Kangweon-Kyungki Math. Jour. 13 (2005), No. 2, pp. 139–148

# SUPERCONVERGENCE OF CRANK-NICOLSON MIXED FINITE ELEMENT SOLUTION OF PARABOLIC PROBLEMS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we extend the mixed finite element method and its  $L_2$ -error estimate for postprocessed solutions by using Crank-Nicolson time-discretization method.

Global  $O(h^2+(\Delta t)^2)$ -superconvergence for the lowest order Raviart-Thomas element  $(Q_0 - Q_{1,0} \times Q_{0,1})$  are obtained. Numerical examples are presented to confirm superconvergence phenomena.

## 1. Introduction

We show a practical discretization technique for the parabolic equations based on the mixed finite element method in a finite element space and study how we could get the global superconvergence for the mixed approximate solutions in the rectangular Raviart-Thomas elements of order 0. There are several time-discretization methods such as Backward Euler method, Crank-Nicolson method, and Runge-Kutta method [3]. We here use Crank-Nicolson method and prove optimal order of convergence. As a result,  $O(h^2 + (\Delta t)^2)$  - superconvergence for Raviart-Thomas element  $Q_0 - Q_{1,0} \times Q_{0,1}$  in regular mesh (not necessarily uniform) is derived.

The paper is organized as follows. The Raviart-Thomas space is introduced in §2. In §3, we devote to descretize the parabolic problem by the Crank-Nicolson mixed finite element method. In §4, we derive the main theory for superconvergence. In §5, Numerical results are given to support the theoretical results.

Received June 12, 2005.

<sup>2000</sup> Mathematics Subject Classification: 65M15, 65M60, 65N15, 65N30.

Key words and phrases: mixed finite element method, superconvergence, parabolic problem, Raviart-Thomas element, postprocessing method.

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#### 2. The Raviart-Thomas Elements

Raviart and Thomas [7] introduced a family of mixed finite elements that satisfy the Ladyzhenskaya-Babuska-Brezzi condition. Their elements are defined as follows:

Let K be an ordinary rectangle or triangle and j a non-negative integer. Set

(1) 
$$RT_j(K) = V(j,K) \times H(j,K), \ j \ge 0.$$

If K is rectangle, set  $V(j, K) = Q_{j,j}(K) \equiv Q_j(K)$ ,  $H(j, K) = Q_{j+1,j}(K) \times Q_{j,j+1}(K)$ . Then the finite element spaces  $V_h \times H_h$  of index j are defined by

(2) 
$$V_h = \{ v \in L_2(\Omega) : v |_K \in V(j, K), \forall K \in \mathbf{T}_h \},$$

(3) 
$$H_h = \{ \mathbf{p} \in H(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) : \mathbf{p}|_K \in H(j, K), \forall K \in \mathbf{T}_h \},\$$

where  $H(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) = \{ \mathbf{p} = (p_1, p_2) : p_i \in L_2(\Omega), i = 1, 2, \text{ and } \operatorname{div} \mathbf{p} \in L_2(\Omega) \}$  and  $Q_{m,n} = \operatorname{span}\{x^i y^j : 0 \le i \le m, 0 \le j \le n\}.$ 

If K is triangle, set  $V(j, K) = P_j(K)$ ,  $H(j, K) = P_j(K)^2 \times \mathbf{x} \hat{P}_j(K)$ , where  $\hat{P}_j(K)$  is the set of homogeneous polynomials of degree j in the variable  $\mathbf{x} = (x, y)$ .

The local Raviart-Thomas projection

(4) 
$$j_h: H(\operatorname{div}; K) \to H(j, K), \ \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h$$

satisfies the following properties [8, 16, 17]:

(5) 
$$(\operatorname{div}(\mathbf{p} - j_h \mathbf{p}), v) = 0, \ \forall v \in V_h,$$

(6) 
$$||j_h \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}||_{0,K} \leq Ch^r ||\mathbf{p}||_{r,K}, \ 1 \leq r \leq j+1,$$

(7)  $\operatorname{div} j_h = i_h \operatorname{div},$ 

where  $i_h$  is the local  $L_2$ -projection:  $L_2(K) \to V(j, K)$ . Furthermore, we have [8]

(8) 
$$(\operatorname{div}\mathbf{q}, u - i_h u) = 0, \ \forall \mathbf{q} \in H_h,$$

(9) 
$$||i_h u - u||_{0,K} \leq Ch^r ||u||_{r,K}, \ 0 \leq r \leq j+1.$$

We choose the lowest order rectangular Raviart-Thomas Element,  $Q_0 - Q_{1,0} \times Q_{0,1}$ , which is described by

(10) 
$$\begin{cases} V_h = \{ v \in L_2(\Omega) : v |_K \in Q_0(K), \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h \}, \\ H_h^0 = \{ \mathbf{q} \in H_0(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) : \mathbf{q} |_K \in Q_{1,0} \times Q_{0,1}, \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h \}, \end{cases}$$

where  $H_0(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) = \{ \mathbf{q} \in L_2(\Omega)^2 : \operatorname{div} \mathbf{q} \in L_2(\Omega), \ \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 \text{ on } \partial \Omega \} \subset H(\operatorname{div}; \Omega).$ 

The local  $L_2$ -projection operator and the local Raviart-Thomas operator are defined on  $Q_0 - Q_{1,0} \times Q_{0,1}$  element by

$$\begin{cases} i_h u \in Q_0, \\ \int_K (u - i_h u) = 0 , \end{cases} \begin{cases} j_h \in Q_{1,0} \times Q_{0,1}, \\ \int_{s_i} (\mathbf{p} - j_h \mathbf{p}) \cdot \mathbf{n} ds = 0, \ i = 1, 2, 3, 4 , \end{cases}$$

where **n** is the outward unit normal vector to  $\partial K$  and  $s_i$  is the side of each rectangle elements.

#### 3. Crank-Nicolson Mixed Finite Element Approximation

Consider the mixed approximation for the parabolic equation with Neumann boundary condition.

$$(11)_{a(\mathbf{x})\nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}}^{u_t - \operatorname{div}(a(\mathbf{x})\nabla u(\mathbf{x},t)) + b(\mathbf{x})u(\mathbf{x},t) = f(\mathbf{x},t) \text{ in } \Omega \times [0,T),$$
  
$$(11)_{a(\mathbf{x})\nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}}^{u_t - u_t} = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega \times [0,T), \ u(\cdot,0) = g(\mathbf{x}) \text{ in } \Omega \times \{0\},$$

where  $\Omega$  is a bounded convex domain in the plane and  $\partial \Omega$  is the boundary of  $\Omega$ . For simplicity of presentation, we assume that  $a(\mathbf{x}) = 1$ ,  $b(\mathbf{x}) = 0$ .

A mixed formulation for (11) is obtained by introducing a flux variable:

(12) 
$$\mathbf{p} = \nabla u,$$

which is of more interest in many applications in science and engineering. The problem (11) is equivalent to seeking  $(u, \mathbf{p})$  such that

(13) 
$$\nabla u - \mathbf{p} = 0 \quad \text{in} \quad \Omega \times [0, T), \quad u_t - \operatorname{div} \mathbf{p} = f \quad \text{in} \quad \Omega \times [0, T), \\ \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 \quad \text{on} \quad \partial \Omega \times [0, T), \quad u(\cdot, 0) = g(\cdot) \quad \text{in} \quad \Omega \times \{0\}.$$

Let  $V = L_2(\Omega)$  and  $\mathcal{H} = H_0(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) = \{\mathbf{q} \in L_2(\Omega)^2 : \operatorname{div} \mathbf{q} \in L_2(\Omega), \ \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega\} \subset H(\operatorname{div}; \Omega).$  Using integration by parts, we arrive at the following mixed variational form for (13):

Find  $(u, \mathbf{p}) \in V \times \mathcal{H}$  such that

(14) 
$$(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, v) - (\operatorname{div} \mathbf{p}, v) = (f, v), \quad \forall v \in V, \ \forall t \in [0, T),$$

(15) 
$$(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) + (u, \operatorname{div}\mathbf{q}) = 0, \quad \forall \mathbf{q} \in \mathcal{H}, \ \forall t \in [0, T),$$

$$(16) u(\cdot,0) = g.$$

Note that the Raviart-Thomas finite element space  $V_h \times H_h^0 \subset V \times \mathcal{H}$  satisfies div $H_h^0 \subset V_h$  and the Ladyzhenskaya-Babuska-Brezzi condition.

Let  $\Delta t = \frac{T}{N}$  be the time step and  $u_h^n$  be the approximation of u(t) at  $t = t_n = n\Delta t$  in  $V_h$ . Applying the Crank-Nicolson scheme to time derivative  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$  around the point  $t_{n-\frac{1}{2}} = (n-\frac{1}{2})\Delta t$ , we obtain the following fully discrete formulation:

For each  $1 \leq n \leq N$ ,

$$(17)\left(\frac{u_{h}^{n}-u_{h}^{n-1}}{\Delta t}, v\right) - \left(\operatorname{div}\left(\frac{\mathbf{p}_{h}^{n}+\mathbf{p}_{h}^{n-1}}{2}\right), v\right) = \left(\frac{f(t_{n})+f(t_{n-1})}{2}, v\right), \ \forall v \in V_{h},$$

$$(18) \qquad \left(\frac{\mathbf{p}_{h}^{n}+\mathbf{p}_{h}^{n-1}}{2}, \mathbf{q}\right) + \left(\frac{u_{h}^{n}+u_{h}^{n-1}}{2}, \operatorname{div}\mathbf{q}\right) = 0, \ \forall \mathbf{q} \in H_{h}^{0},$$

$$(1\mathfrak{M}_{h}^{0}, v) = (i_{h}g, v), \ \forall v \in V_{h}, \ (\mathbf{p}_{h}^{0}, \mathbf{q}) + (i_{h}g, \operatorname{div}\mathbf{q}) = 0, \ \forall \mathbf{q} \in H_{h}^{0}.$$

Let  $\varepsilon^n = u_h^n - u^n$  and  $\eta^n = \mathbf{p_h}^n - \mathbf{p}^n$ . Using (17)-(19), we obtain the error equations as follows.

(20) 
$$\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{n}-\varepsilon^{n-1}}{\Delta t},v\right) - \left(\operatorname{div}\left(\frac{\eta^{n}+\eta^{n-1}}{2}\right),v\right)$$
$$= \left(\frac{u^{n}-u^{n-1}}{\Delta t} - \frac{\partial u^{n-\frac{1}{2}}}{\partial t},v\right) - \left(\frac{u^{n}_{t}+u^{n-1}_{t}}{2} - \frac{\partial u^{n-\frac{1}{2}}}{\partial t},v\right), \ \forall v \in V_{h},$$
$$\left(\underbrace{21}_{2},\underbrace{1}_{2},\mathbf{q}\right) + \left(\frac{\varepsilon^{n}+\varepsilon^{n-1}}{2},\operatorname{div}\mathbf{q}\right) = 0, \ \forall \mathbf{q} \in H_{h}^{0} \text{ for } n = 1,2,...,N$$

Here,  $\frac{u^n - u^{n-1}}{\Delta t} - \frac{\partial u^{n-\frac{1}{2}}}{\partial t}$  is the truncation error associated with the Crank-Nicolson method to the time derivative.

#### 4. Global Superconvergence

In the following discussion, we assume that  $(x_K, y_K)$  is the center of K and  $s_i$  (i = 1, 2, 3, 4) is its side.  $s_1$  and  $s_3$  are parallel to y-direction and  $s_2$  and  $s_4$  are parallel to x-direction. C denotes a positive constant independent to h, not necessarily the same at each occurrence.  $\|\cdot\|_m$  denote the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{m,2,\Omega}$ , in particular,  $\|\cdot\| = \|\cdot\|_0$ .

THEOREM 4.1. If  $\mathbf{p} \in [H^2(\Omega)]^2$ , then

$$(\mathbf{p}-j_h\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}) \leq Ch^2 \|\mathbf{p}\|_2 \|\mathbf{q}\|.$$

Proof. See J.Pan [11].

Superconvergence of Crank-Nicolson Mixed FE solutions

LEMMA 4.1. For each n, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\frac{u^{n}+u^{n-1}}{2}-u^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\|^{2} &\leq C(\Delta t)^{3}\int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_{n}}\|\frac{\partial^{2}u}{\partial t^{2}}\|^{2}dt, \\ \|\frac{u^{n}-u^{n-1}}{\Delta t}-u_{t}^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\|^{2} &\leq C(\Delta t)^{3}\int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_{n}}\|\frac{\partial^{3}u}{\partial t^{3}}\|^{2}dt, \end{aligned}$$

where C is a positive constant.

*Proof.* Use the Taylor theorem with the integral remainder and Hölder inequality. 

THEOREM 4.2. For  $Q_{0}Q_{1,0} \times Q_{0,1}Element$ , there exists a positive constant C such that

$$\|u_h^n - i_h u^n\| + \|\mathbf{p}_h^n - j_h \mathbf{p}^n\|$$
  
  $\leq C( (\Delta t)^2 (\int_0^{t_n} \|\frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3}\|^2 dt)^{\frac{1}{2}} + h^2 (\|\mathbf{p}(\cdot, 0)\|_2 + (\sum_{j=1}^n \|\mathbf{p}^{j-\frac{1}{2}}\|_2^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}) ).$ 

*Proof.* Let  $\theta^n = u_h^n - i_h u^n$ ,  $\xi^n = \mathbf{p_h}^n - j_h \mathbf{p}^n$ . (5) and (8) yield

(22) 
$$(\frac{\theta^{n} - \theta^{n-1}}{\Delta t}, v) - (\operatorname{div} \frac{\xi^{n} + \xi^{n-1}}{2}, v)$$
$$= (\frac{u^{n} - u^{n-1}}{\Delta t} - u^{n-\frac{1}{2}}_{t}, v) - (\frac{u^{n}_{t} + u^{n-1}_{t}}{2} - u^{n-\frac{1}{2}}_{t}, v), \quad \forall v \in V_{h},$$
$$(\underbrace{\xi^{n}_{t} + \xi^{n-1}}_{2}, \mathbf{q}) + (\frac{\theta^{n} + \theta^{n-1}}{2}, \operatorname{div} \mathbf{q}) = (\mathbf{p}^{n-\frac{1}{2}} - j_{h} \mathbf{p}^{n-\frac{1}{2}}, \mathbf{q}), \quad \forall \mathbf{q} \in H_{h}^{0}.$$

Putting  $\bar{\theta}^n = \frac{\theta^n + \theta^{n-1}}{2}$ ,  $\bar{\xi}^n = \frac{\xi^n + \xi^{n-1}}{2}$  and taking  $v = \bar{\theta}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{q} = \bar{\xi}^n$ , we obtain from the sum of (22) and (23) that

$$\frac{1}{2\Delta t} (\|\theta^n\|^2 - \|\theta^{n-1}\|^2) + \|\bar{\xi}^n\|^2 \leq \frac{1}{2\delta_1} \|\frac{u_t^n + u_t^{n-1}}{2} - u_t^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\|^2 + \frac{\delta_1}{2} \|\bar{\theta}^n\|^2 + \frac{1}{2\delta_2} \|\frac{u^n - u^{n-1}}{\Delta t} - u_t^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\|^2 + \frac{\delta_2}{2} \|\bar{\theta}^n\|^2 + \frac{Ch^4}{2} \|\mathbf{p}^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\|_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\bar{\xi}^n\|^2$$

for each  $1 \le n \le N$ . Applying Lemma 4.2 and letting  $\delta > 0$  such that  $1 - \frac{\Delta t}{2}\delta > \frac{1}{2}$  with  $\delta = \delta_1 + \delta_2$ , we have

$$\|\theta^n\|^2 \leq C \left( \|\theta^{n-1}\|^2 + (\Delta t)^4 \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} \|\frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3}\|^2 dt + h^4 \|\mathbf{p}^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\|_2^2 \right),$$

Considering  $u_h(\cdot, 0) = i_h g = i_h u(\cdot, 0)$  and adding all equations for  $n = 1, 2, ..., m \leq N$ ,

$$\|\theta^{m}\|^{2} \leq C \left( (\Delta t)^{2} (\int_{0}^{t_{m}} \|\frac{\partial^{3} u}{\partial t^{3}}\|^{2} dt)^{\frac{1}{2}} + h^{2} (\sum_{j=1}^{m} \|\mathbf{p}^{j-\frac{1}{2}}\|_{2}^{2})^{\frac{1}{2}} )^{2},$$

where  $t_m = m\Delta t \leq N\Delta t = T$ .

Next, we consider

$$(\underbrace{\xi^{n}_{4}-\xi^{n-1}}_{\Delta t},\mathbf{q}) + (\underbrace{\theta^{n}-\theta^{n-1}}_{\Delta t},\operatorname{div}\mathbf{q}) = (\underbrace{\mathbf{p}^{n-\frac{1}{2}}-j_{h}\mathbf{p}^{n-\frac{1}{2}}}_{\Delta t},\mathbf{q}), \ \forall \mathbf{q} \in H_{h}^{0}$$

instead of the second equation (23). And since

(25) 
$$(\mathbf{p_h}^0 - j_h \mathbf{p}^0, \mathbf{q}) + (u_h^0 - i_h u^0, \operatorname{div} \mathbf{q}) = (\mathbf{p}^0 - j_h \mathbf{p}^0, \mathbf{q}),$$

let  $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{p}_{\mathbf{h}}^{0} - j_{h}\mathbf{p}^{0}$ , then  $\|\mathbf{p}_{\mathbf{h}}(\cdot, 0) - j_{h}\mathbf{p}(\cdot, 0)\| \leq Ch^{2}\|\mathbf{p}(\cdot, 0)\|_{2}$ . From the sum of (22) with  $v = \frac{\theta^{n} - \theta^{n-1}}{\Delta t}$  and (24) with  $\mathbf{q} = \bar{\xi}^{n}$ , we yield

$$\begin{split} \|\frac{\theta^{n}-\theta^{n-1}}{\Delta t}\|^{2} &+ \frac{1}{2\Delta t}(\|\xi^{n}\|^{2}-\|\xi^{n-1}\|^{2}) \leq \frac{1}{2}\|\frac{u_{t}^{n}+u_{t}^{n-1}}{2}-u_{t}^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\|^{2} \\ &+ \frac{1}{2}\|\frac{\theta^{n}-\theta^{n-1}}{\Delta t}\|^{2} + \frac{1}{2}\|\frac{u^{n}-u^{n-1}}{\Delta t}-u_{t}^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\|^{2} \\ &+ \frac{1}{2}\|\frac{\theta^{n}-\theta^{n-1}}{\Delta t}\|^{2} + \frac{1}{\Delta t}(\frac{\epsilon^{-1}h^{4}}{2}\|\mathbf{p}^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\|^{2}_{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2}\|\bar{\xi}^{n}\|^{2}). \end{split}$$

Choosing  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $1 - \frac{\epsilon}{2} > 0$ , we have

$$\|\xi^n\|^2 \leq C \left( \|\xi^{n-1}\|^2 + (\Delta t)^4 \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} \|\frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3}\|^2 dt + h^4 \|\mathbf{p}^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\|_2^2 \right),$$

Adding all equations for each m with  $1 \le m \le N$ ,

$$\|\xi^m\|^2 \le C \left( (\Delta t)^2 \left( \int_0^{t_m} \|\frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3}\|^2 dt \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + h^2 \left( \|\mathbf{p}(\cdot,0)\|_2 + \left(\sum_{j=1}^m \|\mathbf{p}^{j-\frac{1}{2}}\|_2^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \right)^2$$

This completes the proof.

We use proper postprocessing method to get global superconvergence. For this purpose, we assume that  $\mathcal{T}_h$  has been obtained from  $\mathcal{T}_{2h}$  by dividing each element of  $\mathcal{T}_{2h}$  into four congruent rectangles  $\tau = \sum_{i=1}^{4} K_i \in \mathcal{T}_{2h}$ 

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with  $K_i \in \mathcal{T}_h$ . Then we can define two postprocessing operators as follows.

(26) 
$$\begin{cases} J_{2h}\mathbf{p} \in Q_{1,1}(\tau) \times Q_{1,1}(\tau), \\ \int_{l_i} (J_{2h}\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}) \cdot \mathbf{n} ds = 0, \\ i = 1, 2, ..., 8, \end{cases} \begin{cases} I_{2h}u \in Q_1(\tau), \\ \int_{K_i} (I_{2h}u - u) = 0, \\ i = 1, ..., 4, \end{cases}$$

where  $l_i$  (i = 1, 2, ..., 8) is sides of  $K_1, K_2, K_3, K_4$  which are composed of boundary of  $\partial \tau$  and **n** is outward unit normal to  $l_i$ . It is easy to check that

$$(27) \begin{cases} J_{2h}j_h = J_{2h}, \\ \|J_{2h}\mathbf{q}\| \le c \|\mathbf{q}\|, \ \forall \mathbf{q} \in H_h^0(\Omega), \\ \|J_{2h}\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}\| \le c h^2 \|\mathbf{p}\|_2, \end{cases} \begin{cases} I_{2h}i_h = I_{2h}, \\ \|I_{2h}v\| \le c \|v\|, \ \forall v \in V_h, \\ \|I_{2h}u - u\| \le c h^2 \|u\|_2. \end{cases}$$

COROLLARY 4.1. We have the global  $L_2$ -superconvergence for  $Q_0 - Q_{1,0} \times Q_{0,1}$  element.

$$\|I_{2h}u_h - u\| + \|J_{2h}\mathbf{p}_h - \mathbf{p}\| \le C \left[ (\Delta t)^2 (\int_0^T \|\frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3}\|^2 dt)^{\frac{1}{2}} + h^2 (\|\mathbf{p}(\cdot, 0)\|_2 + \max_{1 \le j \le N} \|\mathbf{p}^{j-\frac{1}{2}}\|_2 + \|\mathbf{p}\|_2 + \|u\|_2) \right],$$

where  $N\Delta t = T$ .

#### 5. Numerical results

In this section we examine the superconvergence phenomena. Consider the parabolic problem

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \operatorname{div}(\nabla u(\mathbf{x}, t)) = f(\mathbf{x}, t) \text{ in } \Omega \times [0, T),$$
$$\nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 \text{ on } \partial \Omega \times [0, T),$$
$$u(\cdot, 0) = 0 \text{ in } \Omega \times \{0\}$$

with the exact solution  $u(x, y, t) = t(\cos(\pi x)\cos(\pi y) + 1)$ , where  $\Omega = [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$  and  $f(x, y, t) = 1 + \cos(\pi x)\cos(\pi y) + 2\pi^2 t \cos(\pi x)\cos(\pi y)$ .

Let  $\mathcal{T}_h = \{K\}$  be a rectangular partition of  $\Omega$ . To solve this problem by the Crank-Nicolson mixed finite element method, we divide  $\Omega$  into  $M^2$  squares uniformly using (M-1) vertical lines and (M-1) horizontal lines and take basis functions on  $Q_0 - Q_{1,0} \times Q_{0,1}$  element. We can choose the basis functions on reference rectangle  $\hat{K}_{ref} = [-1, 1]^2$  such that

$$\begin{cases} \hat{\phi} = 1, \\ \hat{\psi}_1^x = (\frac{1-x}{2}, 0), \ \hat{\psi}_2^x = (\frac{1+x}{2}, 0), \ \hat{\psi}_1^y = (0, \frac{1-y}{2}), \ \hat{\psi}_2^y = (0, \frac{1+y}{2}). \end{cases}$$

Then we let

$$u_h = \sum_{i=1}^{M^2} \alpha_i \psi_i(x), \ \mathbf{p_h} = \sum_{j=1}^{2M(M-1)} \beta_j \phi_j(x).$$

Applying it into (17)~(19), we get  $(M^2+2M(M-1))\times(M^2+2M(M-1))$  matrix and  $M^2+2M(M-1)$  load vector.

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc}A & B\\B^T & D\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{c}\tilde{u}\\\tilde{p}\end{array}\right) = \left(\begin{array}{c}F\\G\end{array}\right)$$

Since  $\tilde{p} = -D^{-1}B^T \tilde{u} + D^{-1}G$ , we first solve  $u_h$  from  $(A - BD^{-1}B^T)\tilde{u} = F - BD^{-1}G$  by lumping technique. And then, we gain  $\mathbf{p_h}$ .

All programs were written in Matlab, and ran on PC. We use two point Gauss quadrature to evaluate the integrals. If K is rectangle with four vertices  $(x_1, y_1)$ ,  $(x_2, y_1)$ ,  $(x_1, y_2)$  and  $(x_2, y_2)$ ,

$$\int \int_{K} f(x,y) dx dy \approx \frac{h^2}{4} \sum_{i,j=1}^{2} \omega_{i,j} f(x_i, y_j),$$

where  $\omega_{i,j} = 1$ ,  $x_i$  and  $y_j$  (i, j = 1, 2) are two Gauss points.

Table 5.1  $L_2$  Error Estimate for Mixed Approximate Solution

$\Delta t = 0.1$	t = 0.1		t = 1.0	
M, (h = 1/M)	$\ u-u_h\ $	$\ \mathbf{p}-\mathbf{p_h}\ $	$\ u-u_h\ $	$\ \mathbf{p}-\mathbf{p_h}\ $
4	0.0157389202	0.0502744069	0.1585319879	0.5102217316
8	0.0079793558	0.0251694639	0.0799553806	0.2527217829
16	0.0040033968	0.0125896729	0.0400548251	0.1260281101
32	0.0020034127	0.0062954834	0.0200367543	0.0629713514

 Table 5.2 Convergence Order

$\Delta t = 0.1$	t = 0.1		t = 1.0	
$M_1 - M_2$	u	р	u	р
4 - 8	0.9800	0.9981	0.9875	1.0136
8-16	0.9950	0.9994	0.9972	1.0038
16 - 32	0.9988	0.9999	0.9993	1.0010

Applying the postprocessing technique (26) to  $u_h$  and  $\mathbf{p}_h$ , we can get the postprocessed solution  $I_{2h}u_h$  and  $J_{2h}\mathbf{p}_h$  on each  $\mathcal{T}_{2h}$  element.

$\Delta t = 0.1$	t = 0.1		t = 1.0	
M, (h = 1/M)	$\ u-I_{2h}u_h\ $	$\ \mathbf{p} - J_{2h}\mathbf{p_h}\ $	$\ u-I_{2h}u_h\ $	$\ \mathbf{p} - J_{2h}\mathbf{p_h}\ $
4	0.0015575989	0.0073846048	0.0261724987	0.1209839702
8	0.0003390042	0.0015352651	0.0062273735	0.0279609947
16	0.0000810741	0.0003620325	0.0015332437	0.0068303653
32	0.0000200288	0.0000891003	0.0003817688	0.0016973053

**Table 5.3**  $L_2$  Error Estimate for Postprocessed Solution

 Table 5.4 Convergence Order showing Superconvergence Phenomena

$\Delta t = 0.1$	t = 0.1		t = 1.0	
$M_1 - M_2$	u	р	u	р
4 - 8	2.1999	2.2660	2.0714	2.1133
8 - 16	2.0640	2.0843	2.0220	2.0334
16 - 32	2.0172	2.0226	2.0058	2.0087

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