

A PRIORI AND A POSTERIORI ERROR ESTIMATES FOR BOUSSINESQ EQUATIONS

KARAM ALLALI

Abstract. This paper deals with an incompressible viscous flow problem, where the Navier-Stokes equations are coupled with a nonlinear heat equation. Existence and uniqueness results are established. Next, a finite element approximation of the problem is presented and analyzed. Error estimates are obtained and a posteriori error estimate is given.

Key Words. Boussinesq equations, a posteriori error estimates, finite element methods.

1. Introduction

In this paper, we are interested in an incompressible viscous fluid governed by Navier-Stokes equations, when they are coupled with a nonlinear heat equation by the intermediary of the reaction source term. The considered model is the system formed by the equations describing the flow, under the approximation of *Boussinesq*. Within the framework of this approximation, we do not take account of the variation of density. Therefore the density is regarded as constant in the equation of mass conservation. The *Boussinesq* approximation was justified and used to study some chemical phenomena as in [10, 11]. Numerical analysis and finite element approximation of this model, in non stationary form, is studied in [1, 9]. In this work, we are interested in a similar model, but in a stationary form.

Let Ω an open bounded convex domain of \mathbb{R}^d ($d=2,3$), with Lipschitz continuous boundary Γ . In Ω , we consider the following stationary model:

$$(P) \begin{cases} -\Delta T + u \cdot \nabla T + f(T) = 0, & \text{in } \Omega, \\ -\mu \Delta u + (u \cdot \nabla)u + \nabla p = F(T), & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \operatorname{div} u = 0, \\ u = 0 \text{ and } T = 0, & \text{on } \Gamma, \end{cases}$$

where the unknown factors are speed u , the pressure p and the temperature T ; the coefficient μ (the viscosity of the fluid) is assumed to be positive. The data are a regular function F of \mathbb{R} to \mathbb{R}^d (typically, the function F is a gravity force proportional to the variations of density, therefore depends on the temperature) and an other regular function f of \mathbb{R} to \mathbb{R}_+^* (typically, the function f is the source term of the reaction depending on the temperature and also on energy; usually this

Received by the editors April 12, 2004 and, in revised form, July 7, 2004.

2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* 65N30.

The author is grateful to Dr. A. Agouzal for valuable discussions.

function is obtained by the *Arrhenius* law). On datas, we assume that the first and the second derivatives are bounded.

This model has been studied by using topological degree theory to prove the existence results in [2] and by using mixed-dual variational formulation in two dimensions in [6, 7], the authors of these last works introduced the gradient of velocity and the gradient of temperature as unknowns, on which, they give some a priori error estimates.

In the next section, we prove a result of existence and uniqueness of the continuous problem. In the third section, Some usual finite element spaces are introduced, for speed, for the pressure and for the temperature. A discrete problem is given, we prove some error estimates on the speed, on the pressure and on the temperature. Finally in the last section, a posteriori error estimate is given.

2. Existence and uniqueness

The variational form of the problem (P) can be written as following:

$$(P0) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Find } (u, p, T) \in (H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times L_0^2(\Omega) \times H_0^1(\Omega) \text{ such that} \\ \forall v \in (H_0^1(\Omega))^d, \mu \int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v dx + \int_{\Omega} [(u \cdot \nabla)u]v dx - \int_{\Omega} p \operatorname{div} v dx \\ \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad = \int_{\Omega} F(T)v dx, \\ \forall q \in L_0^2(\Omega), \int_{\Omega} q \operatorname{div} u dx = 0, \\ \forall s \in H_0^1(\Omega), \int_{\Omega} (\nabla s \nabla T + u \cdot \nabla T) dx + \int_{\Omega} f(T)s dx = 0. \end{array} \right.$$

First of all, we will rewrite the problem in an equivalent form, allowing us to prove the existence of the weak solution. For that, we introduce the spaces:

$$V = \{v \in (H_0^1(\Omega))^d, \operatorname{div} v = 0\} \quad \text{and} \quad Y = V \times H_0^1(\Omega).$$

Let $A(., .)$ the map defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall ((u, T), (v, s)) \in Y^2, \\ A((u, T), (v, s)) &= \int_{\Omega} (\mu \nabla u \cdot \nabla v + (u \cdot \nabla)uv) dx - \int_{\Omega} F(T)v dx \\ &+ \int_{\Omega} \nabla T \cdot \nabla s dx + \int_{\Omega} (u \cdot \nabla T)s dx + \int_{\Omega} f(T)s dx. \end{aligned}$$

We consider the problem

$$(P1) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Find } (u, T) \in V \times H_0^1(\Omega), \text{ such that} \\ \forall (v, s) \in V \times H_0^1(\Omega), \quad A((u, T), (v, s)) = 0. \end{array} \right.$$

It is easy to see that, if the triplet $(u, p, T) \in (H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times L_0^2(\Omega) \times H_0^1(\Omega)$ is solution of ($P0$), then (u, T) is solution of ($P1$). Reciprocally, for any solution $(u, T) \in V \times H_0^1(\Omega)$ of ($P1$), there exist a unique element p of $L_0^2(\Omega)$ such that the triplet (u, p, T) is solution of ($P0$). To prove the existence of the solution for the problem ($P1$), we need the following theorem:

Theorem 2.1. *Let X a separable Hilbert space, and $A(.,.)$ a map defined from $X \times X$ onto \mathbb{R} such that $v \longrightarrow A(u, v)$ is a linear continuous mapping. Under the following assumptions:*

(1) *There exist $(\gamma, \beta) \in \mathbb{R}_+^* \times \mathbb{R}$ such that*

$$(2.1) \quad \forall v \in X, \quad A(v, v) \geq \gamma \|v\|_X^2 - \beta \|v\|_X.$$

(2) *For any set (v_n) of X converge weakly toward v , we have*

$$(2.2) \quad \forall w \in X; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A(v_n, w) = A(v, w),$$

the following problem:

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{cases} \text{Find } u \in X \text{ such that} \\ \forall v \in X, A(u, v) = 0 \end{cases}$$

has at least a solution.

Proof. Let us mention that without the term $\beta \|v\|_X$ in the inequality (2.1), this theorem is the same as ([8] Th 1.2, page 280). For completeness, we give only the main idea of the proof. Let a sequence $(w_m)_{m \geq 1}$ a "basis" of X and X_m the subspace of X spanned by $(w_i)_{1 \leq i \leq m}$. We set Φ_m a mapping defined from X_m onto X_m by $(\Phi_m(u), w_i) = a(u, w_i)$, $1 \leq i \leq m$.

For any $u \in X_m$, we have

$$(\Phi(u), u) \geq (\gamma \|u\|_X - \beta) \|u\|_X.$$

If we set $\|u\|_X = \nu$; it is sufficient to assume that $\gamma \nu - \beta \geq 0$ to have $(\Phi_m(u), u) \geq 0$, and then to be able to apply *Brouwer's Theorem*, i.e.

$$\exists u_m \in X_m \text{ such that } \Phi_m(u_m) = 0 \text{ and } \|u_m\|_X \leq \nu.$$

Therefore $\exists u^* \in X$, such that u_{m_p} (a subsequence of u_m) weakly converge to u^* . It is enough to use (2.2) and the fact that the finite linear combinations of w_i are dense in X , to prove the existence of the solution for the problem (2.3). \square

Let the following assumptions:

(1) *There exist $(a, b) \in (\mathbb{R}_+)^2$ such that*

$$\forall (T, s) \in (H_0^1(\Omega))^2; \quad \left| \int_{\Omega} f(T) s dx \right| \leq a |T|_{1,\Omega} |s|_{1,\Omega} + b |s|_{1,\Omega}.$$

(2) *There exist $c \in \mathbb{R}_+$ such that*

$$\forall (T, v) \in H_0^1(\Omega) \times (H_0^1(\Omega))^d; \quad \left| \int_{\Omega} F(T) v dx \right| \leq c |v|_{1,\Omega} + d |v|_{1,\Omega} |T|_{1,\Omega}.$$

Theorem 2.2. *Assume that $a \in [0, 1[$ and $4\mu(1 - a) > d^2$, then the problem (P1) admits a solution (u, T) in $V \times H_0^1(\Omega)$.*

Proof. We will apply the Theorem 2.1. For that, we set $X = V \times H_0^1(\Omega)$. By using the compact embedding from $H_0^1(\Omega)$ onto $L^4(\Omega)$, we prove that the mapping $A(.,.)$ is continuous on X and it verifies the second assumption of Theorem 2.1 (same arguments as [8], page 286). To prove the existence of the solution, it is enough to prove that there exist two reals $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$ and $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$, such that

$$\forall (u, T) \in X; \quad A((u, T), (u, T)) \geq \gamma (|T|_{1,\Omega}^2 + |u|_{1,\Omega}^2) - \beta (|T|_{1,\Omega}^2 + |u|_{1,\Omega}^2)^{1/2}.$$

Since $u \in V$, we have

$$\forall v \in V, \forall T \in H_0^1(\Omega), \quad \int_{\Omega} (u \cdot \nabla) u \cdot v dx = \int_{\Omega} (u \cdot \nabla T) T dx = 0.$$

Then

$$\forall (u, T) \in V \times H_0^1(\Omega),$$

$$\begin{aligned} A((u, T), (u, T)) &\geq \mu |u|_{1,\Omega}^2 - c|u|_{1,\Omega} + (1-a)|T|_{1,\Omega}^2 - b|T|_{1,\Omega} - d|u|_{1,\Omega}|T|_{1,\Omega} \\ &\geq \min(\mu, 1-a)(|T|_{1,\Omega}^2 + |u|_{1,\Omega}^2) - 2^{\frac{1}{2}} \max(c, b)(|T|_{1,\Omega}^2 + |u|_{1,\Omega}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\quad - d|u|_{1,\Omega}|T|_{1,\Omega}. \end{aligned}$$

From the inequality $4\mu(1-a) > d^2$, we deduce that there exist a strictly positive constant γ , such that

$$\begin{aligned} \forall (u, T) \in V \times H_0^1(\Omega) A((u, T), (u, T)) &\geq \gamma(|T|_{1,\Omega}^2 + |u|_{1,\Omega}^2) \\ &\quad - 2^{\frac{1}{2}} \max(c, b)(|T|_{1,\Omega}^2 + |u|_{1,\Omega}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

By using the Theorem 2.1, we deduce that the problem (P1) admits at least one solution in $X = V \times H_0^1(\Omega)$. \square

We set

$$N_1 := \sup_{u \in (H_0^1(\Omega))^d, (T,s) \in (H_0^1(\Omega))^2} \frac{\int_{\Omega} (u \cdot \nabla T) s dx}{|u|_{1,\Omega} |T|_{1,\Omega} |s|_{1,\Omega}},$$

$$N_2 := \sup_{(u,v,w) \in ((H_0^1(\Omega))^d)^3} \frac{\int_{\Omega} (u \cdot \nabla) v \cdot w dx}{|u|_{1,\Omega} |v|_{1,\Omega} |w|_{1,\Omega}},$$

$$\bar{\beta} := \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } f \text{ is an increasing function} \\ \sup_{(T,s) \in (H_0^1(\Omega))^2} \frac{\int_{\Omega} (f(T) - f(s))(T - s) dx}{|T - s|_{1,\Omega}^2} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\bar{\gamma} := \sup_{(T,s) \in (H_0^1(\Omega))^2, v \in (H_0^1(\Omega))^d} \frac{\int_{\Omega} (F(T) - F(s)) v dx}{|T - s|_{1,\Omega} |v|_{1,\Omega}}.$$

Thanks to the compact embedding of $H_0^1(\Omega)$ onto $L^4(\Omega)$, we prove easily that $N_1, N_2, \bar{\beta}$ and $\bar{\gamma}$ are positive reals. Concerning the existence and the uniqueness, we have the following Theorem:

Theorem 2.3. *Under the following assumptions:*

$$a \in [0, 1[, \quad 4\mu(1-a) > d^2 \quad \bar{\beta} \in [0, 1[\quad \text{and} \quad N_2 \frac{c}{\mu} + \bar{\gamma} \frac{N_1}{1-\bar{\beta}} \frac{b}{1-a} < \mu,$$

the problem (P1) has a unique solution $(u, T) \in V \times H_0^1(\Omega)$.

Proof. Recall that for $a \in [0, 1[$ and $4\mu(1-a) > d^2$, the problem has a solution. We will prove then the uniqueness.

Let (u_1, T_1) and (u_2, T_2) two solutions of the problem (P1).
we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& |T_1 - T_2|_{1,\Omega}^2 \\
&= - \int_{\Omega} (u_1 \cdot \nabla T_1 - u_2 \cdot \nabla T_2) \cdot \nabla (T_1 - T_2) dx - \int_{\Omega} (f(T_1) - f(T_2))(T_1 - T_2) dx \\
&= - \int_{\Omega} (u_1 \cdot \nabla (T_1 - T_2))(T_1 - T_2) dx - \int_{\Omega} ((u_1 - u_2) \cdot \nabla T_2)(T_1 - T_2) dx \\
&\quad - \int_{\Omega} (f(T_1) - f(T_2))(T_1 - T_2) dx \\
&\leq N_1 |u_1 - u_2|_{1,\Omega} |T_2|_{1,\Omega} |T_1 - T_2|_{1,\Omega} + \bar{\beta} |T_1 - T_2|_{1,\Omega}^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$(2.4) \quad |T_1 - T_2|_{1,\Omega} \leq \frac{N_1}{1 - \bar{\beta}} |T_2|_{1,\Omega} |u_1 - u_2|_{1,\Omega}.$$

We have also

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mu |u_1 - u_2|_{1,\Omega}^2 + \int_{\Omega} [(u_1 \cdot \nabla) u_1 - (u_2 \cdot \nabla) u_2] (u_1 - u_2) dx \\
&= \int_{\Omega} (F(T_1) - F(T_2)) \cdot (u_1 - u_2) dx.
\end{aligned}$$

By noticing that

$$\int_{\Omega} (u_1 \cdot \nabla) (u_1 - u_2) (u_1 - u_2) dx = 0,$$

we obtain

$$(2.5) \quad \mu |u_1 - u_2|_{1,\Omega}^2 \leq N_2 |u_2|_{1,\Omega} |u_1 - u_2|_{1,\Omega}^2 + \bar{\gamma} |T_1 - T_2|_{1,\Omega} |u_1 - u_2|_{1,\Omega}.$$

However (u_2, T_2) is solution of the problem (P1); we have the following estimates:

$$|u_2|_{1,\Omega} \leq \frac{c}{\mu} \quad \text{and} \quad |T_2|_{1,\Omega} \leq \frac{b}{1 - a}.$$

By using (2.4)-(2.5), we deduce

$$\mu |u_1 - u_2|_{1,\Omega}^2 \leq N_2 \frac{c}{\mu} |u_1 - u_2|_{1,\Omega}^2 + \bar{\gamma} \frac{N_1}{1 - \bar{\beta}} \frac{b}{1 - a} |u_1 - u_2|_{1,\Omega}^2.$$

Then, with the assumption

$$N_2 \frac{c}{\mu} + \bar{\gamma} \frac{N_1}{1 - \bar{\beta}} \frac{b}{1 - a} < \mu,$$

we obtain: $u_1 = u_2$, and by the inequality (2.4), we get: $T_1 = T_2$. □

3. Presentation of the discrete problem

Let S an operator defined by:

$$\begin{aligned}
S : (H^{-1}(\Omega))^d &\longrightarrow (H_0^1(\Omega))^d, \\
g &\longrightarrow w,
\end{aligned}$$

where the couple (w, q) is the solution in $(H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times L_0^2(\Omega)$ of Stokes problem

$$\begin{cases} -\mu \Delta w + \nabla q = g & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \operatorname{div} w = 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ w = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma. \end{cases}$$

Let $\bar{S}g$ the function q in the couple (w, q) . Let L an operator defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} L : (H^{-1}(\Omega)) &\longrightarrow H_0^1(\Omega), \\ h &\longrightarrow Q, \end{aligned}$$

where Q is the solution in $H_0^1(\Omega)$ of the problem

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta Q = h & \text{in } \Omega, \\ Q = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma. \end{cases}$$

Finally, we introduce the operator H defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} H : Y = (H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times H_0^1(\Omega) &\longrightarrow Y = (H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times H_0^1(\Omega), \\ V = (v, s) &\longrightarrow H(V) = V - (S(F(s) - (v \cdot \nabla)v), -L(f(s) + v \cdot \nabla s)). \end{aligned}$$

The continuity and the differentiability of this operator are easy to be verified thanks to the *Sobolev* embeddings. It is easy to verify that if the triplet (u, p, T) of $(H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times L_0^2(\Omega) \times H_0^1(\Omega)$ is a weak solution of the problem (P) then $H(U) = 0$ with $U = (u, T)$. Reciprocally, for any solution $U = (u, T)$ of equation $H(U) = 0$, there exist a unique $p \in L_0^2(\Omega)$ such that the triplet (u, p, T) is a weak solution of the problem (P) .

We assume that the couple $U = (u, T)$ is a nonsingular solution of the equation $H(U) = 0$, in such way that $DH(U) \in \text{Isom}(Y, Y)$.

By writing the operator $DH(U)$ explicitly, for all $V = (v, s) \in Y$,

$$DH(U) \cdot V = V - (S[F'(T)s - (u \cdot \nabla)v - (v \cdot \nabla)u], -L[f'(T)s + u \cdot \nabla s + v \cdot \nabla T]),$$

and by using the compactness of the nonlinear terms, we verify that the assumption of non-singularity is equivalent to say that the only solution $(w, q, s) \in Y$ of the following problem:

$$\begin{cases} \forall v \in (H_0^1(\Omega))^d, \quad \mu \int_{\Omega} \nabla w \cdot \nabla v dx + \int_{\Omega} [(u \cdot \nabla)w + (w \cdot \nabla)u] v dx \\ \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad - \int_{\Omega} q \operatorname{div} v dx = \int_{\Omega} F'(T) s v dx, \\ \forall r \in L_0^2(\Omega), \quad \int_{\Omega} r \operatorname{div} w dx = 0, \\ \forall z \in H_0^1(\Omega), \quad \int_{\Omega} (\nabla s \cdot \nabla z + [w \cdot \nabla T + u \cdot \nabla s] z) dx + \int_{\Omega} f'(T) z s dx = 0, \end{cases}$$

is the solution zero. By the local inversion Theorem, the non-singularity assumption implies a local uniqueness of the solution U .

For all values of the real parameter $h > 0$, we consider three spaces X_h, M_h and W_h such that

$$X_h \subset (H_0^1(\Omega))^d, \quad M_h \subset L_0^2(\Omega) \quad \text{and} \quad W_h \subset H_0^1(\Omega),$$

we set

$$V_h := \{v_h, \quad \forall q_h \in M_h, \quad b(q_h, v_h) = 0\},$$

and we assume that it satisfies the following assumptions:

- (1) For all $0 < \sigma \leq 1$, there exist a linear continuous operator P_h from $H^\sigma(\Omega) \cap L_0^2(\Omega)$ onto M_h such that

$$\forall q \in H^\sigma(\Omega) \cap L_0^2(\Omega), \|q - P_h q\|_{0,\Omega} \lesssim h^\sigma |q|_{\sigma,\Omega},$$

- (2) For all $\frac{d}{2} < \sigma \leq 1$, there exist a linear continuous operator \mathcal{I}_h from $(H^{1+\sigma}(\Omega))^d \cap (H_0^1(\Omega))^d$ onto X_h such that

$$\forall u \in (H^{1+\sigma}(\Omega))^d \cap (H_0^1(\Omega))^d, \|u - \mathcal{I}_h u\|_{1,\Omega} \lesssim h^\sigma |u|_{1+\sigma,\Omega}.$$

- (3) There exist a constant β independent of h , such that

$$\forall q_h \in M_h, \exists v_h \in X_h, \text{ such that } (\operatorname{div} v_h, q_h)_{0,\Omega} \geq \beta \|q_h\|_{0,\Omega} \|v_h\|_{1,\Omega}.$$

- (4) For all $\frac{d}{2} < \sigma \leq 1$, there exist a linear continuous operator i_h from $H^{1+\sigma}(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)$ onto W_h such that

$$\forall T \in H^{1+\sigma}(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega), \|T - i_h T\|_{1,\Omega} \lesssim h^\sigma |T|_{1+\sigma,\Omega}.$$

We introduce now three spaces X_h , M_h and W_h such that the previous assumptions are satisfied. For that, we assume that the open ω is polyhedral and we assume a regular triangulations family \mathcal{T}_h of ω (see [[5] Chapter 3, Parag. 3]), where for all h the triangulation \mathcal{T}_h is d-simplexes set of diameters bounded above by h . For all K of \mathcal{T}_h , we define by $P_k(K)$ the polynomial space of total degree $\leq k$ on T , where k is a strictly positive real.

Let the space W_h defined as following:

$$W_h = \{T_h \in \mathcal{C}^0(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega), \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h, T_h|_K \in P_1(K)\}.$$

This space verifies the assumption (4) as in [5]. We denote by I_h the operator defined as following:

$$\begin{aligned} I_h : (\mathcal{C}^0(\Omega))^d &\longrightarrow (W_h)^d \\ F = (f_1, \dots, f_d) &\longrightarrow I_h F = (i_h f_1, \dots, i_h f_d). \end{aligned}$$

where i_h is the classic Lagrange interpolation operator.

Example 1 In dimension $d=2$, we set

$$X_h = \{v_h \in (\mathcal{C}^0(\Omega))^2 \cap (H_0^1(\Omega))^2, \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h, v_h|_K \in (P_2(K))^2\},$$

$$M_h = \{q_h \in L_0^2(\Omega), \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h, q_h|_K \in P_0(K)\}.$$

Example 2 In dimension $d=2$, we set

$$X_h = \{v_h \in (\mathcal{C}^0(\Omega))^2 \cap (H_0^1(\Omega))^2, \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h, v_h|_K \in (P_2(K))^2\},$$

$$M_h = \{q_h \in L_0^2(\Omega) \cup \mathcal{C}^0(\Omega), \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h, q_h|_K \in P_1(K)\}.$$

Example 3 For all T of \mathcal{T}_h of vertices a_i , $1 \leq i \leq d+1$, we note by λ_i the barycentric coordinate associated to the vertices a_i and by \mathbf{n}_i the normal vector

on the face not containing a_i . We set P_T the space engendered by the polynoms of $(P_1(T))^d$ and by the functions

$$\mathbf{p}_i = \left\{ \prod_{j=1, j \neq i}^{d+1} \lambda_j \mathbf{n}_i, \quad 1 \leq i \leq d+1 \right\}.$$

We set then

$$\begin{aligned} X_h &= \{v_h \in (\mathcal{C}^0(\Omega))^d \cap (H_0^1(\Omega))^d, \quad \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h, v_h|_K \in P_K\}, \\ M_h &= \{q_h \in L_0^2(\Omega) \cup \mathcal{C}^0(\Omega), \quad \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h, q_h|_K \in P_1(K)\}. \end{aligned}$$

In the three examples above, the assumptions (1)-(3) are satisfied and the constant β is independent of h ([3],[8]).

We will specify the approximation of the nonlinear terms F and f . A continuous function T being known on the nodes of the interpolation operators I_h and i_h , we can calculate the quantities $F(T)$ and $f(T)$ in the nodes, and then to construct the interpolates of $F(T)$ and of $f(T)$. More precisely, we define F_h and f_h by:

$$\begin{aligned} F_h &: (\mathcal{C}^0(\Omega))^d \longrightarrow X_h \\ s &\longrightarrow F_h(s) = I_h(F(s)) = I_h(F(i_h s)) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} f_h &: \mathcal{C}^0(\Omega) \longrightarrow W_h \\ s &\longrightarrow f_h(s) = i_h(f(s)) = i_h(f(i_h s)). \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to verify that for all continuous functions s and q on Ω , the differentials $DF_h(s)q$ and $Df_h(s)q$ are written as following:

$$\begin{aligned} DF_h(s)q &= I_h[F'(s)q] = I_h[F'(i_h s)i_h q], \\ Df_h(s)q &= i_h[F'(s)q] = i_h[F'(i_h s)i_h q]. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, if $F(s) \in (H^\sigma(\Omega))^d$ and $f(s) \in H^\sigma(\Omega)$, with $\frac{d}{2} < \sigma \leq 2$, we have

$$\|F(s) - F_h(s)\|_{0,\Omega} \leq Ch^\sigma \|F(s)\|_{\sigma,\Omega} \quad \text{and} \quad \|f(s) - f_h(s)\|_{0,\Omega} \leq Ch^\sigma \|f(s)\|_{\sigma,\Omega}.$$

We can write the discrete problem in the following variational form:

$$(P_h) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Find a triplet } (u_h, p_h, T_h) \in X_h \times M_h \times W_h \text{ such that} \\ \forall v_h \in X_h, \quad \mu \int_{\Omega} \nabla u_h \cdot \nabla v_h dx + \int_{\Omega} (u_h \cdot \nabla) u_h \cdot v_h dx \\ \qquad \qquad \qquad - \int_{\Omega} p_h \operatorname{div} v_h dx = \int_{\Omega} F_h(T_h) v_h dx, \\ \forall q_h \in M_h, \quad \int_{\Omega} q_h \operatorname{div} u_h dx = 0, \\ \forall s_h \in W_h, \quad \int_{\Omega} (\nabla T_h \nabla s_h + u_h \cdot \nabla T_h s_h) dx + \int_{\Omega} f_h(T_h) s_h dx = 0. \end{array} \right.$$

To study this system, we will rewrite it in same manner as the continuous problem form. For this goal, we introduce the operators S_h and L_h , the discrete analogues of the operators S and L . More precisely:

$$\begin{aligned} S_h &: (H^{-1}(\Omega))^d \longrightarrow X_h, \\ g &\longrightarrow w_h, \end{aligned}$$

where the couple (w_h, q_h) is the solution in $X_h \times M_h$ of Stokes problem:

$$\begin{cases} \forall v_h \in X_h, \mu \int_{\Omega} \nabla w_h \cdot \nabla v_h dx - \int_{\Omega} q_h \operatorname{div} v_h dx = \langle g, v_h \rangle, \\ \forall r_h \in M_h, \int_{\Omega} r_h \operatorname{div} w_h dx = 0. \end{cases}$$

The operator L_h is defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} L_h : (H^{-1}(\Omega)) &\longrightarrow W_h, \\ h &\longrightarrow Q_h, \end{aligned}$$

where Q_h is the solution in W_h of the following problem:

$$\forall s_h \in W_h, \int_{\Omega} \nabla Q_h \cdot \nabla s_h dx = \langle h, s_h \rangle .$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \forall (g, s) \in (H^{-1}(\Omega))^d \times H^{-1}(\Omega); \quad \|S_h g\|_{1,\Omega} &\leq C \|g\|_{(H^{-1}(\Omega))^d} \\ \text{and } \|L_h s\|_{1,\Omega} &\leq C \|s\|_{H^{-1}(\Omega)}. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, if $S(g) \in (H^\sigma(\Omega))^d$ and $L(s) \in H^\sigma(\Omega)$, with $\frac{d}{2} < \sigma \leq 2$, we have

$$\|(S - S_h)g\|_{1,\Omega} \leq Ch^{\sigma-1} (\|Sg\|_{\sigma,\Omega} + (\|\bar{S}g\|_{\sigma-1,\Omega}))$$

and

$$\|(L - L_h)s\|_{1,\Omega} \leq Ch^{\sigma-1} \|Ls\|_{\sigma,\Omega}.$$

Finally, we introduce the operator H_h defined from the space Y onto Y by:

$$H_h : Y := (H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times H_0^1(\Omega) \longrightarrow Y := (H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times H_0^1(\Omega),$$

$$V = (v, s) \longrightarrow H_h(V) = V - (S_h(F(s) - (v \cdot \nabla)v), -L_h(f(s) + v \cdot \nabla s)).$$

It should be noted that this mapping is continuous differentiable from $X_h \times W_h$ onto $X_h \times W_h$. In addition, the system (P_h) is written now in equivalent form $H_h(U_h) = 0$, where $U_h = (u_h, T_h)$. The assumption of compatibility allows to calculate the pressure p_h in M_h , in a unique manner.

the formulation above makes it possible to study the problem (P_h) by using the discrete implicit function Theorem according to [8]:

Theorem 3.1. *We assume that there exist a couple $\bar{U}_h \in X_h \times W_h$ such that $DH_h(\bar{U}_h) \in \text{Isom}(X_h \times W_h, X_h \times W_h)$. We assume*

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_h &= \|H(\bar{U}_h)\|_{((H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times H_0^1(\Omega))}, \\ \gamma_h &= \|(DH_h(\bar{U}_h))^{-1}\|_{\mathcal{L}(X_h \times W_h, X_h \times W_h)}, \\ \Lambda_h(\nu) &= \sup_{V_h \in B(\bar{U}_h, \nu)} \|DH_h(\bar{U}_h) - DH_h(V_h)\|_{\mathcal{L}(X_h \times W_h, X_h \times W_h)}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$B(\bar{U}_h, \nu) = \{V_h \in X_h \times W_h; \quad \|\bar{U}_h - V_h\|_Y \leq \nu\}.$$

If we have

$$2\gamma_h \Lambda_h(2\gamma_h \epsilon_h) < 1,$$

for all $\nu \geq 2\gamma_h \epsilon_h$ such that $\gamma_h \Lambda_h(\nu) < 1$, there exists a unique solution U_h of the equation $H_h(U_h) = 0$, verifying:

$$\|U_h - \bar{U}_h\|_Y \leq \nu.$$

Moreover, we have the estimate:

$$\|U_h - \bar{U}_h\|_Y \leq \frac{\gamma_h}{1 - \gamma_h \Lambda_h(\nu)} \|H_h(\bar{U}_h)\|_Y.$$

In the next, we assume that the triplet (u, p, T) solution of the continuous problem has the following regularity:

$$u \in (H^\sigma(\Omega))^d, \quad p \in H^{\sigma-1}(\Omega) \quad \text{and} \quad T \in H^\sigma(\Omega),$$

where $\frac{d}{2} < \sigma \leq 2$.

3.1. Existence, uniqueness and a priori error estimate. First of all, we have the following technical proposition whose the proof is similar to Bernardi et al ([2], lemma 3.12, page 917).

Proposition 3.1. *We have*

$$(3.1) \quad \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{q_h \in W_h} \frac{\|F'(T)q_h - I_h(F'(T))q_h\|_{0,\Omega}}{\|q_h\|_{1,\Omega}} = 0$$

and

$$(3.2) \quad \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{q_h \in W_h} \frac{\|f'(T)q_h - i_h(f'(T))q_h\|_{0,\Omega}}{\|q_h\|_{1,\Omega}} = 0.$$

Moreover, for all $(r_h, q_h) \in W_h^2$. We have

$$(3.3) \quad \|I_h(F'(r_h) - F'(i_h T))q_h\|_{0,\Omega} \leq C \|r_h - i_h T\|_{1,\Omega} \|q_h\|_{1,\Omega},$$

$$(3.4) \quad \|i_h(f'(r_h) - f'(i_h T))q_h\|_{0,\Omega} \leq C \|r_h - i_h T\|_{1,\Omega} \|q_h\|_{1,\Omega}$$

and

$$(3.5) \quad \|I_h(F(r_h) - F(s_h))\|_{0,\Omega} \leq C \|r_h - s_h\|_{0,\Omega}.$$

In the next, let \bar{U}_h the element of $X_h \times W_h$ defined by

$$\bar{U}_h = (\mathcal{I}_h u, i_h T) \in X_h \times W_h.$$

Lemma 3.1. *There exist a constant h_0 such that, for all $h \leq h_0$, we have*

$$DH_h(\bar{U}_h) \in \text{Isom}(X_h \times W_h, X_h \times W_h).$$

Moreover, γ_h is bounded above by a constant γ independent of h .

Proof. An immediate consequence of the not-singularity of the continuous solution is that there is a positive constant C such that, for all $W_h = (w_h, s_h) \in X_h \times W_h$,

$$\|DH(U).W_h\|_Y \geq C \|W_h\|_Y.$$

the lemma will be proved, if we prove:

$$(3.6) \quad \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{W_h \in X_h \times W_h, \|W_h\| \leq 1} \|DH(U).W_h - DH_h(\bar{U}_h).W_h\|_Y = 0.$$

Remark that for all couples $V = (v, r)$ and $W = (w, q)$ of Y , we have

$$DH_h(V).W = (w - S_h[I_h[F'(r)q] - (v \cdot \nabla)w - (w \cdot \nabla)v], q - L_h[i_h[f'(r)q] + v \cdot \nabla q + w \cdot \nabla r]).$$

For $\bar{U}_h = (\mathcal{I}_h u, i_h T)$ and $W_h = (w_h, q_h) \in X_h \times W_h$, we have

$$\begin{cases} DH_h(\bar{U}_h).W_h = DH_h(U).W_h + \\ ((S - S_h)[F'(T)q_h - (u.\nabla)w_h - (w_h.\nabla)u], (L_h - L)[f'(T)q_h + u.\nabla q_h + w_h.\nabla T]) \\ + (S_h\Phi, L_h\psi), \end{cases}$$

where

$$\Phi = F'(T)q_h - I_h(F'(T)q_h) - ((u - \mathcal{I}_h u).\nabla).w_h - (w_h.\nabla)(u - \mathcal{I}_h u)$$

and

$$\psi = f'(T)q_h - i_h(f'(T)q_h) - (u - \mathcal{I}_h u).\nabla q_h - w_h.\nabla(T - i_h T).$$

The lemma will be proved, if we prove the convergence toward 0 of the two terms appearing in the last formula.

1) Let us recall that if C_{o1} and C_{o2} are respectively compacts of $(H^{-1}(\Omega))^d$ and of $H^{-1}(\Omega)$, we have

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{g \in C_{o1}} \|(S - S_h)g\|_{1,\Omega} = 0$$

and

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{g \in C_{o2}} \|(L - L_h)g\|_{1,\Omega} = 0.$$

However, the unit ball image of $Y = (H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times H_0^1(\Omega)$ by the mapping

$$(w, s) \longrightarrow F'(T)s - (u.\nabla)w - (w.\nabla)u$$

is a compact of $(H^{-1}(\Omega))^d$, and its image by the mapping

$$(w, s) \longrightarrow f'(T)s + u.\nabla s + w.\nabla T$$

is a compact of $H^{-1}(\Omega)$. We deduce that

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{W_h = (w_h, s_h), \|W_h\|_Y \leq 1} \|(S - S_h)(F'(T)s_h - (u.\nabla)w_h - (w_h.\nabla)u)\|_{1,\Omega} = 0$$

and

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{W_h = (w_h, s_h), \|W_h\|_Y \leq 1} \|(L - L_h)(f'(T)s_h + u.\nabla s_h + w_h.\nabla T)\|_{1,\Omega} = 0.$$

2) By using (3.1)-(3.2), and

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \|T - i_h T\|_{1,\Omega} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \|u - \mathcal{I}_h u\|_{1,\Omega} = 0,$$

we obtain

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \|S_h\Phi\|_{1,\Omega} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \|L_h\psi\|_{1,\Omega} = 0.$$

□

Finally, by using the two results, we obtain the lemma.

Lemma 3.2. *There exist $h_1 > 0$ and a constant C such that*

$$\forall h \leq h_1, \forall \nu > 0; \quad \Lambda_h(\nu) \leq C\nu.$$

Proof. Remark that, for all $V_h = (v_h, r_h)$ and $W_h = (w_h, q_h)$ in $X_h \times W_h$, we have

$$DH_h(\bar{U}_h).W_h - DH_h(V_h).W_h = (S_h\eta, L_h\zeta),$$

where

$$\eta = I_h[(F'(r_h) - F'(i_h))q_h] - ((v_h - (\mathcal{I}_h u).\nabla).w_h - (w_h.\nabla)((v_h - (\mathcal{I}_h u)$$

and

$$\zeta = -i_h[(f'(r_h) - f'(i_h))q_h] - (v_h - \mathcal{I}_h u) \cdot \nabla q_h - w_h \cdot \nabla (r_h - i_h T).$$

If we assume that

$$\|\mathcal{I}_h u - u\|_{1,\Omega} + \|T - i_h T\|_{1,\Omega} \leq 2\nu,$$

by using the stability of the operators S_h and L_h and (3.3)-(3.4), we deduce easily, that there exist $h_1 > 0$ and a constant C , such that

$$\forall h \leq h_1, \forall \nu > 0, \quad \Lambda_h(\nu) \leq C\nu.$$

□

Lemma 3.3. *There exist a constant depending only on (u, p, T) , such that*

$$\epsilon_h := \|H(\bar{U}_h)\|_{((H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times H_0^1(\Omega))} \leq Ch^{\sigma-1}.$$

Proof. From the equation $H(U) = 0$, we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} H_h(\bar{U}_h) &= \bar{U}_h - U - ((S_h - S)(F(T) - (u \cdot \nabla)u), (L - L_h)(f(T) + u \cdot \nabla T)) \\ &\quad - (S_h v, L_h s), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$v = F(T) - I_h(F(T)) - (u \cdot \nabla)u + (\mathcal{I}_h u \cdot \nabla) \mathcal{I}_h u$$

and

$$s = f(T) - f_h(T) + u \cdot \nabla T - \mathcal{I}_h u \cdot \nabla i_h T,$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_h &\leq C\{\|T - i_h T\|_{1,\Omega} + \|u - \mathcal{I}_h u\|_{1,\Omega} + \|(S - S_h)(F(T) - (u \cdot \nabla)u)\|_{(H_0^1(\Omega))^d} \\ &\quad + \|(L - L_h)(f(T) + u \cdot \nabla T)\|_{H_0^1(\Omega)} + \|S_h\|_{\mathcal{L}((H^{-1}(\Omega))^d, (H_0^1(\Omega))^d)} \|v\|_{(H^{-1}(\Omega))^d} \\ &\quad + \|L_h\|_{\mathcal{L}(H^{-1}(\Omega), H_0^1(\Omega))} \|s\|_{H^{-1}(\Omega)}. \end{aligned}$$

By using the regularity of (u, T) , we have

$$\|T - i_h T\|_{1,\Omega} \leq Ch^{\sigma-1} \|T\|_{\sigma,\Omega} \quad \text{and} \quad \|u - \mathcal{I}_h u\|_{1,\Omega} \leq Ch^{\sigma-1} \|u\|_{\sigma,\Omega}.$$

Since

$$T = -L(f(T) + u \cdot \nabla T) \quad \text{and} \quad u = S(F(T) - (u \cdot \nabla)u),$$

we have

$$\|(L - L_h)(f(T) + u \cdot \nabla T)\|_{H_0^1(\Omega)} \leq Ch^{\sigma-1} \|L(f(T) + u \cdot \nabla T)\|_{\sigma,\Omega} := Ch^{\sigma-1} \|T\|_{\sigma,\Omega}$$

and

$$\|(S - S_h)(F(T) - (u \cdot \nabla)u)\|_{(H_0^1(\Omega))^d} \leq Ch^{\sigma-1} (\|u\|_{\sigma,\Omega} + \|p\|_{\sigma-1,\Omega}).$$

Finally, by using the stability of the operators S_h and L_h , the regularity of the (u, T) , the following equalities:

$$(u \cdot \nabla)u - (\mathcal{I}_h u \cdot \nabla) \mathcal{I}_h u = ((u - \mathcal{I}_h u) \cdot \nabla) \cdot u + (u \cdot \nabla) \cdot (u - \mathcal{I}_h u) - ((u - \mathcal{I}_h u) \cdot \nabla) \cdot (u - \mathcal{I}_h u)$$

and

$$u \cdot \nabla T - \mathcal{I}_h u \cdot \nabla i_h T = (u - \mathcal{I}_h u) \cdot \nabla T + u \cdot \nabla (T - i_h T) - (u - \mathcal{I}_h u) \cdot \nabla (T - i_h T),$$

we obtain

$$\|L_h\|_{\mathcal{L}(H^{-1}(\Omega), H_0^1(\Omega))} \|s\|_{H^{-1}(\Omega)} \leq Ch^{\sigma-1} (\|T\|_{\sigma,\Omega} + \|u\|_{\sigma,\Omega})$$

and

$$\|S_h\|_{\mathcal{L}((H^{-1}(\Omega))^d, (H_0^1(\Omega))^d)} \|v\|_{(H^{-1}(\Omega))^d} \leq Ch^{\sigma-1} (\|T\|_{\sigma,\Omega} + \|u\|_{\sigma,\Omega}).$$

By using the estimates above, we prove the lemma. □

Theorem 3.2. *Let (u, p, T) the solution of the problem (P) verifying the assumptions of regularity. there exist a real H such that for all $h \leq H$, the discrete problem admits a solution $U_h = (u_h, T_h) \in X_h \times W_h$. However, this solution verifies the following estimate:*

$$\|u - u_h\|_{1,\Omega} + \|p - p_h\|_{0,\Omega} + \|T - T_h\|_{1,\Omega} \leq Ch^{\sigma-1}.$$

Proof. We will apply the discrete implicit function Theorem. First of all, for h rather small, we have

$$DH_h(\bar{U}_h) \in Isom(X_h \times W_h, X_h \times W_h).$$

By using the lemmas (2.2) and (2.3), we deduce that there exist a H such that

$$\forall h \leq H; \quad 2\gamma_h \Lambda_h(2\gamma_h \epsilon_h) < 1,$$

in a manner that the discrete problem admits a solution (u_h, T_h) . Finally, by using the compatibility assumption of spaces (X_h, M_h) , we deduce that there exist a unique element p_h of M_h such that (u_h, p_h, T_h) will be solution of the problem (P_h) . However

$$\|u - u_h\|_{1,\Omega} + \|T - T_h\|_{1,\Omega} \leq C\epsilon_h.$$

Then by using the lemma (2.3), we obtain

$$\|u - u_h\|_{1,\Omega} + \|T - T_h\|_{1,\Omega} \leq Ch^{\sigma-1}.$$

The estimates over the pressure is obtained by using the compatibility of spaces (X_h, M_h) and (3.5) ([2], Prop 3.8, page 907). \square

4. A posteriori error estimate .

Let F an operator defined as following:

$$F : Y := (H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times L_0^2(\Omega) \times H_0^1(\Omega) \longrightarrow Y^* := (H^{-1}(\Omega))^d \times L_0^2(\Omega) \times H^{-1}(\Omega),$$

such that

$$\forall (v, q, s) \in (H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times L_0^2(\Omega) \times H_0^1(\Omega),$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle F(u, p, T), (v, q, s) \rangle = & \mu \int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v dx + \int_{\Omega} (u \cdot \nabla) u \cdot v dx - \int_{\Omega} F(T) \cdot v dx \\ & - \int_{\Omega} p \operatorname{div} v dx + \int_{\Omega} q \operatorname{div} u dx \\ & + \int_{\Omega} \nabla T \cdot \nabla s dx + \int_{\Omega} (u \cdot \nabla T) s dx + \int_{\Omega} f(T) s dx. \end{aligned}$$

It is obvious that the triplet $(u, p, T) \in (H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times L_0^2(\Omega) \times H_0^1(\Omega)$ is solution of the problem P if and only if $F(u, p, T) = 0$.

Assume that the triplet $(u, p, T) \in (H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times L_0^2(\Omega) \times H_0^1(\Omega)$ is a regular solution in the sense that

$$DF(u, p, T) \in Isom((H_0^1(\Omega))^d \times L_0^2(\Omega) \times H_0^1(\Omega), (H^{-1}(\Omega))^d \times L_0^2(\Omega) \times H^{-1}(\Omega))$$

and

$$DF \text{ is Lipschitz-continuous in } (u, p, T).$$

Let $(u_h, p_h, T_h) \in X_h \times M_h \times W_h$ a triplet, not necessary solution of the discrete problem. Assume that

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \|(u, p, T) - (u_h, p_h, T_h)\|_Y = 0.$$

By using the proposition 2.1 of Verfurth [13]. We have, for h rather small:

$$(4.1) \quad \|(u, p, T) - (u_h, p_h, T_h)\|_Y \leq 2\|(DF(u, p, T))^{-1}\|_{\mathcal{L}(Y, Y^*)}\|F(u_h, p_h, T_h)\|_{Y^*}.$$

For all $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$, we note by ∂K a set of internal edges (faces), by n_e the exterior normal vector on e , by $[v]_e$ the jump function v on the edge (face) e and by $\Delta(K)$ the triangles union (tetrahedrons) having a common vertex with K . Let $X_h(K)$ a set of $v_h \in X_h$ having support in $\Delta(K)$. We define by the same manner the sets $M_h(K)$ and $W_h(K)$. We assume that

(1) There exist an operator P_h of $L_0^2(\Omega)$ onto M_h such that

$$\forall q \in L_0^2(\Omega); \quad \|P_h q\|_{0,\Omega} \leq C\|q\|_{0,\Omega}.$$

(2) There exist an operator i_h of $H_0^1(\Omega)$ onto W_h such that

$$\forall s \in H_0^1(\Omega), \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h; \quad |i_h s|_{1,\Omega} \leq C|s|_{1,\Omega} \quad \text{and} \quad \|s - i_h s\|_{0,K} \leq Ch_K \|s\|_{1,\Delta(K)}.$$

(3) There exist an operator I_h de $(H_0^1(\Omega))^d$ onto $(W_h)^d$ such that

$$\forall v \in (H_0^1(\Omega))^d, \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h; \quad |I_h v|_{1,\Omega} \leq C|v|_{1,\Omega} \quad \text{and} \quad \|v - I_h v\|_{0,K} \leq Ch_K \|v\|_{1,\Delta(K)}.$$

The finite element spaces used before verify the assumptions (1)-(3) ([4],[12]).

We set

$$\begin{aligned} e_{1,K} := & \quad h_K^2 \| -\mu \Delta u_h + (u_h \cdot \nabla) u_h \cdot u_h + \nabla p_h - F(T_h) \|_{0,K}^2 + \| \text{div } u_h \|_{0,K}^2 \\ & + \sum_{e \in \partial K} h_e \| [-\mu \frac{\partial u_h}{\partial n_e}]_e + [p_h]_e n_e \|_{0,e}^2, \end{aligned}$$

$$e_{2,K} := h_K^2 \| -\Delta T_h + u_h \cdot \nabla T_h + f(T_h) \|_{0,K}^2 + \sum_{e \in \partial K} h_e \| [\frac{\partial T_h}{\partial n_e}]_e \|_{0,e}^2,$$

$$\epsilon_{1,K} := \sup_{v_h \in X_h(K)} \frac{\mu \int_{\Omega} \nabla u_h \cdot \nabla v_h + \int_{\Omega} (u_h \cdot \nabla) u_h \cdot v_h - \int_{\Omega} p_h \text{div } v_h - \int_{\Omega} F(T_h) v_h}{|v_h|_{1,\Delta(K)}},$$

$$\epsilon_{2,K} := \sup_{q_h \in M_h(K)} \frac{\int_{\Omega} q_h \text{div } u_h}{|q_h|_{0,\Delta(K)}}$$

and

$$\epsilon_{3,k} := \sup_{s_h \in W_h(K)} \frac{\int_{\Omega} \nabla T_h \cdot \nabla s_h dx + \int_{\Omega} (u_h \cdot \nabla T_h) s_h dx + \int_{\Omega} f(T_h) s_h dx}{|s_h|_{1,\Delta(K)}}.$$

Theorem 4.1. *There exist h_0 , such that, for all $h \leq h_0$, we have*

$$\|(u_h, p_h, T_h) - (u, p, T)\|_Y \leq C \left(\sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} e_{i,K}^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \left(\sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \epsilon_{i,K}^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Moreover, we have

$$e_{1,K} \leq C(|u - u_h|_{1,\Delta(K)} + |p - p_h|_{0,\Delta(K)} + |T - T_h|_{1,\Delta(K)}) +$$

$$(\sum_{K \in \Delta(K)} h_K^2 \|F(T_h) - F_h(T_h)\|_{0,K}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

$$e_{2,K} \leq C(|u - u_h|_{1,\Delta(K)} + |p - p_h|_{0,\Delta(K)} + |T - T_h|_{1,\Delta(K)}) +$$

$$(\sum_{K \in \Delta(K)} h_K^2 \|f(T_h) - f_h(T_h)\|_{0,K}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

and

$$\forall i = 1, \dots, 3, \quad \epsilon_{i,K} \leq C(|u - u_h|_{1,\Delta(K)} + |p - p_h|_{0,\Delta(K)} + |T - T_h|_{1,\Delta(K)}).$$

Proof. Remark that, for all $(v, q, s) \in Y$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle F(u_h, p_h, T_h), (v, q, s) \rangle = \langle F(u_h, p_h, T_h), (v - I_h v, q - P_h q, s - i_h s) \rangle \\ & \quad + \langle F(u_h, p_h, T_h), (I_h v, P_h q, i_h s) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

By using the stability of the operators I_h , P_h and i_h , we have

$$\sup_{(v,q,s) \in Y} \frac{\langle F(u_h, p_h, T_h), (I_h v, P_h q, i_h s) \rangle}{\|(v, q, s)\|_Y} \leq \left(\sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \epsilon_{i,K}^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

By using Green formula, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle F(u_h, p_h, T_h), (v - I_h v, q - P_h q, s - i_h s) \rangle \\ &= \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \left\{ \int_K (-\nu \Delta u_h + (u_h \cdot \nabla) u_h \cdot u_h + \nabla p_h - F(T_h))(v - I_h v) dx \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \int_K q_h \operatorname{div} u_h dx + \sum_{e \subset \partial K} \int_e \left([-\mu \frac{\partial u_h}{\partial n_e}]_e + [p_h]_e n_e \right) (v - I_h v) dx \right\} \\ & \quad + \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \left\{ \int_K (-\Delta T_h + u_h \cdot \nabla T_h + \nabla p_h + f(T_h))(s - i_h s) dx \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{e \subset \partial K} \int_e \left(\left[\frac{\partial T_h}{\partial n_e} \right]_e \right) (s - i_h s) dx \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

From the following inequalities:

$$\|v - I_h v\|_{0,K} \leq h_k \|v\|_{1,\Delta(K)}, \quad \|v - I_h v\|_{0,e} \leq h_e^{\frac{1}{2}} \|v\|_{1,\Delta(K)}$$

and

$$\|s - i_h s\|_{0,K} \leq h_k \|s\|_{1,\Delta(K)}, \quad \|s - i_h s\|_{0,e} \leq h_e^{\frac{1}{2}} \|s\|_{1,\Delta(K)}.$$

We deduce

$$\sup_{(v,q,s) \in Y} \frac{\langle F(u_h, p_h, T_h), (v - I_h v, q - P_h q, s - i_h s) \rangle}{\|(v, q, s)\|_Y} \leq C \left(\sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} e_{i,K}^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Finally, by using the relation (4.1). We have

$$\|(u_h, p_h, T_h) - (u, p, T)\|_Y \leq C \left(\left(\sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} e_{i,K}^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \left(\sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \epsilon_{i,K}^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right).$$

Now we will prove the opposite inequalities. First of all, by using the continuity and the equality $F(u, p, T) = 0$, we have

$$\forall i = 1, \dots, 3, \quad \epsilon_{i,K} \leq C(|u - u_h|_{1,\Delta(K)} + |p - p_h|_{0,\Delta(K)} + |T - T_h|_{1,\Delta(K)}).$$

Let b_K the bubble function on K such that $\max_K b_K = 1$ [13]. We set

$$v_K = -\Delta T_h + u_h \cdot \nabla T_h + f_h(T_h)$$

and

$$w_K = b_K(-\Delta T_h + u_h \cdot \nabla T_h + f_h(T_h)) \in H_0^1(\Omega).$$

By using the norms equivalence $\|\cdot\|_{0,K}$ and $\|b_K\cdot\|_{0,K}$ over functions space with finite dimension, we have

$$e_{2,K}^2 \leq C \int_K v_K w_K dx + \|f(T_h) - f_h(T_h)\|_{0,K}.$$

However

$$\int_K v_K w_K dx = \int_K \nabla T_h \cdot \nabla w_K dx + \int_K (u_h \cdot \nabla T_h + f_h(T_h)) w_K dx$$

and

$$\int_K \nabla T \cdot \nabla w_K dx + \int_K (u \cdot \nabla T + f(T)) w_K dx = 0.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_K v_K w_K dx &= \int_K \nabla(T_h - T) \cdot \nabla w_K dx + \int_K ((u_h - u) \cdot \nabla(T_h - T) + u \cdot \nabla(T_h - T)) \\ &+ (u_h - u) \cdot \nabla T w_K dx + \int_K (f_h(T_h) - f(T)) dx + \int_K (f(T_h) - f(T)) w_K dx. \end{aligned}$$

We obtain

$$\int_K v_K w_K dx \leq C\{|u - u_h|_K + |T - T_h|_{1,K}\} \|w_K\|_{1,K} + \|f(T_h) - f_h(T_h)\|_{0,K}.$$

Finally:

$$\|w_K\|_{1,K} \leq Ch_K^{-1} \|w_K\|_{0,K} \leq Ch_K^{-1} \|v_K\|_{0,K}.$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} &h_K \| -\Delta T_h + u_h \cdot \nabla T_h + f(T_h) \|_{0,K} \\ &\leq C\{|u - u_h|_K + |T - T_h|_{1,K}\} + h_K \|f(T_h) - f_h(T_h)\|_{0,K}. \end{aligned}$$

Let e an internal face (edge) of K and b_e the bubble function of K zero over $\partial K/e$. By using the extension operator $P_e : \mathcal{C}^0(e) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^0(K_+ \cup K_-)$ [13], we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\left[\frac{\partial T_h}{\partial n_e}\right]_e\|_{0,e}^2 &\leq \int_e \frac{\partial T_h}{\partial n_e} P_e(s) d\sigma = \int_e \frac{\partial T_h}{\partial n_e} P_e(s) d\sigma \\ &= \int_{K_+ \cup K_-} (\nabla T_h \cdot \nabla P_e(s) + \Delta u_h P_e(s)) dx, \end{aligned}$$

where $s = \left[\frac{\partial T_h}{\partial n_e}\right]_e$.

By using the same arguments as before, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{K_+ \cup K_-} (\nabla T_h \cdot \nabla P_e(s) + \Delta u_h P_e(s)) dx \\ &= \int_{K_+ \cup K_-} (\nabla T_h \cdot \nabla P_e(s) + (u_h \cdot \nabla T_h + f(T_h)) P_e(s)) dx \\ &\quad - \int_{K_+ \cup K_-} (-\Delta T_h + u_h \cdot \nabla T_h + f(T_h)) P_e(s) dx \\ &\leq C\{\|u - u_h\|_{1,\Delta(K)} + \|T - T_h\|_{1,\Omega}\} \|P_e(s)\|_{1,\Omega} \\ &\quad + \| -\Delta T_h + u_h \cdot \nabla T_h + f(T_h) \|_{0,\Omega} \|P_e(s)\|_{0,\Omega}. \end{aligned}$$

However

$$\|P_e(s)\|_{1,K_+\cup K_-} \leq h_e^{-1} \|P_e(s)\|_{0,K_+\cup K_-} \leq Ch_e^{-\frac{1}{2}} \|s\|_{0,e}.$$

So

$$h_e^{\frac{1}{2}} \left\| \left[\frac{\partial T_h}{\partial n_e} \right]_e \right\|_{0,e} \leq C(|T - T_h|_{1,\Delta(K)} + |u - u_h|_{1,\Delta(K)}),$$

therefore

$$\begin{aligned} e_{2,K} &\leq C(|u - u_h|_{1,\Delta(K)} + |p - p_h|_{0,\Delta(K)} + |T - T_h|_{1,\Delta(K)}) \\ &\quad + \left(\sum_{K \in \Delta(K)} h_K^2 \|f(T_h) - f_h(T_h)\|_{0,K}^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, by the same arguments, we have the following inequality:

$$\begin{aligned} e_{1,K} &\leq C(|u - u_h|_{1,\Delta(K)} + |p - p_h|_{0,\Delta(K)} + |T - T_h|_{1,\Delta(K)}) \\ &\quad + \left(\sum_{K \in \Delta(K)} h_K^2 \|F(T_h) - F_h(T_h)\|_{0,K}^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

□

References

- [1] A. Agouzal and K. Allali, Numerical analysis of reaction front propagation model under Boussinesq approximation, *Math. Methods Appl. Sci.*, Vol. 26, No. 18 (2003) 1529-1572.
- [2] C. Bernardi, B. Métivet and B. Pernaud-Thomas, Couplage des équations de Navier-Stokes et de la chaleur : Le modèle et son approximation par éléments finis, *RAIRO Modél. Math. Anal. Numér.*, Vol. 29, No. 7 (1995) 871-921.
- [3] F. Brezzi and M. Fortin, *Mixed and Hybrid Finite Element Methods*, Springer Verlag, New York, 1991.
- [4] P. Clement, Approximation by finite elements functions using local regularization, *RAIRO Anal. Numér.*, Vol. 9, No. R-2 (1975) 77-84.
- [5] P. G. Ciarlet, *The Finite Element Method for Elliptic Problems*, North-Holland, Amsterdam, New York, Oxford, 1978.
- [6] M. Farhloul, S. Nicaise and L. Paquet, A refined mixed finite element method for the Boussinesq equations in polygonal domains, *IMA J. Numer. Anal.*, Vol. 21, No. 2 (2001) 525-551.
- [7] M. Farhloul, S. Nicaise and L. Paquet, A mixed formulation of Boussinesq equations: analysis of nonsingular solutions, *Math. Comp.*, Vol. 69, No. 231 (2000) 965-986.
- [8] V. Girault and P. A. Raviart, *Finite Element Approximation of the Navier-Stokes Equations*, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, Heidelberg, New-York (1986).
- [9] Luo, Zhen-dong, The mixed finite element method for nonstationary conduction-convection problems, (*Chinese*) *Math. Numer. Sin.*, Vol. 20, No. 1 (1998) 69-88; translation in *Chinese J. Numer. Math. Appl.* Vol. 20, No. 2 (1998) 29-59.
- [10] B. J. Matkowsky and G. I. Sivashinsky, An asymptotic derivation of two models in flame theory associated with the constant density approximation, *SIAM J. Appl. Math.*, Vol. 37, No. 3 (1979) 686-699.
- [11] B. J. Matkowsky and G. I. Sivashinsky, Propagation of a pulsating reaction front in solid fuel combustion, *SIAM J. Appl. Math.*, Vol. 35, No. 3 (1978) 465-478.
- [12] L. R. Scott and S. Zhang, Finite element interpolation of non-smooth functions satisfying boundary conditions, *Math. Comp.*, 54 (1990) 43-493.
- [13] R. Verfurth, *A review of a posteriori error estimation and adaptive mesh-refinement techniques*, Teubner Skripten zur Numerik, B.G. Teubner Stuttgart 1996.

Laboratoire de Mathématiques Appliquées Université de Clermont-Ferrand II (Blaise Pascal)
63177 Aubière, FRANCE

E-mail: allali@math.univ-bpclermont.fr

Current Address:

Département de Mathématiques, Faculté des Sciences et Techniques, Université HassanII, B.P.
146, Mohammedia, Morocco
E-mail: `allali@uh2m.ac.ma`