

# A Weak Galerkin Finite Element Method Coupled with Mortar Spectral Element Method for Schrödinger Eigenvalue Problem with an Inverse Square Potential

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we introduce a weak Galerkin (WG) finite element method coupled with mortar spectral element method (MSEM) to solve the Schrödinger eigenvalue problem with an inverse square potential. For the domain around the inverse square potential, we use the mortar spectral element method to simulate the singularities in eigenfunctions caused by the inverse square potential, while we employ the WG method in the remaining domain. This coupled method can effectively handle the singularity arising from the inverse square potential. Notably, hanging nodes are allowed on the coupled interface. Compared to the conforming finite element method coupled with MSEM, our approach is not constrained by the mesh size of the mortar spectral element. This flexibility permits the use of fine meshes in the WG domain, thereby enhancing accuracy. We provide  $hp$  error analysis for both eigenfunctions and eigenvalues. Numerical experiments demonstrate the  $hp$  convergence of the theoretical results.

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**Key words:** Weak Galerkin finite element method, mortar spectral element method, Schrödinger eigenvalue problem, error estimates.

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## 1 Introduction

The Schrödinger operator is extremely important in science and exists in several different forms. The Schrödinger operator with an inverse square singular potential has recently garnered significant attention due to its fundamental role in both mathematics and

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physics. Mathematically, the inverse square potential exhibits the same homogeneity or “differential order” as the Laplacian, however, it typically induces strong singularities in the Schrödinger eigenfunctions, and, as such, cannot be considered as a lower-order perturbation term [9, 13, 14, 20]. On the other hand, in non-relativistic quantum mechanics, the inverse square potential represents an intermediate threshold between regular and singular potentials [11, 15]. Additionally, the inverse square potential figures prominently in nuclear physics, molecular physics, and quantum cosmology [11, 15].

Based on the variational form, Galerkin-type numerical schemes can be designed. However, even with adaptive schemes, low-order methods exhibit only limited convergence rates [21, 22, 31]. Similarly, due to the strong singularities of eigenfunctions induced by the singular potential, classical high-order methods, including spectral/spectral element methods, generally fail to achieve exponential convergence rates [8, 17, 23]. In the literature, the idea of incorporating singular terms into the basis functions has been used, which comes at the expenses of compromising the sparsity of the resulting algebraic matrix system. Although this approach improves the convergence rate to some extent, its effectiveness depends on the number of singular terms introduced in [16].

In [23], the authors proposed a new method: the mortar spectral element method (MSEM), which can effectively handle all singularities and construct orthogonal basis functions, thereby achieving very sparse (sometimes diagonal) matrices. Specifically, at each singular point including the origin, an additional disk or sector element is used. This element employs a class of non-polynomial spectral basis functions to model the singularity. The remaining domain are divided into quadrilaterals or triangles, with some boundaries being curved. Conforming basis functions are then applied to the elements in the rest of subdomains. These two types of elements are connected using mortar techniques. Exponential convergence rates  $e^{-\sigma\sqrt{D_0F}}$  are observed for different eigenvalues in various numerical experiments, with  $\sigma$  being nearly uniform. Numerical tests were also conducted for the Schrödinger eigenvalue problem on the whole plane and other types of inverse square potential problems [24, 25]. Additionally, Jia et al. [19] conducted a rigorous theoretical analysis of the numerical results in [23] and obtained optimal error estimates.

The mortar element method is a flexible technique for connecting different variational discretizations on each subdomain. In addition to the  $h$  finite element method and the spectral element method studied in [6], it can be applied within the frameworks of the  $hp$  finite element method [7], and the finite volume method [1]. Consequently, the mortar method finds significant applications in various areas, including those involving the curl and divergence operators [2, 5], as well as fourth-order problems [4]. The weak Galerkin (WG) finite element method is an effective numerical method for solving partial differential equations. In [32], Wang and Ye first proposed the WG method for solving second-order elliptic problems. The WG method has also been applied to a range of different equations, such as: second-order elliptic problems [33, 35], biharmonic equations [37, 39], Stokes equations [26], Brinkman equations [27], Maxwell equations [29, 36], eigenvalue problems [10, 38], elasticity equations [18, 34], and others.

In this paper, we propose a finite element method that couples the WG finite element method with the mortar spectral element method. For the domain surrounding the inverse square potential, we use the mortar spectral element method to simulate the singularities of the eigenfunctions, while in the remaining domain, we apply the WG method on a triangulation. Notably, we permit the use of hanging nodes on the coupled interface. Unlike using the conforming finite element method in the remaining domain, our method is not affected by the mesh size of the mortar spectral element, enabling us to improve accuracy by utilizing fine meshes in the rest of the domain.

The structure of the paper is as follows. In Section 2, we introduce the Schrödinger eigenvalue problem and describe the finite element space, along with the corresponding numerical scheme. In Section 3, we analyze the errors of eigenfunctions. Error estimates in the  $H^1$  and  $L^2$  norms for the source problem are provided in Section 4. In Section 5, we combine the error estimates from Sections 3 and 4 to obtain the  $H^1$  and  $L^2$  error estimates for the eigenfunctions. Furthermore, we provide an expression for the eigenvalue error and present the corresponding error estimates for eigenvalues. Multiple sets of numerical experiment results are presented in Section 6.

## 2 The coupled finite element method for Schrödinger eigenvalue problem

In this section, we begin by introducing the Schrödinger eigenvalue problem (2.1). We then proceed to define the finite element space. Finally, we present the numerical scheme. Throughout the paper, we employ the standard notations for Sobolev spaces. For any open bounded domain  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  ( $d=2,3$ ),  $(\cdot, \cdot)_{s,D}$  and  $\|\cdot\|_{s,D}$  represent the inner product and norm in the Sobolev space  $H^s(D)$  ( $s \geq 0$ ), respectively.

### 2.1 Schrödinger eigenvalue problem

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  ( $d=2,3$ ) be a bounded Lipschitz domain and the origin  $O$  is assumed to be in  $\Omega$ . We consider the following Schrödinger eigenvalue problem with an inverse square potential:

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u + \frac{c^2}{\|x\|^2} u = \lambda u, & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = 0, & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

where  $c \neq 0$  is a constant.

Denote  $r = \|x\|$  and the weighted Sobolev space

$$\mathcal{H}^1(\Omega) = \mathcal{H}^{1,c}(\Omega) = \left\{ u \in L^2(\Omega), \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^1(\Omega)} < \infty \right\},$$

where

$$\|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^1(\Omega)} := \left( \|\nabla u\|_{\Omega}^2 + c^2 \|u\|_{r^{-2}, \Omega}^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

The corresponding inner product is  $\langle u, v \rangle_\Omega := (\nabla u, \nabla v)_\Omega + c^2(u, v)_{r^{-2}, \Omega}$ . Here  $(\cdot, \cdot)_{r^{-2}, \Omega}$  is the  $L^2$  inner product with weight function  $r^{-2}$ , i.e.,  $(u, v)_{r^{-2}, \Omega} = \int_\Omega r^{-2} u v d\Omega$ . From [19],  $\mathcal{H}^1(\Omega)$  is a subspace of  $H^1(\Omega)$  and  $\mathcal{H}^1(\Omega) = H^1(\Omega)$  when  $d \geq 3$  owing to the Hardy-type inequality. Let  $\mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega) = \mathcal{H}^1(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)$ .

The corresponding variational form of (2.1) reads: Find  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $u \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega) \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $b(u, u) = 1$  and

$$a(u, v) = \lambda b(u, v), \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega), \quad (2.2)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} a(u, v) &= (\nabla u, \nabla v)_\Omega + c^2(u, v)_{r^{-2}, \Omega}, \\ b(u, v) &= (u, v)_\Omega. \end{aligned}$$

To get error estimates for the eigenvalue problem, we introduce the corresponding source problem:

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u + \frac{c^2}{\|x\|^2} u = f, & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = 0, & \text{on } \partial\Omega. \end{cases} \quad (2.3)$$

The corresponding variational form reads: Find  $u \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$  such that

$$a(u, v) = b(f, v), \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega).$$

It is easy to verify that  $a(\cdot, \cdot)$  is coercive and continuous over  $\mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ .

## 2.2 Sobolev orthogonal ball functions

Let  $\mathbb{S}_R^{d-1}(y)$  and  $\mathbb{B}_R^d(y)$  be the sphere and the ball in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , respectively, both with radius  $R$  and center  $y \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . When  $y$  is the origin  $O$ , we can denote  $\mathbb{S}_R^{d-1} = \mathbb{S}_R^{d-1}(O)$  and  $\mathbb{B}_R^d = \mathbb{B}_R^d(O)$ . Similarly, the subscript  $R$  can be omitted from the notation when  $R = 1$ . For  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , we can define its spherical-polar coordinates  $(r, \xi)$  as follows

$$x = r\xi, \quad r = \|x\|, \quad \xi \in \mathbb{S}^{d-1}.$$

Let  $\mathbb{N}_0$  and  $\mathbb{N}$  be the set of nonnegative integers and the set of positive integers, respectively. Denote  $\Xi_n^d = \{1, 2, \dots, a_n^d\}$  and  $\beta_n = \sqrt{c^2 + (n + d/2 - 1)^2}$ , where  $a_n^2 = 2 - \delta_{n,0}$  and  $a_n^3 = 2n + 1$ . The following ball functions are defined in [19] and [23]:

$$P_{k,\ell}^{\alpha,\beta_n}(x) := J_k^{\alpha,\beta_n}(2r^2 - 1) r^{\beta_n + 1 - d/2} Y_\ell^n(\xi), \quad x = r\xi \in \mathbb{B}^d, \quad \ell \in \Xi_n^d, \quad k, n \in \mathbb{N}_0,$$

where  $J_k^{\alpha,\beta_n}$  and  $Y_\ell^n$  are generalized Jacobi polynomials and harmonic polynomials, respectively. The specific definitions of generalized Jacobi polynomials and harmonic polynomials can be found in Section 2 of [19]. In addition, the spherical harmonics are an orthonormal basis for  $L^2(\mathbb{S}^{d-1})$ , i.e.,

$$(Y_\ell^n, Y_l^m)_{\mathbb{S}^{d-1}} = \delta_{n,m} \delta_{\ell,l}, \quad \ell \in \Xi_n^d, \quad l \in \Xi_m^d, \quad n, m \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

For  $\alpha > -1$ , ball functions are orthogonal with respect to the weight function  $\omega^\alpha(x) := (1 - \|x\|^2)^\alpha$ ,

$$\left( P_{k,\ell}^{\alpha,n}, P_{j,l}^{\alpha,m} \right)_{\omega^\alpha, \mathbb{B}^d} = \delta_{n,m} \delta_{\ell,l} \delta_{k,j} \gamma_k^{\alpha,n}, \quad \ell \in \Xi_n^d, \quad l \in \Xi_m^d, \quad k, j, m, n \in \mathbb{N}_0,$$

where

$$\gamma_k^{\alpha,n} = \frac{\Gamma(k+\alpha+1)\Gamma(k+\beta_n+1)}{2(2k+\alpha+\beta_n+1)\Gamma(k+1)\Gamma(k+\alpha+\beta_n+1)}.$$

Then we define

$$P_{k,\ell}^n(x) := \frac{2k+\beta_n}{k+\beta_n} P_{k,\ell}^{-1,n}(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{B}^d, \quad \ell \in \Xi_n^d, \quad k, n \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

### 2.3 Finite element space

First, we introduce the finite element partition which has hanging nodes. To provide a clearer description, we will consider the two dimensional case as an example. As shown in Fig. 1, we divide the domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  into three parts:  $\Omega_1$ ,  $\Omega_2 = \cup_{i=1}^4 \Omega_2^{(i)} = [-a, a]^2 \setminus \Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_3$ .  $\Omega_1$  is a circle with a radius  $R$ ,  $\Omega_2$  consists of four quadrilaterals, and the remaining domain  $\Omega_3$  is composed of multiple simplex elements. Similarly, if  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $\Omega_1$  is a ball and  $\Omega_2 = [-a, a]^3 \setminus \Omega_1$  consists of six curved hexahedra, the remaining domain  $\Omega_3$  is composed of multiple simplex elements. Let  $\Gamma_R$  and  $\Gamma$  be the interfaces between  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$ , and between  $\Omega_2$  and  $\Omega_3$ , respectively. We assume that the origin  $O$  is the center of  $\Omega_1$ .

Let  $\mathcal{T}_h^\delta = \{K_i\}_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ ,  $\mathcal{I} = \{1, 2, \dots, 5\}$  be a finite element partition of subdomain  $\Omega_s = \Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2$  satisfying the regularity in [19]. To address the singularity at the origin, the circle ( $d=2$ ) or ball ( $d=3$ )  $K_1 = \mathbb{B}_R^d$  should be included in  $\mathcal{T}_h^\delta$ , away from the boundary  $\partial\Omega$ . To

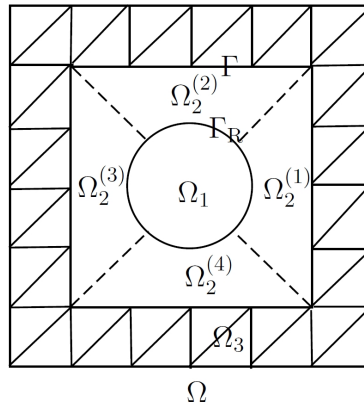


Figure 1: Domain decomposition of  $\Omega$ .

better fit the mesh, we opt for four curved quadrilateral elements ( $d = 2$ ) or six curved hexahedral elements ( $d = 3$ ) around  $K_1$ , where  $K_{i+1} = \Omega_2^{(i)}$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, 4$ . The physical elements  $K_i \in \mathcal{T}_h^\delta$ , for  $i \in \mathcal{I}$ , can be transformed to the reference element  $\hat{K}$  by the following mapping. Let  $\Phi_K : \hat{K} \rightarrow K$  be infinitely differentiable, i.e.,  $x = \Phi_K(\hat{x})$ . Denote the Jacobi matrix of the transformation  $\Phi_K$  and its determinant

$$F_K(\hat{x}) := \left( \frac{\partial \Phi_{K,i}}{\partial \hat{x}_j}(\hat{x}_j) \right)_{1 \leq i,j \leq d}, \quad J_K(\hat{x}) := \det(F_K(\hat{x})).$$

The local mesh size  $h_K(x)$  for  $x = \Phi_K(\hat{x})$  is defined as follows

$$h_K(x) := \left\| \left[ F_K \circ \Phi_K^{-1} \right] (x) \right\|, \quad h_K := \sup_{x \in K} h_K(x).$$

For simplicity, we write  $h_{K_i}$  as  $h_i$ . It is obvious that  $h_1$  is actually the radius of the element  $K_1$ . For the other  $K_i$ ,  $i \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{1\}$ , the mesh size is equal, so we denote  $h_2 = h_{K_i}$ ,  $i \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{1\}$  and  $h_\delta = \max\{h_1, h_2\}$ .

In the remaining domain  $\Omega_3$ , we use simplex elements. Let  $\mathcal{T}_h^w$  be a finite element partition of  $\Omega_3$  satisfying the regularity in [33]. For each element  $T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w$ , we use  $h_T$  to represent the diameter of  $T$ . Denote by  $h_3 = \max_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} h_T$  the mesh size of  $\mathcal{T}_h^w$ . To demonstrate the flexibility of our method, hanging nodes are allowed on the coupled interface, so we need  $h_3$  to be fine enough, i.e.,  $h_3 \ll h_\delta$ . Let  $\mathcal{E}_h$  be the set of all edges or faces in  $\mathcal{T}_h^w$ . In addition,  $\mathcal{E}_h^0 = \mathcal{E}_h \setminus \partial\Omega_3$  is the set of all interior edges or faces in  $\mathcal{T}_h^w$ . We denote  $\mathcal{E}_h \setminus \Gamma$  as the set of all edges or faces in  $\mathcal{T}_h^w$  that do not intersect with  $\Gamma$ , and we denote  $\mathcal{E}_h \cap \Gamma$  as the set of all edges or faces in  $\mathcal{T}_h^w$  that intersect with  $\Gamma$ .

Denote by  $P_N$  and  $Q_N$  the sets of polynomials with a total degree not exceeding  $N$  and with separate degrees not exceeding  $N$ , respectively. Let  $C$  be a positive constant independent of the mesh sizes and degrees of polynomials.

To construct finite element space, we first define the basis functions of the MSEM on the reference element. For  $N \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , define

$$\widehat{W}_N(\hat{K}) := \begin{cases} \text{span} \left\{ P_{k,\ell}^n : \ell \in \Xi_n^d, 0 \leq k, n, 2k+n \leq N \right\}, & \hat{K} = \mathbb{B}^d, \\ Q_N(\hat{K}), & \hat{K} = [-1, 1]^d. \end{cases}$$

Therefore, the basis function can be mapped from the reference element:

$$W_N(K) := \text{span} \left\{ \varphi : \varphi \circ \Phi_K \in \widehat{W}_N(\hat{K}) \right\}.$$

The approximation space in  $\Omega_2$  is given by

$$X_{\delta,2} := \text{span} \left\{ v_\delta \in C^0(\Omega_2) : v_\delta|_{K_i} \in W_{N_2}(K_i), i \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{1\} \right\}, \quad N_2 \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

Next, we introduce the finite element space in  $\Omega_s$ :

$$X_\delta^* := \{ v_\delta : v_\delta|_{K_1} \in W_{N_1}(K_1), v_\delta|_{\Omega_2} \in X_{\delta,2} \}, \quad N_1 \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

Because  $v_\delta \in X_\delta^*$  does not ensure any continuity across  $\partial K_1$ , additional conditions must be imposed. Let  $\Gamma_R^+$  and  $\Gamma_R^-$  be the inner and outer surfaces of  $K_1$ , respectively. We select  $\Gamma_R^+$  as the non-mortar boundary, then the non-mortar space is the restriction of  $X_\delta^*$  on  $\Gamma_R^+$ :

$$V_{N_1} = \left\{ v_\delta|_{\Gamma_R^+}, v_\delta \in X_\delta^* \right\}.$$

In fact,  $V_{N_1}$  is the set of spherical harmonics defined on  $\Gamma_R$  with degree no greater than  $N_1$ . Finally, the mortar approximation space in  $\Omega_s$  is defined by

$$X_\delta = \left\{ v_\delta \in X_\delta^* : \int_{\Gamma_R} \left( v_\delta|_{\Gamma_R^+} - v_\delta|_{\Gamma_R^-} \right) \cdot \psi d\sigma(x) = 0, \forall \psi \in V_{N_1} \right\},$$

where  $d\sigma(x)$  is the surface measure on  $\Gamma_R$ . The integral equation that  $v_\delta$  satisfies is called the mortar condition.

Next, we introduce the WG space in  $\Omega_3$ . We define the WG space  $V_w$  as

$$V_w = \{v_w = \{v_0, v_b\} : v_0|_T \in P_{N_3}(T), T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w, v_b|_e \in P_{N_3}(e), e \in \mathcal{E}_h \setminus \Gamma, v_b|_e \in P_{N_2}(e), e \in \mathcal{E}_h \cap \Gamma\},$$

where  $N_3 \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Definition 2.1.** For  $v_w \in V_w$ , its weak gradient  $\nabla_w v_w|_T \in [P_{N_3-1}(T)]^d$  is defined as follows:

$$(\nabla_w v_w, \mathbf{q})_T = -(v_0, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q})_T + \langle v_b, \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} \rangle_{\partial T}, \quad \forall \mathbf{q} \in [P_{N_3-1}(T)]^d, \tag{2.4}$$

where  $\mathbf{n}$  is the outward unit normal vector.

With the above preparations, assume  $N_1 = N_2 \gg N_3$  (such as  $N_1 = N_2 = 15, N_3 \leq 6$ ), we can introduce the coupled finite element space  $V_h$  in  $\Omega$ :

$$V_h = \{v_h = \{v_\delta, v_w\} \in X_\delta \times V_w, v_b|_\Gamma = v_\delta|_\Gamma, v_b = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega\}.$$

### 2.4 Numerical scheme

First, we define some bilinear forms over  $X_\delta$  and  $V_w$ . For any  $u_\delta, v_\delta \in X_\delta$ ,

$$a_\delta(u_\delta, v_\delta) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \left( (\nabla u_\delta, \nabla v_\delta)_{K_i} + c^2(u_\delta, v_\delta)_{r^{-2}, K_i} \right),$$

$$b_\delta(u_\delta, v_\delta) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} (u_\delta, v_\delta)_{K_i}.$$

And we denote  $\|v_\delta\|_{X_\delta}^2 = a_\delta(v_\delta, v_\delta)$ . For any  $u_w, v_w \in V_w$ ,

$$a_w(u_w, v_w) = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla_w u_w, \nabla_w v_w)_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2(u_0, v_0)_{r^{-2}, T} + s(u_w, v_w),$$

$$s(u_w, v_w) = \rho \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} h_T^{-1} N_3^2 \langle u_0 - u_b, v_0 - v_b \rangle_{\partial T},$$

$$b_w(u_w, v_w) = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (u_0, v_0)_T,$$

where  $0 < \rho \leq 1$  is a constant. In the following, we omit  $\rho$  in  $s(\cdot, \cdot)$  because it is a constant and does not affect our theoretical analysis.

Now we define the bilinear forms over  $V_h$ . For any  $u_h, v_h \in V_h$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} a_h(u_h, v_h) &= a_\delta(u_\delta, v_\delta) + a_w(u_w, v_w), \\ b_h(u_h, v_h) &= b_\delta(u_\delta, v_\delta) + b_w(u_w, v_w). \end{aligned}$$

Next, we give the numerical scheme for the Schrödinger eigenvalue problem (2.1): Find  $\lambda_h \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $u_h \in V_h \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $b_h(u_h, u_h) = 1$  and

$$a_h(u_h, v_h) = \lambda_h b_h(u_h, v_h), \quad \forall v_h \in V_h. \tag{2.5}$$

### 3 Error analysis for eigenvalue problem

In this section, we conduct the numerical analysis of the Schrödinger eigenvalue problem.

#### 3.1 V-norm and projection operators

In order to unify the norm over the  $\mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$  and  $V_h$  spaces, we define the following inner product over  $V = \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega) + V_h$ . For any  $v, w \in V$ ,

$$(v, w)_V = a_\delta(v_\delta, w_\delta) + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \left( (\nabla v_0, \nabla w_0)_T + c^2 (v_0, w_0)_{r^{-2}, T} + h_T^{-1} N_3^2 \langle v_0 - v_b, w_0 - w_b \rangle_{\partial T} \right),$$

where  $v_\delta$  represents the value on the interior of  $\Omega_s$  and  $v_0$  and  $v_b$  represent the values on the interior and boundary of cell  $T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w$ , respectively. The corresponding norm is:

$$\|v\|_V^2 = \|v_\delta\|_{X_\delta}^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla v_0\|_T^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2 \|v_0\|_{r^{-2}, T}^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} h_T^{-1} N_3^2 \|v_0 - v_b\|_{\partial T}^2, \quad \forall v \in V.$$

Next, we define projection  $\Pi_\delta: \mathcal{H}^1(\Omega_s) \rightarrow X_\delta$ . In order to achieve higher-order convergence, we need to assume  $v|_{\Omega_1} \in \mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)$ , where  $s_1 \geq 1$ . The specific definitions of  $\Pi_\delta$  and  $\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)$  can be found in Section 3 of [19]. According to [19, Theorem 3.4], we have the following estimate.

**Lemma 3.1.** Assume  $u \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ ,  $u|_{\Omega_1} \in \mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)$ ,  $s_1 \geq 1$ ,  $u|_{\Omega_2} \in H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)$ ,  $s_2 \geq 1$ , there holds

$$\|u - \Pi_\delta u\|_{X_\delta} \leq C \left( h_\delta^{s_1-1} N_1^{1-s_1} \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + h_\delta^{\mu_2-1} N_2^{1-s_2} \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} \right),$$

where  $\mu_2 = \min\{s_2, N_2 + 1\}$ .

Let  $Q_0$  be the  $L^2$  orthogonal projection operator from  $L^2(T)$  onto  $P_{N_3}(T)$ . For  $e \in \mathcal{E}_h \setminus \Gamma$ , let  $Q_b$  be the  $L^2$  orthogonal projection operator from  $L^2(e)$  onto  $P_{N_3}(e)$ . In particular, for  $e \in \Gamma \cap \mathcal{E}_h$ , we define  $Q_b v|_e = \Pi_\delta v|_e \in P_{N_2}(e)$ , and in order for  $\Pi_\delta v$  to make sense, we

need  $v \in \mathcal{H}^1(\Omega)$ . Let  $\mathbf{Q}_h$  be the  $L^2$  orthogonal projection operator from  $[L^2(T)]^d$  onto  $[P_{N_3-1}(T)]^d$ . Combining  $Q_0$  and  $Q_b$ , let  $Q_h = \{Q_0, Q_b\}$  be the projection onto  $V_w$ .

The following estimates of  $\Pi_\delta$  and  $Q_0$  are crucial for the analysis and can be found in [12, 30].

**Lemma 3.2.** For  $\Pi_\delta|_{\Omega_2}$ , assume  $u \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ ,  $u|_{\Omega_2} \in H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)$ ,  $s_2 \geq 1$ , we have

$$\frac{N_2}{h_\delta} \|u - \Pi_\delta u\|_{\Omega_2} + \sqrt{\frac{N_2}{h_\delta}} \|u - \Pi_\delta u\|_{\partial\Omega_2} + \|\nabla(u - \Pi_\delta u)\|_{\Omega_2} \leq Ch_\delta^{\mu_2-1} N_2^{1-s_2} \|u\|_{s_2, \Omega_2},$$

where  $\mu_2 = \min\{N_2 + 1, s_2\}$ . Similarly, for any  $T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w$ , assume that  $u \in H^{s_3}(T)$ ,  $s_3 \geq 1$ , there holds

$$\frac{N_3}{h_T} \|u - Q_0 u\|_T + \sqrt{\frac{N_3}{h_T}} \|u - Q_0 u\|_{\partial T} + \|\nabla(u - Q_0 u)\|_T \leq Ch_T^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{1-s_3} \|u\|_{s_3, T},$$

where  $\mu_3 = \min\{N_3 + 1, s_3\}$ .

Let  $T_\Gamma$  be the cell in  $\mathcal{T}_h^w$  that has common edge with the interface  $\Gamma$ . We use  $\mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w$  to denote the set of all cells  $T_\Gamma$ . For any cell  $T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w \setminus \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w$ , we have the following commutativity of projection operators which can be found in [28, Lemma 5.1].

**Lemma 3.3.** For each cell  $T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w \setminus \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w$ , there holds

$$\nabla_w Q_h v = \mathbf{Q}_h(\nabla v), \quad \forall v \in H^1(T).$$

But for  $T_\Gamma \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w$ , the commutativity of projection operators above no longer holds.

**Lemma 3.4.** For any cell  $T_\Gamma \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w$  and  $v \in \mathcal{H}^1(\Omega)$ , the following equation holds

$$(\nabla_w Q_h v, \mathbf{q})_{T_\Gamma} = (\mathbf{Q}_h(\nabla v), \mathbf{q})_{T_\Gamma} + \langle \Pi_\delta v - v, \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} \rangle_{\partial T_\Gamma \cap \Gamma}, \quad \forall \mathbf{q} \in [P_{N_3-1}(T_\Gamma)]^d.$$

*Proof.* It follows from (2.4) that

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_w Q_h v, \mathbf{q})_{T_\Gamma} &= -(Q_0 v, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q})_{T_\Gamma} + \langle Q_b v, \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} \rangle_{\partial T_\Gamma} \\ &= -(v, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q})_{T_\Gamma} + \langle v, \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} \rangle_{\partial T_\Gamma \setminus (\partial T_\Gamma \cap \Gamma)} + \langle Q_b v, \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} \rangle_{\partial T_\Gamma \cap \Gamma} \\ &= -(v, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q})_{T_\Gamma} + \langle v, \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} \rangle_{\partial T_\Gamma} + \langle Q_b v - v, \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} \rangle_{\partial T_\Gamma \cap \Gamma} \\ &= (\nabla v, \mathbf{q})_{\partial T_\Gamma} + \langle Q_b v - v, \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} \rangle_{\partial T_\Gamma \cap \Gamma} \\ &= (\mathbf{Q}_h(\nabla v), \mathbf{q})_{T_\Gamma} + \langle Q_b v - v, \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} \rangle_{\partial T_\Gamma \cap \Gamma} \\ &= (\mathbf{Q}_h(\nabla v), \mathbf{q})_{T_\Gamma} + \langle \Pi_\delta v - v, \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} \rangle_{\partial T_\Gamma \cap \Gamma}. \end{aligned}$$

Then we complete the proof. □

In addition, the following trace inequality holds.

**Lemma 3.5.** [12] For any cell  $T$ , and  $\phi \in P_N(T)$ , there holds

$$\|\phi\|_{\partial T} \leq Ch_T^{-1/2} N \|\phi\|_T.$$

### 3.2 Error analysis

For further error analysis, we need to verify that  $a(\cdot, \cdot)$  and  $a_h(\cdot, \cdot)$  are continuous and coercive with respect to the norm  $\|\cdot\|_V$ . Obviously,  $a(\cdot, \cdot)$  is continuous and coercive over  $\mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ . From the definition of norm  $\|\cdot\|_V$ , we can see that  $a_h(\cdot, \cdot)$  is continuous. It follows from [38, Lemma 3.2] that  $a_h(\cdot, \cdot)$  is coercive over  $V_h$ .

We define the following operators  $K: L^2(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$  and  $K_h: V_h \rightarrow V_h$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} a(Kf, v) &= b(f, v), \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega), \\ a_h(K_h f_h, v_h) &= b_h(f_h, v_h), \quad \forall v_h \in V_h. \end{aligned}$$

It follows from the Lax-Milgram Theorem that  $K$  and  $K_h$  are well-defined. We note that  $K$  is compact in  $\mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ . In fact,  $\mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$  is compactly embedded into  $L^2(\Omega)$ , and  $K: L^2(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$  is a continuous linear operator. Notice that  $K_h$  is a continuous linear and finite ranked operator, then  $K_h$  is compact in  $V_h$ .

In addition, we define the orthogonal projection operators  $\Pi_c: V \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$  and  $\Pi_h: V \rightarrow V_h$  with respect to the inner product  $(\cdot, \cdot)_V$ . According to Section 2 of [38] and [3, Theorem 7.1], to estimate the  $H^1$  errors of eigenfunctions, we need only estimate  $\|(K\Pi_c - K_h\Pi_h)|_{R(E_\mu(K))}\|_V = \|(K - K_h\Pi_h)|_{R(E_\mu(K))}\|_V$ , where  $R(E_\mu(K))$  is the generalized eigenfunction space corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\mu$  of the operator  $K$ . Similarly, we define the orthogonal projection operator  $\Pi_0: V \rightarrow L^2(\Omega)$  with respect to the inner product  $b(\cdot, \cdot)$ . To estimate the  $L^2$  errors of eigenfunctions, it is sufficient to estimate  $\|(\Pi_0 K - \Pi_0 K_h)|_{R(E_\mu(K))}\|$ .

We consider the following variational form of source problem (2.3): Find  $u \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$  and  $Kf \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$  such that

$$\begin{cases} a(u, v) = b(f, v), & \forall v \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega), \\ a(Kf, v) = b(f, v), & \forall v \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega). \end{cases} \tag{3.1}$$

The corresponding numerical scheme is: Find  $u_h \in V_h$  such that

$$a_h(u_h, v_h) = b_h(f, v_h), \quad \forall v_h \in V_h. \tag{3.2}$$

Next, let's replace  $f$  with  $\Pi_h f$ . The corresponding numerical scheme is: Find  $\tilde{u}_h \in V_h$  and  $K_h \Pi_h f \in V_h$  such that

$$\begin{cases} a_h(\tilde{u}_h, v_h) = b_h(\Pi_h f, v_h), & \forall v_h \in V_h, \\ a_h(K_h \Pi_h f, v_h) = b_h(\Pi_h f, v_h), & \forall v_h \in V_h. \end{cases} \tag{3.3}$$

Then  $\|(K - K_h \Pi_h)|_{R(E_\mu(K))}\|_V \leq C\|u - \tilde{u}_h\|_V \leq C(\|u - u_h\|_V + \|u_h - \tilde{u}_h\|_V)$ . Notice that  $\|u - u_h\|_V$  is the  $H^1$  error estimate for source problem (2.3). Since  $a_h(\cdot, \cdot)$  is coercive, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_h - \tilde{u}_h\|_V^2 &\leq C a_h(u_h - \tilde{u}_h, u_h - \tilde{u}_h) \\ &= C b_h(f - \Pi_h f, u_h - \tilde{u}_h) \\ &\leq C \|f - \Pi_h f\|_V \|u_h - \tilde{u}_h\|_V, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\|u_h - \tilde{u}_h\|_V \leq C\|f - \Pi_h f\|_V$ .

Define the projection operator  $I_h = \{\Pi_\delta, Q_h\} : \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega) \rightarrow V_h$ . Since  $\Pi_h$  is orthogonal projection, then

$$\|u_h - \tilde{u}_h\|_V \leq C\|f - \Pi_h f\|_V \leq C\|f - I_h f\|_V.$$

For  $\|f - I_h f\|_V$ , we have the following estimate.

**Lemma 3.6.** Assume  $f \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ , and  $f|_{\Omega_1} \in \mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)$ ,  $s_1 \geq 1$ ,  $f|_{\Omega_2} \in H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)$ ,  $s_2 \geq 3/2$ ,  $f|_{\Omega_3} \in H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)$ ,  $s_3 \geq 3/2$ , if  $h_3^{-1}N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1}N_2^2$ , there holds

$$\|f - I_h f\|_V \leq C \left( h_\delta^{s_1-1} N_1^{1-s_1} \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + h_\delta^{\mu_2-1} N_2^{3/2-s_2} \|f\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + h_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \|f\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right),$$

where  $\mu_2 = \min\{s_2, N_2 + 1\}$  and  $\mu_3 = \min\{s_3, N_3 + 1\}$ . Furthermore, we have

$$\|f - I_h f\|_V \leq Ch_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \left( \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|f\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|f\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right).$$

*Proof.* It follows from Lemma 3.2 that

$$\begin{aligned} \|f - Q_h f\|_V^2 &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \left( \|\nabla(f - Q_0 f)\|_T^2 + c^2 \|f - Q_0 f\|_{r^{-2}, T}^2 \right) \\ &\quad + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \left( h_3^{-1} N_3^2 \|Q_0 f - Q_b f\|_{\partial T \setminus (\partial T \cap \Gamma)}^2 + h_3^{-1} N_3^2 \|Q_0 f - \Pi_\delta f\|_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}^2 \right) \\ &\leq C \left( h_3^{2(\mu_3-1)} N_3^{3-2s_3} \|f\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)}^2 + h_3^{-1} N_3^2 h_\delta^{2\mu_2-1} N_2^{1-2s_2} \|f\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)}^2 \right). \end{aligned}$$

If  $h_3^{-1}N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1}N_2^2$ , then we have

$$\|f - Q_h f\|_V^2 \leq C \left( h_\delta^{2(\mu_2-1)} N_2^{3-2s_2} \|f\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)}^2 + h_3^{2(\mu_3-1)} N_3^{3-2s_3} \|f\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)}^2 \right).$$

It follows from Lemma 3.1 that

$$\begin{aligned} &\|f - I_h f\|_V \\ &= \|f - \Pi_\delta f\|_V + \|f - Q_h f\|_V \\ &\leq C \left( h_\delta^{s_1-1} N_1^{1-s_1} \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + h_\delta^{\mu_2-1} N_2^{3/2-s_2} \|f\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + h_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \|f\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Notice that we assume  $N_1 = N_2 \gg N_3$ , so the main error comes from the WG element, then we have

$$\|f - I_h f\|_V \leq Ch_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \left( \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|f\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|f\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right).$$

Then we complete the proof.  $\square$

Similarly, we estimate  $\|(\Pi_0 K - \Pi_0 K_h)|_{R(E_\mu(K))}\|$ . We replace  $\Pi_h f$  with  $I_h f$  in (3.3):

$$\begin{cases} a_h(\bar{u}_h, v_h) = b_h(I_h f, v_h), & \forall v_h \in V_h, \\ a_h(K_h I_h f, v_h) = b_h(I_h f, v_h), & \forall v_h \in V_h. \end{cases} \tag{3.4}$$

Combining (3.2) and (3.4), and  $a_h(\cdot, \cdot)$  is coercive, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_h - \bar{u}_h\|_V^2 &\leq C a_h(u_h - \bar{u}_h, u_h - \bar{u}_h) \\ &= C b_h(f - I_h f, u_h - \bar{u}_h) \\ &\leq C \|f - I_h f\| \|u_h - \bar{u}_h\|_V, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\|u_h - \bar{u}_h\| \leq C \|u_h - \bar{u}_h\|_V \leq C \|f - I_h f\|$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|(\Pi_0 K - \Pi_0 K_h)|_{R(E_\mu(K))}\| &\leq \sup_{\substack{\|f\|=1, \\ f \in R(E_\mu(K))}} \|Kf - K_h I_h f\| + \sup_{\substack{\|f\|=1, \\ f \in R(E_\mu(K))}} \|K_h I_h f - K_h f\| \\ &\leq C (\|u - \bar{u}_h\| + \|f - I_h f\|) \\ &\leq C (\|u - u_h\| + \|u_h - \bar{u}_h\| + \|f - I_h f\|) \\ &\leq C (\|u - u_h\| + \|f - I_h f\|). \end{aligned}$$

Notice that  $\|u - u_h\|$  is the  $L^2$  error estimate for source problem (2.3). For  $\|f - I_h f\|$ , the following estimate holds.

**Lemma 3.7.** Assume  $f \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ , and  $f|_{\Omega_1} \in \mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)$ ,  $s_1 \geq 1$ ,  $f|_{\Omega_2} \in H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)$ ,  $s_2 \geq 3/2$ ,  $f|_{\Omega_3} \in H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)$ ,  $s_3 \geq 3/2$ , there holds

$$\|f - I_h f\| \leq C \left( h_\delta^{s_1-1} N_1^{1-s_1} \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + h_\delta^{\mu_2-1} N_2^{1-s_2} \|f\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + h_3^{\mu_3} N_3^{-s_3} \|f\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right),$$

where  $\mu_2 = \min\{s_2, N_2 + 1\}$  and  $\mu_3 = \min\{s_3, N_3 + 1\}$ . Furthermore, we have

$$\|f - I_h f\| \leq C h_3^{\mu_3} N_3^{-s_3} \left( \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|f\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|f\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right).$$

*Proof.* It follows from Lemmas 3.1 and 3.2 that

$$\begin{aligned} &\|f - I_h f\| \\ &= \|f - \Pi_\delta f\| + \|f - Q_h f\| \\ &\leq C \left( h_\delta^{s_1-1} N_1^{1-s_1} \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + h_\delta^{\mu_2-1} N_2^{1-s_2} \|f\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + h_3^{\mu_3} N_3^{-s_3} \|f\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Notice that  $N_1 = N_2 \gg N_3$ , so the main error comes from the WG element, then we have

$$\|f - I_h f\| \leq C h_3^{\mu_3} N_3^{-s_3} \left( \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|f\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|f\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right),$$

which completes the proof. □

Based on the above analysis, it is sufficient to estimate the  $H^1$  and  $L^2$  errors for the source problem (2.3). We will elaborate on this in the next section.

### 4 Error estimates for source problem

In this section, we derive the error equation of the source problem (2.3). Subsequently, we obtain the  $H^1$  and  $L^2$  error estimates for the source problem (2.3).

#### 4.1 Error equation

Let  $u \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$  be the exact solution of (2.3), and  $u_h = \{u_\delta, u_w\} \in V_h$  be the numerical solution of (3.2). Denote  $e_\delta = u|_{\Omega_s} - u_\delta$ ,  $\tilde{e}_\delta = \Pi_\delta u - u_\delta$ , and  $e_w = \{e_0, e_b\} = Q_h u - u_w = \{Q_0 u - u_0, Q_b u - u_b\}$ . In the following, we use  $\mathbf{n}_1, \mathbf{n}_2$  and  $\mathbf{n}_3$  to represent the outward unit normal vectors of cells in  $\Omega_1, \Omega_2$  and  $\Omega_3$ , respectively. Denote  $[v_\delta] = v_\delta|_{\Gamma_R^+} - v_\delta|_{\Gamma_R^-}$ .

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $u$  be the exact solution of (2.3). For any  $v_h = \{v_\delta, v_w\} \in V_h$ , the following error equation holds*

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_\delta(e_\delta, v_\delta) + a_w(e_w, v_w) &= \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [v_\delta] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (\nabla u - Q_h \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, v_0 - v_b \rangle_{\partial T} \\
 &\quad + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \Pi_\delta u - u, \nabla_w v_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} + s(Q_h u, v_w). \tag{4.1}
 \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* For any  $\mathbf{q} \in [P_{N_3-1}(T)]^d$ , it follows from Lemma 3.4 that

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla_w Q_h u, \mathbf{q})_T = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (Q_h \nabla u, \mathbf{q})_T - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle u - \Pi_\delta u, \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}.$$

Let  $\mathbf{q} = \nabla_w v_w$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla_w Q_h u, \nabla_w v_w)_T \\
 &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (Q_h \nabla u, \nabla_w v_w)_T - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle u - \Pi_\delta u, \nabla_w v_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} \\
 &= - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (v_0, \nabla \cdot Q_h \nabla u)_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle v_b, Q_h \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T} - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle u - \Pi_\delta u, \nabla_w v_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} \\
 &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla v_0, Q_h \nabla u)_T - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle v_0 - v_b, Q_h \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T} - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle u - \Pi_\delta u, \nabla_w v_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} \\
 &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla v_0, \nabla u)_T - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle v_0 - v_b, Q_h \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T} - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle u - \Pi_\delta u, \nabla_w v_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}. \tag{4.2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Notice that  $\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, v_b \rangle_{\partial T} = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, v_b \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} = - \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, v_\delta \rangle_\Gamma$ . Testing (2.3)

with  $v_h = \{v_\delta, v_w\}$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& (\nabla u, \nabla v_\delta)_{\Omega_s} + c^2(u, v_\delta)_{r^{-2}, \Omega_s} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla u, \nabla v_0)_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2(u, v_0)_{r^{-2}, T} \\
& - \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [v_\delta] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} - \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, v_\delta \rangle_\Gamma - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, v_0 \rangle_{\partial T} \\
& = (\nabla u, \nabla v_\delta)_{\Omega_s} + c^2(u, v_\delta)_{r^{-2}, \Omega_s} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla u, \nabla v_0)_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2(u, v_0)_{r^{-2}, T} \\
& - \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [v_\delta] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, v_0 - v_b \rangle_{\partial T} = (f, v_\delta)_{\Omega_s} + (f, v_0)_{\Omega_3}. \tag{4.3}
\end{aligned}$$

Substituting (4.2) into (4.3), the following equation holds

$$\begin{aligned}
& (\nabla u, \nabla v_\delta)_{\Omega_s} + c^2(u, v_\delta)_{r^{-2}, \Omega_s} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla_w Q_h u, \nabla_w v_w)_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2(u, v_0)_{r^{-2}, T} \\
& - \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [v_\delta] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (Q_h \nabla u - \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, v_0 - v_b \rangle_{\partial T} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle u - \Pi_\delta u, \nabla_w v_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} \\
& = (f, v_\delta)_{\Omega_s} + (f, v_0)_{\Omega_3}.
\end{aligned}$$

Then there holds

$$\begin{aligned}
& a_\delta(u, v_\delta) + a_w(Q_h u, v_w) \\
& = (\nabla u, \nabla v_\delta)_{\Omega_s} + c^2(u, v_\delta)_{r^{-2}, \Omega_s} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla_w Q_h u, \nabla_w v_w)_T + \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [v_\delta] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} \\
& + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2(Q_0 u, v_0)_{r^{-2}, T} + s(Q_h u, v_w) + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \Pi_\delta u - u, \nabla_w v_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} \\
& = (f, v_\delta)_{\Omega_s} + (f, v_0)_{\Omega_3} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (\nabla u - Q_h \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, v_0 - v_b \rangle_{\partial T} + s(Q_h u, v_w), \tag{4.4}
\end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that  $\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2(Q_0 u - u, v_0)_{r^{-2}, T} = 0$ .

Subtracting (3.2) from (4.4), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
a_\delta(e_\delta, v_\delta) + a_w(e_w, v_w) & = \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [v_\delta] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (\nabla u - Q_h \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, v_0 - v_b \rangle_{\partial T} \\
& + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \Pi_\delta u - u, \nabla_w v_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} + s(Q_h u, v_w).
\end{aligned}$$

Then we complete the proof. □

## 4.2 $H^1$ error estimate

In this subsection, we derive the  $H^1$  error estimate for the source problem (2.3).

**Lemma 4.2.** *Let  $u$  be the exact solution of (2.3). Assume  $u \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ , and  $u|_{\Omega_1} \in \mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)$ ,  $s_1 \geq 1$ ,  $u|_{\Omega_2} \in H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)$ ,  $s_2 \geq 3/2$ ,  $u|_{\Omega_3} \in H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)$ ,  $s_3 \geq 3/2$ , if  $h_3^{-1}N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1}N_2^2$ , there holds*

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\tilde{e}_\delta\|_V + \|e_w\|_V \\ & \leq C \left( h_\delta^{s_1-1} N_1^{1-s_1} \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + h_\delta^{\mu_2-1} N_2^{3/2-s_2} \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + h_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mu_2 = \min\{s_2, N_2 + 1\}$  and  $\mu_3 = \min\{s_3, N_3 + 1\}$ . Furthermore, we have

$$\|\tilde{e}_\delta\|_V + \|e_w\|_V \leq Ch_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \left( \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right).$$

*Proof.* Let  $v_\delta = \tilde{e}_\delta$  and  $v_w = e_w$  in (4.1), then there holds

$$\begin{aligned} a_\delta(\tilde{e}_\delta, \tilde{e}_\delta) + a_w(e_w, e_w) &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \left( \langle \Pi_\delta u - u, \nabla_w e_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} + \langle (\nabla u - Q_h \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, e_0 - e_b \rangle_{\partial T} \right) \\ &\quad + a_\delta(\Pi_\delta u - u, \tilde{e}_\delta) + \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [\tilde{e}_\delta] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} + s(Q_h u, e_w). \end{aligned}$$

Next, we estimate the six terms on the right side of the above equation. It follows from Lemma 3.1 that

$$|a_\delta(\Pi_\delta u - u, \tilde{e}_\delta)| \leq C \left( h_\delta^{s_1-1} N_1^{1-s_1} \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + h_\delta^{\mu_2-1} N_2^{1-s_2} \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} \right) \|\tilde{e}_\delta\|_V. \tag{4.5}$$

According to [19, Theorem 3.3], there holds

$$|\langle \nabla \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [\tilde{e}_\delta] \rangle_{\Gamma_R}| \leq Ch_\delta^{s_1-1} N_1^{1-s_1} \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} \|\tilde{e}_\delta\|_V. \tag{4.6}$$

From Lemma 3.2, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |s(Q_h u, e_w)| \\ &= \left| \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} h_T^{-1} N_3^2 \langle Q_0 u - Q_b u, e_0 - e_b \rangle_{\partial T \setminus (\partial T \cap \Gamma)} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} h_T^{-1} N_3^2 \langle Q_0 u - \Pi_\delta u, e_0 - e_b \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} \right| \\ &\leq C \left( h_T^{-1/2} N_3 h_\delta^{\mu_2-1/2} N_2^{1/2-s_2} \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} \|e_w\|_V + h_T^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \|e_w\|_V \right). \end{aligned}$$

If  $h_3^{-1}N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1}N_2^2$ , then we have

$$|s(Q_h u, e_w)| \leq C \left( h_\delta^{\mu_2-1} N_2^{3/2-s_2} \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} \|e_w\|_V + h_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \|e_w\|_V \right). \tag{4.7}$$

It follows from Lemmas 3.2 and 3.5 that

$$\left| \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \Pi_\delta u - u, \nabla_w e_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} \right| \leq Ch_T^{-1/2} N_3 h_\delta^{\mu_2-1/2} N_2^{1/2-s_2} \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} \|e_w\|_V.$$

If  $h_3^{-1}N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1}N_2^2$ , then we have

$$\left| \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \Pi_\delta u - u, \nabla_w e_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} \right| \leq Ch_\delta^{\mu_2-1} N_2^{3/2-s_2} \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} \|e_w\|_V. \tag{4.8}$$

From Lemma 3.2, the following estimate holds

$$\left| \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (\nabla u - Q_h \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, e_0 - e_b \rangle_{\partial T} \right| \leq Ch_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{1/2-s_3} \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \|e_w\|_V. \tag{4.9}$$

Notice that  $\|\tilde{e}_\delta\|_V^2 + \|e_w\|_V^2 \leq C(a_\delta(\tilde{e}_\delta, \tilde{e}_\delta) + a_w(e_w, e_w))$ . It follows from (4.5)-(4.9) and Young's inequality that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\tilde{e}_\delta\|_V + \|e_w\|_V \\ & \leq C \left( h_\delta^{s_1-1} N_1^{1-s_1} \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + h_\delta^{\mu_2-1} N_2^{3/2-s_2} \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + h_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Notice that  $N_1 = N_2 \gg N_3$ , so the main error comes from the WG element, then we have

$$\|\tilde{e}_\delta\|_V + \|e_w\|_V \leq Ch_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \left( \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right).$$

Then we complete the proof. □

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $u$  be the exact solution of (2.3) and  $u_h = \{u_\delta, u_w\}$  be the numerical solution of (3.2). Assume  $u \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ , and  $u|_{\Omega_1} \in \mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)$ ,  $s_1 \geq 1$ ,  $u|_{\Omega_2} \in H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)$ ,  $s_2 \geq 3/2$ ,  $u|_{\Omega_3} \in H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)$ ,  $s_3 \geq 3/2$ , if  $h_3^{-1}N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1}N_2^2$ , there holds*

$$\begin{aligned} & \|u|_{\Omega_s} - u_\delta\|_V + \|u|_{\Omega_3} - u_w\|_V \\ & \leq C \left( h_\delta^{s_1-1} N_1^{1-s_1} \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + h_\delta^{\mu_2-1} N_2^{3/2-s_2} \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + h_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mu_2 = \min\{s_2, N_2 + 1\}$  and  $\mu_3 = \min\{s_3, N_3 + 1\}$ . Furthermore, we have

$$\|u|_{\Omega_s} - u_\delta\|_V + \|u|_{\Omega_3} - u_w\|_V \leq Ch_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \left( \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right).$$

*Proof.* It follows from Lemmas 3.1, 3.6 and 4.2 that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|u|_{\Omega_s} - u_\delta\|_V + \|u|_{\Omega_3} - u_w\|_V \\ & \leq \|u|_{\Omega_s} - \Pi_\delta u\|_V + \|\tilde{e}_\delta\|_V + \|u|_{\Omega_3} - Q_h u\|_V + \|e_w\|_V \\ & \leq C \left( h_\delta^{s_1-1} N_1^{1-s_1} \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + h_\delta^{\mu_2-1} N_2^{3/2-s_2} \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + h_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Notice that  $N_1 = N_2 \gg N_3$ , so the main error comes from the WG element, then we have

$$\|u|_{\Omega_s} - u_\delta\|_V + \|u|_{\Omega_3} - u_w\|_V \leq Ch_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \left( \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right),$$

which completes the proof. □

### 4.3 $L^2$ error estimate

In this subsection, we obtain the  $L^2$  error estimate for the source problem (2.3). To obtain the  $L^2$  error estimate, we consider the following dual problem

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta\phi + \frac{c^2}{\|x\|^2}\phi = e, & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \phi = 0, & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases} \quad (4.10)$$

where  $e = \{e_\delta, e_0\} = \{u|_{\Omega_s} - u_\delta, Q_0u - u_0\}$ . And from [21, Theorem 2.3], the following regularity estimate holds

$$\|\phi\|_{\mathcal{H}^2(\Omega_1)} + \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)} + \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_3)} \leq C\|e\|. \quad (4.11)$$

**Lemma 4.3.** *Let  $u$  be the exact solution of (2.3) and  $\phi$  be the exact solution of (4.10), we have the following error equation*

$$\begin{aligned} \|e\|^2 = & a_\delta(e_\delta, \phi - \Pi_\delta\phi) - \langle \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [e_\delta] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} + \langle \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, \Pi_\delta u - u \rangle_\Gamma + s(Q_h u, Q_h \phi) - s(e_w, Q_h \phi) \\ & + \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [\Pi_\delta\phi] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\langle \phi - \Pi_\delta\phi, \nabla_w e_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} + \langle \Pi_\delta u - u, \nabla_w Q_h \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}) \\ & + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\langle (Q_h \nabla\phi - \nabla\phi) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, e_0 - e_b \rangle_{\partial T} + \langle (\nabla u - Q_h \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, Q_0\phi - Q_b\phi \rangle_{\partial T}). \end{aligned} \quad (4.12)$$

*Proof.* Testing (4.10) with  $e$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|e\|^2 = & -(\Delta\phi, e_\delta)_{\Omega_s} + c^2(\phi, e_\delta)_{r^{-2}, \Omega_s} - (\Delta\phi, e_0)_{\Omega_3} + c^2(\phi, e_0)_{r^{-2}, \Omega_3} \\ = & (\nabla\phi, \nabla e_\delta)_{\Omega_s} + c^2(\phi, e_\delta)_{r^{-2}, \Omega_s} - \langle \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [e_\delta] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} - \langle \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, e_\delta \rangle_\Gamma \\ & + (\nabla\phi, \nabla e_0)_{\Omega_3} - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, e_0 \rangle_{\partial T} + c^2(\phi, e_0)_{r^{-2}, \Omega_3}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.13)$$

It follows from (4.2) that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla\phi, \nabla e_0)_T \\ = & \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla_w Q_h \phi, \nabla_w e_w)_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle Q_h \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, e_0 - e_b \rangle_{\partial T} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \phi - \Pi_\delta\phi, \nabla_w e_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.14)$$

Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, e_0 - e_b \rangle_{\partial T} &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, e_0 \rangle_{\partial T} - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, e_b \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} \\ &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, e_0 \rangle_{\partial T} + \langle \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, e_\delta \rangle_\Gamma + \langle \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, \Pi_\delta u - u \rangle_\Gamma. \end{aligned} \quad (4.15)$$

Combining (4.13)-(4.15), thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|e\|^2 &= (\nabla\phi, \nabla e_\delta)_{\Omega_s} - \langle \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [e_\delta] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} + c^2(\phi, e_\delta)_{r^{-2}, \Omega_s} + c^2(\phi, e_0)_{r^{-2}, \Omega_3} \\ &\quad + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla_w Q_h \phi, \nabla_w e_w)_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (Q_h \nabla\phi - \nabla\phi) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, e_0 - e_b \rangle_{\partial T} \\ &\quad + \langle \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, \Pi_\delta u - u \rangle_\Gamma + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \phi - \Pi_\delta \phi, \nabla_w e_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.16}$$

Let  $v_\delta = \Pi_\delta \phi$  and  $v_w = Q_h \phi$  in error equation (4.1), then there holds

$$\begin{aligned} &a_\delta(e_\delta, \Pi_\delta \phi) + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla_w e_w, \nabla_w Q_h \phi)_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2(e_0, Q_0 \phi)_T + s(e_w, Q_h \phi) \\ &= \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [\Pi_\delta \phi] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (\nabla u - Q_h \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, Q_0 \phi - Q_b \phi \rangle_{\partial T} \\ &\quad + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \Pi_\delta u - u, \nabla_w Q_h \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} + s(Q_h u, Q_h \phi). \end{aligned} \tag{4.17}$$

Using the fact that  $\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2(\phi - Q_0 \phi, e_0)_{r^{-2}, T} = 0$ , from (4.16) and (4.17), the following equation holds

$$\begin{aligned} \|e\|^2 &= a_\delta(e_\delta, \phi - \Pi_\delta \phi) - \langle \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [e_\delta] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} + \langle \nabla\phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, \Pi_\delta u - u \rangle_\Gamma + s(Q_h u, Q_h \phi) - s(e_w, Q_h \phi) \\ &\quad + \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [\Pi_\delta \phi] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\langle \phi - \Pi_\delta \phi, \nabla_w e_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} + \langle \Pi_\delta u - u, \nabla_w Q_h \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}) \\ &\quad + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\langle (Q_h \nabla\phi - \nabla\phi) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, e_0 - e_b \rangle_{\partial T} + \langle (\nabla u - Q_h \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, Q_0 \phi - Q_b \phi \rangle_{\partial T}). \end{aligned}$$

Then we complete the proof. □

**Lemma 4.4.** *Let  $u$  be the exact solution of (2.3) and  $u_h = \{u_\delta, u_w\}$  be the numerical solution of (3.2). Assume  $u \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ , and  $u|_{\Omega_1} \in \mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)$ ,  $s_1 \geq 1$ ,  $u|_{\Omega_2} \in H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)$ ,  $s_2 \geq 3/2$ ,  $u|_{\Omega_3} \in H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)$ ,  $s_3 \geq 3/2$ , if  $h_3^{-1} N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1} N_2^{3/2}$  and  $h_3^{-1} N_3^{4/3} \leq Ch_\delta^{-1} N_2$ , there holds*

$$\|e\| \leq Ch_3^{\mu_3} N_3^{1-s_3} \left( \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right),$$

where  $\mu_3 = \min\{s_3, N_3 + 1\}$ .

*Proof.* Next, we estimate the terms on the right side of the expression (4.12). First, using Lemma 3.1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |a_\delta(e_\delta, \phi - \Pi_\delta \phi)| &\leq \|e_\delta\|_V \|\phi - \Pi_\delta \phi\|_{X_\delta} \\ &\leq C \left( h_\delta N_1^{-1} \|\phi\|_{\mathcal{H}^2(\Omega_1)} + h_\delta N_2^{-1} \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)} \right) \|e_\delta\|_V. \end{aligned} \tag{4.18}$$

It follows from [19, Theorem 3.3] that

$$\left| \langle \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [e_\delta] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} \right| \leq Ch_\delta N_1^{-1} \|\phi\|_{\mathcal{H}^2(\Omega_1)} \|e_\delta\|_V. \quad (4.19)$$

From Lemma 3.2, the following estimate holds

$$\left| \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (\nabla \phi - \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla \phi) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, e_0 - e_b \rangle_{\partial T} \right| \leq Ch_3 N_3^{-3/2} \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_3)} \|e_w\|_V. \quad (4.20)$$

It follows from Lemmas 3.2 and 3.5 that

$$\left| \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \phi - \Pi_\delta \phi, \nabla_w e_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} \right| \leq Ch_3^{-1/2} N_3 h_\delta^{3/2} N_2^{-3/2} \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)} \|e_w\|_V.$$

If  $h_\delta^{3/2} N_2^{-3/2} \leq Ch_3^{3/2} N_3^{-2}$ , there holds

$$\left| \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \phi - \Pi_\delta \phi, \nabla_w e_w \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} \right| \leq Ch_3 N_3^{-1} \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)} \|e_w\|_V. \quad (4.21)$$

Using the fact that  $\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (\nabla u - \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, \phi - Q_b \phi \rangle_{\partial T} = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (\nabla u - \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, \phi - \Pi_\delta \phi \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}$  and Lemma 3.2, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (\nabla u - \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, Q_0 \phi - Q_b \phi \rangle_{\partial T} \right| \\ & \leq C \left( h_\delta^{3/2} N_2^{-3/2} h_3^{\mu_3 - 3/2} N_3^{3/2 - s_3} \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)} + h_3^{\mu_3} N_3^{-s_3} \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_3)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

If  $h_\delta^{3/2} N_2^{-3/2} \leq Ch_3^{3/2} N_3^{-3/2}$ , then we have

$$\left| \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (\nabla u - \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, Q_0 \phi - Q_b \phi \rangle_{\partial T} \right| \leq Ch_3^{\mu_3} N_3^{-s_3} \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \left( \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)} + \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_3)} \right). \quad (4.22)$$

Since  $\phi$  is continuous on  $\Gamma_R$ , it follows from Lemma 3.1 and [19, Theorem 3.3] that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [\Pi_\delta \phi] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} \right| \\ & = \left| \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [\Pi_\delta \phi - \phi] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} \right| \\ & \leq Ch_\delta^{s_1 - 1} N_1^{1 - s_1} \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} \left( h_\delta N_1^{-1} \|\phi\|_{\mathcal{H}^2(\Omega_1)} + h_\delta N_2^{-1} \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (4.23)$$

Next, we estimate  $\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \Pi_\delta u - u, \nabla_w Q_h \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} + \langle \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, \Pi_\delta u - u \rangle_\Gamma$ . Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \Pi_\delta u - u, \nabla_w Q_h \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} + \langle \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, \Pi_\delta u - u \rangle_\Gamma \\ &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \Pi_\delta u - u, (\nabla_w Q_h \phi - Q_h \nabla \phi) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (\nabla \phi - Q_h \nabla \phi) \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, \Pi_\delta u - u \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}. \end{aligned}$$

Then we estimate the two terms on the right side one by one. It follows from Lemma 3.4 that

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} (\nabla_w Q_h \phi, \mathbf{q})_T = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} (Q_h(\nabla \phi), \mathbf{q})_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} \langle \Pi_\delta \phi - \phi, \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma},$$

for any  $\mathbf{q} \in [P_{N_3-1}(T)]^d$ . Let  $\mathbf{q} = \nabla_w Q_h \phi - Q_h \nabla \phi$ , we have  $\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} \|\nabla_w Q_h \phi - Q_h \nabla \phi\|_T^2 = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} \langle \Pi_\delta \phi - \phi, (\nabla_w Q_h \phi - Q_h \nabla \phi) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}$ . Then from Lemma 3.5, there holds

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} \|\nabla_w Q_h \phi - Q_h \nabla \phi\|_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}^2 \\ & \leq Ch_T^{-1} N_3^2 \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} \|\nabla_w Q_h \phi - Q_h \nabla \phi\|_T^2 \\ & \leq Ch_T^{-1} N_3^2 \left( \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} \|\phi - \Pi_\delta \phi\|_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}^2 \right)^{1/2} \left( \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} \|\nabla_w Q_h \phi - Q_h \nabla \phi\|_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}^2 \right)^{1/2}, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} \|\nabla_w Q_h \phi - Q_h \nabla \phi\|_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}^2 \leq Ch_T^{-2} N_3^4 \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} \|\phi - \Pi_\delta \phi\|_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}^2.$$

Thus, from Lemma 3.2, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} \langle \Pi_\delta u - u, (\nabla_w Q_h \phi - Q_h \nabla \phi) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} \right| \\ & \leq C \left( \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} \|\Pi_\delta u - u\|_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}^2 \right)^{1/2} \left( \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} h_T^{-2} N_3^4 \|\phi - \Pi_\delta \phi\|_{\partial T \cap \Gamma}^2 \right)^{1/2} \\ & \leq Ch_\delta^{\mu_2+1} N_2^{-1-s_2} h_3^{-1} N_3^2 \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $h_3^{-1} N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1} N_2^{3/2}$ , there holds

$$\left| \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} \langle \Pi_\delta u - u, (\nabla_w Q_h \phi - Q_h \nabla \phi) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3 \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} \right| \leq Ch_\delta^{\mu_2} N_2^{1/2-s_2} \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)}. \quad (4.24)$$

It follows from Lemma 3.2 that

$$\left| \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} \langle (\nabla \phi - Q_h \nabla \phi) \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, \Pi_\delta u - u \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} \right| \leq Ch_\delta^{\mu_2 - 1/2} N_2^{1/2 - s_2} h_3^{1/2} N_3^{-1/2} \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)}.$$

Notice that  $h_3^{1/2} \leq h_\delta^{1/2}$  and  $N_3^{-1/2} \leq 1$ , we have

$$\left| \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\Gamma^w} \langle (\nabla \phi - Q_h \nabla \phi) \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, \Pi_\delta u - u \rangle_{\partial T \cap \Gamma} \right| \leq Ch_\delta^{\mu_2} N_2^{1/2 - s_2} \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)}. \quad (4.25)$$

It follows from Lemma 3.2 that

$$\begin{aligned} & |s(Q_h u, Q_h \phi)| \\ & \leq C \left( h_3^{\mu_3} N_3^{1 - s_3} + h_\delta^{3/2} N_2^{-3/2} h_3^{\mu_3 - 3/2} N_3^{5/2 - s_3} \right) \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \left( \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)} + \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_3)} \right) \\ & \quad + C \left( h_\delta^{\mu_2 - 1/2} N_2^{1/2 - s_2} h_3^{1/2} N_3^{1/2} + h_\delta^{\mu_2 + 1} N_2^{-1 - s_2} h_3^{-1} N_3^2 \right) \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} \left( \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)} + \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_3)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

If  $h_\delta^{3/2} N_2^{-3/2} \leq Ch_3^{3/2} N_3^{-3/2}$  and  $h_3^{-1} N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1} N_2^2$ , then the following estimate holds

$$\begin{aligned} & |s(Q_h u, Q_h \phi)| \\ & \leq C \left( h_\delta^{\mu_2} N_2^{1 - s_2} + h_3^{\mu_3} N_3^{1 - s_3} \right) \left( \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right) \left( \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)} + \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_3)} \right). \quad (4.26) \end{aligned}$$

From Lemma 3.2, there holds

$$|s(e_w, Q_h \phi)| \leq Ch_3 N_3^{-1/2} \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_3)} \|e_w\|_V + Ch_3^{-1/2} N_3 h_\delta^{3/2} N_2^{-3/2} \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)} \|e_w\|_V.$$

If  $h_\delta^{3/2} N_2^{-3/2} \leq Ch_3^{3/2} N_3^{-3/2}$ , then we have

$$|s(e_w, Q_h \phi)| \leq Ch_3 N_3^{-1/2} \left( \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_2)} + \|\phi\|_{H^2(\Omega_3)} \right) \|e_w\|_V. \quad (4.27)$$

Notice that  $N_1 = N_2 \gg N_3$ , so the main error comes from the WG element. It follows from (4.11), (4.18)-(4.27) and Lemma 4.2 that

$$\|e\| \leq Ch_3^{\mu_3} N_3^{1 - s_3} \left( \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right),$$

which completes the proof. □

According to Lemmas 3.2 and 4.4, the following estimate holds.

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let  $u$  be the exact solution of (2.3) and  $u_h = \{u_\delta, u_w\}$  be the numerical solution of (3.2). Assume  $u \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ , and  $u|_{\Omega_1} \in \mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)$ ,  $s_1 \geq 1$ ,  $u|_{\Omega_2} \in H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)$ ,  $s_2 \geq 3/2$ ,  $u|_{\Omega_3} \in H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)$ ,  $s_3 \geq 3/2$ , if  $h_3^{-1} N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1} N_2^{3/2}$  and  $h_3^{-1} N_3^{4/3} \leq Ch_\delta^{-1} N_2$ , there holds*

$$\|u|_{\Omega_s} - u_\delta\| + \|u|_{\Omega_3} - u_0\| \leq Ch_3^{\mu_3} N_3^{1 - s_3} \left( \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right),$$

where  $\mu_3 = \min\{s_3, N_3 + 1\}$ .

## 5 Error estimates for eigenvalue problem

In this section, we provide the  $H^1$  and  $L^2$  error estimates for eigenfunctions. Furthermore, we present an expression for the error of the eigenvalue, followed by giving the error estimates for eigenvalues.

### 5.1 Error estimate for eigenfunction

Based on the error analysis in Section 3, the following estimate is valid, following from Lemma 3.6 and Theorem 4.1.

**Theorem 5.1.** *Suppose  $\lambda_j$  is an eigenvalue of (2.2) with multiplicity  $m$ , and  $R(E_\mu(K))$  is the corresponding  $m$ -dimensional eigenspace. Suppose  $\{\lambda_{i,h}\}_{i=1}^m$  are the eigenvalues of (2.5) approximating  $\lambda_j$ , and  $u_{i,h}$  is an eigenfunction corresponding to  $\lambda_{i,h}$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . For any  $u_j \in R(E_\mu(K))$ , assume  $u_j \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ , and  $u_j|_{\Omega_1} \in \mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)$ ,  $s_1 \geq 1$ ,  $u_j|_{\Omega_2} \in H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)$ ,  $s_2 \geq 3/2$ ,  $u_j|_{\Omega_3} \in H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)$ ,  $s_3 \geq 3/2$ . For any  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ , if  $h_3^{-1}N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1}N_2^2$ , there exists an eigenfunction  $u_j \in R(E_\mu(K))$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} & \|u_j - u_{i,h}\|_V \\ &= \|u_j|_{\Omega_s} - u_{i,\delta}\|_V + \|u_j|_{\Omega_3} - u_{i,w}\|_V \\ &\leq C \left( h_\delta^{s_1-1} N_1^{1-s_1} \|u_j\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + h_\delta^{\mu_2-1} N_2^{3/2-s_2} \|u_j\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + h_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \|u_j\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mu_2 = \min\{s_2, N_2 + 1\}$  and  $\mu_3 = \min\{s_3, N_3 + 1\}$ . Furthermore, we have

$$\|u_j - u_{i,h}\|_V \leq Ch_3^{\mu_3-1} N_3^{3/2-s_3} \left( \|u_j\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right).$$

In addition, from Lemma 3.7 and Theorem 4.2, we have the following estimate.

**Theorem 5.2.** *Suppose  $\lambda_j$  is an eigenvalue of (2.2) with multiplicity  $m$ , and  $R(E_\mu(K))$  is the corresponding  $m$ -dimensional eigenspace. Suppose  $\{\lambda_{i,h}\}_{i=1}^m$  are the eigenvalues of (2.5) approximating  $\lambda_j$ , and  $u_{i,h}$  is an eigenfunction corresponding to  $\lambda_{i,h}$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . For any  $u_j \in R(E_\mu(K))$ , assume  $u_j \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ , and  $u_j|_{\Omega_1} \in \mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)$ ,  $s_1 \geq 1$ ,  $u_j|_{\Omega_2} \in H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)$ ,  $s_2 \geq 3/2$ ,  $u_j|_{\Omega_3} \in H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)$ ,  $s_3 \geq 3/2$ . For any  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ , if  $h_3^{-1}N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1}N_2^{3/2}$  and  $h_3^{-1}N_3^{4/3} \leq Ch_\delta^{-1}N_2$ , there exists an eigenfunction  $u_j \in R(E_\mu(K))$  such that*

$$\|u_j - u_{i,h}\| \leq Ch_3^{\mu_3} N_3^{1-s_3} \left( \|u_j\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right),$$

where  $\mu_3 = \min\{s_3, N_3 + 1\}$ .

### 5.2 Error estimate for eigenvalue

In this subsection, we derive the expression for the eigenvalue error and provide error estimates for eigenvalues.

**Lemma 5.1.** Suppose  $(\lambda, u)$  is an eigenpair of (2.2), and  $(\lambda_h, u_h)$  is an eigenpair of (2.5). For any  $v_h \in V_h$ , there holds

$$\lambda - \lambda_h = a(u, u) - a_h(v_h, v_h) + a_h(u_h - v_h, u_h - v_h) - \lambda_h b(u - u_h, u - u_h) + 2\lambda_h b_h(u_h, v_h - u).$$

*Proof.* Notice that  $b(u, u) = b_h(u_h, u_h) = 1$ , for any  $v_h \in V_h$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \lambda - \lambda_h \\ &= a(u, u) - a_h(u_h, u_h) - 2a_h(u_h, v_h) + 2\lambda_h b_h(u_h, v_h) \\ &= a(u, u) - a_h(v_h, v_h) + a_h(u_h, u_h) - 2a_h(u_h, v_h) + a_h(v_h, v_h) - 2a_h(u_h, u_h) + 2\lambda_h b_h(u_h, v_h) \\ &= a(u, u) - a_h(v_h, v_h) + a_h(u_h - v_h, u_h - v_h) - 2\lambda_h b_h(u_h, u_h) + 2\lambda_h b_h(u_h, v_h) \\ &= a(u, u) - a_h(v_h, v_h) + a_h(u_h - v_h, u_h - v_h) - \lambda_h b(u, u) - \lambda_h b_h(u_h, u_h) + 2\lambda_h b_h(u_h, v_h) \\ &= a(u, u) - a_h(v_h, v_h) + a_h(u_h - v_h, u_h - v_h) - \lambda_h b(u - u_h, u - u_h) + 2\lambda_h b_h(u_h, v_h - u), \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof. □

For further theoretical analysis, we extend the definition of the weak gradient.

**Definition 5.1.** For  $v \in H^1(T)$ , its weak gradient  $\nabla_w v|_T \in [P_{N_3-1}(T)]^d$  is defined as follows:

$$(\nabla_w v, \mathbf{q})_T = -(v, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q})_T + \langle v, \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} \rangle_{\partial T} = (\nabla v, \mathbf{q})_T, \quad \forall \mathbf{q} \in [P_{N_3-1}(T)]^d, \quad (5.1)$$

where  $\mathbf{n}$  is the outward unit normal vector.

Furthermore, for any  $u \in \mathcal{H}^1(\Omega)$ ,  $v_h \in V_h$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} a_h(u, v_h) &= (\nabla u, \nabla v_\delta)_{\Omega_s} + (u, v_\delta)_{r^{-2}, \Omega_s} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla_w u, \nabla_w v_w)_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2(u, v_0)_{r^{-2}, T} \\ &= (\nabla u, \nabla v_\delta)_{\Omega_s} + (u, v_\delta)_{r^{-2}, \Omega_s} + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla u, \nabla_w v_w)_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2(u, v_0)_{r^{-2}, T}, \end{aligned}$$

here are no stabilizer  $s(u, v_h)$ , since  $s(u, v_h) = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle u - u, v_0 - v_b \rangle_{\partial T} = 0$ . Similarly, we can extend the definition of  $a_h(\cdot, \cdot)$  to  $\mathcal{H}^1(\Omega) + V_h$ . Then we define  $P_h: \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega) \rightarrow V_h$  such that

$$a_h(P_h u, v_h) = a_h(u, v_h), \quad \forall v_h \in V_h. \quad (5.2)$$

It is easy to verify that  $a_h(u, \cdot)$  is continuous over  $V_h$ , then according to the Lax-Milgram Theorem,  $P_h$  is well-defined. For any  $v_h = \{v_\delta, v_w\} \in V_h$ , we define

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_u(v_h) &= \|\nabla u - \nabla v_\delta\|_{\Omega_s}^2 + c^2 \|u - v_\delta\|_{r^{-2}, \Omega_s}^2 + s(v_w, v_w) \\ &\quad + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla u - \nabla_w v_w\|_T^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2 \|u - v_0\|_{r^{-2}, T}^2. \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 5.2.** For any  $u \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ , there holds

$$a(u, u) - a_h(P_h u, P_h u) = \theta_u(P_h u) \leq \theta_u(I_h u).$$

*Proof.* For any  $v_h = \{v_\delta, v_w\} \in V_h$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & a(u, u) - a_h(v_h, v_h) \\
 &= \|\nabla u\|_{\Omega_s}^2 + c^2 \|u\|_{r-2, \Omega_s}^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla u\|_T^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2 \|u\|_{r-2, T}^2 \\
 &\quad - \|\nabla v_\delta\|_{\Omega_s}^2 - c^2 \|v_\delta\|_{r-2, \Omega_s}^2 - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla_w v_w\|_T^2 - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2 \|v_0\|_{r-2, T}^2 - s(v_w, v_w) \\
 &= \|\nabla u - \nabla v_\delta\|_{\Omega_s}^2 + c^2 \|u - v_\delta\|_{r-2, \Omega_s}^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla u - \nabla_w v_w\|_T^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2 \|u - v_0\|_{r-2, T}^2 \\
 &\quad + 2(\nabla u - \nabla v_\delta, \nabla v_\delta)_{\Omega_s} + 2c^2 (u - v_\delta, v_\delta)_{r-2, \Omega_s} + 2 \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla u - \nabla_w v_w, \nabla_w v_w)_T \\
 &\quad + 2 \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2 (u - v_0, v_0)_{r-2, T} - s(v_w, v_w). \tag{5.3}
 \end{aligned}$$

From (5.1) and (5.2), there holds

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 2(\nabla u - \nabla P_h u, \nabla v_\delta)_{\Omega_s} + 2c^2 (u - P_h u, v_\delta)_{r-2, \Omega_s} - 2s(P_h u, v_w) \\
 &\quad + 2 \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla_w u - \nabla_w P_h u, \nabla_w v_w)_T + 2 \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2 (u - P_h u, v_0)_{r-2, T} \\
 &= 2(\nabla u - \nabla P_h u, \nabla v_\delta)_{\Omega_s} + 2c^2 (u - P_h u, v_\delta)_{r-2, \Omega_s} - 2s(P_h u, v_w) \\
 &\quad + 2 \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla u - \nabla_w P_h u, \nabla_w v_w)_T + 2 \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2 (u - P_h u, v_0)_{r-2, T} = 0. \tag{5.4}
 \end{aligned}$$

Let  $v_h = P_h u$  in (5.3) and (5.4), we have  $a(u, u) - a_h(P_h u, P_h u) = \theta_u(P_h u)$ . Then the following inequality holds  $\theta_u(P_h u) \leq \theta_u(I_h u)$ . In fact,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \theta_u(I_h u) &= \|\nabla u - \nabla I_h u\|_{\Omega_s}^2 + c^2 \|u - I_h u\|_{r-2, \Omega_s}^2 + s(I_h u, I_h u) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla u - \nabla_w I_h u\|_T^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2 \|u - I_h u\|_{r-2, T}^2 \\
 &= \|\nabla u - \nabla P_h u + \nabla P_h u - \nabla I_h u\|_{\Omega_s}^2 + c^2 \|u - P_h u + P_h u - I_h u\|_{r-2, \Omega_s}^2 \\
 &\quad + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla u - \nabla_w P_h u + \nabla_w P_h u - \nabla_w I_h u\|_T^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2 \|u - P_h u + P_h u - I_h u\|_{r-2, T}^2 \\
 &\quad + s(I_h u - P_h u + P_h u, I_h u - P_h u + P_h u) \\
 &= \|\nabla u - \nabla P_h u\|_{\Omega_s}^2 + \|\nabla P_h u - \nabla I_h u\|_{\Omega_s}^2 + c^2 \|u - P_h u\|_{r-2, \Omega_s}^2 + c^2 \|P_h u - I_h u\|_{r-2, \Omega_s}^2 \\
 &\quad + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla u - \nabla_w P_h u\|_T^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla_w P_h u - \nabla_w I_h u\|_T^2 + s(I_h u - P_h u, I_h u - P_h u) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2 \|u - P_h u\|_{r-2, T}^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2 \|P_h u - I_h u\|_{r-2, T}^2 + s(P_h u, P_h u),
 \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that  $a_h(P_h u, P_h u - I_h u) = a_h(u, P_h u - I_h u)$ . Thus,

$$a(u, u) - a_h(P_h u, P_h u) = \theta_u(P_h u) \leq \theta_u(I_h u),$$

which completes the proof. □

**Lemma 5.3.** For any  $u \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ , the following estimate holds

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla_w(u - Q_h u)\|_T \leq C \|u - I_h u\|_V.$$

*Proof.* From (2.4) and (5.1), for any  $\mathbf{q} \in [P_{N_3-1}(T)]^d$ , we have

$$(\nabla_w(u - Q_h u), \mathbf{q})_T = (\nabla(u - Q_0 u), \mathbf{q})_T + \langle Q_0 u - Q_b u, \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n} \rangle_{\partial T}.$$

Let  $\mathbf{q} = \nabla_w(u - Q_h u)$ , from Lemma 3.5, then there holds

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\nabla_w(u - Q_h u)\|_T^2 \\ & \leq \|\nabla(u - Q_0 u)\|_T \|\nabla_w(u - Q_h u)\|_T + Ch_T^{-1/2} N_3 \|Q_0 u - Q_b u\|_{\partial T} \|\nabla_w(u - Q_h u)\|_T, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\|\nabla_w(u - Q_h u)\|_T \leq \|\nabla(u - Q_0 u)\|_T + Ch_T^{-1/2} N_3 \|Q_0 u - Q_b u\|_{\partial T}$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla_w(u - Q_h u)\|_T & \leq \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla(u - Q_0 u)\|_T + C \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} h_T^{-1/2} N_3 \|Q_0 u - Q_b u\|_{\partial T} \\ & \leq C \|u - I_h u\|_V. \end{aligned}$$

Then we complete the proof. □

Furthermore, the following estimate holds.

**Lemma 5.4.** Let  $u$  be the eigenfunction of (2.2). Assume  $u \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ , and  $u|_{\Omega_1} \in \mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)$ ,  $s_1 \geq 1$ ,  $u|_{\Omega_2} \in H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)$ ,  $s_2 \geq 3/2$ ,  $u|_{\Omega_3} \in H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)$ ,  $s_3 \geq 3/2$ , if  $h_3^{-1} N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1} N_2^2$ , then we have

$$\theta_u(I_h u) \leq Ch_3^{2(\mu_3-1)} N_3^{3-2s_3} \left( \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right)^2,$$

where  $\mu_3 = \min\{s_3, N_3 + 1\}$ .

*Proof.* Notice that  $\nabla_w u = \mathbf{Q}_h(\nabla u)$ . Using Lemma 5.3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_u(I_h u) & = \|\nabla(u - \Pi_\delta u)\|_{\Omega_s}^2 + c^2 \|u - \Pi_\delta u\|_{r^{-2}, \Omega_s}^2 + s(Q_h u, Q_h u) \\ & \quad + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla u - \nabla_w Q_h u\|_T^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2 \|u - Q_0 u\|_{r^{-2}, T}^2 \\ & \leq \|\nabla(u - \Pi_\delta u)\|_{\Omega_s}^2 + c^2 \|u - \Pi_\delta u\|_{r^{-2}, \Omega_s}^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2 \|u - Q_0 u\|_{r^{-2}, T}^2 \\ & \quad + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla_w(u - Q_h u)\|_T^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla u - \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u\|_T^2 + s(Q_h u, Q_h u) \\ & \leq C \|u - I_h u\|_V^2 + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla u - \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u\|_T^2. \end{aligned}$$

It follows from Lemmas 3.2 and 3.6 that

$$\theta_u(I_h u) \leq Ch_3^{2(\mu_3-1)} N_3^{3-2s_3} \left( \|u\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right)^2,$$

which completes the proof. □

For any  $v \in V$ , we define the following norm:  $\|v\|_h^2 = a_h(v, v)$ .

**Lemma 5.5.** *Suppose  $(\lambda_j, u_j)$  is the  $j$ -th eigenpair of (2.2), and  $(\lambda_{j,h}, u_{j,h})$  is the  $j$ -th eigenpair of (2.5). Assume  $u_j \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ , and  $u_j|_{\Omega_1} \in \mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)$ ,  $s_1 \geq 1$ ,  $u_j|_{\Omega_2} \in H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)$ ,  $s_2 \geq 3/2$ ,  $u_j|_{\Omega_3} \in H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)$ ,  $s_3 \geq 3/2$ , if  $h_3^{-1} N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1} N_2^2$ , then we have*

$$a_h(u_{j,h} - P_h u_j, u_{j,h} - P_h u_j) \leq Ch_3^{2(\mu_3-1)} N_3^{3-2s_3} \left( \|u_j\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right)^2,$$

where  $\mu_2 = \min\{s_2, N_2 + 1\}$  and  $\mu_3 = \min\{s_3, N_3 + 1\}$ .

*Proof.* It follows from the triangle inequality that

$$a_h(u_{j,h} - P_h u_j, u_{j,h} - P_h u_j) = \|u_{j,h} - P_h u_j\|_h^2 \leq C (\|u_j - u_{j,h}\|_h^2 + \|u_j - P_h u_j\|_h^2).$$

There holds  $\|u_j - P_h u_j\|_h^2 \leq \|u_j - I_h u_j\|_h^2$ . In fact,

$$\|u_j - I_h u_j\|_h^2 = \|u_j - P_h u_j + P_h u_j - I_h u_j\|_h^2 = \|u_j - P_h u_j\|_h^2 + \|P_h u_j - I_h u_j\|_h^2,$$

where we have used the fact that  $a_h(u_j - P_h u_j, P_h u_j - I_h u_j) = 0$ .

Compared to  $\|u_j - u_{j,h}\|_V$  and  $\|u_j - I_h u_j\|_V$ , to estimate  $\|u_j - u_{j,h}\|_h$  and  $\|u_j - I_h u_j\|_h$ , we just need to estimate  $\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla_w(u_j - u_{j,h})\|_T$  and  $\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla_w(u_j - Q_h u_j)\|_T$ , respectively. It follows from Lemma 5.3 that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla_w(u_j - u_{j,h})\|_T &\leq \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla_w(u_j - Q_h u_j)\|_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla_w(Q_h u_j - u_{j,h})\|_T \\ &\leq \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \|\nabla_w(u_j - Q_h u_j)\|_T + \|(Q_h u_j - u_{j,h})|_{\Omega_3}\|_V \\ &\leq \|u_j - I_h u_j\|_V + \|u_j - u_{j,h}\|_V. \end{aligned}$$

Based on the above analysis, we have

$$a_h(u_{j,h} - P_h u_j, u_{j,h} - P_h u_j) \leq C (\|u_j - u_{j,h}\|_h^2 + \|u_j - I_h u_j\|_h^2) \leq C (\|u_j - u_{j,h}\|_V^2 + \|u_j - I_h u_j\|_V^2).$$

It follows from Lemma 3.6 and Theorem 5.1 that

$$a_h(u_{j,h} - P_h u_j, u_{j,h} - P_h u_j) \leq Ch_3^{2(\mu_3-1)} N_3^{3-2s_3} \left( \|u_j\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right)^2,$$

which completes the proof. □

**Lemma 5.6.** *Let  $(\lambda, u)$  be an eigenpair of (2.2), then the following equation holds*

$$b(u, P_h u - u) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( -a_h(u - P_h u, u - P_h u) - \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [P_h u - u] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} \right. \\ \left. + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla u - \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u, \nabla(Q_0 u - u))_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (\mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u - \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, P_0 u - P_b u \rangle_{\partial T} \right),$$

where  $P_0 u$  denotes the value of  $P_h u$  on the interior of each cell  $T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w$ , and  $P_b u$  denotes the value of  $P_h u$  on each edge or face  $e \in \mathcal{E}_h$ .

*Proof.* Consider the eigenvalue problem (2.1), then we have

$$b(u, P_h u - u) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( -(\Delta u, P_h u - u) + c^2(u, P_h u - u)_{r-2} \right) \\ = \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( (\nabla u, \nabla(P_h u - u))_{\Omega_s} + c^2(u, P_h u - u)_{r-2, \Omega_s} - \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [P_h u - u] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} \right. \\ \left. - \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, P_h u - u \rangle_{\Gamma} - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, P_0 u - u \rangle_{\partial T} \right) \\ + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla u, \nabla(P_0 u - u))_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} c^2(u, P_0 u - u)_{r-2, T}.$$

Using the fact that  $a_h(P_h u, P_h u) - a_h(u, P_h u) = 0$ , then we have

$$b(u, P_h u - u) \\ = \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( \nabla(u - P_h u), \nabla(P_h u - u) \right)_{\Omega_s} + c^2(u - P_h u, P_h u - u)_{r-2, \Omega_s} \\ - \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [P_h u - u] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} - \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, P_h u - u \rangle_{\Gamma} - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, P_0 u - u \rangle_{\partial T} \\ + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} ((\nabla_w(u - P_h u), \nabla_w(P_h u - u))_T + c^2(u - P_0 u, P_0 u - u)_{r-2, T}) \\ + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} ((\nabla u, \nabla(P_0 u - u))_T - (\nabla_w u, \nabla_w(P_h u - u))_T) - s(P_h u, P_h u) \\ = \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( -a_h(u - P_h u, u - P_h u) - \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [P_h u - u] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} - \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, P_h u - u \rangle_{\Gamma} \right. \\ \left. - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, P_0 u - u \rangle_{\partial T} + (\nabla u, \nabla(P_0 u - u))_T - (\nabla_w u, \nabla_w(P_h u - u))_T) \right). \quad (5.5)$$

It follows from (2.4) that

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla u, \nabla(P_0 u - u))_T - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla_w u, \nabla_w(P_h u - u))_T \\ = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla u, \nabla(P_0 u - u))_T - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u, \nabla_w(P_h u - u))_T$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla u, \nabla(P_0 u - u))_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u, P_0 u - u)_T - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, P_b u - u \rangle_{\partial T} \\
 &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla u, \nabla(P_0 u - u))_T - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u, \nabla(P_0 u - u))_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, P_0 u - P_b u \rangle_{\partial T} \\
 &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla u - \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u, \nabla(P_0 u - u))_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, P_0 u - P_b u \rangle_{\partial T}. \tag{5.6}
 \end{aligned}$$

In fact,

$$\langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_2, P_h u - u \rangle_\Gamma = - \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, P_b u - u \rangle_\Gamma = - \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, P_b u - u \rangle_{\partial T}. \tag{5.7}$$

Combining (5.5), (5.6) and (5.7), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 b(u, P_h u - u) &= \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( -a_h(u - P_h u, u - P_h u) - \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [P_h u - u] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla u - \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u, \nabla(P_0 u - u))_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (\mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u - \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, P_0 u - P_b u \rangle_{\partial T} \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( -a_h(u - P_h u, u - P_h u) - \langle \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_1, [P_h u - u] \rangle_{\Gamma_R} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla u - \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u, \nabla(Q_0 u - u))_T + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} \langle (\mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u - \nabla u) \cdot \mathbf{n}_3, P_0 u - P_b u \rangle_{\partial T} \right),
 \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} (\nabla u - \mathbf{Q}_h \nabla u, \nabla(P_0 u - Q_0 u))_T = 0.$$

Then we complete the proof. □

**Lemma 5.7.** *Suppose  $(\lambda_j, u_j)$  is the  $j$ -th eigenpair of (2.2), and  $(\lambda_{j,h}, u_{j,h})$  is the  $j$ -th eigenpair of (2.5). Assume  $u_j \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ , and  $u_j|_{\Omega_1} \in \mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)$ ,  $s_1 \geq 1$ ,  $u_j|_{\Omega_2} \in H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)$ ,  $s_2 \geq 3/2$ ,  $u_j|_{\Omega_3} \in H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)$ ,  $s_3 \geq 3/2$ , if  $h_3^{-1} N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1} N_2^{3/2}$  and  $h_3^{-1} N_3^{4/3} \leq Ch_\delta^{-1} N_2$ , the following estimate holds*

$$|b(u_{j,h}, P_h u_j - u_j)| \leq Ch_3^{2(\mu_3 - 1)} N_3^{3 - 2s_3} \left( \|u_j\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right)^2,$$

where  $\mu_3 = \min\{s_3, N_3 + 1\}$ .

*Proof.* Notice that

$$b(u_{j,h}, P_h u_j - u_j) = b(u_{j,h} - u_j + u_j, P_h u_j - u_j) = b(u_{j,h} - u_j, P_h u_j - u_j) + b(u_j, P_h u_j - u_j).$$

It follows from Lemma 5.3 and the proof of Lemma 5.5 that

$$b(u_{j,h} - u_j, P_h u_j - u_j) \leq C \|u_j - u_{j,h}\| \|u_j - I_h u_j\|_h \leq C \|u_j - u_{j,h}\| \|u_j - I_h u_j\|_V.$$

Then it follows from Lemma 3.6 and Theorem 5.2 that

$$|b(u_{j,h} - u_j, P_h u_j - u_j)| \leq Ch_3^{2\mu_3 - 1} N_3^{5/2 - 2s_3} \left( \|u_j\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right)^2. \quad (5.8)$$

Next, we need to estimate  $b(u_j, P_h u_j - u_j)$ . Notice that

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h^w} h_T^{-1} N_3^2 \|P_0 u_j - P_b u_j\|_{\partial T}^2 = s(u_j - P_h u_j, u_j - P_h u_j) \leq a_h(u_j - P_h u_j, u_j - P_h u_j).$$

We omit details, it follows from Lemmas 3.2, 5.5, 5.6 and [19, Theorem 3.3] that

$$|b(u_j, P_h u_j - u_j)| \leq Ch_3^{2(\mu_3 - 1)} N_3^{3 - 2s_3} \left( \|u_j\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right)^2. \quad (5.9)$$

Based on the above analysis, we have

$$|b(u_{j,h}, P_h u_j - u_j)| \leq Ch_3^{2(\mu_3 - 1)} N_3^{3 - 2s_3} \left( \|u_j\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right)^2,$$

which completes the proof. □

We take  $v_h = P_h u$  in Lemma 5.1. Finally, from Theorem 5.2 and Lemmas 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 5.5 and 5.7, we have the following estimate for eigenvalue.

**Theorem 5.3.** *Suppose  $\lambda_j$  is an eigenvalue of (2.2) with multiplicity  $m$ , and  $R(E_\mu(K))$  is the corresponding  $m$ -dimensional eigenspace. Suppose  $\{\lambda_{i,h}\}_{i=1}^m$  are the eigenvalues of (2.5) approximating  $\lambda_j$ , and  $u_{i,h}$  is an eigenfunction corresponding to  $\lambda_{i,h}$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . For any  $u_j \in R(E_\mu(K))$ , assume  $u_j \in \mathcal{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ , and  $u_j|_{\Omega_1} \in \mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)$ ,  $s_1 \geq 1$ ,  $u_j|_{\Omega_2} \in H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)$ ,  $s_2 \geq 3/2$ ,  $u_j|_{\Omega_3} \in H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)$ ,  $s_3 \geq 3/2$ . For any  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , if  $h_3^{-1} N_3^2 \leq Ch_\delta^{-1} N_2^{3/2}$  and  $h_3^{-1} N_3^{4/3} \leq Ch_\delta^{-1} N_2$ , the following estimate holds*

$$|\lambda_j - \lambda_{i,h}| \leq Ch_3^{2(\mu_3 - 1)} N_3^{3 - 2s_3} \left( \|u_j\|_{\mathcal{H}^{s_1}(\Omega_1)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_2}(\Omega_2)} + \|u_j\|_{H^{s_3}(\Omega_3)} \right)^2,$$

where  $\mu_3 = \min\{s_3, N_3 + 1\}$ .

## 6 Numerical experiments

In this section, we present some numerical results to demonstrate the accuracy of our numerical scheme (2.5). In all examples, we consider the Schrödinger equation (2.1) in  $\Omega = [-1, 1]^2$ . Let  $\Omega_1$  be a circle with  $R = 0.2$  centered at the origin,  $\Omega_2 = [-0.5, 0.5]^2 \setminus \Omega_1$ , and  $\Omega_3 = \Omega \setminus [-0.5, 0.5]^2$ . We set  $N_1 = N_2 = 15$  and then vary  $N_3$  to be 1, 2, and 3 to test the convergence orders with respect to  $h_3$ . Furthermore, we take  $N_3$  to be 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 to examine the exponential convergence with respect to  $N_3$  and  $\sqrt{DoF}$ . Additionally, we set  $\rho = 1/4$  in (2.5).

**Example 6.1** ( $c = 1$ ). In the first example, let  $c = 1$ . Since the exact eigenvalues are unknown, we choose  $\lambda_1 = 12.3846240795409$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 16.0225874297612$ ,  $\lambda_3 = 16.0225874297612$  and  $\lambda_4 = 22.0450602704655$  as the first four reference values. The reference eigenvalues are evaluated by the mortar spectral finite element method with  $R=0.2$  and  $N_1 = N_2 = 15$ . From Table 1, it is evident that the eigenvalues obtained by the numerical scheme (2.5) serve as the asymptotic lower bounds of the reference values. Furthermore, the observed convergence orders for  $N_3 = 1, 2, 3$  are 2, 4, and 6 respectively, aligning with the theoretical analysis.

Table 1: Errors of the first four eigenvalues and convergence orders with  $c = 1$ .

$1/h_3$	$\lambda_1 - \lambda_{1,h}$	order	$\lambda_2 - \lambda_{2,h}$	order	$\lambda_3 - \lambda_{3,h}$	order	$\lambda_4 - \lambda_{4,h}$	order
$N_3 = 1$								
8	9.9430E-01		2.0568E+00		1.9406E+00		4.4301E+00	
16	3.1783E-01	1.6454	6.6248E-01	1.6344	6.5281E-01	1.5718	1.4981E+00	1.5642
32	7.4687E-02	2.0893	1.5718E-01	2.0755	1.5501E-01	2.0743	3.5990E-01	2.0575
64	1.8186E-02	2.0380	3.8480E-02	2.0303	3.8130E-02	2.0234	8.9871E-02	2.0017
$N_3 = 2$								
8	2.7238E-03		7.6524E-03		6.6679E-03		2.9277E-02	
16	2.4890E-04	3.4520	6.1720E-04	3.6321	5.6751E-04	3.5545	2.0589E-03	3.8298
32	1.4664E-05	4.0852	3.4963E-05	4.1418	3.4672E-05	4.0328	1.2109E-04	4.0877
64	9.3137E-07	3.9767	2.2021E-06	3.9889	2.1960E-06	3.9808	7.4576E-06	4.0212
$N_3 = 3$								
8	7.8153E-06		1.8778E-05		1.6245E-05		7.4300E-05	
16	2.3886E-07	5.0320	5.3338E-07	5.1377	5.2310E-07	4.9568	1.9635E-06	5.2419
32	3.4581E-09	6.1101	7.8207E-09	6.0917	7.4351E-09	6.1366	2.7251E-08	6.1710
64	4.9505E-11	6.1263	1.1429E-10	6.0965	1.1037E-10	6.0739	4.1059E-10	6.0525

**Example 6.2** ( $c = 1/2$ ). In the second example, we take  $c = 1/2$  and choose  $\lambda_1 = 8.37681498711058$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 13.35313963139164$ ,  $\lambda_3 = 13.35313963139164$  and  $\lambda_4 = 20.33106215893244$  in [23] as the first four reference values. From Table 2, we can observe that the eigenvalues obtained by the numerical scheme (2.5) are the asymptotic lower bounds of the reference values, and the corresponding convergence orders for  $N_3 = 1, 2, 3$  are 2, 4, and 6 respectively, which is consistent with the theoretical analysis.

**Example 6.3** ( $c = 2/3$ ). In the third example, we test  $c = 2/3$  and choose  $\lambda_1 = 9.65231567885163$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 14.0914338712714$ ,  $\lambda_3 = 14.0914338712714$  and  $\lambda_4 = 20.7838715370525$  in [23] as the first four reference values. Similar to the results for  $c = 1$  and  $c = 1/2$ , the cases for  $N_3 = 1, 2, 3$  in Table 3 all achieve the theoretically predicted optimal convergence orders. This confirms the accuracy of our theoretical analysis and the efficacy of our numerical scheme (2.5).

Table 2: Errors of the first four eigenvalues and convergence orders with  $c=1/2$ .

$1/h_3$	$\lambda_1 - \lambda_{1,h}$	order	$\lambda_2 - \lambda_{2,h}$	order	$\lambda_3 - \lambda_{3,h}$	order	$\lambda_4 - \lambda_{4,h}$	order
$N_3 = 1$								
8	4.8037E-01		1.6208E+00		1.5276E+00		4.1322E+00	
16	1.5198E-01	1.6602	5.2217E-01	1.6341	5.1482E-01	1.5691	1.4122E+00	1.5489
32	3.5374E-02	2.1031	1.2285E-01	2.0876	1.2082E-01	2.0913	3.3610E-01	2.0710
64	8.5273E-03	2.0525	2.9775E-02	2.0448	2.9538E-02	2.0322	8.3577E-02	2.0077
$N_3 = 2$								
8	1.0893E-03		5.4658E-03		4.8326E-03		2.6618E-02	
16	1.0772E-04	3.3381	4.5715E-04	3.5797	4.2623E-04	3.5031	1.9062E-03	3.8037
32	6.2680E-06	4.1031	2.5756E-05	4.1497	2.5576E-05	4.0588	1.1105E-04	4.1014
64	3.9560E-07	3.9859	1.6204E-06	3.9905	1.6159E-06	3.9844	6.8159E-06	4.0262
$N_3 = 3$								
8	2.2060E-06		1.1372E-05		1.0105E-05		6.4820E-05	
16	5.8238E-08	5.2433	2.9796E-07	5.2542	2.9125E-07	5.1167	1.6846E-06	5.2660
32	8.6265E-10	6.0771	4.3611E-09	6.0943	4.1959E-09	6.1171	2.3467E-08	6.1656
64	1.2236E-11	6.1396	6.2727E-11	6.1195	6.1441E-11	6.0937	3.5083E-10	6.0637

Table 3: Errors of the first four eigenvalues and convergence orders with  $c=2/3$ .

$1/h_3$	$\lambda_1 - \lambda_{1,h}$	order	$\lambda_2 - \lambda_{2,h}$	order	$\lambda_3 - \lambda_{3,h}$	order	$\lambda_4 - \lambda_{4,h}$	order
$N_3 = 1$								
8	6.3234E-01		1.7396E+00		1.6408E+00		4.2105E+00	
16	2.0111E-01	1.6527	5.6094E-01	1.6329	5.5293E-01	1.5692	1.4352E+00	1.5527
32	4.6906E-02	2.1001	1.3227E-01	2.0844	1.3017E-01	2.0867	3.4241E-01	2.0675
64	1.1340E-02	2.0484	3.2147E-02	2.0407	3.1880E-02	2.0297	8.5245E-02	2.0061
$N_3 = 2$								
8	1.5179E-03		6.0075E-03		5.2835E-03		2.7294E-02	
16	1.4605E-04	3.3776	4.9636E-04	3.5973	4.6086E-04	3.5191	1.9440E-03	3.8115
32	8.5349E-06	4.0970	2.8023E-05	4.1467	2.7807E-05	4.0508	1.1357E-04	4.0974
64	5.4101E-07	3.9796	1.7641E-06	3.9896	1.7615E-06	3.9806	6.9777E-06	4.0247
$N_3 = 3$								
8	3.5896E-06		1.3084E-05		1.1506E-05		6.7052E-05	
16	1.0056E-07	5.1577	3.5249E-07	5.2141	3.4519E-07	5.0588	1.7522E-06	5.2580
32	1.4749E-09	6.0913	5.1727E-09	6.0905	4.9467E-09	6.1248	2.4376E-08	6.1676
64	2.0552E-11	6.1651	7.4143E-11	6.1245	7.2228E-11	6.0978	3.6489E-10	6.0618

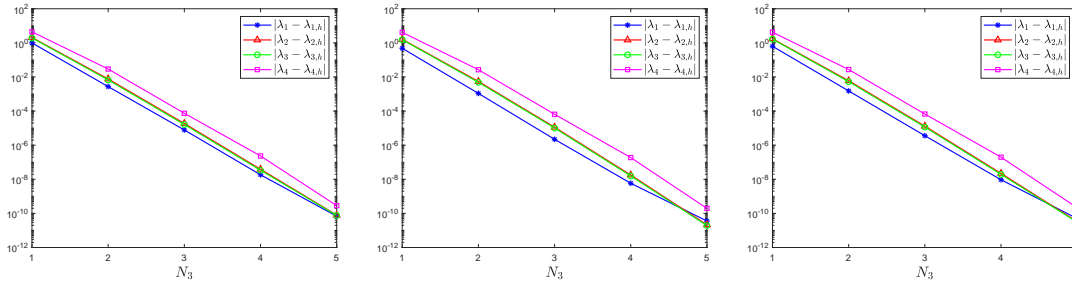


Figure 2: Errors of the first four eigenvalues versus  $N_3$  in semi-log scale for  $h_3 = 1/8$  with  $c = 1, 1/2, 2/3$ .

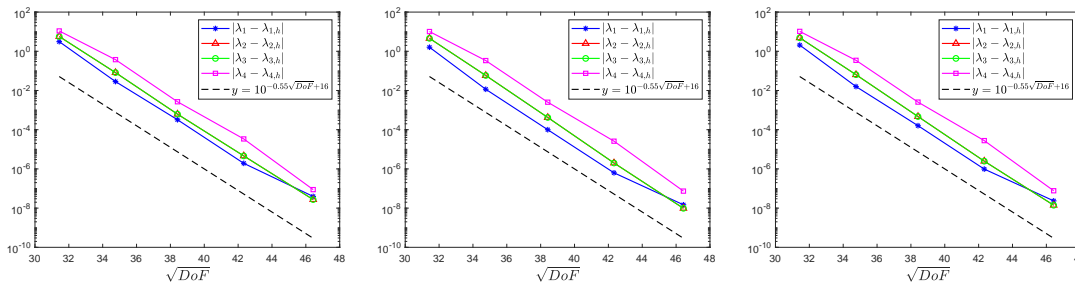


Figure 3: Errors of the first four eigenvalues versus  $\sqrt{Dof}$  in semi-log scale with  $c = 1, 1/2, 2/3$ . The dashed lines are  $y = 10^{-0.55\sqrt{Dof}+16}$ .

Finally, we draw the error graphs for the first four eigenvalues against  $N_3$  on a semi-log scale for  $h_3 = 1/8$ , with  $c = 1, 1/2$ , and  $2/3$  as shown in Fig. 2. Subsequently, with  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  set to 10, we plot the error graphs for the first four eigenvalues versus  $\sqrt{Dof}$  on a semi-log scale for  $c$  values of 1, 1/2, and 2/3 in Fig. 3. For  $c = 1, 1/2$ , and  $2/3$ , the errors of eigenvalues converge exponentially with respect to both  $N_3$  and  $\sqrt{Dof}$ . This observation supports the validity of our theoretical analysis. Although our numerical experiments have obtained the asymptotic lower bound approximations of the exact eigenvalues, providing a rigorous theoretical proof remains challenging and is left for future work.

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