



$a_{ij} = a_{ji}, i, j = 1, 2.$

(ii)  $a, b, f$  are all bounded together with their derivatives we needed.

(iii)  $u, u_t \in L^\infty(J; H^{r+1} \cap W^{1,\infty}), u_{tt} \in L^2(J; H^{r+1}) \cap L^\infty(J; L^\infty), u_{ttt} \in L^2(J, H^1).$

Let  $\tau_1^h = \{I_{1i}\}_{i=1}^{M_1}, \tau_2^h = \{I_{2j}\}_{j=1}^{M_2}$  denote quasi-uniform partitions of  $I_1 = [0, 1]$  and  $I_2 = [0, 1]$ , respectively, where  $I_{1i} = [x_{1,i-1}, x_{1,i}], I_{2j} = [x_{2,j-1}, x_{2,j}]$ . Then  $\bar{\Omega}_h = \tau_1^h \times \tau_2^h$  is a rectangular partition of  $\bar{\Omega}$ .

Assume  $h_\nu (\nu = 1, 2)$  are the mesh parameters of  $\tau_\nu^h, h = \max\{h_1, h_2\}$ , where  $0 < h \leq h_0 \leq 1$ . We denote:

$$S_1^h = \{v | v \in H_0^1(I_1) \cap C(\bar{I}_1), v|_{I_{1i}} \in P_{r+1}(I_{1i}), \forall I_{1i} \in \tau_1^h\}$$

$$S_2^h = \{v | v \in H_0^1(I_2) \cap C(\bar{I}_2), v|_{I_{2j}} \in P_{r+1}(I_{2j}), \forall I_{2j} \in \tau_2^h\}$$

where  $r$  is a integer,  $P_{r+1}(J)$  denote polynomials of degree at most  $r + 1$ .

Let  $S_h = S_1^h \otimes S_2^h$ . The following properties hold [2][3] :

$$\forall \phi \in H^{r+1} \cap H_0^1, \quad \inf_{v \in S_h} \{\|\phi - v\| + h\|\nabla(\phi - v)\|\} \leq Ch^{r+1}\|\phi\|_{r+1},$$

$$\|v\|_{L^\infty} \leq Ch^{-1}\|v\|, \quad \left\| \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} \right\| \leq Ch^{-2}\|v\|, \quad \|v\|_1 \leq Ch^{-1}\|v\|$$

Now we define the *Ritz - volterra* projection operator. For any given function  $u \in H_0^1(\Omega)$  and  $t \in [0, T]$ , define a function  $\tilde{u} \in S_h$ , such that:

$$(a(u)\nabla(u - \tilde{u}), \nabla v) + \left( \int_0^t b(t, s, u(x, s))\nabla(u - \tilde{u})ds, \nabla v \right) = 0, \quad \forall v \in S_h \quad (2)$$

Refer to [3], the *Ritz - volterra* projection operator satisfies the properties:

$$\|u - \tilde{u}\| + \|(u - \tilde{u})_t\| + \|(u - \tilde{u})_{tt}\| + \|(u - \tilde{u})_{ttt}\| \leq Ch^r \quad (3)$$

$$\|\nabla \tilde{u}\|_{0,\infty} + \|\nabla \tilde{u}_t\|_{0,\infty} + \|\nabla \tilde{u}_{tt}\|_{0,\infty} + \|\tilde{u}\|_{0,\infty} + \|\tilde{u}_t\|_{0,\infty} + \|\tilde{u}_{tt}\|_{0,\infty} \leq C \quad (4)$$

Let  $\Delta t$  be the time step,  $N = [T/\Delta t], t^n = n \cdot \Delta t, n = 0, 1, \dots, N$ . We denote:

$$U^n = U(t^n), \quad \Phi^n = \Phi(x, t^n), \quad f(\Phi^n) = f(x, t^n, \Phi^n)$$

$$d_t \Phi^n = \frac{\Phi^{n+1} - \Phi^n}{\Delta t}, \quad \partial^2 \Phi^n = \frac{\Phi^{n+1} - 2\Phi^n + \Phi^{n-1}}{\Delta t^2}$$

We assume  $\Delta t = O(h)$  in this paper.

## 2 Alternating Direction Garlerkin method

The weak form of (1) is to find a map  $u(t) : [0, T] \rightarrow H_0^1(\Omega)$ , such that

$$\begin{cases} (u_{tt}, v) + (a(x, u)\nabla u + \int_0^t b(t, s, u(x, s))\nabla u ds, \nabla v) = (f(x, t, u), v) \\ (u(x, 0), v) = (u_0, v), \quad (u_t(x, 0), v) = (u_1, v), \quad v \in H_0^1(\Omega), t \in [0, T], \\ u(\cdot, t) \in H_0^1(\Omega), \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

The Alternating Direction Garlerkin scheme can now be formulated as follows: find  $U^{n+1} \in S_h, n = 1, \dots, N-1$ , such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \frac{U^{n+1} - 2U^n + U^{n-1}}{\Delta t^2}, v \right) + \lambda(\nabla(U^{n+1} - 2U^n + U^{n-1}), \nabla v) \\ & + \lambda^2 \Delta t^2 \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} (U^{n+1} - 2U^n + U^{n-1}), \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} \right) + (a(U^n)\nabla U^n, \nabla v) \\ & = (f(U^n), v) - (\Delta t \sum_{i=0}^n b(t_n, t_i, U^i)\nabla U^i, \nabla v) \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

The initial approximation  $U^0$  is the projection of  $U_0(x)$ , and  $U^1$  satisfies the following equation (we denote  $w = (\frac{\partial u}{\partial t})_0 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2}(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2})_0 \Delta t^2$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} & (U^1 - U^0, v) + \Delta t(\nabla(U^1 - U^0), \nabla v) + \Delta t^4 \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} (U^1 - U^0), \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} \right) \\ & = (w, v) + \Delta t(\nabla w, \nabla v) + \Delta t^4 \left( \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2}, \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Assume  $\{\alpha_\mu(x_1)\}_{\mu=1}^{M_1}$  forms a basis for  $S_1^h, \{\beta_\kappa(x_2)\}_{\kappa=1}^{M_2}$  forms a basis for  $S_2^h$ , then we can assume  $U = \sum_\mu \sum_\kappa \theta_{\mu\kappa}(t)\alpha_\mu(x_1)\beta_\kappa(x_2)$ . let  $v = \alpha_i(x_1)\beta_j(x_2)$ , also

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_{i\mu} &= \int_a^b \alpha_i(x_1)\alpha_\mu(x_1)dx_1 & \zeta'_{i\mu} &= \int_a^b \frac{d\alpha_i}{dx_1} \frac{d\alpha_\mu}{dx_1} dx_1 & \eta_{j\kappa} &= \int_c^d \beta_j(x_2)\beta_\kappa(x_2)dx_2 \\ \eta'_{j\kappa} &= \int_c^d \frac{d\beta_j}{dx_2} \frac{d\beta_\kappa}{dx_2} dx_2 & b^n &= (b_1^n, b_2^n, \dots, b_{M_1}^n) & b_i^n &= (b_{i1}^n, b_{i2}^n, \dots, b_{iM_2}^n) \end{aligned}$$

The (6)  $\times (\Delta t)^2$  can be written as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_\mu \sum_\kappa (\zeta_{i\mu} + \lambda(\Delta t)^2 \zeta'_{i\mu})(\eta_{j\kappa} + \lambda(\Delta t)^2 \eta'_{j\kappa}) \theta_{\mu\kappa}^{n+1} \\ & = \sum_\mu \sum_\kappa (\zeta_{i\mu} + \lambda(\Delta t)^2 \zeta'_{i\mu})(\eta_{j\kappa} + \lambda(\Delta t)^2 \eta'_{j\kappa})(2\theta_{\mu\kappa}^n - \theta_{\mu\kappa}^{n-1}) \\ & \quad - \sum_\mu \sum_\kappa (a(\sum_\mu \sum_\kappa \theta_{\mu\kappa}^n)\nabla(\theta_{\mu\kappa}^n \alpha_\mu \beta_\kappa), \nabla(\alpha_i \beta_j))(\Delta t)^2 \\ & + (f(\sum_\mu \sum_\kappa \theta_{\mu\kappa}^n \alpha_\mu \beta_\kappa), \alpha_i \beta_j)(\Delta t)^2 - (\sum_\mu \sum_\kappa (\Delta t b^n \nabla(\theta_{\mu\kappa} \alpha_\mu \beta_\kappa)), \nabla(\alpha_i \beta_j))(\Delta t)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Let  $R_{ij}^n$  denote the right-hand side of the above equation, we can get:

$$\sum_{\mu} (\zeta_{i\mu} + \lambda(\Delta t)^2 \zeta'_{i\mu}) Z_{\mu j}^{n+1} = R_{ij}^n, \quad \sum_{\kappa} (\eta_{j\kappa} + \lambda(\Delta t)^2 \eta'_{j\kappa}) \theta_{\mu\kappa}^{n+1} = Z_{\mu j}^{n+1}$$

It is easy to know that the above two coefficient matrix are all symmetrical, positive definite. So, there exist unique solutions.

### 3 The error estimate

let  $\eta^n = u^n - \tilde{u}^n$ ,  $\xi^n = U^n - \tilde{u}^n$ . It is easy to know that

$$\|\xi^0\|_1 = 0, \quad \|\xi^1\|_1 + \|d_t \xi^0\| \leq C\Delta t \quad (7)$$

Combining (5) with (6), we can get the error equation:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \frac{\xi^{n+1} - 2\xi^n + \xi^{n-1}}{\Delta t^2}, v \right) + \lambda(\nabla(\xi^{n+1} - 2\xi^n + \xi^{n-1}), \nabla v) \\ & + \lambda^2 \Delta t^2 \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} (\xi^{n+1} - 2\xi^n + \xi^{n-1}), \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} \right) \\ & = \left( \frac{\eta^{n+1} - 2\eta^n + \eta^{n-1}}{\Delta t^2}, v \right) + (f(U^n) - f(u^n), v) \\ & + (a(u^n) \nabla \tilde{u}^n - a(U^n) \nabla U^n, \nabla v) - \lambda(\nabla(\tilde{u}^{n+1} - 2\tilde{u}^n + \tilde{u}^{n-1}), \nabla v) \\ & - \lambda^2 \Delta t^2 \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} (\tilde{u}^{n+1} - 2\tilde{u}^n + \tilde{u}^{n-1}), \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} \right) + (u_{tt}^n - \frac{u^{n+1} - 2u^n + u^{n-1}}{\Delta t^2}, v) \\ & + \left( \int_0^{t_n} b(t_n, s, u(x, s)) \nabla \tilde{u}^n ds - \Delta t \sum_{i=1}^n b(t_n, t_i, U^i) \nabla U^i, \nabla v \right) = \sum_{i=1}^7 I_i \quad (8) \end{aligned}$$

Let  $Q = \|\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial t}\|_{L^\infty} + 1$ , we can choose  $\Delta t, h$ , such that  $C\Delta t h^{-1} \leq Q$ .

Combining (7) with inverse properties we know:

$$\|d_t \xi^0\|_{L^\infty} \leq Ch^{-1} \|d_t \xi^0\| \leq C\Delta t h^{-1} \leq Q, \text{ then } \|d_t U^0\|_{L^\infty} \leq 2Q.$$

We assume:  $\max_{0 \leq n \leq N-2} \|d_t \xi^n\|_{L^\infty} \leq Q$  then,  $\max_{0 \leq n \leq N-2} \|d_t U^n\|_{L^\infty} \leq 2Q$ .

We choose the test function  $v = \xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1} = \Delta t(d_t \xi^{n-1} + d_t \xi^{n+1})$  to estimate the both side of (8).

$$I_1 + I_6 \leq C\Delta t((\Delta t)^4 + \|\partial^2 \eta^n\|^2 + \|d_t \xi^n\|^2 + \|d_t \xi^{n-1}\|^2)$$

$$I_2 \leq C\Delta t(\|\xi^n\|^2 + \|\eta^n\|^2 + \|d_t \xi^n\|^2 + \|d_t \xi^{n-1}\|^2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} I_3 & = ((a(u^n) - a(U^n)) \nabla \tilde{u}^n, \nabla(\xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1})) - (a(U^n) \nabla \xi^n, \nabla(\xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1})) \\ & = I_3^{(1)} + I_3^{(2)} \quad (9) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} I_3^{(1)} &= \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} ((a(u^n) - a(U^n)) \nabla \tilde{u}^n, \nabla d_t \xi^n) \\ &+ \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} ((a(u^n) - a(U^n)) \nabla \tilde{u}^n, \nabla d_t \xi^{n-1}) = Q_1 + Q_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Q_1 &= ((a(u^{N-1}) - a(U^{N-1})) \nabla \tilde{u}^{N-1}, \nabla \xi^N) - ((a(u^1) - a(U^1)) \nabla \tilde{u}^1, \nabla \xi^1) \\ &- \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} \left( \frac{a(u^{n+1}) - a(U^{n+1}) - a(u^n) + a(U^n)}{\Delta t} \nabla \tilde{u}^{n+1} \right. \\ &+ \left. \frac{\nabla \tilde{u}^{n+1} - \nabla \tilde{u}^n}{\Delta t} (a(u^n) - a(U^n)), \nabla \xi^{n+1} \right) \\ &= ((a(u^{N-1}) - a(U^{N-1})) \nabla \tilde{u}^{N-1}, \nabla \xi^N) - ((a(u^1) - a(U^1)) \nabla \tilde{u}^1, \nabla \xi^1) \\ &\leq C \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} (\|d_t \xi^n\|^2 + \|d_t \eta^n\|^2) + \epsilon \|\xi^N\|_1^2 + C(\|\xi^1\|_1^2 + \|\eta^1\|^2) \end{aligned}$$

Combining differential theorem of mean with (i), we can get

$$\begin{aligned} &\Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} \left( \frac{a(u^{n+1}) - a(U^{n+1}) - a(u^n) + a(U^n)}{\Delta t} \nabla \tilde{u}^{n+1} \right. \\ &+ \left. \frac{\nabla \tilde{u}^{n+1} - \nabla \tilde{u}^n}{\Delta t} (a(u^n) - a(U^n)), \nabla \xi^{n+1} \right) \\ &\leq C \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} (\|d_t \xi^n\|^2 + \|d_t \eta^n\|^2 + \|\xi^n\|^2 + \|\eta^n\|^2 + \|\xi^{n+1}\|_1^2 + \|\eta^{n+1}\|^2) \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} Q_1 &\leq \epsilon \|\xi^N\|_1^2 + C(\|\xi^1\|_1^2 + \|\eta^1\|^2) + C \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} (\|d_t \xi^n\|^2 + \|d_t \eta^n\|^2 + \|\xi^n\|^2 \\ &+ \|\eta^n\|^2 + \|\xi^{n+1}\|_1^2 + \|\eta^{n+1}\|^2) \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

We estimate  $Q_2$  as the same as  $Q_1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} Q_2 &\leq \epsilon \|\xi^{N-1}\|_1^2 + C(\|\xi^1\|^2 + \|\eta^1\|^2) + C \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} (\|d_t \xi^n\|^2 + \|d_t \eta^n\|^2 + \|\xi^n\|_1^2 \\ &+ \|\eta^n\|^2 + \|\xi^{n+1}\|^2 + \|\eta^{n+1}\|^2) \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} I_3^{(1)} &\leq \epsilon (\|\xi^N\|_1^2 + \|\xi^{N-1}\|_1^2) + C(\|\xi^1\|_1^2 + \|\eta^1\|^2 + \|\xi^1\|^2) + C \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} (\|d_t \xi^n\|^2 \\ &+ \|d_t \eta^n\|^2 + \|\xi^n\|_1^2 + \|\eta^n\|^2 + \|\xi^{n+1}\|^2 + \|\eta^{n+1}\|^2 + \|\xi^n\|^2 + \|\xi^{n+1}\|_1^2) \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
I_4 &= -\lambda(\nabla(\eta^{n+1} - 2\eta^n + \eta^{n-1}), \nabla(\xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1})) \\
&+ \lambda(\nabla(u^{n+1} - 2u^n + u^{n-1}), \nabla(\xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1})) \\
&= -\lambda\Delta t^2(\nabla\partial^2\eta^n, \nabla(\xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1})) + \lambda(\nabla(u^{n+1} - 2u^n + u^{n-1}), \nabla(\xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1}))
\end{aligned}$$

By inverse properties and integration by parts, we know

$$I_4 \leq C\Delta t((\Delta t)^4 + \|d_t\xi^n\|^2 + \|d_t\xi^{n-1}\|^2 + (\Delta t)^4 h^{-2}\|\partial^2\eta^n\|_1^2) \quad (13)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
I_5 &= \lambda^2(\Delta t)^4\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1\partial x_2}\partial^2u^n, \Delta t\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1\partial x_2}(d_t\xi^n + d_t\xi^{n-1})\right) \\
&- \lambda^2(\Delta t)^4\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1\partial x_2}\partial^2\eta^n, \Delta t\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1\partial x_2}(d_t\xi^n + d_t\xi^{n-1})\right) \\
&\leq C\Delta t[(\Delta t)^4 + (\Delta t)^4(\|\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1\partial x_2}d_t\xi^n\|^2 + \|\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1\partial x_2}d_t\xi^{n-1}\|^2) \\
&+ \|\partial^2\eta^n\|^2 + \|d_t\xi^n\|^2 + \|d_t\xi^{n-1}\|^2] \quad (14)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{n=1}^{N-1} I_7 &= \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} (\Delta t \sum_{i=1}^n b(t_n, t_i, u^i) \nabla \tilde{u}^i - \Delta t \sum_{i=1}^n b(t_n, t_i, U^i) \nabla \tilde{u}^i, \nabla(\xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1})) \\
&- \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} (\Delta t \sum_{i=1}^n b(t_n, t_i, U^i) \nabla U^i - \Delta t \sum_{i=1}^n b(t_n, t_i, U^i) \nabla \tilde{u}^i, \nabla(\xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1})) \\
&+ \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} ((\int_0^{t_n} b(t_n, s, u(x, s)) \nabla \tilde{u}^n ds - \Delta t \sum_{i=1}^n b(t_n, t_i, u^i) \nabla \tilde{u}^i, \nabla(\xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1})) \\
&= I_7^{(1)} + I_7^{(2)} + I_7^{(3)} \quad (15)
\end{aligned}$$

$$I_7^{(3)} \leq C\Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} ((\Delta t)^4 + \|d_t\xi^n\|^2 + \|d_t\xi^{n-1}\|^2) \quad (16)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
I_7^{(1)} &\leq N\Delta t \left| \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} ((b(u^n) - b(U^n)) \nabla \tilde{u}^n, \nabla(\xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1})) \right| \\
&\leq C \left| \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} ((b(u^n) - b(U^n)) \nabla \tilde{u}^n, \nabla(\xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1})) \right| \quad (17)
\end{aligned}$$

We estimate  $I_7^{(1)}$  as the same as  $\sum_{n=1}^{N-1} I_3^{(1)}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
I_7^{(1)} &\leq \epsilon(\|\xi^N\|_1^2 + \|\xi^{N-1}\|_1^2) + C(\|\xi^1\|_1^2 + \|\eta^1\|^2 + \|\xi^1\|^2) + C\Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} (\|d_t\xi^n\|^2 + \\
&\|d_t\eta^n\|^2 + \|\xi^n\|_1^2 + \|\eta^n\|^2 + \|\xi^{n+1}\|^2 + \|\eta^{n+1}\|^2 + \|\xi^n\|^2 + \|\xi^{n+1}\|_1^2) \quad (18)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
|I_7^{(2)}| &\leq C|(b(U^{N-1})\nabla\xi^{N-1}, \nabla\xi^N) - (b(U^0)\nabla\xi^0, \nabla\xi^1)| \\
&\quad - C\Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} \|d_t U^n\|_{L^\infty} (\|\xi^{n+1}\|_1^2 + \|\xi^n\|_1^2) \\
&\leq \epsilon(\|\xi^{N-1}\|_1^2 + \|\xi^N\|_1^2) + C\|\xi^1\|_1^2 + C\Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} (\|\xi^{n+1}\|_1^2 + \|\xi^n\|_1^2) \quad (19)
\end{aligned}$$

Put  $I_3^{(2)}$  on the left-hand side of (8), we can get:

$$\begin{aligned}
&(\frac{\xi^{n+1} - 2\xi^n + \xi^{n-1}}{\Delta t^2}, \xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1}) + \lambda(\nabla(\xi^{n+1} - 2\xi^n + \xi^{n-1}), \nabla(\xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1})) \\
&+ \lambda^2 \Delta t^2 (\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2}(\xi^{n+1} - 2\xi^n + \xi^{n-1}), \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2}(\xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1})) \\
&+ (a(U^n)\nabla\xi^n, \nabla(\xi^{n+1} - \xi^{n-1})) \\
&= \|d_t \xi^n\|^2 - \|d_t \xi^{n-1}\|^2 + \lambda(|\xi^{n+1} - \xi^n|_1^2 - |\xi^n - \xi^{n-1}|_1^2) \\
&+ \lambda^2 \Delta t^4 (\|\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} d_t \xi^n\|^2 - \|\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} d_t \xi^{n-1}\|^2) + (a(U^n)\nabla\xi^n, \nabla\xi^{n+1}) \\
&- (a(U^{n-1})\nabla\xi^{n-1}, \nabla\xi^n) - ((a(U^n) - a(U^{n-1}))\nabla\xi^{n-1}, \nabla\xi^n)
\end{aligned}$$

Summing up the left-hand side of (8) for  $n$  from one to  $N-1$ , we can get:

$$\begin{aligned}
&\sum_{n=1}^{N-1} (\frac{\xi^{n+1} - 2\xi^n + \xi^{n-1}}{\Delta t^2}, v) + \lambda(\nabla(\xi^{n+1} - 2\xi^n + \xi^{n-1}), \nabla v) \\
&+ \lambda^2 \Delta t^2 (\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2}(\xi^{n+1} - 2\xi^n + \xi^{n-1}), \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2}) \\
&= \|d_t \xi^{N-1}\|^2 - \|d_t \xi^0\|^2 + \lambda^2 \Delta t^4 (\|\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} d_t \xi^{N-1}\|^2 - \|\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} d_t \xi^0\|^2) \\
&- \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} ((a(U^n) - a(U^{n-1}))\nabla\xi^{n-1}, \nabla\xi^n) + \lambda(|\xi^N - \xi^{N-1}|_1^2 - |\xi^1 - \xi^0|_1^2) \\
&+ a(U^{N-1})\nabla\xi^{N-1}, \nabla\xi^N \quad (20)
\end{aligned}$$

Refer to [4], choose  $\lambda > \frac{C_1}{2}$ , set  $\gamma = \min\{\lambda - \frac{C_1}{2}, \frac{C_0}{4}\} > 0$ , so,

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda |\xi^N - \xi^{N-1}|_1^2 + (a(U^{N-1})\nabla\xi^{N-1}, \nabla\xi^N) &\geq \gamma(|\xi^N - \xi^{N-1}|_1^2 + |\xi^N + \xi^{N-1}|_1^2) \\
&\geq C(\|\xi^N\|_1^2 + \|\xi^{N-1}\|_1^2) \quad (21)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{n=1}^{N-1} ((a(U^n) - a(U^{n-1}))\nabla\xi^{n-1}, \nabla\xi^n) &= C\Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} \|d_t U^n\|_{L^\infty} (\|\xi^{n+1}\|_1^2 + \|\xi^n\|_1^2) \\
&\leq C\Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} (\|\xi^{n+1}\|_1^2 + \|\xi^n\|_1^2) \quad (22)
\end{aligned}$$

Summing up (8) for  $n$  from one to  $N - 1$  and applying the above analysis, we can get

$$\begin{aligned}
& \|d_t \xi^{N-1}\|^2 + \lambda^2 (\Delta t)^4 \left\| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} d_t \xi^{N-1} \right\|^2 + C(\|\xi^N\|_1^2 + \|\xi^{N-1}\|_1^2) \\
& \leq C((\Delta t)^4 + \|d_t \xi^0\|^2 + \|\xi^1\|_1^2 + \Delta t^4 \left\| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} d_t \xi^0 \right\|^2) + C \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} (\|\partial^2 \eta^n\|^2 + \|\eta^n\|^2) \\
& + (\Delta t)^4 h^{-2} \|\partial^2 \eta^n\|_1^2 + C \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} \|d_t \eta^n\|^2 + \|\eta^1\|^2 + \|\eta^{N-1}\|^2 + C \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} (\|d_t \xi^{n-1}\|^2 \\
& + \|d_t \xi^n\|^2 + \|\xi^n\|_1^2 + \|\xi^{n+1}\|_1^2 + (\Delta t)^4 (\left\| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} d_t \xi^n \right\|^2 + \left\| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} d_t \xi^{n-1} \right\|^2)) \quad (23)
\end{aligned}$$

Combining (3) with (4), we know

$$\begin{aligned}
& C \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} (\|\partial^2 \eta^n\|^2 + \|\eta^n\|^2) + C \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} \|d_t \eta^n\|^2 + \|\eta^1\|^2 + \|\eta^{N-1}\|^2 \leq C h^{2r} \\
& C \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} ((\Delta t)^4 h^{-2} \|\partial^2 \eta^n\|_1^2) \leq C N \Delta t (\Delta t)^4 h^{-2} h^{2r-2} \leq C h^{2r}
\end{aligned}$$

Combining *Gronwall's* inequality with (7), we can have

$$\|d_t \xi^{N-1}\|^2 + (\Delta t)^4 \left\| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} d_t \xi^{N-1} \right\|^2 + \|\xi^N\|_1^2 + \|\xi^{N-1}\|_1^2 \leq C((\Delta t)^4 + h^{2r})$$

By the above inequality, we know that  $\max_{0 \leq n \leq N-1} \|d_t \xi^n\|_{L^\infty} \leq Q$ ,

So,  $\max_{0 \leq n \leq N-1} \|d_t U^n\|_{L^\infty} \leq 2Q$  i.e., the inductive assumption hold when  $n = N - 1$ .

By the above analysis, we can obtain the following result.

**Theorem 3.1** *Let  $u \in H_0^1(\Omega)$  and  $U \in S_h$  be the solutions of the problems (1) and (6), respectively,  $a, b, f, u$  satisfy (i)(ii)(iii),  $\lambda > \frac{C_1}{2}$ , then, there exists a positive constant  $C$ , independent of  $h$  and  $\Delta t$ , such that*

$$\max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \{\|(U - u)^n\|_1\} \leq C(h^r + (\Delta t)^2)$$

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