

## Weak Galerkin and Weak Group Finite Element Methods for 2-D Burgers' Problem

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### ABSTRACT

In this paper, we apply weak Galerkin finite element method (WGFEM) and weak group finite element method (WGrFEM) for 2-D Burgers' problem by using the weak functions and their corresponding discrete weak derivatives in standard weak form. We consider the fully formulation using the backward-difference form for the time variable and we prove the stability and an error estimate for these methods. The numerical examples of our methods have been carried out through implementation in MATLAB programs and compared with the exact solutions and other available literature to illustrate the efficiency of the proposed methods, the WGFEM and the WGrFEM provide convergent approximations and handles the equation well in different cases, the results obtained of our methods are very acceptable and competent more than the results available in the other literature. Moreover, a WGrFEM is displayed to be better than the GFEM.

#### Keywords:

Weak Galerkin; weak group; finite element method; Burgers' problem

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## 1. Introduction

The nonlinear Burgers' equation has been widely used to model several physical flow phenomena in fluid dynamic teaching and in engineering. In this paper, we consider the following time-dependent Burgers' problem in two dimensions

$$u_t - \epsilon \nabla \cdot \nabla u + uu_x + uu_y = f \quad \Omega \times [0, T], \quad (1)$$

with the initial-boundary conditions

$$u(x, y, t) = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \times [0, T],$$

$$u(x, y, 0) = u^0(x, y) \quad \text{on } \bar{\Omega} \times \{0\},$$

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where  $u = u(x, y, t)$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$  is a viscosity constant,  $\Omega \subset R^2$  with boundary  $\partial\Omega$ ,  $\bar{\Omega} = \Omega \cup \partial\Omega$ , and  $f = f(x, y, t) \in L^2(\Omega)$ . The grouped form of Burgers' equation is represented as follows, here the  $uu_x$  and  $uu_y$  terms are replaced by  $\frac{1}{2}(u^2)_x$  and  $\frac{1}{2}(u^2)_y$ , respectively. Burgers' problem is then written as:

$$u_t - \epsilon \nabla \cdot \nabla u + \frac{1}{2}(u^2)_x + \frac{1}{2}(u^2)_y = f \text{ on } \Omega \times [0, T], \quad (2)$$

$$u(x, y, t) = 0, \text{ on } \partial\Omega \times [0, T], u(x, y, 0) = u^0(x, y), \text{ on } \bar{\Omega} \times \{0\}$$

The weak variational forms to Eq. (1) and Eq. (2) respectively with fully formulation utilizing backward difference quotient for the time discretization such as the following:

Let  $0 = t^0 < t^1 < \dots < t^M = T$  be a partition for time interval  $[0, T]$ , where  $t^n = n \Delta t$ ,  $\Delta t$  is the time step and  $M$  is a positive integer, find  $u^n \in H^1(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega))$ , ( $n = 1, 2, \dots, M$ ), such that,

$$(\bar{\partial}_t u^n, v) + \epsilon(\nabla u^n, \nabla v) + (u^n \cdot \nabla u^n, v) = (f^n, v), \quad \Omega \times [0, T], \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega) \quad (3)$$

$$u^n(x, y, t) = 0, \text{ on } \partial\Omega \times [0, T], u(x, y, 0) = u^0(x, y), \text{ on } \bar{\Omega} \times \{0\}$$

$$(\bar{\partial}_t u^n, v) + \epsilon(\nabla u^n, \nabla v) - \frac{1}{2}((u^n)^2, \nabla v) = (f^n, v), \quad \Omega \times [0, T], \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega) \quad (4)$$

$$u^n(x, y, t) = 0, \text{ on } \partial\Omega \times [0, T], u(x, y, 0) = u^0(x, y), \text{ on } \bar{\Omega} \times \{0\}$$

$$\text{where, } \bar{\partial}_t u^n = \frac{u^n - u^{n-1}}{\Delta t}, u^n \cdot \nabla u^n = (u^n, u^n)^t \cdot \nabla u^n .$$

The GrFEM or otherwise called product approximation is a finite element (FE) technique for definite sorts of nonlinear PDEs. Experiments with the GrFEM have shown an increase in economy and in the nodal accuracy compared to FE solutions of the Burgers' equations [3,5,6] and for other problems [8,4,9,27,32]. Recently, the weak Galerkin finite element method has caught much consideration in the field of numerical PDEs, The idea of the weak Galerkin method was first introduced by Wang and Ye [14], the method was applied to the second order elliptic equations [1,15,16,19,20,22,24,28], the Stokes equations [17,21], Parabolic equations [10,11,25], biharmonic equations [23,26], Navier-Stokes equations [7,18,30] and 1-D Burgers' equation [31], etc. In this paper we present (WGFEM) and (WGrFEM) for 2-D Burgers' problem with a fully-discrete approximation for the time variable, the backward-difference formula for the time variable is examined and the stability and error estimate are proved for these methods. The numerical solutions of WGFEM and WGrFEM are compared with the exact solutions and with other available solutions to measure the numerical errors and the efficiency of our methods, the results obtained of WGFEM and WGrFEM are quite satisfactory and competent more than the results available in the other literature, moreover, (WGrFEM) is demonstrated to be better than (WGFEM).

## 2. Preliminaries and Notations

We use standard definitions for the Sobolev spaces  $H^m(\Omega)$ , and their associated inner products  $(\cdot, \cdot)_{m,\Omega}$ , norms  $\|\cdot\|_{m,\Omega}$  and semi-norms  $|\cdot|_{s,\Omega}$  for  $m \geq 0$  any integers  $s \geq 0$  the semi-norm  $|\cdot|_{s,\Omega}$  is given by,

$$|v|_{s,\Omega} = \left( \sum_{|\sigma|=s} \int_{\Omega} |\partial^{\sigma} v|^2 d\Omega \right)^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

where,  $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \sigma_2)$ ,  $|\sigma| = \sigma_1 + \sigma_2$ ,  $\partial^{\sigma} = \partial_x^{\sigma_1} \partial_y^{\sigma_2}$ .

The Sobolev norm  $\|\cdot\|_{m,\Omega}$  is given by,

$$\|v\|_{m,\Omega} = \left( \sum_{j=0}^m |v|_{j,\Omega}^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

The space  $H(\text{div}, \Omega)$  is defined as the set of vector-valued functions on  $\Omega$  which together with their divergence are square integrable,

$$H(\text{div}, \Omega) = \{v: v \in [L^2(\Omega)]^2, \nabla \cdot v \in L^2(\Omega)\},$$

the norm in  $H(\text{div}, \Omega)$  is defined by,

$$\|v\|_{H(\text{div},\Omega)} = (\|v\|^2 + \|\nabla \cdot v\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

### 3. WGFEM And WGRFEM for 2-D Burgers' Problem

Let  $\mathcal{T}_h$  be a shape-regular mesh of the domain  $\bar{\Omega}$ , with mesh size  $h$ , for each element  $\tau \in \mathcal{T}_h$ , we will indicate by  $\tau^0$  and  $\tau^{\partial}$  for the interior and the boundary of  $\tau$  respectively. A weak function on  $\tau$  is a pair of scalar-valued functions  $v = \{v_0, v_b\}$  such that  $v_0 \in L^2(\tau^0)$  and  $v_b \in H^{\frac{1}{2}}(\tau^{\partial})$ . Let  $P^l(\tau^0)$  be the space of polynomials on  $\tau^0$  with degree at most  $l \geq 0$  and  $P^m(\tau^{\partial})$  be the space of polynomials on  $\tau^{\partial}$  with degree at most  $m \geq 0$ . A discrete weak function is a weak function  $v = \{v_0, v_b\}$  such that  $v_0 \in P^l(\tau^0)$  and  $v_b \in P^m(\tau^{\partial})$ . A discrete weak function space on  $\tau$  is defined as,

$$W(\tau, l, m) = \{v = \{v_0, v_b\}: v_0 \in P^l(\tau^0), v_b \in P^m(\tau^{\partial})\}.$$

Let  $P^r(\tau) \subset H(\text{div}, \tau)$  the space of polynomials with degree  $\leq r$ , where  $r \geq 0$ . Let  $V(\tau, r) \subset [P^r(\tau)]^2$ , for any  $v \in W(\tau, l, m)$  its discrete weak gradient  $\nabla_{W,r} v \in V(\tau, r)$  is defined as,

$$\int_{\tau} \nabla_{W,r} v \cdot w \, d\tau = \int_{\tau^{\partial}} v_b w \cdot n \, ds - \int_{\tau^0} v_0 \nabla \cdot w \, d\tau, \forall w \in V(\tau, r).$$

By taking  $W(\tau, l, m)$ ,  $\forall \tau \in \mathcal{T}_h$ , we obtain weak finite element spaces,

$$S_h(l, m) = \{v = \{v_0, v_b\}: v|_{\tau} \in W(\tau, l, m), \forall \tau \in \mathcal{T}_h\},$$

$$S_h^0(l, m) = \{v = \{v_0, v_b\} \in S_h(l, m): v_b|_{\tau^{\partial} \cap \partial\Omega} = 0, \forall \tau \in \mathcal{T}_h\}.$$

To design a WGFEM and WGrFEM, we must follow two basic principles.

- i. Replace  $H_0^1(\Omega)$  by a space of discrete weak functions defined on the finite element partition  $\mathcal{T}_h$  and the boundary of triangular elements.
- ii. replace the classical gradient operator by a discrete weak gradient operator  $\nabla_{W,r}$  for weak functions on each element  $\tau$ .

Now, we describe a WGFEM for 2-D Burgers' problem with the fully discrete formulation utilizing backward difference form for the time variable for Eq. (1), seek  $u_h = \{u_{h,0}, u_{h,b}\} \in S_h^0(l, m)$  such that satisfying

$$(\bar{\partial}_t u_h^n, v_0) + A_1(u_h^n, v) = (f^n, v_0) \text{ on } \Omega \times [0, T], \forall v = \{v_0, v_b\} \in S_h^0(l, m), \quad (5)$$

$$u_h^n(x, y, t) = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega \times [0, T],$$

$$u_h(x, y, 0) = Q_h u^0(x, y) \text{ on } \bar{\Omega} \times \{0\}.$$

The WGrFEM for 2-D Burgers' problem with the fully discrete formulation utilizing backward difference form for the time variable is described as: for Eq. (2), seek  $u_h = \{u_{h,0}, u_{h,b}\} \in S_h^0(l, m)$  such that satisfying

$$(\bar{\partial}_t u_h^n, v_0) + A_2(u_h^n, v) = (f^n, v_0) \text{ on } \Omega \times [0, T], \forall v = \{v_0, v_b\} \in S_h^0(l, m), \quad (6)$$

$$u_h^n(x, y, t) = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega \times [0, T],$$

$$u_h(x, y, 0) = Q_h u^0(x, y) \text{ on } \bar{\Omega} \times \{0\},$$

where

$$A_1(u_h^n, v) = \epsilon(\nabla_{W,r} u_h^n, \nabla_{W,r} v) + (u_h^n \cdot \nabla_{W,r} u_h^n, v_0),$$

$$A_2(u_h^n, v) = \epsilon(\nabla_{W,r} u_h^n, \nabla_{W,r} v) - \frac{1}{2}((u_{0,h}^n)^2, \nabla_{W,r} v),$$

And  $Q_h u \equiv \{Q_{h,0} u, Q_{h,b} u\}$  is the  $L^2$ -projection onto  $W(\tau, l, m)$ .

**Lemma 1.** Let  $S_h^0(l, m)$  be the weak finite element space and  $A_1(\cdot, \cdot)$  and  $A_2(\cdot, \cdot)$  be the bilinear forms given in Eq. (5) and Eq. (6), respectively. There exists a positive constant  $C$  satisfying

$$A_1(v, v) \geq C \left\{ \|\nabla_{W,r} v\|^2 + \|v_0\|^2 \right\},$$

$$A_2(v, v) \geq C \left\{ \|\nabla_{W,r} v\|^2 + \|v_0\|^2 \right\}, \forall v \in S_h^0(l, m).$$

**Proof.** Note that

$$A_1(v, v) = \epsilon \|\nabla_{W,r} v\|^2 + (v \cdot \nabla_{W,r} v, v_0),$$

$$A_2(v, v) = \epsilon \|\nabla_{W,r} v\|^2 - \frac{1}{2}((v)^2, \nabla_{W,r} v),$$

applying Cauchy-Schwartz and Young's inequalities for second term in the right-hand sides in above equations, respectively, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (v \cdot \nabla_{W,r} v, v_0) &\leq \|v\| \|\nabla_{W,r} v\| \|v_0\| \leq \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|v\|^2 \|\nabla_{W,r} v\|^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|v_0\|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{1}{\lambda} \|v\|^2 \|\nabla_{W,r} v\|^2 + \lambda \|v_0\|^2 \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} (v_0^2, \nabla_{W,r} v) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|v_0^2\| \|\nabla_{W,r} v\| \leq \frac{1}{4\lambda} \|v_0^2\|^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} \|\nabla_{W,r} v\|^2 = \frac{1}{4} \left\{ \frac{1}{\lambda} \|v_0^2\|^2 + \lambda \|\nabla_{W,r} v\|^2 \right\}, \quad (8)$$

it follows from Eq. (7) and Eq. (8) respectively,

$$A_1(v, v) \geq \epsilon \|\nabla_{W,r} v\|^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{1}{\lambda} \|v\|^2 \|\nabla_{W,r} v\|^2 + \lambda \|v_0\|^2 \right\} \geq C \left\{ \|\nabla_{W,r} v\|^2 + \|v_0\|^2 \right\},$$

$$A_2(v, v) \geq \epsilon \|\nabla_{W,r} v\|^2 - \frac{1}{4} \left\{ \frac{1}{\lambda} \|v_0^2\|^2 + \lambda \|\nabla_{W,r} v\|^2 \right\} \geq C \left\{ \|\nabla_{W,r} v\|^2 + \|v_0\|^2 \right\}.$$

**Theorem 1.** The methods given in Eq. (5) and Eq. (6) respectively are stable over finite time, specifically, for any  $N > 0$  and a time step  $\Delta t$ , as follows,

$$\|u_h^N\| \leq \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^N f^n + \|u_h^0\|,$$

$$\|u_h^N\| \leq \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^N f^n + \|u_h^0\|.$$

**Proof.** By choosing  $v = u_h^n$  in Eq. (5) and Eq. (6) respectively,

$$(\bar{\partial}_t u_h^n, u_h^n) + A_1(u_h^n, u_h^n) = (f^n, u_h^n),$$

$$(\bar{\partial}_t u_h^n, u_h^n) + A_2(u_h^n, u_h^n) = (f^n, u_h^n),$$

by Cauchy Schwarz inequality we have,

$$\frac{1}{\Delta t} \|u_h^n\|^2 + A_1(u_h^n, u_h^n) \leq \|f^n\| \|u_h^n\| + \frac{1}{\Delta t} \|u_h^{n-1}\| \|u_h^n\|,$$

$$\frac{1}{\Delta t} \|u_h^n\|^2 + A_2(u_h^n, u_h^n) \leq \|f^n\| \|u_h^n\| + \frac{1}{\Delta t} \|u_h^{n-1}\| \|u_h^n\|,$$

from Lemma 1,  $A_1(u_h^n, u_h^n)$  and  $A_2(u_h^n, u_h^n)$  are non-negative terms, we have,

$$\frac{1}{\Delta t} \|u_h^n\|^2 \leq \|f^n\| + \frac{1}{\Delta t} \|u_h^{n-1}\|,$$

$$\frac{1}{\Delta t} \|u_h^n\|^2 \leq \|f^n\| + \frac{1}{\Delta t} \|u_h^{n-1}\|.$$

Summing both sides from  $n = 1$  to  $n = N$ , for above equations give,

$$\|u_h^N\|^2 \leq \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^N \|f^n\| + \|u_h^0\|,$$

$$\|u_h^N\|^2 \leq \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^N \|f^n\| + \|u_h^0\|.$$

#### 4. Error Analysis

In this section we will derive a priori error estimate for the WGFEM and WGrFEM, where  $u_h^n$  is arising from Eq. (5) and Eq. (6) with assuming that the exact solutions of Eq. (1) and Eq. (2) are given by  $u$ . To discuss the approximation properties of the discrete weak space  $S_h(l, m)$ , we define the following projection operators, let  $R_h$  be the local  $L^2$ - projection onto  $V(\tau, r)$ . The last projection operator is  $\Pi_h$  such that  $\Pi_h q \in H(\text{div}, \Omega)$ , and on each  $T \in \mathcal{T}_h$ ,  $\Pi_h q \in V(\tau, r)$ .

**Lemma 2. [16]** For any  $q \in H(\text{div}, \Omega)$ , we have,

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} (-\nabla \cdot q, v_0)_T = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} (\Pi_h q, \nabla_{W,r} v)_T, \quad \forall v = \{v_0, v_b\} \in S_h^0(l, m).$$

From the definitions of local  $L^2$ - projection  $R_h u$  and  $L^2$ - projection  $Q_h u$ , we note,

$$(u - R_h u, w)_T = 0, \quad \forall w \in V(\tau, r).$$

By the Bramble-Hilbert lemma, it is easy to prove that, [26,29]

$$\|u - R_h u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq Ch^s \|u\|_{H^s(\Omega)}, \quad 0 \leq s \leq r + 1. \tag{9}$$

It follows from Eq. (10) that, for  $k \geq 0$ ,

$$\|u - Q_h u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq Ch^s \|u\|_{H^s(\Omega)}, \quad 0 \leq s \leq k + 1. \tag{10}$$

Moreover, the following identity is hold [14]

$$\nabla_{W,r}(Q_h u) = R_h(\nabla u), \quad \forall u \in H^1(T). \tag{11}$$

**Lemma 3. [25]** For  $u \in H^{1+k}(\Omega)$  with  $k > 0$ , we have,

$$\|\Pi_h(\epsilon \nabla u^n) - \epsilon R_h(\nabla u^n)\| \leq Ch^k \|u\|_{k+1}.$$

**Lemma 4. [29]** For  $u \in H^{1+k}(\Omega)$  with  $k > 0$ , we have,

$$\|u - \Pi_h u\| \leq Ch^k \|u\|_{k+1}.$$

**Theorem 2.** Let  $u$  and  $u_h^n$  be the solutions of problems Eq. (1) and Eq. (5) respectively, then there exist a positive constant  $C$  such that,

$$\max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|u^n - u_h^n\| \leq Ch^k \max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|u^n\|_{k+1}.$$

**Proof.** Let

$$u^n - u_h^n = \rho^n + e^n,$$

where,

$$\rho^n = u^n - Q_h u^n, e^n = Q_h u^n - u_h^n,$$

by the triangle inequality we have,

$$\max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|u^n - u_h^n\| \leq \max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|\rho^n\| + \max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|e^n\|.$$

The error bound for  $\rho^n$  is determined by Eq. (10)

$$\max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|\rho^n\| \leq Ch^k \max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|u^n\|_{k+1}. \quad (12)$$

Now, to estimate  $e^n$ , let  $v = \{v_0, v_b\} \in S_h^0(l, m)$  be any test function. By testing Eq. (1) against  $v_0$  with using the fully formulation using backward difference quotient for the time variable, we have,

$$(f^n, v_0) = (\bar{\partial}_t u^n, v_0) - \epsilon(\nabla \cdot \nabla u^n, v_0) + (u^n \cdot \nabla u^n, v_0),$$

by Lemma 2 we get,

$$(f^n, v_0) = (\bar{\partial}_t u^n, v_0) + \epsilon(\Pi_h(\nabla u^n), \nabla_{W,r} v) - \frac{1}{2}(\Pi_h(u^n)^2, \nabla_{W,r} v).$$

Adding and subtracting the term  $A_2(Q_h u^n, v) \equiv \epsilon(\nabla_{W,r} Q_h u^n, \nabla_{W,r} v) - \frac{1}{2}(Q_{h,0}(u^n)^2, \nabla_{W,r} v)$  for the above equation with using the fact,  $(\bar{\partial}_t Q_h u^n, v_0) = (\bar{\partial}_t u^n, v_0)$ , we get,

$$(f^n, v_0) = (\bar{\partial}_t Q_h u^n, v_0) + \epsilon(\Pi_h(\nabla u^n) - \nabla_{W,r} Q_h u^n, \nabla_{W,r} v) - \frac{1}{2}(\Pi_h(u^n)^2 - \nabla_{W,r} Q_{h,0}(u^n)^2, \nabla_{W,r} v) + \epsilon(\nabla_{W,r} Q_h u^n, \nabla_{W,r} v) - \frac{1}{2}(Q_{h,0}(u^n)^2, \nabla_{W,r} v),$$

from Eq. (6) and using Eq. (11)

$$(\bar{\partial}_t u_h^n, v_0) + A_2(u_h^n, v) = (\bar{\partial}_t Q_h u^n, v_0) + \epsilon(\Pi_h(\nabla u^n) - R_h(\nabla u^n), \nabla_{W,r} v) - \frac{1}{2}(\Pi_h(u^n)^2 - Q_{h,0}(u^n)^2, \nabla_{W,r} v) + A_2(Q_h u^n, v),$$

which rewrites as,

$$(\bar{\partial}_t Q_h u^n - \bar{\partial}_t u_h^n, v_0) + A_2(Q_h u^n - u_h^n, v) = \epsilon(R_h(\nabla u^n) - \Pi_h(\nabla u^n), \nabla_{W,r} v) + \frac{1}{2}(\Pi_h(u^n)^2 - Q_{h,0}(u^n)^2, \nabla_{W,r} v),$$

so,

$$(\bar{\partial}_t e^n, v_0) + A_2(e^n, v) = \epsilon(R_h(\nabla u^n) - \Pi_h(\nabla u^n), \nabla_{W,r} v) + \frac{1}{2}(\Pi_h(u^n)^2 - Q_{h,0}(u^n)^2, \nabla_{W,r} v), \quad (13)$$

Substituting  $v$  in Eq. (13) by  $e^n = \{e_0^n, e_b^n\} = \{Q_{h,0}u^n - u_{h,0}^n, Q_{h,b}u^n - u_{h,b}^n\}$  we have,

$$(\bar{\partial}_t e^n, e^n) + A_2(e^n, e^n) = \epsilon(R_h(\nabla u^n) - \Pi_h(\nabla u^n), \nabla_{W,r} e^n) + \frac{1}{2}(\Pi_h(u^n)^2 - Q_{h,0}(u^n)^2, \nabla_{W,r} e^n),$$

from Lemma 1, Cauchy-Schwarz and Young's inequalities,

$$\frac{\|e^n\|^2}{\Delta t} - \frac{\|e^{n-1}\|^2}{2\Delta t} - \frac{\|e^n\|^2}{2\Delta t} + C_2 \left\{ \|\nabla_{W,r} e^n\|^2 + \|e^n\|^2 \right\} \leq \frac{\epsilon}{2C_2} \|R_h(\nabla u^n) - \Pi_h(\nabla u^n)\|^2 + \frac{C_2}{2} \|\nabla_{W,r} e^n\|^2 + \frac{1}{4C_2} \|\Pi_h(u^n)^2 - Q_{h,0}(u^n)^2\|^2 + \frac{C_2}{2} \|\nabla_{W,r} e^n\|^2,$$

this implies,

$$\|e^n\|^2 + 2\Delta t C_2 \|\nabla_{W,r} e^n\|^2 \leq \frac{\epsilon \Delta t}{C_2} \|R_h(\nabla u^n) - \Pi_h(\nabla u^n)\|^2 + \Delta t C_2 \|\nabla_{W,r} e^n\|^2 + \frac{\Delta t}{2C_2} \|\Pi_h(u^n)^2 - Q_{h,0}(u^n)^2\|^2 + \Delta t C_2 \|\nabla_{W,r} e^n\|^2 + \|e^{n-1}\|^2.$$

Summing both sides from  $n = 1$  to  $n = N$ , noting that  $e^0 = 0$ ,

$$\|e^N\|^2 \leq \frac{\epsilon \Delta t}{C_2} \sum_{n=1}^N \|R_h(\nabla u^n) - \Pi_h(\nabla u^n)\|^2 + \frac{\Delta t}{2C_2} \sum_{n=1}^N \|\Pi_h(u^n)^2 - Q_{h,0}(u^n)^2\|^2,$$

then,

$$\max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|e^n\|^2 \leq N \left\{ \frac{\epsilon \Delta t}{C_2} \max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|R_h(\nabla u^n) - \Pi_h(\nabla u^n)\|^2 + \frac{\Delta t}{2C_2} \max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|\Pi_h(u^n)^2 - Q_{h,0}(u^n)^2\|^2 \right\},$$

from Lemma 3 and Lemma 4 we have,

$$\max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|e^n\|^2 \leq Ch^{2k} \max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|u^n\|_{k+1}^2,$$

thus, we have,

$$\max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|e^n\| \leq Ch^k \max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|u^n\|_{k+1}. \quad (14)$$

Combining the bounds Eq. (14) and Eq. (12) the proof is completed.

**Theorem 3.** Let  $u$  and  $u_h^n$  be the solutions of problems Eq. (2) and Eq. (6) respectively, then there exist a positive constant  $C$  such that,

$$\max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|u^n - u_h^n\| \leq Ch^k \max_{1 \leq n \leq N} \|u^n\|_{k+1}$$

**Proof.** In the similar way as the proof of Theorem 1, we can prove this theorem.



## 5. The Numerical Results

In this section, we consider test examples to illustrate a WGFEM Eq. (5) and a WGrFEM Eq. (6) for 2-D Burgers' problem, respectively. We determine  $f(x, y, t)$  according to the corresponding the exact solution of each example, where the boundary conditions equal to zero in all numerical examples. The domain  $\Omega$  where the problems are to be solved is the unit square domain  $\bar{\Omega} = [0,1] \times [0,1]$  and the time step  $\Delta t = h$  where  $h$  is the mesh size parameter.

**Example 1.** In this example, we construct a WGFEM Eq. (5) and a WGrFEM Eq. (6) with the following initial conditions

$$u(x, y, 0) = x^2 (x - 1) y (y - 1),$$

and boundary condition

$$u(0, y, t) = u(1, y, t) = u(x, 0, t) = u(x, 1, t) = 0.$$

This problem has been considered in [13]. In Table 1, we compare the relative error  $\frac{\|u-u_h\|_1}{\|u\|_1}$  of both our methods WGFEM and WGrFEM with those obtained in [13] for different grid of size, for  $T = 1$  and  $\epsilon = 1$ . From tabular illustrations, we see that our result for both methods performed well and results agree with the exact solutions than that suggested by [13], for which the exact solution is given as

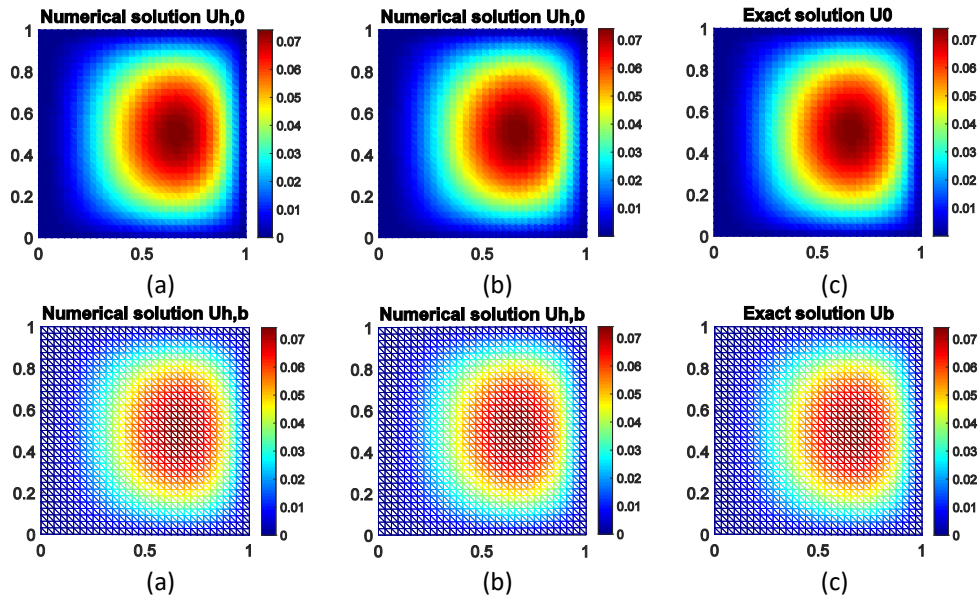
$$u(x, y, t) = (t + 1) x^2 (x - 1) y (y - 1).$$

Moreover, a WGrFEM yields more accurate and convergent to the exact solutions than WGFEM, solution profiles for grid of size  $33 \times 33$  have been depicted in Figure 1, Figure 2 and Figure 3. From tabular illustrations and solution profiles, we see that our methods give better efficiency, accuracy and consistency numerical solutions with the exact solutions than those suggested in [13]. Moreover, we see that a WGrFEM is more likely to capture the actual evolution of the solution than a WGFEM.

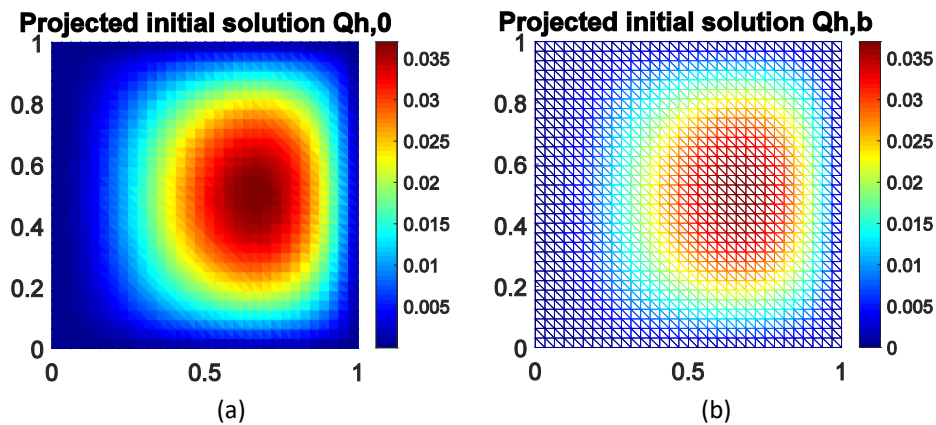
**Table 1**

The error  $\frac{\|u-u_h\|_1}{\|u\|_1}$  at  $T = 1$  and  $\epsilon = 1$

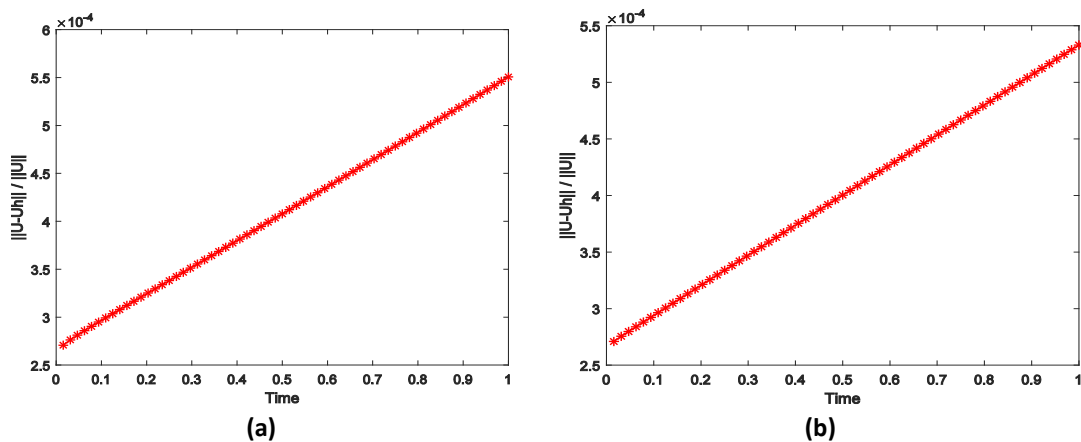
$h$	[13]			WGFEM	WGrFEM
	S.S.	N.S.	O.S.		
$\frac{1}{4}$	0.465	0.465	0.465	$1.086e^{-02}$	$1.088e^{-02}$
$\frac{1}{8}$	0.241	0.241	0.241	$4.151e^{-03}$	$4.151e^{-03}$
$\frac{1}{16}$	0.122	0.122	0.122	$1.508e^{-03}$	$1.499e^{-03}$
$\frac{1}{32}$	0.061	0.061	0.061	$5.506e^{-04}$	$5.330e^{-04}$
$\frac{1}{64}$	0.030	0.030	0.030	$2.239e^{-04}$	$1.886e^{-04}$



**Fig. 1.** Numerical solutions for (a) WGFEM, (b) WGrFEM for 2-D Burgers' problem and (c) exact solutions of  $u_0$  and  $u_b$  respectively at  $\epsilon = 1$ ,  $h = \frac{1}{32}$ ,  $N = 33$  and  $T = 1$



**Fig. 2.** Numerical projected initial solution (a)  $Q_{h,0}u^0$ , (b)  $Q_{h,b}u^0$  at  $\epsilon = 1$ ,  $h = \frac{1}{32}$ ,  $N = 33$  and  $T = 0$



**Fig. 3.** Error estimate  $\|u - u_h\|_{w,1}$  of (a) WGFEM, (b) WGrFEM for 2-D Burgers' problem at  $\epsilon = 1$ ,  $h = \frac{1}{32}$ ,  $N = 33$  and  $T = 1$

**Example 2.** In this example, we construct a WGFEM Eq. (5) and a WGrFEM Eq. (6) with the following initial conditions

$$u(x, y, 0) = x(x - 1)y(y - 1),$$

and boundary conditions

$$u(0, y, t) = u(1, y, t) = u(x, 0, t) = u(x, 1, t) = 0.$$

This problem has been considered in [12]. In Table 2, Table 3 and Table 4, we compare the relative error  $\frac{\|u-u_h\|_1}{\|u\|_1}$  of both our methods WGFEM and WGrFEM with those obtained in [12] for different grid of size for  $T = 1$  and  $\epsilon = 1, 0.1, 0.01$ . The tabulated results show that the proposed methods produce better results than [12], for which the exact solution is given as

$$u(x, y, t) = \cos(t) x(x - 1) y(y - 1).$$

Moreover, a WGrFEM yields more accurate and convergent to the exact solutions than WGFEM, solution profiles for grid of size  $37 \times 37$  have been depicted in Figure 4, Figure 5 and Figure 6. From tabular illustrations and solution profiles, we see that our methods give better efficiency and accuracy, consistency numerical solutions with the exact solutions than those suggested in [12]. Moreover, we see that a WGrFEM is more likely to capture the actual evolution of the solution than a WGFEM.

**Table 2**

The error  $\frac{\|u-u_h\|_1}{\|u\|_1}$  at  $T = 1$  and  $\epsilon = 1$

$h$	[12]				
		1-G.M.	2-G.M.	WGFEM	WGrFEM
$\frac{1}{16}$	0.102		0.104	$4.694e^{-04}$	$4.681e^{-04}$
$\frac{1}{36}$	0.045		0.046	$1.465e^{-04}$	$1.44e^{-04}$
$\frac{1}{64}$	0.026		0.026	$7.594e^{-05}$	$7.24e^{-05}$
$\frac{1}{100}$	0.016		0.016	$5.709e^{-05}$	$5.302e^{-05}$
$\frac{1}{144}$	0.011		0.011	$5.159e^{-05}$	$4.740e^{-05}$

**Table 3**

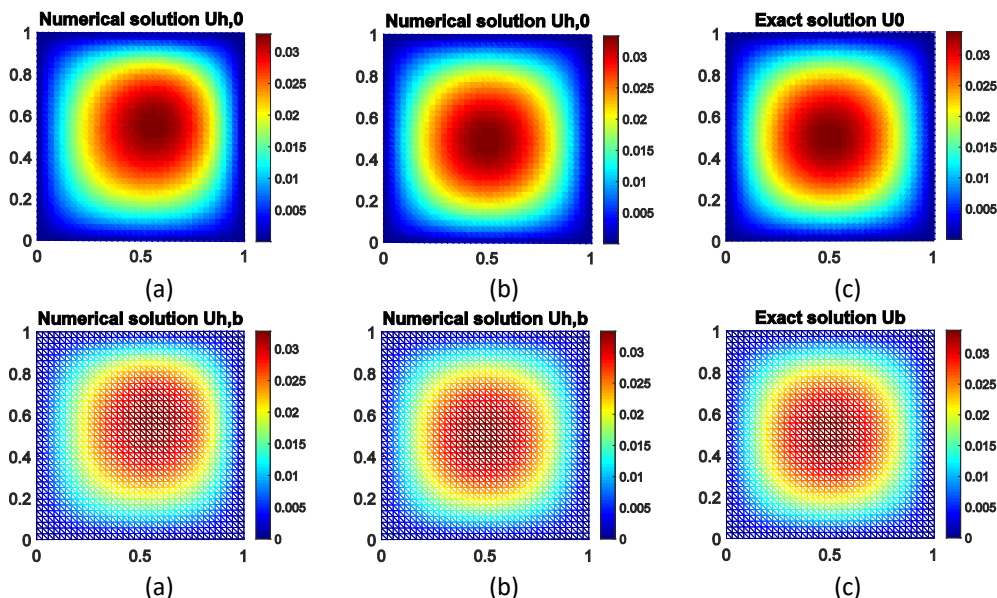
The error  $\frac{\|u-u_h\|_1}{\|u\|_1}$  at  $T = 1$  and  $\epsilon = 0.1$

$h$	[12]				
		1-G.M.	2-G.M.	WGFEM	WGrFEM
$\frac{1}{16}$	0.102		0.105	$7.474e^{-04}$	$5.619e^{-04}$
$\frac{1}{36}$	0.046		0.047	$4.132e^{-04}$	$1.174e^{-04}$
$\frac{1}{64}$	0.026		0.027	$3.721e^{-04}$	$1.058e^{-04}$
$\frac{1}{100}$	0.017		0.017	$3.712e^{-04}$	$1.554e^{-04}$
$\frac{1}{144}$	0.011		0.0122	$3.053e^{-04}$	$1.458e^{-04}$

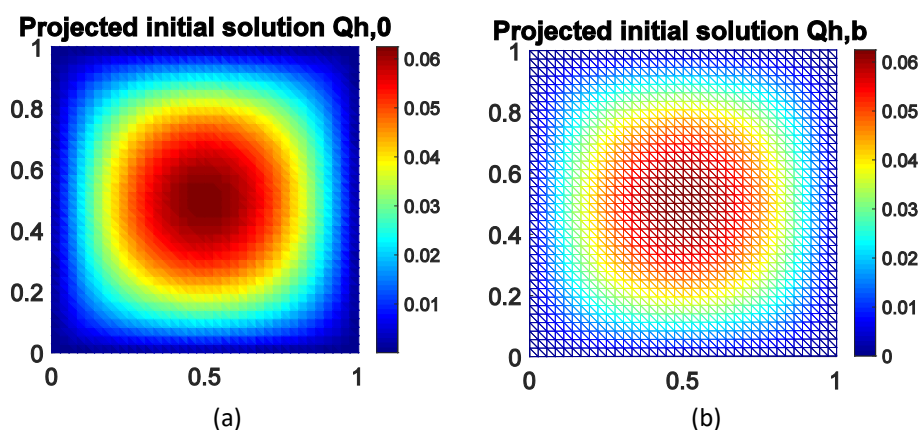
**Table 4**

The error  $\frac{\|u-u_h\|_1}{\|u\|_1}$  at  $T = 1$  and  $\epsilon = 0.01$

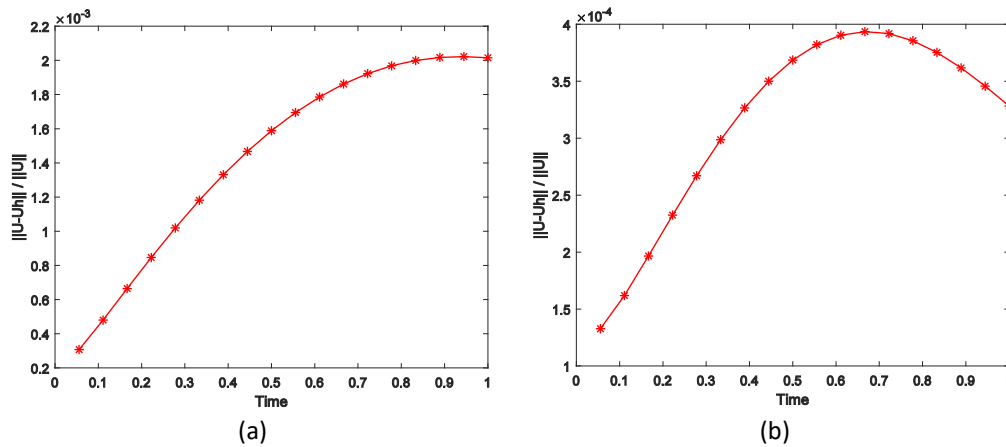
$h$	[12]	1-G.M.	2-G.M.	WGFEM	WGrFEM
$\frac{1}{16}$		0.105	0.228	$2.306e^{-03}$	$1.168e^{-03}$
$\frac{1}{36}$		0.048	0.118	$2.015e^{-03}$	$3.281e^{-04}$
$\frac{1}{64}$		0.029	0.070	$1.986e^{-03}$	$1.420e^{-04}$
$\frac{1}{100}$		0.019	0.046	$1.956e^{-03}$	$1.334e^{-04}$
$\frac{1}{144}$		0.014	0.033	$1.850e^{-03}$	$1.023e^{-04}$



**Fig. 4.** Numerical solutions for (a) WGFEM (b) WGrFEM for 2-D Burgers' problem and (c) exact solutions of  $u_0$  and  $u_b$  respectively at  $\epsilon = 0.01$ ,  $h = \frac{1}{36}$ ,  $N = 37$  and  $T = 1$



**Fig. 5.** Numerical projected initial solution (a)  $Q_{h,0}u^0$ , (b)  $Q_{h,b}u^0$  at  $\epsilon = 0.01$ ,  $h = \frac{1}{36}$ ,  $N = 37$  and  $T = 0$



**Fig. 6.** Error estimate  $\|u - u_h\|_{w,1}$  of (a) WGFEM, (b) WGrFEM for 2-D Burgers' problem at  $\epsilon = 0.01$ ,  $h = \frac{1}{36}$ ,  $N = 37$  and  $T = 1$

**Example 3.** In this example, we construct a WGFEM Eq. (5) and a WGrFEM Eq. (6) with the following initial conditions

$$u(x, y, 0) = \sin(2\pi x)\sin(2\pi y),$$

and boundary conditions

$$u(0, y, t) = u(1, y, t) = u(x, 0, t) = u(x, 1, t) = 0.$$

This problem has been considered in [12]. In Table 5 we compare the relative error  $\frac{\|u-u_h\|_1}{\|u\|_1}$  of both our methods WGFEM and WGrFEM with those obtained in [12] for different grid of size for  $T = 1$  and  $\epsilon = 1$ , From tabular illustrations, we see that our result for both methods performed a better agreement than that obtained in [12], for which the exact solution is given as

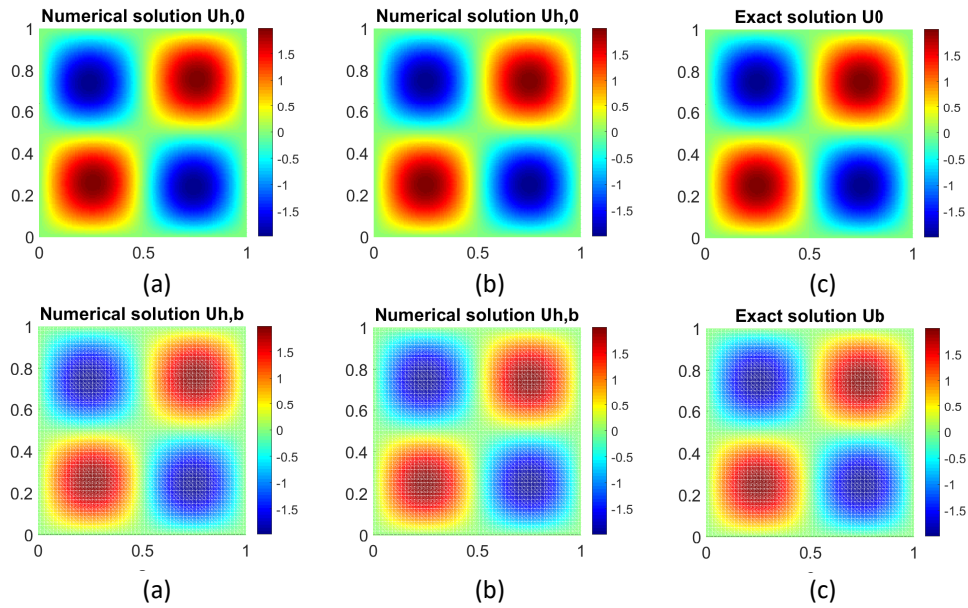
$$u(x, y, t) = (t^2 + 1)\sin(2\pi x)\sin(2\pi y).$$

Moreover, the accuracy of a WGrFEM is better than a WGFEM, solution profiles for grid of size  $145 \times 145$  have been depicted in Figure 7, Figure 8 and Figure 9. From tabular illustrations and solution profiles, we see that our methods give better results and consistent numerical solutions with the exact solutions than those suggested in [12]. Moreover, we see that a WGrFEM is more accurate than a WGFEM.

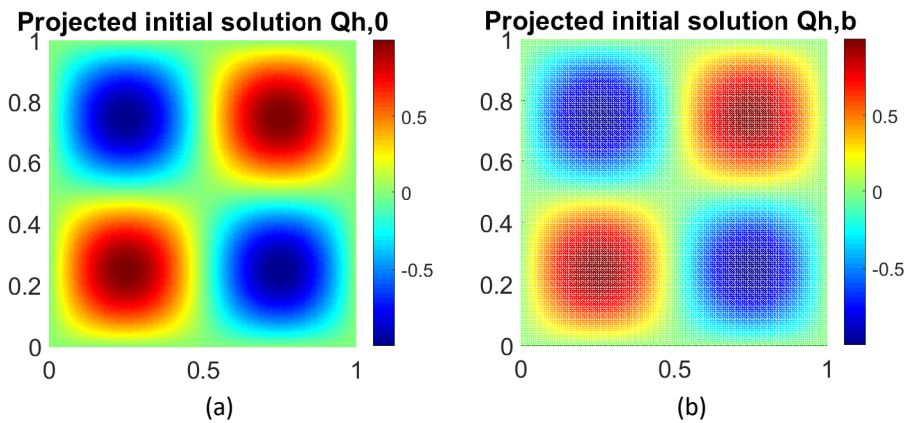
**Table 5**

The error  $\frac{\|u-u_h\|_1}{\|u\|_1}$  at  $T = 1$  and  $\epsilon = 1$

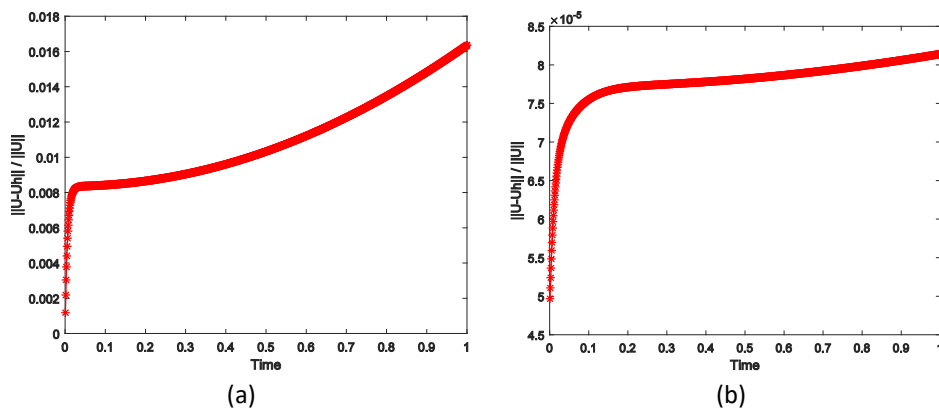
$h$	[12]			
	1-G.M.	2-G.M.	WGFEM	WGrFEM
$\frac{1}{16}$	0.163	0.218	$8.061e^{-02}$	$5.150e^{-02}$
$\frac{1}{36}$	0.073	0.093	$5.194e^{-02}$	$1.458e^{-02}$
$\frac{1}{64}$	0.041	0.054	$3.804e^{-02}$	$6.068e^{-03}$
$\frac{1}{100}$	0.026	0.035	$1.847e^{-02}$	$1.752e^{-04}$
$\frac{1}{144}$	0.018	0.025	$1.653e^{-02}$	$8.495e^{-05}$



**Fig. 7.** Numerical solutions for (a) WGfEM, (b) WGrFEM for 2-D Burgers' problem and (c) exact solutions of  $u_0$  and  $u_b$  respectively at  $\epsilon = 1$ ,  $h = \frac{1}{144}$ ,  $N = 145$  and  $T = 1$



**Fig. 8.** Numerical projected initial solution (a)  $Q_{h,0}u^0$ , (b)  $Q_{h,b}u^0$  at  $\epsilon = 1$ ,  $h = \frac{1}{144}$ ,  $N = 145$  and  $T = 0$



**Fig. 9.** Error estimate  $\|u - u_h\|_{w,1}$  of (a) WGfEM, (b) WGrFEM for 2-D Burgers' problem at  $\epsilon = 1$ ,  $h = \frac{1}{144}$ ,  $N = 145$  and  $T = 1$



**Example 4.** In this example, we construct a WGFEM Eq. (5) and a WGrFEM Eq. (6) with the following initial conditions

$$u(x, y, 0) = 10 x y (x - 1)(y - 1),$$

and boundary conditions

$$u(0, y, t) = u(1, y, t) = u(x, 0, t) = u(x, 1, t) = 0.$$

This problem has been considered in [3]. In Table 6 we compare the relative error  $\frac{\|u-u_h\|_0}{\|u\|_0}$  of a WGFEM and a WGrFEM for different grid of size for  $T = 10$  and  $\epsilon = 0.01$ , from tabular illustrations, we see that our result for both methods achieve satisfactory results. Moreover, a WGrFEM yields more accurate than a WGFEM, for which the exact solution is given as

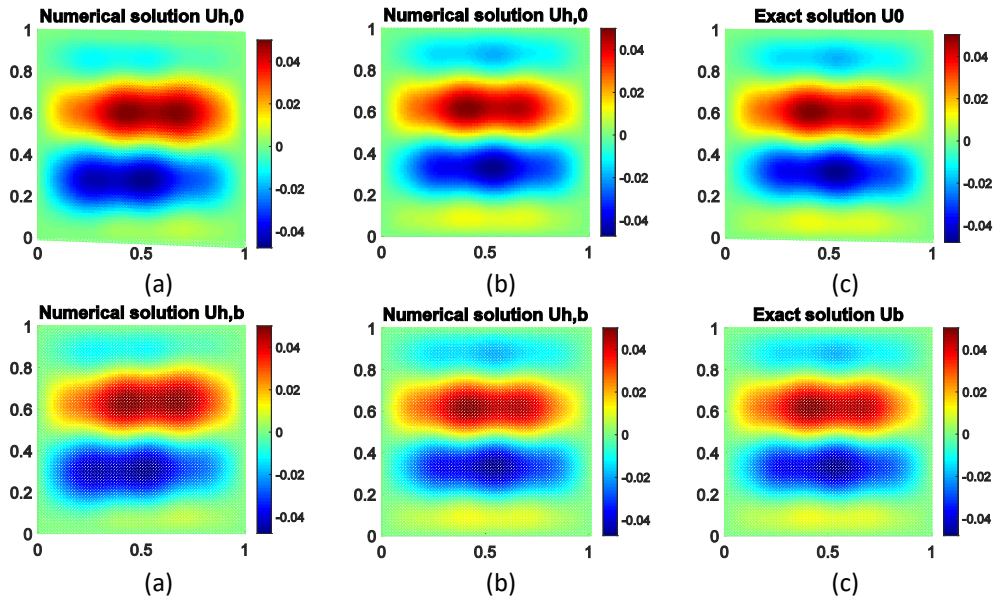
$$u(x, y, t) = 10 x y (x - 1)(y - 1)[\sin(2xt) e^{-\frac{t}{2}} + \cos(yt) e^{-\frac{t}{4}} + \sin(xyt) e^{-t}].$$

Solution profiles for grid of size  $65 \times 65$  have been depicted in Figure 10 and Figure 11, which illustrate a better agreement of a WGFEM and a WGrFEM. In Figure 12, for  $T \in (0,10]$ , we note the WGrFEM yields more accurate and a better agreement than the WGFEM and that obtained in Figure 2 and Figure 3 [3]. From tabular illustrations and solution profiles, we see that our methods give better results and consistent numerical solutions with the exact solutions than those suggested in [3]. Moreover, we see that a WGrFEM is more accurate than a WGFEM.

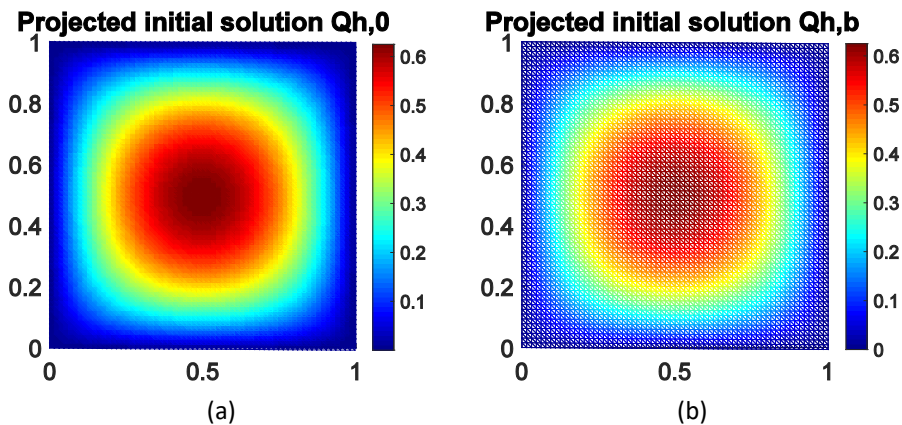
**Table 6**

The error  $\frac{\|u-u_h\|_1}{\|u\|_1}$  at  $T = 10$  and  $\epsilon = 0.01$

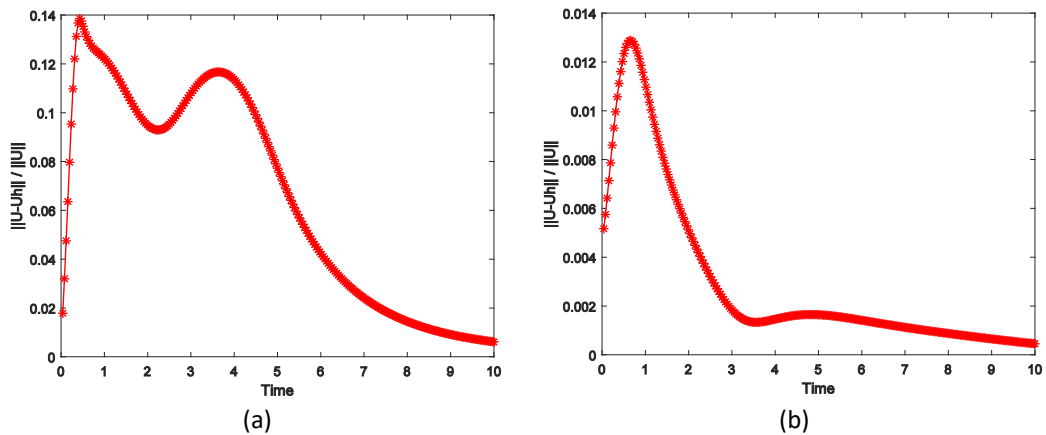
$h$	WGFEM	WGrFEM
$\frac{1}{4}$	$1.020e^{-02}$	$1.301e^{-02}$
$\frac{1}{8}$	$6.840e^{-03}$	$5.828e^{-03}$
$\frac{1}{16}$	$6.163e^{-03}$	$2.481e^{-03}$
$\frac{1}{32}$	$6.108e^{-03}$	$1.034e^{-03}$
$\frac{1}{64}$	$6.109e^{-03}$	$4.540e^{-04}$



**Fig. 10.** Numerical solutions for (a) WGFEM, (b) WGrFEM for 2-D Burgers' problem and (c) exact solutions of  $u_0$  and  $u_b$  respectively at  $\epsilon = 0.01$ ,  $h = \frac{1}{64}$ ,  $N = 65$  and  $T = 10$



**Fig. 11.** Numerical projected initial solution (a)  $Q_{h,0}u^0$ , (b)  $Q_{h,b}u^0$  at  $\epsilon = 0.01$ ,  $h = \frac{1}{64}$ ,  $N = 65$  and  $T = 0$



**Fig. 12.** Error estimate  $\|u - u_h\|_{w,1}$  of (a) WGFEM, (b) WGrFEM for 2-D Burgers' problem at  $\epsilon = 0.01$ ,  $h = \frac{1}{64}$ ,  $N = 65$  and  $T = 10$



## 6. Conclusions

In this work, we have applied the WGFEM and the WGrFEM for 2-D Burgers' problem in the fully discrete case utilizing the backward-difference form for the time variable. From the theoretical analysis and the numerical results, we can conclude that the stability condition of a WGFEM and a WGrFEM are satisfied. The theoretical study is shown that the error estimate of a WGFEM and a WGrFEM are  $O(h^k)$ . We have compared the relative error with other available literature and the numerical solution has been compared with the exact solution and has been illustrate graphically. We conclude that the WGFEM and the WGrFEM provide convergent and consistency approximations in different cases and successfully provide accurate solutions. The results obtained are more satisfactory than the results available in the other literature. The WGrFEM is found to give generally more accurate approximation for 2-D Burgers' problem in comparison with the WGFEM. Finally, the WGFEM and the WGrFEM are appropriate to deal with other nonlinear PDEs which is appeared in various applications of science and engineering.

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