

## A POSTERIORI ERROR ESTIMATES IN ADINI FINITE ELEMENT FOR EIGENVALUE PROBLEMS <sup>\*1)</sup>

Yi-du Yang

(Department of Mathematics, Guizhou Normal University, Guiyang, 550001)

### Abstract

In this paper, we discuss a posteriori error estimates of the eigenvalue  $\lambda_h$  given by Adini nonconforming finite element. We give an asymptotically exact error estimator of the  $\lambda_h$ . We prove that the order of convergence of the  $\lambda_h$  is just 2 and the  $\lambda_h$  converge from below for sufficiently small h.

*Key words:* eigenvalue, nonconforming finite element, error estimate

Consider eigenvalue problems: Find pairs  $(\lambda, u)$ ,  $\lambda \in R$ ,  $u \in H_0^2(G)$ ,  $\|u\|_0 = 1$ , such that

$$a(u, v) = \lambda(u, v), \quad \forall v \in H_0^2(G) \quad (1)$$

and their nonconforming finite element approximations: Find pairs  $(\lambda_h, u_h)$ ,  $\lambda_h \in R$ ,  $u_h \in V_h$ ,  $\|u_h\|_0 = 1$ , such that

$$a_h(u_h, v) = \lambda_h(u_h, v), \quad \forall v \in V_h \quad (2)$$

where  $a(u, v) = \sum \int_G (a_{ijkl} \partial_i \partial_j u \partial_k \partial_l v + a_{pq} \partial_p u \partial_q v)$  is the symmetric, continuous,  $H_0^2$ -elliptic bilinear form,  $(u, v) = \int_G uv$ ;  $V_h$  is a nonconforming finite element space associated with a regular triangulations

$$T_h = \{T\}, \quad V_h \not\subset H_0^2(G), \quad a_h(u, v) = \sum \sum_T \int_T (a_{ijkl} \partial_i \partial_j u \partial_k \partial_l v + a_{pq} \partial_p u \partial_q v)$$

are uniformly  $V_h$ -elliptic; i,j,k,l=1,2; p,q=0,1,2;  $\partial_1 = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ ,  $\partial_2 = \frac{\partial}{\partial y}$ ,  $\partial_0 = id$ ,  $\partial_1 \partial_2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y}$ .

Let  $(\lambda_h, u_h)$  and  $(\lambda, u)$  be an eigenpair of (2) and of (1), respectively, and  $(\lambda_h, u_h)$  converge to  $(\lambda, u)$ . In [3], the abstract error estimates has been presented and the following estimates has been proved for Adini finite element:

$$|\lambda_h - \lambda| \leq Ch^2 \quad (3)$$

---

\* Received May 20, 1997.

<sup>1)</sup> The Project supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China.

In this paper ,we discuss a posteriori error estimates .We prove that the order of convergence is just 2, and give an asymptotically exact estimator for Adini finite element. Consider the steady state problems: Find  $w \in H_0^2(G)$  , such that

$$a(w, v) = (f, v), \quad \forall v \in H_0^2(G) \quad (4)$$

In the case of  $f \equiv u_h$ , let  $u^*$  and  $u_h^* \in V_h$  denote the exact solution and nonconforming finite element solution, respectively. It is obvious that  $u_h^* \equiv \lambda_h^{-1}u_h$ .

**Lemma 1.** *The following estimates hold*

$$\frac{\lambda_h - \lambda}{\lambda} = \frac{\lambda_h}{(u, u_h)}(u^* - u_h^*, u) \quad (5)$$

$$\|u_h - u\|_s \leq C\|u^* - u_h^*\|_s, \quad s = 0, 1 \quad (6)$$

*Proof.* Let  $P_\lambda$  be the orthogonal projection operator of the  $L_2(G)$  onto eigenspace  $V_\lambda$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . Taking  $u = \frac{P_\lambda u_h}{\|P_\lambda u_h\|_0}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (u^* - u_h^*, u) &= (u^* - \lambda_h^{-1}u_h, u) = \lambda^{-1}(u_h, u) - \lambda_h^{-1}(u_h, u) \\ &= (\lambda^{-1} - \lambda_h^{-1})(u_h, u) \end{aligned}$$

which is just (5). The proof of the (6) is the same as that of [5, (1.4)].

In the case of  $f \equiv \lambda u$ , it is obvious that the exact solution of the associated (4) is just  $u$  and nonconforming finite element solution  $u_h^0 \in V_h$  satisfies

$$a_h(u_h^0, v) = \lambda(u, v), \quad \forall v \in V_h \quad (7)$$

**Lemma 2.** *The following inequality holds*

$$\|u_h - u\|_h \leq \|u_h^0 - u\|_h + C\|\lambda_h u_h - \lambda u\|_0 \quad (8)$$

*Proof.* From (2) and (7) we have

$$a_h(u_h - u_h^0, v) = (\lambda_h u_h - \lambda u, v)$$

Taking  $v = u_h - u_h^0$ , we get by uniformly elliptic

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_h - u_h^0\|_h^2 &\leq Ca_h(u_h - u_h^0, u_h - u_h^0) \\ &\leq C\|\lambda_h u_h - \lambda u\|_0\|u_h - u_h^0\|_0 \end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$\|u_h - u_h^0\|_h \leq C\|\lambda_h u_h - \lambda u\|_0$$

using the above inequality and the triangle inequality we obtain (8).

**Lemma 3.** *The following equality holds*

$$\lambda_h - \lambda = a_h(u - u_h, u - u_h) - \lambda \|u - u_h\|_0^2 + 2D_h \quad (9)$$

where  $D_h = a_h(u, u_h) - (\lambda u, u_h)$ .

*Proof.* From (1) and (2) we have

$$\begin{aligned} a_h(u - u_h, u - u_h) &= a_h(u, u) + a_h(u_h, u_h) - 2a_h(u, u_h) = \lambda + \lambda_h - 2(\lambda u, u_h) - 2D_h \\ &= \lambda_h - \lambda + \lambda(2 - 2(u, u_h)) - 2D_h \\ &= \lambda_h - \lambda + \lambda \|u - u_h\|_0^2 - 2D_h \end{aligned}$$

it is just (9).

The above lemma valid for all nonconforming finite element methods. Let  $V_h^0$  be the piecewise constant functions space given by

$$V_h^0 = \{v, v|_T \in P_0(T), T \in T_h\}$$

and  $P$  be the orthogonal projection of  $L_2(G)$  onto  $V_h^0$ . From [6] we easily prove that

**Lemma 4.** *Assume  $w \in W_{1,2}(G)$ , then*

$$\|Pw - w\|_0 \leq Ch\|w\|_1 \quad (10)$$

In the remainder of this paper, we shall essentially discuss Adini finite element. For simplicity, we consider the biharmonic equation:

$$-\Delta^2 u = \lambda u \quad \text{in } G; \quad u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial \gamma} = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial G \quad (11)$$

where  $G$  is a rectangle. In this case, we have  $a(u, v) = \int_G [\Delta u \Delta v + (1 - \nu)(2\partial_{12}u\partial_{12}v - \partial_{11}u\partial_{22}v - \partial_{22}u\partial_{11}v)]$  and  $a_h(u, v) = \sum_T \int_T [\nu \Delta u \Delta v + (1 - \nu)(\partial_{11}u\partial_{11}v + \partial_{22}u\partial_{22}v + 2\partial_{12}u\partial_{12}v)]$ .  $\partial_{ij} = \partial_i \partial_j$ ,  $\partial_{ijk} = \partial_i \partial_j \partial_k$ . Let  $T_h$  be a triangulations made up of rectangles  $T = (x_T - h_T, x_T + h_T) \times (y_T - k_T, y_T + k_T)$  with the center  $(x_T, y_T)$  and  $V_h$  the Adini finite element space associated with  $T_h$ .  $h = \max_T \sqrt{h_T^2 + k_T^2}$ . Denote that  $A_1(u) = \Delta u - (1 - \nu)\partial_{22}u$ ,  $B_1 = \partial_1 u_h - \wedge_T \partial_1 u_h$ ,  $A_2(u) = \Delta u - (1 - \nu)\partial_{11}u$ ,  $B_2 = \partial_2 u_h - \wedge_T \partial_2 u_h$ ,  $\wedge_T$  denotes the bilinear interpolation operator (see [1] P302–P309).

**Theorem 1.** *Assume that the eigenfunction  $u \in H^4(G)$ ,  $(\lambda_h, u_h)$  is the Adini eigenpair, then*

$$\lambda_h - \lambda = 2 \sum_T \int_T \{F \partial_1 A_1(u) \partial_{221} u_h + E \partial_2 A_2(u) \partial_{112} u_h\} + O(h^3) \quad (12)$$

where  $E = \frac{1}{2}((x - x_T)^2 - h_T^2)$ ,  $F = \frac{1}{2}((y - y_T)^2 - k_T^2)$ .

*Proof.* It is well known that (see [1],[3])

$$\|u^* - u_h^*\|_s \leq Ch^2 \|u\|_3, \quad s = 0, 1 \quad (13)$$

$$\|u - u_h^0\|_h \leq Ch^2 \|u\|_4 \quad (14)$$

Substitute (13) into (6) and (14) into (8), we have

$$\|u_h - u\|_s \leq Ch^2 \|u\|_3, \quad s = 0, 1 \quad (15)$$

$$\|u_h - u\|_h \leq Ch^2 \|u\|_4 \quad (16)$$

From [1] P298–P309, we have

$$\begin{aligned} D_h &= \sum_T [\int_{T'_1} A_1(u) B_1 - \int_{T''_1} A_1(u) B_1] + \sum_T [\int_{T'_2} A_2(u) B_2 - \int_{T''_2} A_2(u) B_2] \\ &\equiv D_h^1 + D_h^2 \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

Using the identity argument (see [3]) and  $F, \|B_1\|_0 = O(h^2), \|B_1\|'_1 = O(h), \partial_{122} B_1 = 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} D_h^1 &= \sum_T \int_T F \partial_{122}(A_1(u) B_1) \\ &= \sum_T \int_T F (\partial_1 A_1(u) \partial_{221} u_h + \partial_{122} A_1(u) B_1 + 2\partial_2 A_1(u) \partial_{12} B_1) + O(h^3) \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

Notice that  $F=0$  on  $T'_2$  and  $T''_2$ , using the Green formula, we have

$$\sum_T \int_T F \partial_{122} A_1(u) B_1 = \sum_T [- \int_T \partial_{21} A_1(u) \partial_2(F B_1) + 0] = O(h^3) \quad (19)$$

Using the Green formula and (10) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_T \int_T F \partial_2 A_1(u) \partial_{12} B_1 &= \sum_T - \int_T \partial_2(F \partial_2 A_1(u)) \partial_1 B_1 \\ &= \sum_T - \int_T \partial_2 F \partial_2 A_1(u) \partial_1 B_1 + O(h^3) \\ &= \sum_T -P \partial_2 A_1(u) \int_T \partial_2 F \partial_1 B_1 + O(h^3) \\ &= 0 + O(h^3) = O(h^3) \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

Substitute (19) and (20) into (18), we have

$$D_h^1 = \sum_T \int_T F \partial_1 A_1(u) \partial_{221} u_h + O(h^3) \quad (21)$$

Notice that since  $(C^\infty(\bar{G}))^- = H^4(G)$ , the closure being understood in the sense of the norm  $\|\bullet\|_4$ , the (21) holds as long as the  $u \in H^4(G)$ . And similarly we have

$$D_h^2 = \sum_T \int_T E \partial_2 A_2(u) \partial_{112} u_h + O(h^3) \quad (22)$$

Substitute (21) and (22) into (17) and combining relations (15), (16), (17) and (9), we get (12). The theorem is proved.

**Corollary 1.** Assume that eigenfunctions  $u \in H^4(G)$ , then

$$\lambda_h - \lambda = -\frac{2}{3} \sum_T (h_T^2 \int_T \partial_2 A_2(u) \partial_{112} u + k_T^2 \int_T \partial_1 A_1(u) \partial_{221} u) + O(h^3) \quad (23)$$

$$\lambda_h - \lambda = -\frac{2}{3} \sum_T (h_T^2 \int_T \partial_2 A_2(u_h) \partial_{112} u_h + k_T^2 \int_T \partial_1 A_1(u_h) \partial_{221} u_h) + O(h^3) \quad (24)$$

*Proof.* Using (16) and (10) we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_T \int_T F \partial_1 A_1(u) \partial_{221} u_h &= \sum_T \int_T F \partial_1 A_1(u) \partial_{221} u + O(h^3) \\ &= \sum_T P(\partial_1 A_1(u)) P(\partial_{221} u) \int_T F + O(h^3) \\ &= \sum_T -\frac{1}{3} k_T^2 \int_T P(\partial_1 A_1(u)) P(\partial_{221} u) + O(h^3) \\ &= \sum_T -\frac{1}{3} k_T^2 \int_T \partial_1 A_1(u) \partial_{221} u + O(h^3) \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

Similarly, we can prove

$$\sum_T \int_T E \partial_2 A_2(u) \partial_{112} u_h = \sum_T -\frac{1}{3} h_T^2 \int_T \partial_2 A_2(u) \partial_{112} u + O(h^3) \quad (26)$$

Substitute (25) and (26) into (12) we get (23).

From (16) and (23) we get (24).

The (23) shows that the order of convergence is just 2 for the Adini finite element eigenvalue. The (24) shows that  $-\frac{2}{3} \sum_T (- - -)$  is an asymptotically exact estimator of the  $\lambda_h$  and the corrected eigenvalue  $\lambda_h + \frac{2}{3} \sum_T (- - -)$  increases the accuracy from  $O(h^2)$  to  $O(h^3)$ .

**Corollary 2.** Assume that rectangular mesh is uniform and  $u \in H^4(G)$ , then

$$\lambda_h - \lambda = -\frac{2}{3} h_T^2 \int_G [(\partial_{221} u)^2 + \nu (\partial_{112} u)^2] - \frac{2}{3} k_T^2 \int_G [(\partial_{112} u)^2 + \nu (\partial_{221} u)^2] + O(h^3) \quad (27)$$

*Proof.* Since  $T_h$  is an uniform mesh, from (23) we have

$$\lambda_h - \lambda = -\frac{2}{3} h_T^2 \int_G \partial_2 A_2(u) \partial_{112} u - \frac{2}{3} k_T^2 \int_G \partial_1 A_1(u) \partial_{221} u + O(h^3) \quad (28)$$

from the Green formula [1, P34] and  $u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial \gamma} = 0$ , on  $\partial G$ , we deduce

$$\int_G \partial_1 A_1(u) \partial_{221} u = \int_G (\partial_{111} u + \partial_{122} u - (1 - \nu) \partial_{122} u) \partial_{221} u$$