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MULTITURN EXTRACTION: PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS OF OLD AND NEW APPROACHES

R. Cappi, M. Giovannozzi

Abstract

For some applications an intermediate extraction mode between fast (one turn) and slow (some hundreds to many billions turns) is needed. This is the case of the five-turn extraction used to transfer the proton beam from the CERN Proton Synchrotron to the Super Proton Synchrotron. The present approach is based on beam slicing via an electrostatic septum. However, recently a novel technique was proposed. By using nonlinear magnetic elements, stable islands can be generated in the transverse phase space. Furthermore, if the linear tune is varied slowly, it is possible to trap the charged particles inside the stable islands so that the beam is split into different beamlets ready for extraction. In this paper, both techniques are discussed in details with special emphasis on their robustness and the phase space matching of the extracted beam.

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1 Introduction

Charged particles can be extracted from a circular machine by two different methods: i) fast extraction, ii) slow extraction. In the first method, the whole beam is ejected from the machine in one turn by means of fast dipole (*kicker*) and septum magnets. This technique can be used for transferring the beam either to a subsequent machine or towards a target for physics experiments. The second method, is based on the effect of a third-order resonance [1, 2]: unstable motion generated by the separatrix joining the three unstable fixed points increases the particles' amplitude. This technique allows beam extraction over many machine turns (typically many millions) and it is only used when delivering beam to a target for physics experiments. For the sake of completeness, one should also mention the so-called *fast resonant* or *half-integer* extraction, where the beam is extracted by means of the half-integer resonance over some hundreds turns (see Ref. [4] for the pioneering work on the half-integer stop-bands and Refs. [5, 6] for the KEK, Refs. [7, 8] for CERN Super Proton Synchrotron (SPS), and Ref. [9] for the FermiLab main ring studies, respectively).

The two approaches, fast and slow extraction, differ not only in the time-distribution of the extracted beam, but also in the effect on the extracted beam emittance. In fact, fast extraction leaves unchanged the beam emittance of the circulating beam, while slowextraction reduces the horizontal beam emittance to virtually zero due to the beam stretching along the unstable separatrix (see Ref. [3] and references therein for a detailed discussion of this issue), the vertical one being unchanged.

In some special cases, an intermediate extraction mode, called multi-turn extraction, is needed. This is the case of the transfer between the CERN Proton Synchrotron (PS) and the SPS. The two machines have different circumferences, satisfying the relation $C_{SPS} = 11C_{PS}$. Hence, to fill the SPS completely, requires ten fast-extracted pulses from the PS (the empty gap in the SPS is needed for the rise-time of the injection kicker). If the filling time has to be minimised, then the solution consists of extracting the beam over a few turns, instead of a single one. In practise, a five-turn extraction was proposed and used since many years, allowing the SPS to be filled with only two PS pulses. Such an approach is called Continuous Transfer (CT) [10]. In the design of this extraction mode a second constraint has been taken into account, namely the necessity of reducing the horizontal transverse emittance of the extracted beam to overcome the acceptance limitation of the SPS machine¹.

For this, the beam is sliced by means of an electrostatic septum: by setting the horizontal tune of the machine to the value 6.25 it is possible to generate exactly five slices (the details can be found in the next sections). A number of drawbacks are present, though: i) beam losses, especially at the electrostatic septum, are an intrinsic and unavoidable characteristic of this extraction process. They amount to about 10 - 15 % of the total beam intensity; ii) the extracted slices do not match the natural partitioning of phase space into circles. This generates a betatron mismatch, i.e. each beam slice has different equivalent horizontal optical parameters which means that a non negligible emittance blow-up at injection in the SPS has to be expected. Furthermore, this blow-up will be different for each slice.

Although this extraction mode is the best solution presently in operation, it may

¹⁾ In fact, the acceptance limitation in the SPS machine is in the vertical plane, but a special optics in the transfer line joining the PS and SPS allows exchanging the two transverse planes (in particular the emittance values) [11].

represent a hard limit for future very high-intensity proton beams such as those for the planned CERN Neutrino to Gran Sasso (CNGS) beam [12]. This is a high-intensity proton beam: in its nominal version, the PS should deliver two pulses of more than 3×10^{13} protons each to the SPS, an intensity close to the present PS record intensity. To increase the rate of good events for physics, thus reducing the data-taking time, efforts are being made to study a possible intensity upgrade by a factor of about two [13]. In the new scenario, the strong beam losses related to the present scheme of the five-turn CT would not be acceptable, and the properties of the extracted beam (matching of phase space structure and transverse emittance) would not allow an efficient injection into the SPS.

Recently a novel method has been proposed [14, 15]: it is based on adiabatic capture of charged particles in stable islands of transverse phase space. The approach consists in generating stable islands in the transverse phase space occupied by the beam, by means of special magnetic elements such as sextupoles and octupoles, and to move the islands by slowly-changing the tune of the machine. Numerical simulations are quite encouraging (see next sections for more details), and an intense experimental activity has been undertaken at the PS machine to assess the feasibility of this new method. The main advantage over the present CT extraction mode is that the beam is split by the action of stable islands sweeping through the central region of phase space. Hence no intercepting device is used. Furthermore, the resulting beamlets are better matched to the phase space topology.

The outline of the paper is the following: in section 2 the main definitions concerning the beam emittance, the computation of the betatron mismatch, and Twiss parameters, as well as the distributions used in the analytical computations are presented. In section 3 the present CT extraction mode is described in details including the issue of phase space matching of the different slices (section 3.2). In section 4 the proposed multi-turn extraction based on island trapping is discussed and the results of numerical simulations presented. Furthermore, the properties of phase space matching (section 4.3) together with the robustness of the method against variation of the strength of the nonlinear elements is discussed. Finally, conclusions are drawn in section 5.

2 Betatron Mismatch in Normalised Phase Space

2.1 Definition of Mismatch Parameters

When a beam is injected into a circular machine, it may experience emittance blowup due to a number of different phenomena. In this paper we will focus on the betatron mismatch [16, 17], which occurs when the beam optical parameters at injection do not match those of the circular machine. In this case, tails may grow at the expense of the beam core, thus increasing the overall beam emittance. Of course, such a behaviour is particularly harmful for high-intensity beams as they usually fill completely the machine acceptance.

To quantify the betatron mismatch, it is customary to start from the statistical definition of beam emittance ϵ and optical parameters $\bar{\alpha}, \bar{\beta}, \bar{\gamma}$ [18] in terms of the second order moments of the beam distribution [19]. By using the notation (x, x') for the physical phase space co-ordinates, while (\hat{x}, \hat{x}') represent normalised phase space co-ordinates, the following holds:

In the equations quoted above the symbol $\langle \cdot \rangle$ stands for the average over the beam distribution of the specified variable. This approach is equivalent to fit an ellipse to the phase space distribution, where the fit parameters are its surface, amplitude, and orientation.

If the nominal Twiss parameters α , β , γ , i.e. those relative to the nominal optics, are used to transform Eq. (1) into normalised phase space via the well-known, transformation rules [18]

$$\hat{x} = \frac{x}{\sqrt{\beta}}$$
 $\hat{x}' = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\beta}}x + \sqrt{\beta}x',$ (2)

one obtains the key relations:

$$\langle \hat{x}^{2} \rangle = \frac{\bar{\beta}}{\beta} \epsilon$$

$$\langle \hat{x}\hat{x}' \rangle = \left(\alpha \frac{\bar{\beta}}{\beta} - \bar{\alpha}\right) \epsilon$$

$$\langle \hat{x}'^{2} \rangle = \left(\alpha^{2} \frac{\bar{\beta}}{\beta} - 2 \alpha \bar{\alpha} + \beta \bar{\gamma}\right) \epsilon.$$

$$(3)$$

The value of the emittance can be obtained by solving Eqs. (3), namely

$$\epsilon = <\hat{x}^2 > <\hat{x}'^2 > - <\hat{x}\,\hat{x}' >^2 \,. \tag{4}$$

The meaning of the coefficients $\bar{\beta}/\beta$ and $\alpha \bar{\beta}/\beta - \bar{\alpha}$ is clear: they measure the departure of the 1 σ contour of the beam distribution from the circular shape it should have in normalised phase space. Furthermore, it turns out that the emittance after filamentation $\epsilon_{\text{after fil.}}$, i.e. when the circular symmetry has been restored, is exactly expressed as

$$\epsilon_{\text{after fil.}} = H\epsilon, \quad \text{where} \quad H = \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{\bar{\beta}}{\beta} + \frac{\beta}{\bar{\beta}} + \left(\alpha \sqrt{\frac{\bar{\beta}}{\beta}} - \bar{\alpha} \sqrt{\frac{\beta}{\bar{\beta}}} \right)^2 \right], \quad (5)$$

where ϵ is the initial value of the beam emittance.

2.2 Beam Distribution for the Present CT

It is customary to assume that the transverse beam distribution is a Gaussian function. Under this assumption it is possible to derive all the relevant quantities to describe the betatron mismatch of the different slices of the present CT in closed form [20]. However, the presence of long, and strictly speaking infinite, tails makes some results difficult to interpret (see Ref. [20] for more details on this subject). For this reason, the choice for the beam distribution has been changed and a *quasi-parabolic* distribution [21, 22, 23] has been used in the computations presented in this paper.

A quasi-parabolic distribution is represented by a smooth function

$$\rho_{\mathrm{P}}(\hat{x}, \hat{x}', m) = \begin{cases} \frac{m+1}{2 \pi \epsilon (m+2)} \left[1 - \frac{\hat{x}^2 + \hat{x}'^2}{2 \epsilon (m+2)} \right]^m & \text{if} \quad \hat{x}^2 + \hat{x}'^2 \le 2 \epsilon (m+2), \\ 0 & \text{if} \quad \hat{x}^2 + \hat{x}'^2 > 2 \epsilon (m+2). \end{cases}$$
(6)



Figure 1: Comparison between Gaussian distribution function $\rho_{\rm G}$ and a quasi-parabolic one $\rho_{\rm P}$ (integration over the angular variable \hat{x}' has been performed). The difference between the two distributions is plotted as a function of $\hat{x}/\sqrt{\epsilon}$ for different values of m.

where m is a parameter and ϵ the total beam emittance. Such a distribution function has no tails, making it a good model for a real beam. In all the computations presented in this paper m = 5 has been used. In Fig. 1 the comparison between a Gaussian distribution $\rho_{\rm G}$ and a quasi-parabolic one $\rho_{\rm P}$ is shown as a function of the parameter m. It is clearly seen that the difference between the quasi-parabolic distributions and the Gaussian is rather small, thus making it an ideal choice for the study presented in this paper.

3 Present Continuous Transfer

3.1 Basic Principle

The principle of the present CT extraction is quite simple [10]: just before extraction, the horizontal tune Q_H of the PS machine is set to the value 6.25. At the same time the closed orbit is modified so that the blade of an electrostatic septum intercepts the beam. Then, because of the value of the horizontal tune, four slices are shaved off the main core and extracted as a continuous ribbon over four turns. After that, only the central core remains in the machine and it is extracted last, during the fifth turn, by changing the beam trajectory, so as to jump over the septum blade. In addition to the electrostatic septum used to slice the beam, a kicker and a magnetic septum are used for the extraction. In Fig. 2 the layout of the extraction elements is shown together with the horizontal normalised phase space. It should be apparent that the average position and angle differ for each slice, therefore, in practice, the beam trajectory has to be different for each slice. This is obtained by means of dedicated fast dipoles.

3.2 Transverse Properties of the Extracted Beam

As already mentioned in the Introduction, the extracted beam has a smaller horizontal emittance than the circulating one. However, the five slices have different shapes, which means different emittances and optical parameters at extraction.

By applying the approach described in section 2, it is possible to obtain the mismatch factors and the emittance of the different slices of the present CT. The detailed computations can be found in Ref. [20]. In this paper we will report the evaluation for a simplified case. The relative position between the blade of the electrostatic septum and the



Figure 2: Principle of the CT extraction from the PS machine. The extraction scheme is shown on the left, while in the upper part the kicker strength as a function of time is shown. In the right part the normalised phase space is depicted.

beam centre is a free parameter for the first slice only: once a position has been selected it is maintained for all the other slices. As a result of this assumption, the second and third slices will have similar shapes, hence the same mismatch parameters and equivalent emittances. The fourth slice will have $\alpha \bar{\beta}_4/\beta - \bar{\alpha}_4 = 0$ due to the intrinsic symmetry of the configuration considered here. Finally, the fifth slice will have a square shape, hence $\bar{\beta}_5 = \beta$ and $\bar{\alpha}_5 = \alpha$. The results of the analytical computations are shown in Fig. 3, where the three plots represent the dependence of the normalised emittance ϵ_i/ϵ , where ϵ_i is the statistical emittance of the *i*-th slice and ϵ the initial beam emittance, and the other mismatch parameters as a function of $\hat{x}_0/\sqrt{\epsilon}$, the position of the electrostatic septum blade, expressed in units of initial beam emittance.

First of all it is clear that, with the simple model considered here, it is not possible to have five slices with equal emittances. In Ref. [20] it will be shown that such a situation can be achieved by using four free parameters, i.e. by assuming that the position of the blade of the electrostatic septum can be different for the various slices. Furthermore, the normalised emittance can be at best between 0.3 - 0.4, hence quite different from the value 0.2 obtained by considering the number of slices generated.

As far as the mismatch parameters $\bar{\beta}_i/\beta$ and $\alpha \bar{\beta}_i/\beta - \bar{\alpha}_i$ are concerned, the latter, due to the symmetries of the special case considered here, does not deviate considerably from zero for the second and third slices. For the other slices it is exactly zero. However, the ratio $\bar{\beta}_i/\beta$ can be considerably different from one, the value for a perfect matching into the circular machine. A complete discussion of the subject can be found in Ref. [20].

4 Novel Approach: Adiabatic Capture in Stable Islands

4.1 Basic Principle

The novel approach is based on two main ingredients [14, 15]. Firstly, nonlinear magnetic elements are used to generate four stable islands in the transverse phase space where the capture should take place. Secondly, an appropriate tune variation is applied to selectively trap particles inside islands and, once the islands are filled with beam, to move the beamlets towards higher amplitudes prior to extraction. This gymnastics should enhance the separation of the beamlets to allow jumping over the blade of a septum



Figure 3: Beam emittance ϵ_i/ϵ (upper), mismatch factor $\bar{\beta}_i/\beta$ (centre), and $\alpha \bar{\beta}_i/\beta - \bar{\alpha}_i$ (lower) for the different slices as a function of $\hat{x}_0/\sqrt{\epsilon}$, representing the position of the electrostatic septum blade in units of beam emittance (first slice solid, second dashed, fourth dotted, fifth dot-dashed).

without losses.

Numerical simulations were carried out to study this novel approach [14, 15]. In the model, only the horizontal betatron motion is taken into account, as the vertical one can be safely neglected for our purpose. The nonlinear magnets are assumed to be at the same location in the ring and are represented in the single-kick approximation (see Ref. [24] for more details). Under these assumptions, the one-turn transfer map can be expressed as $\hat{\mathbf{X}}_{n+1} = \mathbf{M}_n(\hat{\mathbf{X}}_n)$:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{X}_{n+1} \\ \hat{X}'_{n+1} \end{pmatrix} = R(2 \pi \nu_n) \begin{pmatrix} \hat{X}_n \\ \hat{X}'_n + \hat{X}_n^2 + \kappa \hat{X}_n^3 \end{pmatrix},$$
(7)

where (\hat{X}, \hat{X}') are obtained from the Courant-Snyder [18] co-ordinates (\hat{x}, \hat{x}') by means of the non-symplectic transformations

$$\hat{X} = \frac{1}{2} K_2 \beta_H^{3/2} \hat{x} \qquad \hat{X}' = \frac{1}{2} K_2 \beta_H^{3/2} \hat{x}', \quad \text{with} \quad K_l = \frac{L}{B_0 \rho} \frac{\partial^l B_y}{\partial x^l}, \quad (8)$$

 K_2 (K_3) being the integrated sextupole (octupole) gradient, L the length of the nonlinear element, B_y the vertical component of the magnetic field, $B_0 \rho$ the magnetic rigidity of the charged particle, and β_H the value of the horizontal beta-function at the nonlinear elements location. $R(2 \pi \nu_n)$ is a 2 × 2 rotation matrix of angle ν_n (the fractional part of Q_H)

$$R(2 \pi \nu_n) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2 \pi \nu_n & \sin 2 \pi \nu_n \\ -\sin 2 \pi \nu_n & \cos 2 \pi \nu_n \end{pmatrix}$$
(9)

and κ is expressed as

$$\kappa = \frac{2}{3} \frac{K_3}{\beta_H K_2^2}.$$
 (10)

The map (7) is actually a time-dependent system as the linear tune is time-dependent. The importance of introducing a time-dependence is twofold. Firstly, it allows varying the phase space topology, thus creating and moving the islands. Secondly, it allows trapping particles inside the islands, which is the necessary condition for the proposed scheme to work efficiently. The time-dependence breaks the invariance of the separatrix around the stable islands, thus making it *permeable* for the particles. In a time-independent system a particle outside an island would never be able to jump across the separatrix, as this would mean changing the value of the invariant of motion. However, a slow variation of the linear tune, adiabatic with respect to the time scale introduced by the betatron oscillations, allows particles to cross the separatrix and to be trapped inside the newly-created islands.

A good choice for the time-dependence of the tune variation is shown in Fig. 4. Unless otherwise stated, the results of numerical simulations refer to such a function. In the first part, the linear tune is decreased linearly from its initial value of 0.252 to 0.249. During this part, the capture process takes place. Then a zero-slope part follows, used to allow the beam to filament after capture, to match better the phase space topology. Finally, a second linear decrease to the value 0.245 is performed which allows the islands to be moved towards higher amplitudes before extraction.

The different stages of this novel extraction are shown in Fig. 5, evaluated by the



Figure 4: Linear tune ν as a function of turn number *n* for the fourth-order resonance. The points on the curve labelled with (**a**), (**b**), and (**c**) correspond to the values of ν_n used in Fig 5.

computer code *GIOTTO* [25]. Each orbit consists of a set of points generated by using the map (7) where, for this special purpose, the linear tune has been kept constant, namely $\mathbf{x}_j = \mathbf{M}^j(\mathbf{x}_0), \ 1 \leq j \leq 2 \times 10^3$, and different orbits correspond to different initial conditions \mathbf{x}_0 . The coefficient κ has the same value for all the cases, namely $\kappa = -1.6$.



Figure 5: Phase space portrait of the map (7) for $\nu = 0.252$ (a), $\nu = 0.2492$ (b), and for $\nu = 0.2453$ (c). Each orbit consists of 2×10^3 points.

In Fig. 5 (a), the phase portrait for $\nu = 0.252$ is shown. The phase space is foliated in closed curves and no chain of islands is visible, apart from an eleventh-order one near the dynamic aperture. This configuration corresponds to the initial state where the beam is located around the origin and the dynamics is quasi-linear.

In Fig. 5 (b) the topology of the phase space is shown for $\nu = 0.2492$. A chain of four islands, corresponding to a stable fourth-order resonance, is clearly visible near the origin. An important feature is that, at higher amplitude, the phase space is again foliated into closed curves until the last regular curve that corresponds to the border of the dynamic aperture. Under these conditions, it is possible to split the beam into five slices: one around the origin, and four inside the stable islands. The closed curve outside the chain acts as a barrier, preventing particles from moving towards higher amplitudes.

Finally, Fig. 5 (c) represents the phase space topology for $\nu = 0.2453$. The four islands are still present, but their amplitude is increased. This means that particles trapped inside islands can be transported towards the outside of phase space.

The whole process has been simulated numerically by using the model (7) with $\kappa = -1.6^{2}$ and a set of Gaussian-distributed initial conditions, whose evolution under the dynamics induced by the system (7) is shown in Fig. 6. The Coulomb interaction between the charged particles is not taken into account. Preliminary estimates [14] seem to indicate that the space charge tune shift should not be a serious problem for the proposed approach. In fact, the capture is performed by trapping outer particles and they are less affected by the space charge tune shift than those particles in the beam core. However, further numerical simulations will be needed to study this delicate point.



Figure 6: Evolution of the beam distribution during the trapping process with four islands. The different plots correspond to tune values represented by solid squares in Fig. 4. Each plot represents 4.9×10^5 points. The initial Gaussian distribution is centred on zero and has $\sigma = 0.045$.

The trapping process is clearly visible: five well-separated beam slices are generated at the end of the process. No particles are lost during the trapping phase, nor when the islands are moved. Therefore, this extraction process is essentially lossless. The five slices have rather similar surfaces, but also their shape matches the phase space topology very well, making the five parts similar as far as transverse properties are concerned. It is

²⁾ It is worth pointing out that the values of the multipolar coefficients K_2 and K_3 computed for a realistic case (PS machine) are well within technological limits, being of the order of 28 T/m and 3000 T/m², for K_2 and K_3 respectively (see Ref. [26] for more details).

worthwhile pointing out that the first four extracted beam slices have exactly the same emittance, as their shape is dictated by the same phase space structure, i.e. the island along the positive \hat{X} axis. Also in this respect, the novel approach proves to be potentially superior to the present CT extraction mode.

The distribution functions $\rho(X)$ for the different beam slices at the end of the trapping and transport process are shown in Fig. 7. They are all Gaussian-like, as is the initial beam distribution, thus showing that the shape is almost preserved throughout the whole process. Still, further optimisation is required to improve the intensity sharing between the different beamlets, as the last one is much stronger than the others.



Figure 7: Beam distribution function $\rho(\hat{X})$ at the end of the capture and transport process, for all five beam slices shown in Fig 6 (lower right) for $\kappa = -1.6$. The central beamlet is clearly too much intense with respect to the others.

4.2 Digression: Adiabatic Trapping Using Other Resonances

It is interesting to point out that the proposed approach can work also for other cases [15], such as the third-order resonance. This resonance is inherently unstable [24], hence no closed curves surround the origin of phase space. This makes the adiabatic capture much more difficult, due to the risk of particle loss. In Fig. 8, the linear tune as a function of n is shown.



Figure 8: Linear tune ν as a function of turn number *n* for the third-order resonance. The points on the curve labelled with (**a**), (**b**), (**c**), and (**d**) correspond to the values of ν_n used in Fig 9.

In this case, to ensure a good trapping, a polynomial dependence of order three has been selected, instead of the plain linear decrease used for the fourth-order resonance.

The various steps of the trapping process are shown in Fig 9, obtained with the system (7) and $\kappa = -5$. In spite of the different topology, three well-separated slices can



Figure 9: Evolution of the beam distribution during the trapping process with three islands. Each plot represents 4.9×10^5 points. The initial Gaussian distribution is centred on zero and has $\sigma = 0.045$.

be found at the end of the process. No losses occur during the whole process and the region around the origin is almost emptied, apart from very few particles. Finally, the distribution $\rho(\hat{X})$ is shown in Fig. 10.

4.3 Transverse Properties of the Extracted Beam

Similarly to what has been presented for the present CT, a parametric study of the mismatch parameters for the novel approach was performed. The first test concerns the dependence of the trapped beam parameters on the numerical value of κ . By means of numerical simulations and using the definitions in section 2, the quantities $\bar{\beta}_i/\beta$, $\alpha \bar{\beta}_i/\beta - \bar{\alpha}_i$, as well as the beam emittance ϵ_i have been evaluated. In all the cases considered, the tune dependence on the turn number is the one shown in Fig. 4. The results are shown in Fig. 11, where the modulus of κ has been used as independent variable. The two series of points refer to the first four extracted beamlets (squares) and the fifth one (triangles). In all the cases shown here, only a mild dependence on $|\kappa|$ is visible. Around the nominal



Figure 10: Beam distribution function $\rho(\hat{X})$ at the end of the capture and transport process, for all three beam slices shown in Fig. 9 (lower right) for $\kappa = -5$.

value $|\kappa| = 1.6$ exists a wide interval in parameter space where almost no mismatch is present, i.e. $\bar{\beta}/\beta \approx 1$, $\alpha \beta_i/\beta - \alpha_i \approx 0$.

Hence, not only the dependence of the extracted beam parameter is smooth and almost negligible around the optimal value of κ , different from what has been shown for the present CT, but also the mismatch parameters correspond almost to a perfectly matched beam. On the other hand, it is worthwhile pointing out that in the present situation, the normalised emittance is almost equal to that obtained with the CT technique.

5 Conclusions

In this paper, two different approaches to multi-turn extraction have been presented and discussed in details. The first approach is the so-called Continuous Transfer, routinely used to extract the high-intensity proton beam from the CERN PS to the SPS. It is based on slicing the beam against the blade of an electrostatic septum together with a proper tune setting. The analysis reported here reveals that the extracted beam suffers from betatron mismatch as well as difference in the equivalent beam emittance for the various slices. All these effects may cause emittance blow-up and eventually beam losses at injection into the SPS machine.

The second method has been recently proposed as a possible replacement of the present scheme. It is based on particle trapping in stable islands of transverse phase space. By means of appropriate magnets (sextupoles and octupoles), together with a carefully chosen tune-variation, charged particles can be trapped in islands generated by the non-linear motion induced by the strong sextupoles and octupoles. Two different schemes have been discussed here, based on the fourth- and third-order resonances. A detailed analysis of the robustness of the proposed technique against variation of the nonlinear elements strength as well as the mismatch parameters, showed possible improvement with respect to the present situation. In fact, only a mild dependence on the strength of the nonlinear magnets around the optimal value used in numerical simulations was found. Furthermore, the mismatch parameters are almost the same as those of a perfectly matched beam.

Future studies are needed to reduce the value of the normalised emittance of the beamlets and to include other effects to make the simulations more realistic, such as space charge effects, 4D motion, magnetic imperfections etc.



Figure 11: Beam emittance ϵ_i/ϵ (upper), mismatch factor $\bar{\beta}_i/\beta$ (centre), and mismatch factor $\alpha \bar{\beta}_i/\beta - \bar{\alpha}_i$ (lower) for the four first beamlets (squares) and for the last one (triangles) as a function of $|\kappa|$ for the novel extraction mode based on adiabatic capture.

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