

# Multigrid Methods for Mortar-Type Nonconforming Quadrilateral Element

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**Abstract** Multigrid algorithms for mortar-type nonconforming quadrilateral element were discussed. An intergrid transfer operator were proposed for the nonnested mortar element spaces. It was proved that the  $W$ -cycle and variable  $V$ -cycle multigrid methods were both optimal. And the numerical experiments confirmed our results.

**Key words** multigrid method; mortar element; nonconforming quadrilateral element

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## Mortar型非协调四边形元多重网格方法

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[摘要] 讨论了Mortar型四边形的多重网格方法. 针对非嵌套的Mortar元空间, 提出了一种网格转移算子, 并证明了 $W$ 循环和可变的 $V$ 循环多重网格方法是最优的. 数值实验验证了我们的理论结果.

[关键词] 多重网格方法, Mortar型有限元, 非协调四边形元

Mortar element method is a nonconforming domain decomposition method with nonoverlapping subdomains. The general concept for mortar techniques was originally introduced in [1] for coupling spectral element methods and finite element methods. The meshes on different subdomains need not align across subdomain interfaces, and the matching condition on the interfaces is only enforced weakly by integral conditions. However, most of the works use conforming finite element spaces in each subdomain. Marcinkowski first constructed and analyzed the mortar method for second order elliptic problems with locally nonconforming  $P_1$  element<sup>[2]</sup>. Chen and Kim et al considered mortar type quadrilateral elements, respectively<sup>[3, 4]</sup>.

Nonconforming quadrilateral element is a new element introduced by Douglas et al<sup>[5, 6]</sup>. This element is a modification of the rotated bilinear elements<sup>[7]</sup>, preserving a certain canceling property. Based on these elements, Cai et al<sup>[8]</sup> proposed stabilized Stokes elements. Such quadrilateral elements were used to define a nonconforming mixed element for full Maxwell equations<sup>[9]</sup>, which is the first nonconforming element for Maxwell equations. These elements have also been used to planar linear elasticity problem<sup>[10]</sup>.

In this paper, we study multigrid algorithms for the mortar-type nonconforming quadrilateral element for second order elliptic problems. An intergrid transfer operator is presented for the nonnested mortar element spaces. With the framework developed in [11], we prove that the  $W$ -cycle method is optimal, i.e., the convergence rate

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is independent of the level and the variable V-cycle algorithm provides a preconditioner with a condition number which is bounded independently of the levels. Numerical experiments demonstrate that the optimal convergence property for the W-cycle algorithm holds with any number of smoothing steps.

For convenience, we denote by  $C$  a universal constant which is independent of the mesh size and level but whose values can differ from place to place throughout this paper.

## 1 Mortar Nonconforming Quadrilateral Element

In this chapter we deal with the following model problem:

$$-\Delta u = f \quad \text{in } \Omega \tag{1}$$

with zero Dirichlet boundary condition, where  $\Omega \in \mathbf{R}^2$  is a bounded rectangle or L-shaped domain,  $f \in L^2(\Omega)$ .

The variational form of (1) is to find  $u \in H_0^1(\Omega)$  such that

$$a(u, v) = (f, v), \quad \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega), \tag{2}$$

where the bilinear form  $a(u, v) = \int_{\Omega} u \cdot \nabla v \, dx, \quad \forall u, v \in H^1(\Omega)$ .

We assume that  $\Omega$  is decomposed into nonoverlapping open rectangular subdomains  $\Omega_k, \quad 1 \leq k \leq N, \quad \Omega = \bigcup_{k=1}^N \Omega_k$  with  $\Omega_i \cap \Omega_j = \emptyset, \quad i \neq j$ . Let  $T_1^k$  be the coarsest quasi-uniform triangulation of the domain  $\Omega_k$  made of elements that are rectangles whose edges are parallel to  $x$ -axis or  $y$ -axis. The mesh parameter  $h_{1,k}$  is the diameter of the largest element in  $T_1^k$ , and let  $h_1 = \max_{1 \leq k \leq N} h_{1,k}$ . Denote the global mesh  $\bigcup_{k=1}^N T_1^k$  by  $T_1$ . We refine the triangulation  $T_1$  to produce  $T_2$  by splitting each rectangle of  $T_1$  into four rectangles by joining the opposite midpoints of the edges of the rectangle. The triangulation  $T_2$  is quasi-uniform of size  $h_2 = h_1/2$ . Repeating this process we get the  $l$ -time refined triangulation  $T_l$  with mesh size  $h_l = h_1 2^{l-1}, \quad l = 1, \dots, L$ . Let  $\mathcal{E}_l^k$  be the set of the edges of  $T_l^k$ . Denote the global edges  $\bigcup_{k=1}^N \mathcal{E}_l^k$  by  $\mathcal{E}_l$ . Moreover,  $M_e$  is the midpoint of  $e \in \mathcal{E}_l$ . For each triangulation  $T_l^k(\Omega_k)$ , we introduce the nonconforming finite element employed in [5]. Let  $K = [-1, 1]^2$  be the reference square in  $\mathbf{R}^2$  and  $Q = \text{Span}\{1, x, y, (x^2 - \frac{5}{3}x^4) - (y^2 - \frac{5}{3}y^4)\}$  be the reference finite element space on  $K$ . Define a finite dimensional space by

$$V_l^k(\Omega_k) = \{v \in L^2(\Omega_k) \mid v|_e = \hat{v} F_K^{-1}, \hat{v} \in Q, \quad \forall K \in T_l^k, v \text{ is continuous at } M_e, \quad \forall e \in \mathcal{E}_l(\Omega_k), \\ \text{and } v|_K(M_e) = 0 \quad \forall e \in \mathcal{E}_l(\partial\Omega_k \cap \partial\Omega)\},$$

where  $F_K: K \rightarrow K$  is an affine mapping for all  $K \in T_l^k$ . Note that for  $v \in V_l^k(\Omega_k), \int_e dx = |e| \cdot v(M_e), \quad \forall e \in \mathcal{E}_l(\Omega_k)$ .

Let  $V_l = \prod_{k=1}^N V_l^k = \{v_l \mid v_l^k = v_l|_{\Omega_k} \in V_l^k(\Omega_k)\}$ . Obviously, we have  $V_l \subset V_2 \subset \dots \subset V_L$ .

We restrict ourselves to the geometrically conforming situation where the intersection between the boundary of any two different subdomains  $\Omega_i \cap \Omega_j, \quad i \neq j$ , is either empty set, a vertex, or a common edge. Let  $\Gamma_{ij}$  denote the open edge that is common to two subdomains  $\Omega_i$  and  $\Omega_j$ . Further  $\Gamma_{ij}$  will be also called interface and denoted by  $\gamma_m (1 \leq m \leq M)$ . We also need to introduce a global interface  $\Gamma$  as the union of all interfaces between the subdomains, i.e.,  $\Gamma = \bigcup_{k=1}^N \overline{\partial\Omega_k} \setminus \partial\Omega = \bigcup_{ij} \Gamma_{ij} = \bigcup_{m=1}^M \gamma_m$ . Note that each edge  $\Gamma_{ij}$  inherits two triangulations made of segments that are edges of elements of the triangulation of  $\Omega_i$  and  $\Omega_j$ , respectively. In this way each  $\Gamma_{ij}$  is provided with two independent and different 1D meshes which are denoted by  $T_l^i(\Gamma_{ij})$  and  $T_l^j(\Gamma_{ij})$ . Because our solution space is not contained in  $H_0^1(\Omega)$ , we have to introduce some matching conditions over all interfaces  $\Gamma_{ij} \subset \Gamma$  which are sufficient to ensure the optimality of the global approximation. One of the sides of  $\Gamma_{ij}$  is defined as a mortar (master) one, denoted by  $\gamma_{m(i)}$ , and the other as a nonmortar (slave) one denoted by  $\delta_{m(j)}$ . Let the mortar side of  $\Gamma_{ij}$  be chosen by the condition  $h_{l,i} \leq h_{l,j}$ . An auxiliary test space  $M_l(\delta_{m(j)})$  is defined by

$$M_l(\delta_{m(j)}) = \{v \in L^2(\delta_{m(j)}) \mid v|_e = \text{constant} \quad \forall e \in T_l^j(\delta_{m(j)})\}.$$

The dimension of  $M_l(\delta_{h(j)})$  is equal to the number of elements on  $\delta_{h(j)}$ . For each nonmortar edge  $\delta_{h(j)} = \Gamma_{ij} \subset \Gamma$ , we introduce the  $L^2$ -orthogonal projection operator  $Q_l \delta_{h(j)}: L^2(\Gamma_{ij}) \rightarrow M_l(\delta_{h(j)})$  by  $(Q_l \delta_{h(j)} v, w)_{L^2(\delta_{h(j)})} = (v, w)_{L^2(\delta_{h(j)})}$ , for all  $w \in M_l(\delta_{h(j)})$ , where  $(\cdot, \cdot)_{L^2(\delta_{h(j)})}$  denotes the  $L^2$  inner product over  $L^2(\delta_{h(j)})$ .

We now define the following mortar finite element space for nonconforming quadrilateral elements

$$V_l = \{v \in V_l \mid \forall \gamma_{m(i)} = \delta_{h(j)} \subset \Gamma, Q_l \delta_{h(j)}(v|_{\gamma_{m(i)}}) = Q_l \delta_{h(j)}(v|_{\delta_{h(j)}})\}.$$

The condition of the equality of the  $L^2$ -orthogonal projection of the traces onto the test space for each interface is called the mortar condition and can be equivalently rewritten as

$$\int_{\delta_{h(j)}} (v|_{\gamma_{m(i)}} - v|_{\delta_{h(j)}})w \, ds = 0 \quad \forall w \in M_l(\delta_{h(j)}). \tag{3}$$

It is worth to note that  $V_l \in DH_0^1(\Omega)$ .

Since functions in our discrete space  $V_l$  are not continuous, we must use a modified variational form  $a_l(\cdot, \cdot)$  in the discretized problem. Define

$$a_{lk}(u_l^k, v_l^k) = \sum_{E \in T^k} \int_E u_l^k \cdot \nabla v_l^k \, dx \quad \forall u_l^k, v_l^k \in V_l^k,$$

$$a_l(u_b, v_l) = \sum_{k=1}^N a_{lk}(u_b, v_l), \quad \forall u_b, v_l \in V_k \tag{4}$$

Obviously, the form  $a_l(\cdot, \cdot)$  is positive-definite on  $V_l$ . For any  $v_l \in V_l$ , we introduce a broken energy norm:

$$\|v_l\|_l = \left( \sum_{k=1}^N \|v_l\|_{l_k}^2 \right)^{1/2}, \quad \text{where } \|v_l\|_{l_k}^2 = a_{lk}(v_b, v_l).$$

The mortar-type nonconforming quadrilateral element approximation of (2) is to find  $u_l \in V_l$  such that

$$a_l(u_b, v_l) = (f, v_l), \quad \forall v_l \in V_l \tag{5}$$

The following error estimate can be found in [4].

**Theorem 1** Let  $u, u_l$  be the solutions of (2), (5) respectively then

$$\|u - u_l\|_l^2 \leq C \sum_{k=1}^N h_{lk}^2 \|u\|_{2_k}^2 \tag{6}$$

## 2 Multigrid Algorithm

We now apply the theory developed in [11] to construct our multigrid algorithm. Before giving the algorithm, we must define a suitable integral transfer operator for the nonnested spaces  $V_l$ . First we define an operator  $J_l^k: V_{l-1}^k \rightarrow V_l^k$  as follows

$$(J_l^k v)(M_e) = \begin{cases} 0 & e \subset \partial\Omega_k \cap \Omega \\ v(M_e), & e \subset \partial\Omega_k \setminus \partial\Omega \text{ or } e \in DE, E \in T_{l-1}^k, \\ \frac{1}{2}(v|_{E_1}(M_e) + v|_{E_2}(M_e)), & e \subset \partial E_1 \cap \partial E_2, E_1, E_2 \in T_{l-1}^k, \end{cases} \tag{7}$$

where  $e$  is an edge of  $E$  and  $E \in T_l^k$ .

Before we start with the investigation of the operator  $J_l^k$ , it will be useful to collect some formulas. For  $E \in T_l^k, v \in V_{l-1}^k$ , define  $b_E^i = v|_E(M_{e_i})$  (see Fig 1 for the notation), and set

$$s_E = b_E^1 + b_E^2 + b_E^3 + b_E^4, \quad \Delta_E^1 = b_E^4 - b_E^2,$$

$$\Theta_E^0 = b_E^2 + b_E^4 - b_E^1 - b_E^3, \quad \Delta_E^2 = b_E^3 - b_E^1.$$

Then, with the subscript  $E$  omitted, we have the next lemma

**Lemma 1** It holds that

$$\|v\|_{L^2(E)}^2 = h_{l-1,k}^2 \left( \frac{s^2}{16} + \frac{(\Delta^1)^2}{12} + \frac{(\Delta^2)^2}{12} + \frac{23}{2520}(\theta^0)^2 \right), \tag{8}$$

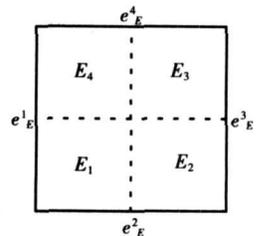


Fig.1 Edges and subsquares of  $E$  in  $T_{l-1}$

$$\| \dot{y} v \|_{L^2(E)}^2 = (\Delta^1)^2 + (\Delta^2)^2 + \frac{37}{14}(\theta^0)^2, \tag{9}$$

$$\| \dot{y} v \|_{L^2(E_i)}^2 \leq \frac{3}{4}(\Delta^1)^2 + \frac{3}{4}(\Delta^2)^2 + \frac{93}{56}(\theta^0)^2, \tag{10}$$

$$\frac{23h_{l-1,k}^2}{630} \sum_{i=1}^4 (b^i)^2 \leq \| v \|_{L^2(E)}^2 \leq \frac{h_{l-1,k}^2}{4} \sum_{i=1}^4 (b^i)^2. \tag{11}$$

**Proof** From the similar argument in [12], we can see it is sufficient to prove (8) – (11) for the master square  $E = (-1, 1)^2$ . A straightforward calculation gives

$$v = v(x, y) = \frac{1}{4}s + \frac{\Delta^2}{2}x + \frac{\Delta^1}{2}y + \frac{3}{8}\theta^0[(x^2 - \frac{5}{3}x^4) - (y^2 - \frac{5}{3}y^4)]. \tag{12}$$

Now direct integration yields the desired results in (8), (9). Also (11) follows from (8) by computing the eigenvalues of the symmetric  $4 \times 4$  matrix  $T^tDT$ , where  $D = \text{diag}(1/16, 1/12, 1/12, 23/2520)$ ,  $T$  stands for the transformation matrix from the vector  $(b^1, b^2, b^3, b^4)$  to  $(s, \Delta^1, \Delta^2, \theta^0)$ , and  $T^t$  is the transpose of  $T$ . These eigenvalues are  $23/630, 1/6, 1/6$  and  $1/4$  which implies (11).

(10) can be get by a straightforward calculation and triangle inequality

**Lemma 2** For any  $v \in V_{l-1}^k$ , it holds that

$$\| J_l^k v \|_{0,k} \leq C \| v \|_{0,k}, \tag{13}$$

$$\| J_l^k v - v \|_{0,k} \leq Ch_{l,k} \| v \|_{l-1,k}, \tag{14}$$

$$\| J_l^k v \|_{l,k} \leq C \| v \|_{l-1,k}, \tag{15}$$

$$\| J_l^k v - v \|_{0,y_m} \leq Ch_{l,k}^{1/2} \| v \|_{l-1,k}. \tag{16}$$

**Proof** From (11) in Lemma 1, we can get (13) the  $L^2$  stability of  $J_l^k$  as

$$\| J_l^k v \|_{0,k}^2 \leq \sum_{E \in T_l^k} \frac{h_l^2}{4} \sum_{i=1}^4 (b^i)^2 \leq \frac{h_l^2}{4} \sum_{E \in T_{l-1}^k} \frac{8 \cdot 275}{1024} \sum_{i=1}^4 (b^i)^2 \leq 14 \| v \|_{0,k}^2. \tag{17}$$

To obtain (14), we need to deal with the difference  $J_l^k v - v$  which is an element of  $V_{l-1}^k + V_l^k$ . From the definition (7), we can get two cases of value on the middle point of edges for  $J_l^k v - v$ . If an edge  $e \in E_i^k$  belongs to the interior of some square in  $T_{l-1}^k$  or be contained in  $\partial\Omega_k \setminus \partial\Omega$  then  $J_l^k v - v$  vanishes on  $M_e$ . What remains are edges  $e$  that belong to either a (boundary or interior) edge of the partition  $T_{l-1}^k$  or  $\partial\Omega$ . We can get  $(J_l^k v - v)(M_e)$  exactly. Taking  $e = P_1M_1 \subset \partial E_1$  for example (see Fig. 2),

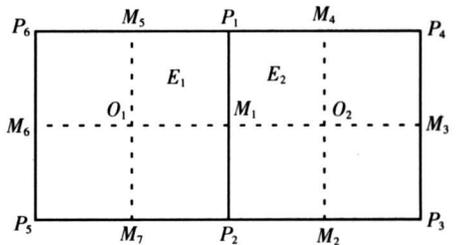


Fig.2 A illustration for Lemma 2

$$\begin{aligned} (J_l^k v - v)|_{E_1}(M_e) &= -\frac{7}{256}(v(M_3) - v(M_6)) - \frac{39}{256}(v(M_2) - v(M_7)) + \frac{25}{256}(v(M_4) - v(M_5)) = \\ &= -\frac{7}{256}(v(M_3) - v(M_1)) - \frac{7}{256}(v(M_1) - v(M_6)) - \frac{39}{256}(v(M_2) - v(M_1)) \\ &= -\frac{39}{256}(v(M_1) - v(M_7)) + \frac{25}{256}(v(M_4) - v(M_1)) + \frac{25}{256}(v(M_1) - v(M_5)). \end{aligned}$$

Note that for the edge  $e \subset \partial\Omega_k \cap \partial\Omega$  of  $E_1$ ,  $(J_l^k v - v)|_{E_1}(M_e)$  is similar to express as above. Using the norm equivalence, we can obtain  $[(J_l^k v - v)|_{E_1}(M_e)]^2 \leq C(|v|_{H^1(E_1)}^2 + |v|_{H^1(E_2)}^2)$ , where  $E_1, E_2 \in T_{l-1}^k$ . So we have  $\| J_l^k v - v \|_{0,k}^2 \leq Ch_{l,k}^2 \sum_{E \in T_{l-1}^k} \sum_{e \subset E} [(J_l^k v - v)(M_e)]^2 \leq C h_{l,k}^2 \| v \|_{l-1,k}^2$ , which gives (14).

(15) follows from the same argument as in the proof of (14). We refer to [13] for the proof of (16).

Based on the operator  $J_l^k$ , we define an integral transfer operator  $J_k: V_{l-1} \rightarrow V_l$  as follows for any  $v = (v^1, v^2, \dots, v^N) \in V_{l-1}$ ,  $J_l v = (J_l^1 v^1, J_l^2 v^2, \dots, J_l^N v^N) \in V_l$ . Define the operator  $\Xi_l: V_{l-1} \rightarrow V_l$  by

$$(\Xi_l \delta_{m(j)}(v))(M_e) = \begin{cases} (Q_l \delta_{m(j)}(v|_{Y_{m(i)}} - v|_{\delta_{m(j)}}))(M_e), & e \in T_l(\delta_{m(j)}), \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \tag{18}$$

Then for any  $v \in V_l$ , let  $v^* = v + \sum_{m=1}^M \Xi_{l, \delta_m(j)} u$  and it is easy to see  $v^* \in V_l$ .

After the above preparation, we define an intergrid transfer operator  $I_l: V_{l-1} \rightarrow V_l$ :

$$I_l v = J_l v + \sum_{m=1}^M \Xi_{l, \delta_m(j)} (J_l v) \in V_b, \quad v \in V_{l-1} \tag{19}$$

We now introduce some useful operators.  $A_l$  denotes the operator on  $V_l$ , which is defined by

$$(A_l u, v) = a_l(u, v), \quad \forall u, v \in V_k \tag{20}$$

In terms of the operator  $A_l$ , the discrete problem (5) can be written as

$$A_l u_l = f_b \tag{21}$$

where  $f_l \in V_l$  satisfies  $(f_l, v_l) = f(v_l), \quad \forall v_l \in V_k$ .

Based on  $I_l$ , we define the projection operator  $P_{l-1}: V_l \rightarrow V_{l-1}$  and  $P_{l-1}^0: V_l \rightarrow V_{l-1}$  by

$$a_{l-1}(P_{l-1} u, v) = a_l(u, I_l v), \quad u \in V_b, \quad \forall v \in V_{l-1}, \quad l = 2, \dots, L, \tag{22}$$

$$(P_{l-1}^0 u, v) = (u, I_l v), \quad u \in V_b, \quad \forall v \in V_{l-1}, \quad l = 2, \dots, L, \tag{23}$$

In order to define multigrid algorithm, we construct smoothing operators, including Gauss-Seidel and conjugate gradient iterations, which satisfy the following condition (see the proof of (A.4) in the chapter 5 of [14]):

(R) There exists a constant  $C_R \geq 1$  independent of  $l$  such that

$$\frac{\|u\|_0^2}{\lambda_l} \leq C_R (R_l u, u), \quad \forall u \in V_b \tag{24}$$

for both  $R_l = (I - K_l^* K_l) A_l^{-1}$  and  $R_l = (I - K_l K_l^*) A_l^{-1}$ , where  $K_l = I - R_l A_l$ ,  $K_l^* = I - R_l^t A_l$ ,  $R_l^t$  be the adjoint of  $R_l$  with respect to  $(\cdot, \cdot)$ , and  $\lambda_l$  is the maximum eigenvalue of  $A_l$ .

A general multigrid operator  $B_l: V_l \rightarrow V_l$  can be defined recursively<sup>[11]</sup>.

According to [11], an key condition in the multigrid analysis is the regularity and approximation assumption

(H1) Let  $\lambda_l$  be the maximum eigenvalue of  $A_l$ . There exists an  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$  such that

$$|a_l(v - I_l P_{l-1} v, v)| \leq C \left( \frac{\|A_l v\|_0}{\lambda_l} \right)^\alpha a_l(v, v)^{1-\alpha}, \quad \forall v \in V_b \tag{25}$$

The convergence rate for the above multigrid algorithm is measured by a convergence factor  $\delta$  satisfying

$$|a_l((I - B_l A_l) v, v)| \leq \delta_l a_l(v, v). \tag{26}$$

Following [11], we state two propositions

**Proposition 1** (W-cycle) Under the condition (H1), if  $p = 2$  and  $m(l) = m$  is large enough, then the convergence factor in (26) is

$$\delta = \frac{C}{C + m^\alpha}. \tag{27}$$

**Proposition 2** (variable V-cycle preconditioner) Assume that (H1) is valid and the number of smoothing  $m(l)$  increases as  $l$  decreases in such a way that  $\beta_0 m(l) \leq m(l-1) \leq \beta_1 m(l)$ , holds with  $1 < \beta_0 \leq \beta_1$ .

Then there exists an  $M > 0$  independent of  $l$  such that

$$C_0^{-1} a_l(v, v) \leq a_l(B_l A_l v, v) \leq C_0 a_l(v, v), \quad \forall v \in V_b \tag{28}$$

with  $C_0 = \frac{M + m(l)^\alpha}{m(l)^\alpha}$ .

### 3 Verification of Assumption (H1)

From section 2, we know that if we can prove that the assumption (H1) holds for the mortar element method for nonconforming quadrilateral element, then convergence results of our multigrid methods are obtained. To this end, in the following subsection, we first give some technical lemmas

**Lemma 3** For any  $v \in V_{l-1}$ , it holds that

$$(1) \|Iv\|_l \leq C \|v\|_{l-1}, \quad (2) \|v - Iv\|_0 \leq Ch_l \|v\|_{l-1}. \quad (29)$$

**Proof** For the proof we refer to Lemma 6 in [15].

Let  $\Theta_l^k: H^2(\Omega_k) \rightarrow V_l^k(\Omega_k)$  be an interpolation operator defined as follows

$$(\Theta_l^k v)(M_e) = v(M_e), \quad \forall v \in H^2(\Omega_k), \quad e \in \mathcal{E}_l^k. \quad (30)$$

**Lemma 4** For the interpolation  $\Theta_l^k$  and the transfer operator  $J_l^k$ , we have for any  $v \in H^2(\Omega_k)$ ,

$$\|v - \Theta_l^k v\|_{0k} + h_{lk} \|v - \Theta_l^k v\|_{lk} \leq Ch_{lk}^2 \|v\|_{2k}, \quad (31)$$

$$\|v - J_l^k(\Theta_{l-1}^k v)\|_{0k} + h_{lk} \|v - J_l^k(\Theta_{l-1}^k v)\|_{lk} \leq Ch_{lk}^2 \|v\|_{2k}. \quad (32)$$

**Proof** The proof of (31) can be found in [5], here we only prove (32). Using (31) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|v - J_l^k(\Theta_{l-1}^k v)\|_{0k} &\leq \|v - \Theta_l^k v\|_{0k} + \|\Theta_l^k v - J_l^k(\Theta_{l-1}^k v)\|_{0k} \leq \\ &Ch_{lk}^2 \|v\|_{2k} + \|\Theta_l^k v - J_l^k(\Theta_{l-1}^k v)\|_{0k}. \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

Observing the proof of (15) in Lemma 2 using homogeneity argument in [16], we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Theta_l^k v - J_l^k(\Theta_{l-1}^k v)\|_{0k}^2 &= \sum_{E \in T_l^k} \|\Theta_l^k v - J_l^k(\Theta_{l-1}^k v)\|_{L^2(E)}^2 \leq \\ &Ch_{lk}^2 \sum_{E \in T_l^k} \|\Theta_l^k v - J_l^k(\Theta_{l-1}^k v)\|_{L^2(E)}^2 \leq \\ &Ch_{lk}^2 \sum_{E \in T_l^k} \sum_{i=1}^4 [(\Theta_l^k v - J_l^k(\Theta_{l-1}^k v))(M_{e_i})]^2 = \\ &Ch_{lk}^2 \sum_{E \in T_l^k} \left\{ -\frac{7}{256}(\hat{v}(M_3) - \hat{v}(M_6)) - \frac{39}{256}(\hat{v}(M_2) - \hat{v}(M_7)) + \frac{25}{256}(\hat{v}(M_4) - \hat{v}(M_5)) \right\}^2 \leq \\ &Ch_{lk}^2 \sum_{E \in T_l^k} (\sup_E |\hat{v}|)^2 \leq Ch_{lk}^2 \sum_{E \in T_l^k} |\hat{v}|_{H^2(E)}^2 \leq Ch_{lk}^4 \|v\|_{2k}^2. \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

Combining (33) with (34) yields the first part of (32). The second part of (32) follows from the observation

$$\begin{aligned} \|v - J_l^k(\Theta_{l-1}^k v)\|_{lk}^2 &\leq C \sum_{E \in T_l^k} \sum_{i=1}^4 [(v - J_l^k(\Theta_{l-1}^k v))(M_{e_i})]^2 \leq \\ &Ch_{lk}^{-2} \|v - J_l^k(\Theta_{l-1}^k v)\|_{0k}^2 \leq Ch_{lk}^2 \|v\|_{2k}^2, \end{aligned}$$

the proof is completed

Based on the operator  $\Theta_l^k$ , we now define  $\Theta_l: H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega) \rightarrow V_l$  as follows For any  $v \in H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)$ ,  $\Theta_l v = (\Theta_l^1 v^1, \dots, \Theta_l^N v^N) \in V_l$ , where  $v^k = v|_{\Omega_k}$ ,

$$\Pi_l \zeta = \Theta_l \zeta + \sum_{m=1}^M \Xi_{l, \delta_{m(j)}}(\Theta_l \zeta). \quad (35)$$

**Lemma 5** For the operator  $\Pi_l$ , we have

$$\|\zeta - \Pi_l \zeta\|_0 + h_l \|\zeta - \Pi_l \zeta\|_l \leq Ch_l^2 \|\zeta\|_2, \quad \forall \zeta \in H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega). \quad (36)$$

**Proof** The proof is similar as the one of Lemma 9 in [13], we omit it here

For the operator  $\Pi_l$  and the intergrid transfer operator  $I_l$ , the following lemma is crucial

**Lemma 6** For any  $\zeta \in H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)$ , we have

$$\|\zeta - I_l \Pi_{l-1} \zeta\|_l \leq Ch_l \|\zeta\|_2. \quad (37)$$

**Proof** By the definition of  $\Pi_{l-1}$  and  $I_l$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta - I_l \Pi_{l-1} \zeta &= \zeta - I_l(\Theta_{l-1} \zeta) - \sum_{m=1}^M I_l(\zeta_{l-1, \delta_{m(j)}}(\Theta_{l-1} \zeta)) = \\ &\zeta - J_l(\Theta_{l-1} \zeta) - \sum_{m=1}^M \zeta_{\delta_{m(j)}}(\Theta_{l-1} \zeta) - \sum_{m=1}^M I_l(\zeta_{l-1, \delta_{m(j)}}(\Theta_{l-1} \zeta)). \end{aligned} \quad (38)$$

Using triangle inequality we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|\zeta - I_l \Pi_{l-1} \zeta\|_l^2 &\leq C (\|\zeta - J_l(\Theta_{l-1} \zeta)\|_l^2 + \sum_{m=1}^M \|\zeta_{\delta_{m(j)}}(\Theta_{l-1} \zeta)\|_l^2 + \\ &\sum_{m=1}^M \|I_l(\zeta_{l-1, \delta_{m(j)}}(\Theta_{l-1} \zeta))\|_l^2). \end{aligned} \quad (39)$$

Using the similar arguments of the proof of Lemma 10 in [13] we complete the proof

**Lemma 7** For the operator  $P_{l-1}$ , we have

$$\|v - P_{l-1}v\|_0 \leq Ch_l \|v\|_b \quad \forall v \in V_l \tag{40}$$

**Proof** The proof can be done by using dual argument. Lemma 5.6 we refer to [15] for details

**Theorem 2** (H1) is valid with  $\alpha = 1/2$  i.e.,

$$|a_l((I - IP_{l-1})v, v)| \leq C \left[ \frac{\|A_l v\|_0^2}{\lambda} \right]^{1/2} a_l(v, v)^{1/2}, \quad \forall v \in V_l. \tag{41}$$

**Proof** Using Lemma 3 and 7, arguing as Theorem 4.1 in [15], we can prove (41) easily.

### 4 Numerical Experiments

In this section, we present some numerical results to illustrate the theory developed in the earlier sections. These examples deal with the Poisson equation on the unit square with zero Dirichlet boundary condition.

For simplicity, we decompose  $\Omega$  into two subdomains  $\Omega_1 = (0, 1) \times (0, \frac{1}{2})$  as mortar domain and  $\Omega_2 = (0, 1) \times (\frac{1}{2}, 1)$  as nonmortar domain. The sizes of the coarsest grid are denoted by  $h_{1,1}$  and  $h_{1,2}$  respectively.

Here we use Gauss-Seidel smoothing iteration. In our first experiments, we consider the W-cycle Multigrid Algorithm. Table 1 shows the number of iterations required to achieve the error reduction  $10^{-3}$ , where the initial value is zero.  $l$  denotes the level number and  $d$  denotes the degrees of the freedom on each level. And  $m(l)$  is the pre-smoothing steps and the post-smoothing steps. The iteration numbers are denoted by  $iter_{m(l), m(l)}$ . The second test concerns the variable V-cycle Multigrid Algorithm. The results are shown in Table 2. We use the preconditioned conjugate gradient method for the discretized system  $SA_l u_l = f_b$ ,  $l = 2, 3, \dots, L$ , with the variable V-cycle preconditioners  $B_l$ . We denote  $iter_{h_{1/2}}$ ,  $iter_{h_{2/3}}$  the iterative numbers of PCG method, where the relative error of residue is less than  $10^{-3}$  with  $h_{1,1}/h_{1,2} = 1/2$  and  $h_{1,1}/h_{1,2} = 2/3$  respectively. We also choose zero as initial value.

**Table 1** Iterative numbers for the W-cycle with  $h_{1,1} = \frac{1}{4}$ ,  $h_{1,2} = \frac{1}{2}$  (left) and  $h_{1,1} = \frac{1}{6}$ ,  $h_{1,2} = \frac{1}{4}$  (right)

$l$	$h_m : h_s = 2 : 1$					$h_m : h_s = 2 : 1$				
	2	3	4	5	6	2	3	4	5	6
dof	94	348	1336	5232	20704	230	876	3416	13488	53600
$iter_{(1,1)}$	7	8	8	8	8	8	10	10	10	10
$iter_{(2,2)}$	6	6	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	8
$iter_{(3,3)}$	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6

From Table 1, we can see that the iteration numbers for the W-cycle multigrid algorithm remain constant with any number of smoothing steps when the mesh size decreases, which is better than Proposition

**Table 2** Iterative numbers for the PCG-method with  $m(l) = 2^{l-1}$

$l$	2	3	4	5	6
$iter_{h_{1/2}}$	2	2	3	3	3
$iter_{h_{2/3}}$	2	2	2	2	3

1. And experimental results from Table 2 show that the iterative numbers are independent of the meshes, so we state that the condition number of  $B_l A_l$  is bounded uniformly.

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