the results should be discarded. If, however, it is merely due to randomly distributed weak places, it is a perfectly legitimate result. Refer to Practice E178 for treatment of outlying data points.

11.6.3 If a fiber manifests any slippage in the jaws or if more than 25 % of the specimens break at a point within 3 mm

( $\frac{1}{8}$  in.) of the edge of the jaw, then (1) the jaws may be padded, (2) the fiber may be coated under the jaw face area, or (3) the surface of the jaw face may be modified. If any of the modifications listed above are used, state the method of modification in the report.

11.7 Obtain the elongation data by means of a suitable recording device, or computer, at the same time as the breaking force is determined unless otherwise agreed upon, as provided for in an applicable material specification.

## 12. Calculation

12.1 *Breaking Force*—Record the breaking force of individual specimens to three significant digits as read directly from the tension testing machine expressed in cN (gf).

12.2 *Breaking Tenacity*—Calculate the breaking tenacity of individual specimens to three significant digits, using Eq 1:

$$\gamma = F/D_L \quad (1)$$

where:

$\gamma$  = breaking tenacity in mN/tex (gf/den),

$F$  = breaking force in cN (gf), and

$D_L$  = linear density in tex (denier).

12.3 *Effective Specimen Length*—Calculate the effective specimen length of individual specimens to three significant digits, using Eq 3: (See Annex A2 and Figs. X1.1 and X1.2.)

$$L_e = L_i + \Delta L_c \quad (2)$$

where:

$L_e$  = effective specimen length, mm (in.),

$L_i$  = initial distance between clamps (gage length), mm (in.), and

$\Delta L_c$  = additional specimen length corresponding to the clamp error as determined in A2.2, when required.

12.4 *Elongation*—From XY type recorders, calculate the elongation at break, or other specified elongation, of individual specimens to three significant digits using Eq 4:

$$\epsilon_s = (\Delta L \times R_s \times 100)/(C_s \times L_e) \quad (3)$$

where:

$\epsilon_s$  = elongation percent, at the specified force,

$\Delta L$  = distance along the zero-stress axis from the point corresponding to the point where the tangent line to the initial straight-line section of the stress-strain curve intersects the zero-stress axis, to a point corresponding to the breaking stress, or other specified stress, mm (in.),

$R_s$  = testing speed rate, mm/min (in./min),

$C_s$  = recording chart speed, mm/min (in./min), and

$L_e$  = effective specimen length, mm (in.).

12.5 *Initial Modulus*—Locate the maximum slope and draw a line tangent to the stress-strain curve between the tangent point for this tangent line and the proportional elastic limit and through the zero-stress axis. Measure the stress and the corresponding elongation with respect to the stress axis. Calculate initial modulus in cN/tex (gf/d) to three significant digits, using Eq 5 (see Appendix X2 and Figs. X1.1 and X1.2):

$$J_i = S/\epsilon_p \quad (4)$$

where:

- $J_i$  = initial modulus, cN/tex (gf/den),
- $S$  = determined stress on the drawn tangent line cN/tex (gf/den), and
- $\epsilon_p$  = corresponding strain with respect to the drawn tangent line and determined stress.

12.6 *Chord Modulus*—Determine the stress for a specified elongation, such as 10 %, and label that point on the stress-strain curve as  $P_2$ . Likewise, label a second point,  $P_1$  at a specified elongation, such as 0 % elongation. Draw a straight line through points  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  intersecting the zero-stress axis. Other elongation values may be used, for example, when provided for in an applicable material specification. Calculate chord modulus in cN/tex (gf/d) to three significant digits, using Eq 6 (see Appendix X2 and Fig. X2.1):

$$J_{ch} = S/\epsilon_p \quad (5)$$

where:

- $J_{ch}$  = chord modulus between specified elongations, cN/tex (gf/den),
- $S$  = determined stress on the constructed line, cN/tex (gf/den), and
- $\epsilon_p$  = corresponding strain with respect to the constructed line and determined stress.

12.7 *Breaking Toughness*—When using the stress-strain curves, draw a line from the point of breaking force of each specimen perpendicular to the extension axis. Measure the area bounded by the curve, the perpendicular and the extension axis by means of an integrator or a planimeter, or cut out the area of the chart under the stress-strain curve, weigh it, and calculate the area under the curve using the mass of the unit area.

12.7.1 When determining the breaking toughness of fibers that exhibit slack caused by crimp or design, the area under the stress-strain curve which precedes the initial modulus line represents the work to remove this slack. Automatic area measuring equipment may or may not include this area in measuring breaking toughness, and therefore, such information should be reported along with the value obtained for the breaking toughness.

12.7.2 Calculate the breaking toughness to three significant digits for each specimen when using XY-type recorders using Eq 7 or when using automatic area measuring equipment using Eq 8:

$$T_u = (A_c \times F_{fs} \times R_s)/(W_c \times C_s \times D_L \times L_e) \quad (6)$$

$$T_u = (I_r \times F_{fs} \times R_s)/(I_c \times D_L \times L_e) \quad (7)$$

where:

- $T_u$  = breaking toughness, J/g (gf/den),
- $A_c$  = area under the stress-strain curve, mm<sup>2</sup>,
- $F_{fs}$  = full scale force range, cN (gf),
- $R_s$  = testing speed rate, mm/min (in./min),
- $W_c$  = recording chart width, mm (in.),
- $C_s$  = recording chart speed, mm/min (in./min),
- $D_L$  = linear density, dtex (denier),
- $L_e$  = effective specimen length, mm (in.),
- $I_r$  = integrator reading, and
- $I_c$  = integrator constant, per minute, determined as directed by the manufacturer.

TABLE 4 Fiber Tensile Properties Using a 25.4 mm (1 in.) Gage Length  
Components of Variance Expressed as Standard Deviations<sup>A</sup>

| Properties, Limits of Measure and Materials | Grand Average | Single-Operator Component | Within-Laboratory Component | Between-Laboratory Component |
|---|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Breaking Tenacity, gf/tex:</i>           |               |                           |                             |                              |
| Acetate                                     | 1.38          | 0.06                      | 0.02                        | 0.06                         |
| Aramid                                      | 28.24         | 5.07                      | 0.00                        | 0.00                         |
| Nylon                                       | 4.63          | 0.28                      | 0.04                        | 0.09                         |
| Polyester                                   | 4.20          | 0.19                      | 0.00                        | 0.08                         |
| <i>Initial Modulus gf/tex:</i>              |               |                           |                             |                              |
| Acetate                                     | 35.82         | 2.64                      | 2.97                        | 4.50                         |
| Aramid                                      | 670.58        | 96.03                     | 35.53                       | 84.02                        |
| Nylon                                       | 23.97         | 2.26                      | 2.06                        | 4.70                         |
| Polyester                                   | 77.31         | 7.88                      | 6.62                        | 9.59                         |
| <i>Elongation at Break, %</i>               |               |                           |                             |                              |
| Acetate                                     | 30.45         | 2.63                      | 0.84                        | 1.45                         |
| Aramid                                      | 4.20          | 0.45                      | 0.00                        | 0.32                         |
| Nylon                                       | 66.80         | 6.47                      | 1.43                        | 4.65                         |
| Polyester                                   | 53.14         | 5.40                      | 0.69                        | 3.42                         |

<sup>A</sup> The square roots of the components of variance are being reported to express the variability in the appropriate units of measure rather than as the squares of those units of measure.

TABLE 5 Fiber Tensile Properties Using a 254 mm (10 in.) Gage Length  
Components of Variance Expressed as Standard Deviations<sup>A</sup>

| Properties, Limits of Measure and Materials | Grand Average | Single-Operator Component | Within-Laboratory Component | Between-Laboratory Component |
|---|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Breaking Tenacity, gf/tex</i>            |               |                           |                             |                              |
| Acetate                                     | 1.25          | 0.07                      | 0.03                        | 0.03                         |
| Aramid                                      | 21.61         | 3.15                      | 1.12                        | 1.01                         |
| Nylon                                       | 4.22          | 0.25                      | 0.09                        | 0.14                         |
| Polyester                                   | 3.80          | 0.25                      | 0.13                        | 0.03                         |
| <i>Initial Modulus gf/tex</i>               |               |                           |                             |                              |
| Acetate                                     | 39.66         | 1.45                      | 0.96                        | 0.79                         |
| Aramid                                      | 839.86        | 69.20                     | 0.00                        | 54.28                        |
| Nylon                                       | 25.04         | 1.75                      | 1.86                        | 2.90                         |
| Polyester                                   | 95.09         | 4.42                      | 3.52                        | 2.49                         |
| <i>Elongation at Break, %</i>               |               |                           |                             |                              |
| Acetate                                     | 25.15         | 2.97                      | 0.96                        | 0.62                         |
| Aramid                                      | 2.55          | 0.23                      | 0.13                        | 0.09                         |
| Nylon                                       | 52.54         | 5.34                      | 2.38                        | 0.00                         |
| Polyester                                   | 38.30         | 4.97                      | 0.59                        | 2.37                         |

<sup>A</sup> The square roots of the components of variance are being reported to express the variability in the appropriate units of measure rather than as the square of those units of measure.

12.8 *Average Values*—Calculate the average values for breaking force, breaking tenacity, elongation at break, initial modulus, chord modulus, tangent modulus, tensile stress at specified elongation, and breaking toughness for each laboratory sampling unit and the lot.

12.9 *Computer Generated Data*—When data is automatically computer generated, calculations are generally contained in the associated software. In any event, it is recommended that computer generated data be verified against known property values, or by manual calibration.

12.10 If requested, also calculate the standard deviation or the coefficient of variation, or both, for the properties of interest.