

PARALLEL, NON-ITERATIVE, MULTI-PHYSICS DOMAIN DECOMPOSITION METHODS FOR TIME-DEPENDENT STOKES-DARCY SYSTEMS

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ABSTRACT. Two parallel, non-iterative, multi-physics, domain decomposition methods are proposed to solve a coupled time-dependent Stokes-Darcy system with the Beavers-Joseph-Saffman-Jones interface condition. For both methods, spatial discretization is effected using finite element methods. The backward Euler method and a three-step backward differentiation method are used for the temporal discretization. Results obtained at previous time steps are used to approximate the coupling information on the interface between the Darcy and Stokes subdomains at the current time step. Hence, at each time step, only a single Stokes and a single Darcy problem need be solved; as these are uncoupled, they can be solved in parallel. The unconditional stability and convergence of the first method is proved and also illustrated through numerical experiments. The improved temporal convergence and unconditional stability of the second method is also illustrated through numerical experiments.

1. INTRODUCTION

There exist many important applications that involve a free flow and a porous medium flow occurring in separate but abutting domains, with the two flows coupled at the interface between the two domains. Such flows arise in surface water flows, subsurface oil and groundwater flows such as karst aquifers, and flows in a vuggy porous medium; see, e.g., [2, 20, 21, 25, 40, 60, 65, 76, 83, 98] and the references cited therein. An important model describing such coupled flows is the Stokes-Darcy system in which the Stokes and Darcy systems are used to model the free and porous medium flows, respectively. The two systems of partial differential equations are coupled through interface conditions applied at the interface between the two flows, enabling a better description of the physics compared to that possible with a single-system model. It is not surprising, then, that a great deal of effort has been devoted to the development of methods for the approximate solution of the Stokes-Darcy system, including coupled finite element methods [2, 4, 20–22, 26, 32, 49, 51, 72, 93, 98], domain decomposition methods [19, 27, 40–45, 64, 67], Lagrange multiplier methods [3, 56, 57, 76], two-grid methods [16, 83], decoupled marching schemes [78, 84], discontinuous Galerkin methods [23, 30, 34, 60, 71, 91, 92], mortar

Received by the editor June 7, 2010 and, in revised form, July 22, 2012.

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary 65M55, 65M12, 65M15, 65M60, 35M10, 35Q35, 76D07, 76S05.

Key words and phrases. Stokes-Darcy model, domain decomposition methods, parallel algorithms, finite element methods.

discretizations [9, 50, 52–54], boundary integral methods [10, 97], and others [17, 58, 73, 75, 85, 87]. Stokes–Brinkman and other models have also been studied and compared; see, e.g., [1, 5, 7–9, 14, 15, 28, 36, 61, 81, 82, 86, 88, 95, 100, 102, 103] and the references cited therein.

Physics-based domain decomposition approaches are especially attractive for solving coupled Stokes–Darcy systems because of the obvious possibility of breaking up the problem into two single-physics problems that might be solved in parallel, each possibly using a legacy code. This possibility has motivated the development of several efficient methods for solving the discretized Stokes–Darcy systems; see, e.g., [19, 27, 42, 44, 45, 67]. However, most existing work addresses steady-state Stokes–Darcy models instead of the more interesting and more useful time-dependent models considered in this paper.

In the single-physics setting, domain decomposition has provided a natural and efficient means for solving discretized partial differential equations in parallel.¹ For non-overlapping domain decomposition methods, the major difficulty faced is how to define the values on the interface between subdomains. For elliptic equations, convergent iterations are used to predict the values needed on the interfaces; see, e.g., [12, 55, 80, 90, 101]. For time-dependent problems, there are two popular ways to effect domain decomposition. The traditional way is to apply an iterative domain decomposition method at each time step; see, e.g., [18, 33, 35, 47, 74, 79, 89]. Alternately, one can take advantage of information obtained in previous time steps to construct a non-iterative domain decomposition method. Based on an implicit discretization in time, such methods make use of results from previous time steps to predict the values on the interface between the two subdomains at the current time step. Obviously, the second approach saves on computation and communication costs because it is non-iterative. The key issue encountered in non-iterative domain decomposition is how to obtain optimal accuracy and good stability properties because interface values are obtained from results at previous time steps, i.e., in an explicit manner, instead of using iterations to predict those values. Example methods in the second framework are the explicit/implicit domain decomposition method (EIDD) [37–39, 105, 106], the stabilized EIDD method [107, 108], IPIC methods [70], ADI methods [69], and others [48, 104]. The EIDD method first uses an explicit scheme as a predictor to obtain the information on the interface and then applies an implicit scheme to the interior of each subdomain. Because of the explicit nature of the predictor, the EIDD method is conditionally stable. The IPIC and ADI methods are stabilized EIDD methods developed to achieve better stability with some additional cost.

In this paper, we develop and analyze two parallel non-iterative domain decomposition methods for a time-dependent Stokes–Darcy model with the Beavers–Joseph–Saffman–Jones (BJSJ) interface condition [66, 68, 94]. The central advantages of our approach are as follows.

- The methods are *non-iterative*, that is, at each time step, a *single* Stokes solve and a *single* Darcy solve are needed and, because those solves are

¹In the single-physics setting, the solution domain is usually artificially subdivided into many subdomains as opposed to the obvious domain subdivision according to relevant physics in the multi-physics setting. Of course, in the latter case, one can also further divide each physics-based subdomain in order to achieve greater parallelism. However, in this paper, we only consider physics-based domain decomposition.

uncoupled, they may be done in parallel; this is the least one can hope to have to do at each time step.²

- Even though the coupling terms in the interface conditions are treated in an explicit manner, the methods are *unconditionally stable*.
- The methods yield *optimally accurate* approximations.

For example, compared to the EIDD method, the new methods feature no stability requirement and optimal convergence and are also simpler and less costly to implement.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we introduce the Stokes-Darcy system we study. In Section 3, that system is decoupled using appropriate Robin boundary conditions. In Section 4, the semi-discretization of the decoupled system is studied. The first parallel non-iterative domain decomposition method is proposed in Section 5 and analyzed in Section 6. In Section 7, we propose the second parallel non-iterative domain decomposition method that improves the accuracy of the first. Finally, in Section 8, we present numerical examples illustrating the convergence and stability properties of the two methods.

2. THE STOKES-DARCY MODEL

We consider a coupled Stokes-Darcy system on a bounded domain $\Omega = \Omega_D \cup \Omega_S \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, $d = 2, 3$, where Ω_D and Ω_S denote disjoint open regions with common boundary $\Gamma = \overline{\Omega}_D \cap \overline{\Omega}_S$; see Figure 1.

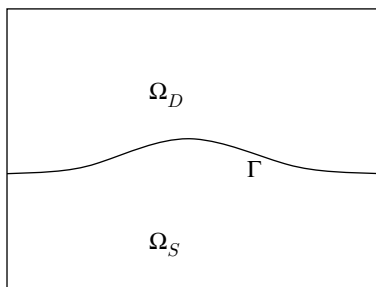


FIGURE 1. A sketch of the porous medium domain Ω_D , the free flow domain Ω_S , and the interface Γ .

In the porous medium region Ω_D , let \vec{u}_D denote the fluid discharge rate, \mathbb{K} the hydraulic conductivity tensor, and f_D the sink/source term; $\phi_D = z + \frac{p_D}{\rho g}$ denotes the hydraulic head, where p_D denotes the dynamic pressure, z the height, ρ the density, and g is the gravity constant. Then, the flow in the porous medium is assumed to satisfy, for $t \in (0, T]$, the Darcy system

$$(2.1) \quad \begin{cases} \vec{u}_D = -\mathbb{K}\nabla\phi_D, \\ \frac{\partial\phi_D}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \vec{u}_D = f_D. \end{cases}$$

²Alternative approaches either require, for each time step, a single **coupled** Stokes-Darcy solve or require an iterative procedure involving **multiple** uncoupled Stokes and Darcy solves; both such approaches are substantially more costly compared to our non-iterative domain decomposition approach which merely requires, for each time step, **single, uncoupled** Stokes and Darcy solves. A third alternative is to use a space-time discretization instead of a straightforward marching scheme; in general, such an approach is more costly compared to ours.

Eliminating \vec{u}_D , we obtain the second-order form of the Darcy system

$$(2.2) \quad \frac{\partial \phi_D}{\partial t} - \nabla \cdot (\mathbb{K} \nabla \phi_D) = f_D.$$

With a modest amount of work and with appropriate modifications, most of what follows remains valid if we use the first-order formulation (2.1) instead of (2.2). We choose to use the latter because it is simpler to implement and its analysis and numerical analysis are also simpler to present.

In the free-flow region Ω_S , let \vec{u}_S denote the fluid velocity, p_S the kinematic pressure, \vec{f}_S the external body force density, and ν the kinematic viscosity of the fluid. Additionally, $\mathbb{T}(\vec{u}_S, p_S) = 2\nu \mathbb{D}(\vec{u}_S) - p_S \mathbb{I}$ denotes the stress tensor, where $\mathbb{D}(\vec{u}_S) = \frac{1}{2}(\nabla \vec{u}_S + \nabla^T \vec{u}_S)$ denotes the rate of deformation tensor and \mathbb{I} the identity tensor. The free flow in Ω_S is assumed to satisfy, for $t \in (0, T]$, the Stokes system

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{\partial \vec{u}_S}{\partial t} - \nabla \cdot \mathbb{T}(\vec{u}_S, p_S) = \vec{f}_S, \\ \nabla \cdot \vec{u}_S = 0. \end{cases}$$

Along the interface Γ , we first impose the two well-accepted interface conditions

$$(2.4) \quad \vec{u}_S \cdot \vec{n}_S = -\vec{u}_D \cdot \vec{n}_D \quad \text{and} \quad -\vec{n}_S \cdot (\mathbb{T}(\vec{u}_S, p_S) \cdot \vec{n}_S) = g(\phi_D - z),$$

where \vec{n}_S and \vec{n}_D denote the unit outer normal to the free flow and porous medium regions at the interface Γ , respectively, and z denotes the vertical Cartesian coordinate. These interface conditions imply the continuity of the normal components of the velocity and the balance of forces normal to the interface. In the tangential direction along the interface, the Beavers-Joseph-Saffman-Jones (BJSJ) interface condition [66, 68, 94]

$$(2.5) \quad -\tau_j \cdot (\mathbb{T}(\vec{u}_S, p_S) \cdot \vec{n}_S) = \frac{\alpha \nu \sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\Pi)}} \tau_j \cdot \vec{u}_S$$

is imposed, where τ_j ($j = 1, \dots, d - 1$) denote mutually orthogonal unit tangential vectors along the interface Γ and Π denotes the permeability of the porous media.

Remark 2.1. The permeability Π is a property of the porous media whereas ν denotes the kinematic viscosity of the fluid. On the other hand, the hydraulic conductivity $\mathbb{K} = \frac{\mu}{\nu} \Pi$ relies on properties of both the fluid and the porous media. In a simulation, one can specify any two of these after which the third is determined.

For simplicity, except on Γ , we impose homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions for the hydraulic head ϕ_D and the free flow velocity \vec{u}_S on the boundaries $\partial\Omega_D$ and $\partial\Omega_S$ of Ω_S and Ω_D , respectively, i.e., we have

$$(2.6) \quad \phi_D = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega_D \setminus \Gamma,$$

$$(2.7) \quad \vec{u}_S = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega_S \setminus \Gamma.$$

Finally, we impose the initial conditions

$$(2.8) \quad \phi_D(0, x, y) = \phi_0(x, y),$$

$$(2.9) \quad \vec{u}_S(0, x, y) = \vec{u}_0(x, y).$$

The Stokes-Darcy system we consider is given by (2.2)–(2.9).

The finite element methods we consider are based on a variational formulation of (2.2)–(2.9) that is defined with respect to the function spaces

$$\begin{aligned} X_S &= \{ \vec{v} \in [H^1(\Omega_S)]^d \mid \vec{v} = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega_S \setminus \Gamma \}, \\ Q_S &= L^2(\Omega_S), \\ X_D &= \{ \psi \in H^1(\Omega_D) \mid \psi = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega_D \setminus \Gamma \}, \\ L^2(0, T; Q_S) &= \{ \phi : \phi(t, \cdot) \in Q_S, \forall t \in [0, T] \}, \\ H^1(0, T; X_D, X'_D) &= \{ \phi : \phi \in L^2(0, T; X_D) \text{ and } \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} \in L^2(0, T; X'_D) \}, \\ H^1(0, T; X_S, X'_S) &= \{ \phi : \phi \in L^2(0, T; X_S) \text{ and } \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} \in L^2(0, T; X'_S) \}, \end{aligned}$$

where X'_D and X'_S denote the dual spaces of X_D and X_S , respectively. For the domain D ($D = \Omega_S$ or Ω_D), $(\cdot, \cdot)_D$ denotes the L^2 inner product and $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denotes the L^2 inner product on the interface Γ or the duality pairing between $(H^{1/2}_0(\Gamma))'$ and $H^{1/2}_0(\Gamma)$. P_τ denotes the projection onto the tangent space on Γ , i.e.,

$$P_\tau \vec{u} = \sum_{j=1}^{d-1} (\vec{u} \cdot \tau_j) \tau_j.$$

We also define the bilinear forms

$$\begin{aligned} a_D(\phi_D, \psi) &= (\mathbb{K} \nabla \phi_D, \nabla \psi)_{\Omega_D}, \\ a_S(\vec{u}_S, \vec{v}) &= 2\nu (\mathbb{D}(\vec{u}_S), \mathbb{D}(\vec{v}))_{\Omega_S}, \quad \text{and} \quad b_S(\vec{v}, q) = -(\nabla \cdot \vec{v}, q)_{\Omega_S}. \end{aligned}$$

With these notations, a weak formulation of the coupled Stokes-Darcy system (2.2)–(2.9) is given as follows [20, 21, 27, 45]: find $(\vec{u}_S, p_S) \in H^1(0, T; X_S, X'_S) \times L^2(0, T; Q_S)$ and $\phi_D \in H^1(0, T; X_D, X'_D)$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\partial \vec{u}_S}{\partial t}, \vec{v} \right)_{\Omega_S} + \left(\frac{\partial \phi_D}{\partial t}, \psi \right)_{\Omega_D} + a_S(\vec{u}_S, \vec{v}) + b_S(\vec{v}, p_S) + a_D(\phi_D, \psi) \\ (2.10) \quad & + \langle g \phi_D, \vec{v} \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle - \langle \vec{u}_S \cdot \vec{n}_S, \psi \rangle + \frac{\alpha \nu \sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\Pi)}} \langle P_\tau \vec{u}_S, P_\tau \vec{v} \rangle \\ & = (f_D, \psi)_{\Omega_D} + (\vec{f}_S, \vec{v})_{\Omega_S} + \langle g z, \vec{v} \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle \quad \forall \vec{v} \in X_S, \psi \in X_D, \end{aligned}$$

$$(2.11) \quad b_S(\vec{u}_S, q) = 0, \quad \forall q \in Q_S,$$

$$(2.12) \quad \vec{u}_S(0) = u_0, \quad \phi_D(0) = \phi_0.$$

The system of (2.10)–(2.12) is well posed for $\vec{f}_S \in [L^2(\Omega_S)]^d$ and $f_D \in L^2(\Omega_D)$; see, e.g., [21, 27, 45].

3. ROBIN BOUNDARY CONDITIONS AND THE DECOUPLED SYSTEM

In order to solve the coupled Stokes-Darcy problem utilizing domain decomposition, following [27], we introduce Robin boundary conditions for the Darcy and Stokes systems.

First, we introduce the Robin condition

$$(3.1) \quad \mathbb{K} \nabla \widehat{\phi}_D \cdot \vec{n}_D + g \widehat{\phi}_D = \xi_D \quad \text{on } \Gamma$$

for the Darcy system, where ξ_D denotes a function defined on Γ . Then, the corresponding weak formulation for the *uncoupled* Darcy system (2.2), (2.6), (2.8), and

(3.1) is given by: for $\xi_D \in L^2(0, T; L^2(\Gamma))$, find $\widehat{\phi}_D \in H^1(0, T; X_D, X'_D)$ such that

$$(3.2) \quad \left(\frac{\partial \widehat{\phi}_D}{\partial t}, \psi\right)_{\Omega_D} + a_D(\widehat{\phi}_D, \psi) + \langle g\widehat{\phi}_D, \psi \rangle = (f_D, \psi)_{\Omega_D} + \langle \xi_D, \psi \rangle \quad \forall \psi \in X_D,$$

$$(3.3) \quad \widehat{\phi}_D(0) = \phi_0.$$

For the Stokes system, we introduce the Robin-type condition

$$(3.4) \quad \vec{n}_S \cdot (\mathbb{T}(\widehat{u}_S, \widehat{p}_S) \cdot \vec{n}_S) + \widehat{u}_S \cdot \vec{n}_S = \xi_S \quad \text{on } \Gamma,$$

where ξ_S denotes a function defined on Γ . Then, the corresponding weak formulation for the *uncoupled* Stokes system (2.3), (2.5), (2.7), (2.9), and (3.4) is given by: for $\xi_S \in L^2(0, T; L^2(\Gamma))$, find $\widehat{u}_S \in H^1(0, T; X_S, X'_S)$ and $\widehat{p}_S \in L^2(0, T; Q_S)$ such that

$$(3.5) \quad \begin{aligned} &\left(\frac{\partial \widehat{u}_S}{\partial t}, \vec{v}\right)_{\Omega_S} + a_S(\widehat{u}_S, \vec{v}) + b_S(\vec{v}, \widehat{p}_S) + \langle \widehat{u}_S \cdot \vec{n}_S, \vec{v} \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle \\ &+ \frac{\alpha\nu\sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\Pi)}} \langle P_\tau \widehat{u}_S, P_\tau \vec{v} \rangle = (\vec{f}_S, \vec{v})_{\Omega_S} + \langle \xi_S, \vec{v} \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle \quad \forall \vec{v} \in X_S, \end{aligned}$$

$$(3.6) \quad b_S(\widehat{u}_S, q) = 0 \quad \forall q \in Q_S,$$

$$(3.7) \quad \widehat{u}_S(0) = \vec{u}_0.$$

It is not difficult to show that there exists a unique solution of the systems (3.2)–(3.7); see, e.g., [21] for the case of coupled Stokes–Darcy system.

The following proposition shows that, for appropriate choices of ξ_S and ξ_D , (smooth) solutions of the coupled Stokes–Darcy system (2.10)–(2.12) are equivalent to solutions of the uncoupled systems (3.2)–(3.3) and (3.5)–(3.7), and hence we may solve the latter systems instead of the former. Even though we have the additional term gz in the second interface condition in (2.4) and the problem we consider is time-dependent, the proof is similar to that of [27, Lemma 2.2] for the steady-state case.

Proposition 3.1. *Let (ϕ_D, \vec{u}_S, p_S) denote the solution of the coupled Stokes–Darcy system (2.10)–(2.12) and let $(\widehat{\phi}_D, \widehat{u}_S, \widehat{p}_S)$ denote the solution of the decoupled Darcy and Stokes systems (3.2)–(3.3) and (3.5)–(3.7), respectively, with Robin boundary conditions at the interface. Suppose (ϕ_D, \vec{u}_S, p_S) is regular in the sense that $\phi_D \in L^2(0, T; H^2(\Omega_D))$, $u_S \in L^2(0, T; H^2(\Omega_S))$, and $p_S \in L^2(0, T; H^1(\Omega_S))$, then $(\widehat{\phi}_D, \widehat{u}_S, \widehat{p}_S) = (\phi_D, \vec{u}_S, p_S)$ if and only if ξ_S and ξ_D satisfy the compatibility conditions*

$$(3.8) \quad \xi_D = \widehat{u}_S \cdot \vec{n}_S + g\widehat{\phi}_D,$$

$$(3.9) \quad \xi_S = \widehat{u}_S \cdot \vec{n}_S - g\widehat{\phi}_D + gz.$$

Remark 3.2. The terms in the Robin conditions (3.1) and (3.4) appear to be dimensionally inconsistent; however, they contain “hidden” dimensional parameters. In fact, two parameters γ_p and γ_f are utilized in [19, 27] to define the Robin boundary conditions

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_p \mathbb{K} \nabla \widehat{\phi}_D \cdot \vec{n}_D + g\widehat{\phi}_D &= \xi_D && \text{on } \Gamma, \\ \vec{n}_S \cdot (\mathbb{T}(\widehat{u}_S, \widehat{p}_S) \cdot \vec{n}_S) + \gamma_f \widehat{u}_S \cdot \vec{n}_S &= \xi_S && \text{on } \Gamma. \end{aligned}$$

In this article, we set, in appropriate units, $\gamma_f = \gamma_p = 1$ for simplicity. The proof of Proposition 3.1 remains valid for arbitrary choices of positive $\gamma_f = \gamma_p$. This is consistent with the results of [19, 27] because convergence is guaranteed as long as we set $\gamma_p = \gamma_f > 0$.

4. SEMI-DISCRETIZATION OF THE DECOUPLED SYSTEM

In this section, we present spatial semi-discretizations of (3.2)–(3.3) and (3.5)–(3.6). For simplicity of notation, let $\|\phi\|_k$ denote $\|\phi\|_{H^k(\Omega_D)}$ ($k = 1, 2$), $\|\vec{u}\|_k$ denote $\|\vec{u}\|_{[H^k(\Omega_S)]^d}$ ($k = 1, 2$), $\|p\|_1$ denote $\|p\|_{H^1(\Omega_S)}$, $\|\phi\|_0$ denote $\|\phi\|_{L^2(\Omega_D)}$, $\|\vec{u}\|_0$ denote $\|\vec{u}\|_{[L^2(\Omega_S)]^d}$, and $\|p\|_0$ denote $\|p\|_{L^2(\Omega_S)}$. We assume that we have in hand regular subdivisions \mathcal{T}_D and \mathcal{T}_S of Ω_D and Ω_S , respectively, into finite elements; we further assume that the interface Γ consists of the union of faces of a subset of the elements of each of the two subdivisions and that the two subdivisions exactly match along Γ . Based on the subdivisions \mathcal{T}_D and \mathcal{T}_S , one can define finite element spaces $X_{Dh} \subset X_D$, $X_{Sh} \subset X_S$, and $Q_{Sh} \subset Q_S$; these spaces are parameterized by the mesh size h .

We assume that X_{Sh} and Q_{Sh} consist of first or higher order of piecewise polynomials and satisfy the inf-sup condition [59, 63, 76],

$$(4.1) \quad \inf_{0 \neq q \in Q_{Sh}} \sup_{0 \neq \vec{v} \in X_{Sh}} \frac{b_S(\vec{v}, q)}{\|\vec{v}\|_1 \|q\|_0} > \beta,$$

where $\beta > 0$ is a constant independent of the mesh size h ; this condition is needed to ensure that the spatial discretizations of the Stokes system are stable. Moreover, we need inverse inequalities in both X_{Dh} and X_{Sh} : there exist C_1 and C_2 , depending on Ω_D and Ω_S , respectively, such that

$$(4.2) \quad \|\phi_h\|_1 \leq C_1 h^{-1} \|\phi_h\|_0, \quad \forall \phi_h \in X_{Dh},$$

$$(4.3) \quad \|\vec{u}_h\|_1 \leq C_2 h^{-1} \|\vec{u}_h\|_0, \quad \forall \vec{u}_h \in X_{Sh}.$$

See [13, 31, 59, 63] for details and for many examples of pairs of finite element spaces X_{Dh} , X_{Sh} , and Q_{Sh} that satisfy (4.1)–(4.3). One example is the Taylor-Hood element pair that we use in the numerical experiments; for that pair, X_{Dh} and X_{Sh} consist of continuous piecewise quadratic polynomials and Q_{Sh} consists of continuous piecewise linear polynomials.

Remark 4.1. The requirement that the finite elements exactly conform to the interface Γ is, of course, restrictive as it is tantamount to assuming that the interface is piecewise planar. Of course, this assumption enables substantial simplifications in the analysis. In the more general case, the two finite element grids would match along a piecewise planar surface Γ_h that approximates a possibly curved interface Γ ; one would then have to account for errors due to the interface approximation throughout the analysis; see [11, 29, 77] and the references therein for related works. Furthermore, if the two grids do not match on the interface, then one has to interpolate data from one side of the interface onto the grid on the other side which introduces additional errors that must be accounted for. All of these topics are of interest for future work. The key foci in this article are the non-iterative aspects of our domain decomposition algorithms and the unconditional stability for the algorithms which treat the interface term in an explicit manner.

Define $P_h : X_D \rightarrow X_{Dh}$ and $\mathbb{P}_h : X_S \rightarrow X_{Sh}$ to be the regular orthogonal projections. We are now in a position to define spatial semi-discretizations of the Darcy system (3.2)–(3.3) and the Stokes system (3.5)–(3.7): find $\widehat{\phi}_h \in H^1(0, T; X_{Dh})$, $\widehat{u}_h \in H^1(0, T; X_{Sh})$ and $\widehat{p}_h \in L^2(0, T; Q_{Sh})$ such that

$$(4.4) \quad \begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\partial \widehat{\phi}_h}{\partial t}, \psi_h \right)_{\Omega_D} + a_D(\widehat{\phi}_h, \psi_h) + \langle g\widehat{\phi}_h, \psi_h \rangle \\ & = (f_D, \psi_h)_{\Omega_D} + \langle \xi_{Dh}, \psi_h \rangle \quad \forall \psi_h \in X_{Dh}, \end{aligned}$$

$$(4.5) \quad \begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\partial \widehat{u}_h}{\partial t}, \vec{v}_h \right)_{\Omega_S} + a_S(\widehat{u}_h, \vec{v}_h) + b_S(\vec{v}_h, \widehat{p}_h) + \langle \widehat{u}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S, \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle \\ & + \frac{\alpha\nu\sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\Pi)}} \langle P_\tau \widehat{u}_h, P_\tau \vec{v}_h \rangle = (\vec{f}_S, \vec{v}_h)_{\Omega_S} + \langle \xi_{Sh}, \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle \quad \forall \vec{v}_h \in X_{Sh}, \end{aligned}$$

$$(4.6) \quad b_S(\widehat{u}_h, q_h) = 0 \quad \forall q_h \in Q_{Sh},$$

$$(4.7) \quad \widehat{\phi}_h(0) = P_h\phi_0, \quad \widehat{u}_h(0) = \mathbb{P}_h\vec{u}_0,$$

where

$$(4.8) \quad \xi_{Dh} = \widehat{u}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S + g\widehat{\phi}_h \quad \text{on } \Gamma,$$

$$(4.9) \quad \xi_{Sh} = \widehat{u}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S - g\widehat{\phi}_h + gz \quad \text{on } \Gamma.$$

There still remains temporal discretizations of (4.4)–(4.9). In Sections 5 and 7, we define two such discretizations that lead to non-iterative domain decomposition methods for the Stokes-Darcy system.

5. THE FIRST PARALLEL NON-ITERATIVE DOMAIN DECOMPOSITION METHOD

The first parallel domain decomposition algorithm is based on, but is not exactly, the backward-Euler method for temporal discretization. All terms in (4.4)–(4.6) are treated implicitly except for the evaluation of ξ_{Dh} and ξ_{Sh} which are treated explicitly so that the Darcy and Stokes parts of (4.4)–(4.7) uncouple at each time step. The algorithm proceeds as follows, assuming that the interval $[0, T]$ is partitioned into N equal intervals of length $\Delta t = T/N$; the uniformity of the partition is not essential to the algorithm.

Algorithm 1 – First non-iterative domain decomposition method. Set

$\widehat{\phi}_h^0 = P_h\phi_0$ and $\widehat{u}_h^0 = \mathbb{P}_h\vec{u}_0$. Then, for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N - 1$,

1. set

$$(5.1) \quad \xi_{Dh}^n = \widehat{u}_h^n \cdot \vec{n}_S + g\widehat{\phi}_h^n \quad \text{on } \Gamma,$$

$$(5.2) \quad \xi_{Sh}^n = \widehat{u}_h^n \cdot \vec{n}_S - g\widehat{\phi}_h^n + gz \quad \text{on } \Gamma.$$

2. Independently solve

$$(5.3) \quad \begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\widehat{\phi}_h^{n+1} - \widehat{\phi}_h^n}{\Delta t}, \psi_h \right)_{\Omega_D} + a_D(\widehat{\phi}_h^{n+1}, \psi_h) + \langle g\widehat{\phi}_h^{n+1}, \psi_h \rangle \\ & = (f_D^{n+1}, \psi_h)_{\Omega_D} + \langle \xi_{Dh}^n, \psi_h \rangle \quad \forall \psi_h \in X_{Dh} \end{aligned}$$

for $\widehat{\phi}_h^{n+1}$ and

$$\begin{aligned}
 (5.4) \quad & \left(\frac{\widehat{u}_h^{n+1} - \widehat{u}_h^n}{\Delta t}, \vec{v}_h \right)_{\Omega_S} + a_S(\widehat{u}_h^{n+1}, \vec{v}_h) + b_S(\vec{v}_h, \widehat{p}_h^{n+1}) \\
 & + \langle \widehat{u}_h^{n+1} \cdot \vec{n}_S, \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle + \frac{\alpha\nu\sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\Pi)}} \langle P_\tau \widehat{u}_h^{n+1}, P_\tau \vec{v}_h \rangle, \\
 & = (\vec{f}_S^{n+1}, \vec{v}_h)_{\Omega_S} + \langle \xi_{Sh}^n, \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle \quad \forall \vec{v}_h \in X_{Sh},
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(5.5) \quad b_S(\widehat{u}_h^{n+1}, q_h) = 0 \quad \forall q_h \in Q_{Sh},$$

for \widehat{u}_h^{n+1} and \widehat{p}_h^{n+1} .

6. CONVERGENCE ANALYSIS FOR THE FIRST PARALLEL NON-ITERATIVE DOMAIN DECOMPOSITION METHOD

We use the well-known energy method framework to analyze the convergence properties of the first non-iterative domain decomposition method. Using this framework, we separate the analysis of errors for the spatially semi-discrete approximation of Section 4 and the fully discrete approximation of Section 5.

In what follows, $C > 0$ denotes a generic constant whose value may be different from place to place, but which is independent of the spatial and temporal grid sizes h and Δt , respectively.

6.1. Error of the semi-discrete approximate solution. We will follow the regular convergence analysis framework for finite element semi-discretizations [46, 96, 99]. For the analysis of the porous medium flow, we define R_h to be the Ritz projection satisfying

$$(6.1) \quad a_D(R_h\phi, \psi_h) = a_D(\phi, \psi_h) \quad \forall \psi_h \in X_{Dh}, \phi \in X_D.$$

For the analysis in the Stokes system, we introduce the projection operator $\mathbb{P} = (\mathbb{P}_s, \mathbb{P}_p) : X_S \times Q_S \rightarrow X_{Sh} \times Q_{Sh}$ such that, for any $\vec{u} \in X_S$ and $p \in Q_S$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (6.2) \quad & a_S(\mathbb{P}_s \vec{u}, \vec{v}_h) + b_S(\vec{v}_h, \mathbb{P}_p p) + \frac{\alpha\nu\sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\Pi)}} \langle P_\tau(\mathbb{P}_s \vec{u}), P_\tau \vec{v}_h \rangle \\
 & = a_S(\vec{u}, \vec{v}_h) + b_S(\vec{v}_h, p) + \frac{\alpha\nu\sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\Pi)}} \langle P_\tau \vec{u}, P_\tau \vec{v}_h \rangle \quad \forall \vec{v}_h \in X_{Sh},
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(6.3) \quad b_S(\mathbb{P}_s \vec{u}, q_h) = b_S(\vec{u}, q_h) \quad \forall q_h \in Q_{Sh}.$$

Under certain smoothness assumptions we have the following error estimates (see [78, page 8] and [84, pages 712 and 715]). For $\vec{u} \in [H^2(\Omega_S)]^d$ and $\phi \in H^2(\Omega_D)$,

$$(6.4) \quad \|P_h\phi - \phi\|_0 \leq Ch^2 \|\phi\|_2,$$

$$(6.5) \quad \|\mathbb{P}_h \vec{u} - \vec{u}\|_0 \leq Ch^2 \|\vec{u}\|_2,$$

$$(6.6) \quad \|R_h\phi - \phi\|_0 \leq Ch^2 \|\phi\|_2,$$

$$(6.7) \quad \|R_h\phi - \phi\|_1 \leq Ch \|\phi\|_2,$$

and for $(\vec{u}, p) \in [H^2(\Omega_S)]^d \times H^1(\Omega_S)$,

$$(6.8) \quad \|\mathbb{P}_s \vec{u} - \vec{u}\|_0 \leq Ch^2 (\|\vec{u}\|_2 + \|p\|_1),$$

$$(6.9) \quad \|\mathbb{P}_s \vec{u} - \vec{u}\|_1 \leq Ch (\|\vec{u}\|_2 + \|p\|_1),$$

$$(6.10) \quad \|\mathbb{P}_p p - p\|_0 \leq Ch (\|\vec{u}\|_2 + \|p\|_1).$$

Remark 6.1. We refer to [11, 24, 29, 96] and the references cited therein for further discussions about relaxing the above assumptions.

Then, the error estimates for the semi-discrete approximations are given as follows.

Theorem 6.2. *Assume that $\widehat{\phi}_D \in H^1(0, T; H^2(\Omega_D))$ and $\widehat{u}_S \in H^1(0, T; [H^2(\Omega_S)]^d)$. Then,*

$$(6.11) \quad \begin{aligned} & \left\| \widehat{\phi}_h - \widehat{\phi}_D \right\|_1 + \left\| \widehat{u}_h - \widehat{u}_S \right\|_1 \\ & \leq Ch \left(\left\| \widehat{\phi}_D \right\|_{H^1(0, T; H^2(\Omega_D))} + \left\| \widehat{u}_S \right\|_{H^1(0, T; [H^2(\Omega_S)]^d)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Define

$$(6.12) \quad \theta = \widehat{\phi}_h - R_h \widehat{\phi}_D \quad \text{and} \quad \rho = R_h \widehat{\phi}_D - \widehat{\phi}_D.$$

Then,

$$(6.13) \quad \widehat{\phi}_h - \widehat{\phi}_D = \theta + \rho.$$

Taking $\psi = \psi_h \in X_{Dh}$ in (3.2), substituting (3.8) into (3.2), and subtracting (3.2) from (4.4), we have

$$(6.14) \quad \begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\partial \widehat{\phi}_h}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial \widehat{\phi}_D}{\partial t}, \psi_h \right)_{\Omega_D} + a_D(\widehat{\phi}_h - \widehat{\phi}_D, \psi_h) + \langle g(\widehat{\phi}_h - \widehat{\phi}_D), \psi_h \rangle \\ & = \langle (\widehat{u}_h - \widehat{u}_S) \cdot \vec{n}_S + g(\widehat{\phi}_h - \widehat{\phi}_D), \psi_h \rangle \quad \forall \psi_h \in X_{Dh}. \end{aligned}$$

Define

$$(6.15) \quad \vec{\theta}_1 = \widehat{u}_h - \mathbb{P}_s \widehat{u}_S, \quad \vec{\rho}_1 = \mathbb{P}_s \widehat{u}_S - \widehat{u}_S,$$

$$(6.16) \quad \theta_2 = \widehat{p}_h - \mathbb{P}_p \widehat{p}_S, \quad \rho_2^n = \mathbb{P}_p \widehat{p}_S - \widehat{p}_S.$$

Then,

$$(6.17) \quad \widehat{u}_h - \widehat{u}_S = \vec{\theta}_1 + \vec{\rho}_1 \quad \text{and} \quad \widehat{p}_h - \widehat{p}_S = \theta_2 + \rho_2.$$

Taking $\vec{v} = \vec{v}_h \in X_{Sh}$ in (3.5), substituting (3.9) into (3.5), and subtracting (3.5) from (4.5), we obtain

$$(6.18) \quad \begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\partial(\widehat{u}_S - \widehat{u}_h)}{\partial t}, \vec{v}_h \right)_{\Omega_S} + a_S(\widehat{u}_S - \widehat{u}_h, \vec{v}_h) + b_S(\vec{v}_h, \widehat{p}_h - \widehat{p}_S) \\ & \quad + \langle (\widehat{u}_S - \widehat{u}_h) \cdot \vec{n}_S, \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle + \frac{\alpha \nu \sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\Pi)}} \langle P_\tau \left(\widehat{u}_S - \widehat{u}_h \right), P_\tau \vec{v}_h \rangle \\ & = \langle (\widehat{u}_h - \widehat{u}_S) \cdot \vec{n}_S - g(\widehat{\phi}_h - \widehat{\phi}_D), \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle \quad \forall \vec{v}_h \in X_{Sh}. \end{aligned}$$

Taking $q = q_h \in Q_{Sh}$ in (3.6) and subtracting the result from (4.6), we have

$$(6.19) \quad b_S(\widehat{u}_h - \widehat{u}_S, q_h) = 0 \quad \forall q_h \in Q_{Sh}.$$

Then, substituting (6.13) and (6.17) into (6.14), (6.18), and (6.19), choosing $\psi_h = \theta$, $\vec{v}_h = \vec{\theta}_1$, and $q_h = \theta_2$, and using (6.1), (6.2), and (6.3), we obtain

$$\left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t}, \theta \right)_{\Omega_D} + a_D(\theta, \theta) = - \left(\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}, \theta \right)_{\Omega_D} + \langle (\vec{\theta}_1 + \vec{\rho}_1) \cdot \vec{n}_S, \theta \rangle$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\partial \vec{\theta}_1}{\partial t}, \vec{\theta}_1\right)_{\Omega_S} + a_S(\vec{\theta}_1, \vec{\theta}_1) + b_S(\vec{\theta}_1, \theta_2) + \frac{\alpha\nu\sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\Pi)}} \langle P_\tau \vec{\theta}_1, P_\tau \vec{\theta}_1 \rangle \\ &= -\left(\frac{\partial \vec{\rho}_1}{\partial t}, \vec{\theta}_1\right)_{\Omega_S} - \langle g(\theta + \rho), \vec{\theta}_1 \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle, \\ & b_S(\vec{\theta}_1, \theta_2) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t}, \theta\right)_{\Omega_D} + \left(\frac{\partial \vec{\theta}_1}{\partial t}, \vec{\theta}_1\right)_{\Omega_S} + a_D(\theta, \theta) + a_S(\vec{\theta}_1, \vec{\theta}_1) \\ &= -\left(\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}, \theta\right)_{\Omega_D} + \langle (\vec{\theta}_1 + \vec{\rho}_1) \cdot \vec{n}_S, \theta \rangle - \left(\frac{\partial \vec{\rho}_1}{\partial t}, \vec{\theta}_1\right)_{\Omega_S} - \langle g(\theta + \rho), \vec{\theta}_1 \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d\|\theta\|_0^2}{dt} + \frac{d\|\vec{\theta}_1\|_0^2}{dt} + 2a_D(\theta, \theta) + 2a_S(\vec{\theta}_1, \vec{\theta}_1) \\ & \leq \left\| \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \right\|_0^2 + \|\theta\|_0^2 + \left\| \frac{\partial \vec{\rho}_1}{\partial t} \right\|_0^2 + \|\vec{\theta}_1\|_0^2 + \|\vec{\rho}_1\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + g\|\rho\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + (1 + 2g)\|\vec{\theta}_1\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \\ & \quad + (2 + g)\|\theta\|_{0,\Gamma}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Using trace theory, we have

$$(6.20) \quad \|\theta\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \leq C\|\theta\|_0\|\theta\|_1 \leq \frac{C}{2} \left[\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\|\theta\|_0^2 + \varepsilon\|\theta\|_1^2 \right],$$

$$(6.21) \quad \|\vec{\theta}_1\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \leq C\|\vec{\theta}_1\|_0\|\vec{\theta}_1\|_1 \leq \frac{C}{2} \left[\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\|\vec{\theta}_1\|_0^2 + \varepsilon\|\vec{\theta}_1\|_1^2 \right].$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d\|\theta\|_0^2}{dt} + \frac{d\|\vec{\theta}_1\|_0^2}{dt} + 2a_D(\theta, \theta) + 2a_S(\vec{\theta}_1, \vec{\theta}_1) \\ (6.22) \quad & \leq \left\| \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \right\|_0^2 + \|\theta\|_0^2 + \left\| \frac{\partial \vec{\rho}_1}{\partial t} \right\|_0^2 + \|\vec{\theta}_1\|_0^2 + \|\vec{\rho}_1\|_1^2 + \|\rho\|_1^2 \\ & \quad + (1 + 2g)\frac{C}{2} \left[\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\|\vec{\theta}_1\|_0^2 + \varepsilon\|\vec{\theta}_1\|_1^2 \right] + (2 + g)\frac{C}{2} \left[\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\|\theta\|_0^2 + \varepsilon\|\theta\|_1^2 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

By the Korn and Poincaré inequalities, we can choose ε such that

$$(1 + 2g)\frac{C}{2}\varepsilon\|\vec{\theta}_1\|_1^2 + (2 + g)\frac{C}{2}\varepsilon\|\theta\|_1^2 \leq C_1 \left(\|\vec{\theta}_1\|_1^2 + \|\theta\|_1^2 \right) \leq a_D(\theta, \theta) + a_S(\vec{\theta}_1, \vec{\theta}_1),$$

where $C_1 > 0$ is a constant. Hence, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d\|\theta\|_0^2}{dt} + \frac{d\|\vec{\theta}_1\|_0^2}{dt} + C_1 \left(\|\vec{\theta}_1\|_1^2 + \|\theta\|_1^2 \right) \\ (6.23) \quad & \leq C(\|\theta\|_0^2 + \|\vec{\theta}_1\|_0^2) + \left\| \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \right\|_0^2 + \left\| \frac{\partial \vec{\rho}_1}{\partial t} \right\|_0^2 + C(\|\vec{\rho}_1\|_1^2 + \|\rho\|_1^2). \end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{d\|\theta\|_0^2}{dt} + \frac{d\|\tilde{\theta}_1\|_0^2}{dt} \\
 (6.24) \quad & \leq C(\|\theta\|_0^2 + \|\tilde{\theta}_1\|_0^2) + \left\| \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \right\|_0^2 + \left\| \frac{\partial \tilde{\rho}_1}{\partial t} \right\|_0^2 + C(\|\tilde{\rho}_1\|_1^2 + \|\rho\|_1^2).
 \end{aligned}$$

Integrating (6.24) from 0 to t and applying Gronwall's inequality, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|\theta(t)\|_0^2 + \|\tilde{\theta}_1(t)\|_0^2 & \leq C \left[\|\theta(0)\|_0^2 + \|\tilde{\theta}_1(0)\|_0^2 \right. \\
 & \left. + \int_0^t \left(\left\| \frac{\partial \rho(s)}{\partial t} \right\|_0^2 + \left\| \frac{\partial \tilde{\rho}_1}{\partial t} \right\|_0^2 + C\|\tilde{\rho}_1\|_1^2 + C\|\rho\|_1^2 \right) ds \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

Then by (6.4)–(6.10), the proof is completed. □

Remark 6.3. Higher convergence rates are possible if the projection errors (6.4)–(6.10) are of higher order. However, higher order projection errors are not generally valid assumptions unless the interface is convex with respect to the domains on both sides, i.e., the interface is a straight line for $d = 2$, which is the case in our numerical experiments.

6.2. Error of the fully discrete approximate solution. Standard analyses of the backward Euler method for the heat and Stokes equations yield that the temporal error is $O(\Delta t)$. The first domain decomposition algorithm consists of a heat equation and a Stokes system which have been decoupled by using the Robin boundary conditions which, in turn, introduce two coupling functions ξ_D and ξ_S . Therefore, compared with the standard analysis of the backward Euler method, the additional work here is to analyze the error caused by using ξ_D^n and ξ_S^n to replace $\xi_D(t_{n+1})$ and $\xi_S(t_{n+1})$. However, because this replacement also has accuracy order of $O(\Delta t)$, we expect the same order of accuracy for the error of the full discretization.

The following theorem states that the first parallel non-iterative domain decomposition method is unconditionally stable and has optimal rates of convergence.

Theorem 6.4. *If $\widehat{\phi}_D \in H^1(0, T; H^2(\Omega_D)) \cap L^\infty(0, T; H^2(\Omega_D)) \cap H^2(0, T; L^2(\Omega_D))$, $\widehat{u}_S \in H^1(0, T; H^2(\Omega_S)) \cap L^\infty(0, T; H^2(\Omega_S)) \cap H^2(0, T; L^2(\Omega_S))$, $\xi_D \in H^1(0, T; L^2(\Gamma))$, and $\xi_S \in H^1(0, T; L^2(\Gamma))$, then*

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left\| \widehat{\phi}_h^n - \widehat{\phi}_D(t_n) \right\|_0 + \left\| \widehat{u}_h^n - \widehat{u}_S(t_n) \right\|_0 \\
 & \leq C e^{CT} \Delta t \left[\int_0^{t_n} \left\| \frac{\partial^2 \widehat{\phi}_D}{\partial t^2} \right\|_0 dt + \int_0^{t_n} \left\| \frac{\partial \xi_D}{\partial t} \right\|_{0,\Gamma} dt \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \int_0^{t_n} \left\| \frac{\partial^2 \widehat{u}_S}{\partial t^2} \right\|_0 dt + \int_0^{t_n} \left\| \frac{\partial \xi_S(s)}{\partial t} \right\|_{0,\Gamma} dt \right] \\
 & \quad + C e^{CT} h^2 \left[\int_0^{t_n} \left\| \frac{\partial \widehat{\phi}_D}{\partial t} \right\|_2 dt + \int_0^{t_n} \left\| \frac{\partial \widehat{u}_S}{\partial t} \right\|_2 dt \right. \\
 (6.25) \quad & \left. + \max_{0 \leq s \leq t_n} \left\| \widehat{\phi}_D(s) \right\|_2 + \max_{0 \leq s \leq t_n} \left(\left\| \widehat{u}_S(s) \right\|_2 + \|\widehat{p}_S(s)\|_1 \right) \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

Proof. We follow the standard energy method framework [46,96,99] to analyze the error of fully discrete approximations. For the Darcy part, taking $\psi = \psi_h \in X_{Dh}$ in (3.2) and subtracting (3.2) from (5.3), we have

$$(6.26) \quad \left(\frac{\widehat{\phi}_h^{n+1} - \widehat{\phi}_h^n}{\Delta t} - \frac{\partial \widehat{\phi}_D(t_{n+1})}{\partial t}, \psi_h \right)_{\Omega_D} + a_D(\widehat{\phi}_h^{n+1} - \widehat{\phi}_D(t_{n+1}), \psi_h) + \langle g(\widehat{\phi}_h^{n+1} - \widehat{\phi}_D(t_{n+1})), \psi_h \rangle = \langle \xi_D^n - \xi_D(t_{n+1}), \psi_h \rangle \quad \forall \psi_h \in X_{Dh}.$$

Define

$$(6.27) \quad \theta^n = \widehat{\phi}_h^n - R_h \widehat{\phi}_D(t_n) \quad \text{and} \quad \rho^n = R_h \widehat{\phi}_D(t_n) - \widehat{\phi}_D(t_n).$$

Then,

$$(6.28) \quad \widehat{\phi}_h^n - \widehat{\phi}_D(t_n) = \theta^n + \rho^n.$$

Here, ρ^n is bounded because of (6.6) and (6.7), i.e.,

$$(6.29) \quad \|\rho^n\|_0 \leq Ch^2 \left\| \widehat{\phi}_D(t_n) \right\|_2.$$

For the Stokes part, take $\vec{v} = \vec{v}_h \in X_{Sh}$ in (3.5) and $q = q_h \in Q_{Sh}$ in (3.6). Then, subtracting (3.5) and (3.6) from (5.4), and (5.5) separately, we obtain

$$(6.30) \quad \begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\widehat{u}_h^{n+1} - \widehat{u}_h^n}{\Delta t} - \frac{\partial \widehat{u}_S(t_{n+1})}{\partial t}, \vec{v}_h \right)_{\Omega_S} + a_S(\widehat{u}_h^{n+1} - \widehat{u}_S(t_{n+1}), \vec{v}_h) \\ & + b_S(\vec{v}_h, \widehat{p}_h^{n+1} - \widehat{p}_S(t_{n+1})) + \langle (\widehat{u}_h^{n+1} - \widehat{u}_S(t_{n+1})) \cdot \vec{n}_S, \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle \\ & + \frac{\alpha \nu \sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\mathbb{II})}} \langle P_\tau (\widehat{u}_h^{n+1} - \widehat{u}_S(t_{n+1})) \rangle, P_\tau \vec{v}_h \rangle \\ & = \langle \xi_S^n - \xi_S(t_{n+1}), \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle \quad \forall \vec{v}_h \in X_{Sh}, \end{aligned}$$

$$(6.31) \quad b_S(\widehat{u}_h^{n+1} - \widehat{u}_S(t_{n+1}), q_h) = 0 \quad \forall q_h \in Q_{Sh}.$$

Define

$$(6.32) \quad \vec{\theta}_1^n = \widehat{u}_h^n - \mathbb{P}_s \widehat{u}_S(t_n), \quad \vec{\rho}_1^n = \mathbb{P}_s \widehat{u}_S(t_n) - \widehat{u}_S(t_n),$$

$$(6.33) \quad \theta_2^n = \widehat{p}_h^n - \mathbb{P}_p \widehat{p}_S(t_n), \quad \rho_2^n = \mathbb{P}_p \widehat{p}_S(t_n) - \widehat{p}_S(t_n).$$

Then,

$$(6.34) \quad \widehat{u}_h^n - \widehat{u}_S(t_n) = \vec{\theta}_1^n + \vec{\rho}_1^n \quad \text{and} \quad \widehat{p}_h^n - \widehat{p}_S(t_n) = \theta_2^n + \rho_2^n.$$

Here (6.8) and (6.9) give us the estimates

$$(6.35) \quad \|\vec{\rho}_1^n\|_0 + h \|\vec{\rho}_1^n\|_1 \leq Ch^2 (\|\widehat{u}_S(t_n)\|_2 + \|\widehat{p}_S(t_n)\|_1),$$

$$(6.36) \quad \|\rho_2^n\|_0 \leq Ch^2 (\|\widehat{u}_S(t_n)\|_2 + \|\widehat{p}_S(t_n)\|_1).$$

Also, we have the following relations for the approximations of the coupling functions. Subtracting (3.8) and (3.9) from (5.1) and (5.2) separately, we have

$$(6.37) \quad \begin{aligned} \xi_D^n - \xi_D(t_n) &= \left(\widehat{u}_h^n \cdot \vec{n}_S + g \widehat{\phi}_h^n \right) - \left(\widehat{u}_S(t_n) \cdot \vec{n}_S + g \widehat{\phi}_D(t_n) \right) \\ &= \left(\vec{\theta}_1^n + \vec{\rho}_1^n \right) \cdot \vec{n}_S + g(\theta^n + \rho^n) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 \xi_S^n - \xi_S(t_n) &= \left(\widehat{u}_h^n \cdot \vec{n}_S - g\widehat{\phi}_h^n + gz \right) - \left(\widehat{u}_S(t_n) \cdot \vec{n}_S - g\widehat{\phi}_D(t_n) + gz \right) \\
 (6.38) \qquad &= \left(\vec{\theta}_1^n + \vec{\rho}_1^n \right) \cdot \vec{n}_S - g(\theta^n + \rho^n).
 \end{aligned}$$

Now we begin to analyze the Darcy part of the Stokes-Darcy system. Define

$$(6.39) \qquad w_1^{n+1} = R_h \left(\frac{\widehat{\phi}_D(t_{n+1}) - \widehat{\phi}_D(t_n)}{\Delta t} \right) - \frac{\partial \widehat{\phi}_D(t_{n+1})}{\partial t},$$

$$(6.40) \qquad w_2^{n+1} = \xi_D(t_{n+1}) - \xi_D(t_n).$$

By (6.1) and (6.27), we have

$$(6.41) \qquad a_D(\rho^{n+1}, \psi_h) = 0 \quad \forall \psi_h \in X_{Dh}.$$

Choose $\psi_h = \theta^{n+1}$. Then, substituting (6.28), (6.37), (6.39), (6.40), and (6.41) into (6.26), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\left(\frac{\theta^{n+1} - \theta^n}{\Delta t}, \theta^{n+1} \right)_{\Omega_D} + a_D(\theta^{n+1}, \theta^{n+1}) + \langle g\theta^{n+1}, \theta^{n+1} \rangle \\
 &= -(w_1^{n+1}, \theta^{n+1})_{\Omega_D} - \langle w_2^{n+1}, \theta^{n+1} \rangle - \langle g\rho^{n+1}, \theta^{n+1} \rangle \\
 (6.42) \qquad &+ \langle \vec{\rho}_1^n \cdot \vec{n}_S + g\rho^n, \theta^{n+1} \rangle + \langle \vec{\theta}_1^n \cdot \vec{n}_S + g\theta^n, \theta^{n+1} \rangle.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now we turn to the analysis of the Stokes part. Define

$$(6.43) \qquad w_3^{n+1} = \mathbb{P}_s \left(\frac{\widehat{u}_S(t_{n+1}) - \widehat{u}_S(t_n)}{\Delta t} \right) - \frac{\partial \widehat{u}_S(t_{n+1})}{\partial t},$$

$$(6.44) \qquad w_4^{n+1} = \xi_S(t_{n+1}) - \xi_S(t_n).$$

By (6.2) and (6.3), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &a_S(\vec{\rho}_1^{n+1}, \vec{v}_h) + b_S(\vec{v}_h, \rho_2^{n+1}) + \langle \vec{\rho}_1^{n+1} \cdot \vec{n}_S, \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle \\
 (6.45) \qquad &+ \frac{\alpha\nu\sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\Pi)}} \langle P_\tau \vec{\rho}_1^{n+1}, P_\tau \vec{v}_h \rangle = 0 \quad \forall \vec{v}_h \in X_{Sh},
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(6.46) \qquad b_S(\vec{\rho}_1^{n+1}, q_h) = 0 \quad \forall q_h \in Q_{Sh}.$$

Choose $\vec{v}_h = \vec{\theta}_1^{n+1}$ and $q_h = \theta_2^{n+1}$. Then, substituting (6.34), (6.43), (6.44), (6.45), and (6.46) into (6.30) and (6.31), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\left(\frac{\vec{\theta}_1^{n+1} - \vec{\theta}_1^n}{\Delta t}, \vec{\theta}_1^{n+1} \right)_{\Omega_S} + a_S(\vec{\theta}_1^{n+1}, \vec{\theta}_1^{n+1}) + b_S(\vec{\theta}_1^{n+1}, \theta_2^{n+1}) \\
 &+ \langle \vec{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \vec{n}_S, \vec{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle + \frac{\alpha\nu\sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\Pi)}} \langle P_\tau \vec{\theta}_1^{n+1}, P_\tau \vec{\theta}_1^{n+1} \rangle \\
 &= -(\vec{w}_3^{n+1}, \vec{\theta}_1^{n+1})_{\Omega_S} - \langle w_4^{n+1}, \vec{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle - \langle \vec{\rho}_1^{n+1} \cdot \vec{n}_S, \vec{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle \\
 &+ \langle \vec{\rho}_1^n \cdot \vec{n}_S - g\rho^n, \vec{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle + \langle \vec{\theta}_1^n \cdot \vec{n}_S - g\theta^n, \vec{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle \\
 &b_S(\vec{\theta}_1^{n+1}, \theta_2^{n+1}) = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(\frac{\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} - \bar{\theta}_1^n}{\Delta t}, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \right)_{\Omega_S} + a_S(\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}) + \langle \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S \rangle \\
 (6.47) \quad & \leq -(\bar{w}_3^{n+1}, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1})_{\Omega_S} - \langle w_4^{n+1}, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S \rangle - \langle \bar{\rho}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S \rangle \\
 & \quad + \langle \bar{\rho}_1^n \cdot \bar{n}_S - g\rho^n, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S \rangle + \langle \bar{\theta}_1^n \cdot \bar{n}_S - g\theta^n, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S \rangle.
 \end{aligned}$$

Adding (6.47) to (6.42), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(\frac{\theta^{n+1} - \theta^n}{\Delta t}, \theta^{n+1} \right)_{\Omega_D} + \left(\frac{\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} - \bar{\theta}_1^n}{\Delta t}, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \right)_{\Omega_S} + a_D(\theta^{n+1}, \theta^{n+1}) \\
 & \quad + a_S(\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}) + \langle \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S \rangle + \langle g\theta^{n+1}, \theta^{n+1} \rangle \\
 (6.48) \quad & \leq -(w_1^{n+1}, \theta^{n+1})_{\Omega_D} - \langle w_2^{n+1}, \theta^{n+1} \rangle - (\bar{w}_3^{n+1}, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1})_{\Omega_S} - \langle w_4^{n+1}, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S \rangle \\
 & \quad - \langle g\rho^{n+1}, \theta^{n+1} \rangle - \langle \bar{\rho}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S \rangle \\
 & \quad + \langle \bar{\rho}_1^n \cdot \bar{n}_S + g\rho^n, \theta^{n+1} \rangle + \langle \bar{\rho}_1^n \cdot \bar{n}_S - g\rho^n, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S \rangle \\
 & \quad + \langle \bar{\theta}_1^n \cdot \bar{n}_S + g\theta^n, \theta^{n+1} \rangle + \langle \bar{\theta}_1^n \cdot \bar{n}_S - g\theta^n, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S \rangle.
 \end{aligned}$$

Using the Schwarz and Young inequalities and trace theory, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|\theta^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \Delta t a_D(\theta^{n+1}, \theta^{n+1}) + \Delta t a_S(\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}) \\
 & \quad + g \Delta t \|\theta^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \Delta t \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \\
 (6.49) \quad & \leq \frac{1}{2} \|\theta^n\|_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\theta^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \left[\frac{1}{\varepsilon_1} \|w_1^{n+1}\|_0^2 \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \varepsilon_1 \|\theta^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_1} \|\bar{w}_3^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \varepsilon_1 \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_0^2 \right] + C \Delta t \left[\frac{1}{\varepsilon_2} \|w_2^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \varepsilon_2 \|\theta^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_2} \|w_4^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \varepsilon_2 \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_2} \|\rho^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \varepsilon_2 \|\theta^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_2} \|\bar{\rho}_1^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \varepsilon_2 \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_2} \|\bar{\rho}_1^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \varepsilon_2 \|\theta^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_2} \|\rho^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \varepsilon_2 \|\theta^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_2} \|\bar{\rho}_1^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \varepsilon_2 \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_2} \|\rho^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \varepsilon_2 \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_3} \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \varepsilon_3 \|\theta^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_3} \|\theta^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \varepsilon_3 \|\theta^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_3} \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \varepsilon_3 \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_3} \|\theta^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \varepsilon_3 \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right] \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{2} \|\theta^n\|_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\theta^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \left[\frac{1}{\varepsilon_1} \|w_1^{n+1}\|_0^2 \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \varepsilon_1 \|\theta^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_1} \|\bar{w}_3^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \varepsilon_1 \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_0^2 \right] + \frac{C \Delta t}{\varepsilon_2} \left[\|w_2^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \|w_4^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\bar{\rho}_1^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\rho^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\rho^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\bar{\rho}_1^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right] \\
 & \quad + C \varepsilon_2 \Delta t \left[\|\theta^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right] + C \Delta t \left[\varepsilon_3 \|\theta^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \varepsilon_3 \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_3} \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_3} \|\theta^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

By the coercivity of $a_D(\cdot, \cdot)$ and $a_S(\cdot, \cdot)$ and the Korn and Poincaré inequalities, we can choose $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2$, and ε_3 such that

$$(6.50) \quad \frac{\varepsilon_1}{2} \|\theta^{n+1}\|_0^2 + C(\varepsilon_2 + \varepsilon_3) \|\theta^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} a_D(\theta^{n+1}, \theta^{n+1}) + g \|\theta^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2$$

and

$$(6.51) \quad \frac{\varepsilon_1}{2} \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_0^2 + C(\varepsilon_2 + \varepsilon_3) \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} a_S(\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}) + \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1} \cdot \bar{n}_S\|_{0,\Gamma}^2.$$

Also, by trace theory, we have

$$(6.52) \quad \|\theta^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \leq C \|\theta^n\|_0 \|\theta^n\|_1 \leq \frac{C}{2} \left[\frac{1}{\varepsilon_4} \|\theta^n\|_0^2 + \varepsilon_4 \|\theta^n\|_1^2 \right],$$

$$(6.53) \quad \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \leq C \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_0 \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_1 \leq \frac{C}{2} \left[\frac{1}{\varepsilon_4} \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_0^2 + \varepsilon_4 \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_1^2 \right].$$

Then, substituting (6.50)–(6.53) into (6.49), we have

$$(6.54) \quad \begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \|\theta^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \frac{\Delta t}{2} a_D(\theta^{n+1}, \theta^{n+1}) + \frac{\Delta t}{2} a_S(\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} \|\theta^n\|_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_0^2 + \frac{\Delta t}{2\varepsilon_1} \|w_1^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \frac{\Delta t}{2\varepsilon_1} \|\bar{w}_3^{n+1}\|_0^2 \\ & + \frac{C}{\varepsilon_2} \Delta t \left[\|w_2^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|w_4^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\bar{\rho}_1^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\rho^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right. \\ & \left. + \|\rho^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\bar{\rho}_1^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right] + C \Delta t \left[\frac{1}{\varepsilon_3\varepsilon_4} \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_0^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_3\varepsilon_4} \|\theta^n\|_0^2 \right] \\ & + C \Delta t \left[\frac{\varepsilon_4}{\varepsilon_3} \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_1^2 + \frac{\varepsilon_4}{\varepsilon_3} \|\theta^n\|_1^2 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Based on the coercivity of $a_D(\cdot, \cdot)$ and $a_S(\cdot, \cdot)$, we may choose ε_4 such that

$$(6.55) \quad \frac{C\varepsilon_4}{\varepsilon_3} \|\theta^{n+1}\|_1^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} a_D(\theta^{n+1}, \theta^{n+1}),$$

$$(6.56) \quad \frac{C\varepsilon_4}{\varepsilon_3} \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_1^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} a_S(\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}, \bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}).$$

Then,

$$(6.57) \quad \begin{aligned} & \|\theta^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \frac{2C\varepsilon_4 \Delta t}{\varepsilon_3} \|\theta^{n+1}\|_1^2 + \frac{2C\varepsilon_4 \Delta t}{\varepsilon_3} \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_1^2 \\ & \leq \|\theta^n\|_0^2 + \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_0^2 + \frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon_1} \|w_1^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon_1} \|\bar{w}_3^{n+1}\|_0^2 \\ & + \frac{2C}{\varepsilon_2} \Delta t \left[\|w_2^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|w_4^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + 2\|\bar{\rho}_1^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + 2\|\rho^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right. \\ & \left. + \|\rho^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\bar{\rho}_1^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right] + 2C \Delta t \left[\frac{1}{\varepsilon_3\varepsilon_4} \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_0^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon_3\varepsilon_4} \|\theta^n\|_0^2 \right] \\ & + 2C \Delta t \left[\frac{\varepsilon_4}{\varepsilon_3} \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_1^2 + \frac{\varepsilon_4}{\varepsilon_3} \|\theta^n\|_1^2 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Let $\varepsilon = \frac{2C\varepsilon_4}{\varepsilon_3}$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\theta^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \varepsilon \Delta t \|\theta^{n+1}\|_1^2 + \varepsilon \Delta t \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_1^2 \\ & \leq (1 + C \Delta t) \left[\|\theta^n\|_0^2 + \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_0^2 + \varepsilon \Delta t \|\bar{\theta}_1^n\|_1^2 + \varepsilon \Delta t \|\theta^n\|_1^2 \right] \\ & \quad + C \Delta t \left[\|w_1^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \|w_2^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\bar{w}_3^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \|w_4^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \|\bar{\rho}_1^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\rho^n\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\rho^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\bar{\rho}_1^{n+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Straightforward manipulation leads to

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\theta^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_0^2 + \varepsilon \Delta t \|\theta^{n+1}\|_1^2 + \varepsilon \Delta t \|\bar{\theta}_1^{n+1}\|_1^2 \\ & \leq (1 + C \Delta t)^{n+1} (\|\theta^0\|_0^2 + \|\bar{\theta}_1^0\|_0^2 + \varepsilon \Delta t \|\bar{\theta}_1^0\|_1^2 + \varepsilon \Delta t \|\theta^0\|_1^2) \\ & \quad + C \Delta t \sum_{j=0}^n (1 + C \Delta t)^j \left[\|w_1^{j+1}\|_0^2 + \|w_2^{j+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\bar{w}_3^{j+1}\|_0^2 + \|w_4^{j+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \|\bar{\rho}_1^j\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\bar{\rho}_1^{j+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\rho^j\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\rho^{j+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right] \\ & \leq C e^{CT} \left[\|\theta^0\|_0^2 + \|\bar{\theta}_1^0\|_0^2 + \varepsilon \Delta t \|\bar{\theta}_1^0\|_1^2 + \varepsilon \Delta t \|\theta^0\|_1^2 \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \Delta t \sum_{j=0}^n \left(\|w_1^{j+1}\|_0^2 + \|w_2^{j+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\bar{w}_3^{j+1}\|_0^2 + \|w_4^{j+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right) \right. \\ (6.58) \quad & \left. + \|\bar{\rho}_1^j\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\bar{\rho}_1^{j+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\rho^j\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 + \|\rho^{j+1}\|_{0,\Gamma}^2 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Then by (6.4)–(6.10), we complete the proof of (6.25). □

Remark 6.5. The constant C in Theorems 6.2 and 6.4 is independent of the parameter α in the BJSJ interface condition but depends on ν and $\|\mathbb{K}\|$ and therefore, it depends on (see Remark 2.1) on ν and $\|\Pi\|$. It can be shown that this constant grows with decreasing ν or $\|\Pi\|$.

7. THE SECOND PARALLEL NON-ITERATIVE DOMAIN DECOMPOSITION METHOD

We now discuss a multi-step method to improve the accuracy in time discretization. Assume the spatial error is of $O(h^3)$. Then we may apply a three-step backward differentiation method that results in $O(h^3 + \Delta t^3)$ errors. The method is complicated by the need to use one- and two-step methods to set up the three-step method in such a way that accuracy is not lost. Again, as in Section 5, we use a uniform partition of the interval $[0, T]$, although, again, this is not essential to the algorithm, applying the algorithm to non-uniform partitions now requires changes in the coefficients of the two- and three-step methods to avoid loss of accuracy. The algorithm proceeds as follows.

Algorithm 2 – Second non-iterative domain decomposition method. Set

$\widehat{\phi}_h^0 = P_h \phi_0$ and $\widehat{u}_h^0 = \mathbb{P}_h \vec{u}_0$. Then,

1. set

$$\xi_{Dh}^0 = \widehat{u}_h^0 \cdot \vec{n}_S + g \widehat{\phi}_h^0 \quad \text{and} \quad \xi_{Sh}^0 = \widehat{u}_h^0 \cdot \vec{n}_S - g \widehat{\phi}_h^0 + gz \quad \text{on } \Gamma$$

and independently solve

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\tilde{\phi}_h^1 - \hat{\phi}_h^0}{\Delta t}, \psi_h \right)_{\Omega_D} + a_D(\tilde{\phi}_h^1, \psi_h) + \langle g\tilde{\phi}_h^1, \psi_h \rangle \\ & = (f_D^1, \psi_h)_{\Omega_D} + \langle \xi_{Dh}^0, \psi_h \rangle \quad \forall \psi_h \in X_{Dh} \end{aligned}$$

for $\tilde{\phi}_h^1$ and

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\tilde{u}_h^1 - \hat{u}_h^0}{\Delta t}, \vec{v}_h \right)_{\Omega_S} + a_S(\tilde{u}_h^1, \vec{v}_h) + b_S(\vec{v}_h, \hat{p}_h^1) \\ & \quad + \langle \tilde{u}_h^1 \cdot \vec{n}_S, \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle + \frac{\alpha\nu\sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\Pi)}} \langle P_\tau \tilde{u}_h^1, P_\tau \vec{v}_h \rangle \\ & = (\vec{f}_S^1, \vec{v}_h)_{\Omega_S} + \langle \tilde{\xi}_{Sh}^0, \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle \quad \forall \vec{v}_h \in X_{Sh} \\ & b_S(\tilde{u}_h^1, q_h) = 0 \quad \forall q_h \in Q_{Sh} \end{aligned}$$

for \tilde{u}_h^1 and \hat{p}_h^1 ;

2. set

$$\tilde{\xi}_{Dh}^1 = \tilde{u}_h^1 \cdot \vec{n}_S + g\tilde{\phi}_h^1 \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\xi}_{Sh}^1 = \tilde{u}_h^1 \cdot \vec{n}_S - g\tilde{\phi}_h^1 + gz \quad \text{on } \Gamma$$

and independently solve

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\hat{\phi}_h^1 - \hat{\phi}_h^0}{\Delta t}, \psi_h \right)_{\Omega_D} + a_D\left(\frac{\hat{\phi}_h^1 + \hat{\phi}_h^0}{2}, \psi_h\right) + \langle g\frac{\hat{\phi}_h^1 + \hat{\phi}_h^0}{2}, \psi_h \rangle \\ & = \left(\frac{f_D^1 + f_D^0}{2}, \psi_h\right)_{\Omega_D} + \left\langle \frac{\tilde{\xi}_{Dh}^1 + \xi_{Dh}^0}{2}, \psi_h \right\rangle \quad \forall \psi_h \in X_{Dh} \end{aligned}$$

for $\hat{\phi}_h^1$ and

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\tilde{u}_h^1 - \hat{u}_h^0}{\Delta t}, \vec{v}_h \right)_{\Omega_S} + a_S\left(\frac{\tilde{u}_h^1 + \hat{u}_h^0}{2}, \vec{v}_h\right) + b_S(\vec{v}_h, \frac{\hat{p}_h^1 + \hat{p}_h^0}{2}) \\ & \quad + \left\langle \frac{\tilde{u}_h^1 + \hat{u}_h^0}{2} \cdot \vec{n}_S, \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \right\rangle + \frac{\alpha\nu\sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\Pi)}} \left\langle P_\tau \frac{\tilde{u}_h^1 + \hat{u}_h^0}{2}, P_\tau \vec{v}_h \right\rangle \\ & = \left(\frac{\vec{f}_S^1 + \vec{f}_S^0}{2}, \vec{v}_h\right)_{\Omega_S} + \left\langle \frac{\tilde{\xi}_{Sh}^1 + \xi_{Sh}^0}{2}, \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \right\rangle \quad \forall \vec{v}_h \in X_{Sh} \\ & b_S\left(\frac{\tilde{u}_h^1 + \hat{u}_h^0}{2}, q_h\right) = 0 \quad \forall q_h \in Q_{Sh} \end{aligned}$$

for \tilde{u}_h^1 and \hat{p}_h^1 ;

3. set

$$\xi_{Dh}^1 = \tilde{u}_h^1 \cdot \vec{n}_S + g\hat{\phi}_h^1 \quad \text{and} \quad \xi_{Sh}^1 = \tilde{u}_h^1 \cdot \vec{n}_S - g\hat{\phi}_h^1 + gz \quad \text{on } \Gamma$$

and

$$\tilde{\xi}_{Dh}^2 = 2\xi_{Dh}^1 - \xi_{Dh}^0 \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\xi}_{Sh}^2 = 2\xi_{Sh}^1 - \xi_{Sh}^0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma$$

and independently solve

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{3\hat{\phi}_h^2 - 4\hat{\phi}_h^1 + \hat{\phi}_h^0}{2\Delta t}, \psi_h \right)_{\Omega_D} + a_D(\hat{\phi}_h^2, \psi_h) + \langle g\hat{\phi}_h^2, \psi_h \rangle \\ & = (f_D^2, \psi_h)_{\Omega_D} + \langle \tilde{\xi}_{Dh}^2, \psi_h \rangle \quad \forall \psi_h \in X_{Dh} \end{aligned}$$

for $\widehat{\phi}_h^2$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{3\widehat{u}_h^2 - 4\widehat{u}_h^1 + \widehat{u}_h^0}{2 \Delta t}, \vec{v}_h \right)_{\Omega_S} + a_S(\widehat{u}_h^2, \vec{v}_h) + b_S(\vec{v}_h, \widehat{p}_h^2) \\ & \quad + \langle \widehat{u}_h^2 \cdot \vec{n}_S, \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle + \frac{\alpha\nu\sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\Pi)}} \langle P_\tau(\widehat{u}_h^2), P_\tau \vec{v}_h \rangle \\ & = (\vec{f}_S^2, \vec{v}_h)_{\Omega_S} + \langle \widehat{\xi}_{Sh}^2, \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle \quad \forall \vec{v}_h \in X_{Sh} \\ b_S(\widehat{u}_h^2, q_h) & = 0 \quad \forall q_h \in Q_{Sh} \end{aligned}$$

for \widehat{u}_h^2 and \widehat{p}_h^2 ;

4. for $n = 2, \dots, N - 1$, set

$$\xi_{Dh}^n = \widehat{u}_h^n \cdot \vec{n}_S + g\widehat{\phi}_h^n \quad \text{and} \quad \xi_{Sh}^n = \widehat{u}_h^n \cdot \vec{n}_S - g\widehat{\phi}_h^n + gz \quad \text{on } \Gamma$$

and then independently solve

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{11\widehat{\phi}_h^{n+1} - 18\widehat{\phi}_h^n + 9\widehat{\phi}_h^{n-1} - 2\widehat{\phi}_h^{n-2}}{6 \Delta t}, \psi_h \right)_{\Omega_D} + a_D(\widehat{\phi}_h^{n+1}, \psi_h) + \langle g\widehat{\phi}_h^{n+1}, \psi_h \rangle \\ & = (f_D^{n+1}, \psi_h)_{\Omega_D} + \langle \xi_{Dh}^n, \psi_h \rangle \quad \forall \psi_h \in X_{Dh} \end{aligned}$$

for $\widehat{\phi}_h^{n+1}$ and

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{11\widehat{u}_h^{n+1} - 18\widehat{u}_h^n + 9\widehat{u}_h^{n-1} - 2\widehat{u}_h^{n-2}}{6 \Delta t}, \vec{v}_h \right)_{\Omega_S} + a_S(\widehat{u}_h^{n+1}, \vec{v}_h) \\ & \quad + b_S(\vec{v}_h, \widehat{p}_h^{n+1}) + \langle \widehat{u}_h^{n+1} \cdot \vec{n}_S, \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle + \frac{\alpha\nu\sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\text{trace}(\Pi)}} \langle P_\tau(\widehat{u}_h^{n+1}), P_\tau \vec{v}_h \rangle \\ & = (\vec{f}_S^{n+1}, \vec{v}_h)_{\Omega_S} + \langle \xi_{Sh}^{n+1}, \vec{v}_h \cdot \vec{n}_S \rangle \quad \forall \vec{v}_h \in X_{Sh} \\ b_S(\widehat{u}_h^{n+1}, q_h) & = 0 \quad \forall q_h \in Q_{Sh} \end{aligned}$$

for \widehat{u}_h^{n+1} and \widehat{p}_h^{n+1} .

The three-step backward differentiation method requires information from the previous three time levels so that it cannot be applied until one has determined an approximate solution for the first three time levels, i.e., for $n = 0, 1, 2$. Of course, for $n = 0$, that approximate solution is determined from the initial conditions. Steps 1 and 2 implement a backward-Euler predictor/Crank-Nicolson corrector method to determine the approximate solution for $n = 1$ whereas Step 3 implements a two-step backward differentiation method to determine the approximate solution for $n = 2$. After that, in Step 4, the three-step backward differentiation is implemented. In all steps, the coupling functions ξ_{Dh} and ξ_{Sh} are treated in an explicit manner so that, in all steps, the discretized Darcy and Stokes systems need to be solved only once and can be solved in parallel.

The global error of three-step backward differentiation method, the local error of two-step backward differentiation method, and the local error of Crank-Nicolson scheme are all of $O(\Delta t^3)$ [6, 62, 96]. We also use piecewise quadratic polynomial spatial approximations for ϕ and \vec{u} . Thus, one has reason to expect that the global accuracy of the approximations to ϕ and \vec{u} obtained using the second parallel non-iterative domain decomposition method are of $O(h^3 + \Delta t^3)$; this is numerically

verified in Section 8. Note that to obtain this optimal accuracy, the approximations of the coupling functions ξ_D and ξ_S were also carefully defined in Algorithm 2.

At each time step, the corresponding linear algebraic systems appearing in Algorithms 1 and 2 are the same size. The two methods require information from the previous steps 1 and 3, respectively, so that Algorithm 2 requires greater storage and incurs greater costs for matrix assembly and for start up. However, because of the much higher temporal accuracy of Algorithm 2, these extra costs are more than made up by the fact that, for the same accuracy, one can take much larger time steps. Of course, because both methods are non-iterative domain decomposition methods, in both cases only single uncoupled Stokes and Darcy problems need be solved at each time step.

8. NUMERICAL EXAMPLES

We use a manufactured solution to illustrate the accuracy and stability of the two non-iterative domain decomposition algorithms introduced in Sections 5 and 7.

Let $\Omega = [0, \pi] \times [-1, 1]$ with $\Omega_D = [0, \pi] \times [0, 1]$ and $\Omega_S = [0, \pi] \times [-1, 0]$. Set $T = 1$, $\alpha = 1$, $\nu = 1$, $g = 1$, $z = 0$, and $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{I}$, where \mathbb{I} denotes the identity tensor. We subdivide Ω_D and Ω_S into rectangles of height $h = 1/M$ and width πh , where M denotes a positive integer, and then subdivide each rectangle into two triangles by drawing a diagonal. Clearly, faces of the triangles in Ω_D and Ω_S are aligned with and match at the interface $\Gamma = \{y = 0, 0 \leq x \leq \pi\}$. For both non-iterative domain decomposition methods, we effect spatial discretization using the Taylor-Hood element pair for the Stokes equation, i.e., continuous piecewise linear and quadratic finite element spaces for the approximation of p_S and \vec{u}_S , respectively, and for the Darcy equation, continuous piecewise quadratic finite element spaces for the approximation of ϕ_D .

The initial condition data, boundary condition data, and source terms are chosen to correspond to the exact solution³

$$\begin{cases} \phi_D = (e^y - e^{-y}) \sin(x)e^t, \\ \vec{u}_S = [\frac{1}{\pi^2} \sin(2\pi y) \cos(x)e^t, (-2 + \frac{1}{\pi^2} \sin^2(\pi y)) \sin(x)e^t]^T, \\ p_S = 0, \end{cases}$$

All numerical results given below are for $t = T = 1$, i.e., for $n = N$.

Errors are measured using high-accuracy quadrature rules to approximate $L^2(\Omega_D)$, $[L^2(\Omega_S)]^2$, and $L^2(\Omega_S)$ norms and $H^1(\Omega_D)$ and $[H^1(\Omega_S)]^2$ semi-norms. We also abbreviate notation so that \vec{u} represents $\vec{u}_S|_{t=1}$ and \vec{u}_h represents $\widehat{\vec{u}}_h^N$ and similarly for the other variables.

8.1. Results for the first non-iterative domain decomposition method.

We first choose $\Delta t = 8h^3$. Table 1 provides errors for different choices of h for the first non-iterative domain decomposition algorithm. Using linear regression, the errors in Table 1 satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{u}_h - \vec{u}\|_0 &\approx 1.980 h^{3.017}, & |\vec{u}_h - \vec{u}|_1 &\approx 9.644 h^{1.957}, \\ \|p_h - p\|_0 &\approx 20.736 h^{3.155}, \\ \|\phi_h - \phi\|_0 &\approx 16.457 h^{2.946}, & |\phi_h - \phi|_1 &\approx 15.239 h^{2.375}. \end{aligned}$$

³We also ran examples with exact solutions such that $p_S \neq 0$; the results obtained are entirely similar to those reported on here, except that the pressure approximations now conform more fully with expectations; see the discussion below.

The Taylor-Hood element pair is used for the Stokes part and quadratic elements are used for the hydraulic head. Hence, we see the $O(h^3 + \Delta t) = O(h^3)$ convergence rates with respect to L^2 norms for \vec{u} and ϕ . The one exception is that the convergence rate for the pressure approximation is better than expected; seemingly, this occurs because the exact solution for the pressure vanishes; in other tests with $p_S \neq 0$, we obtained the expected second-order rate of convergence.

TABLE 1. Errors of the first non-iterative domain decomposition algorithm for $\Delta t = 8h^3$.

h	$\ \vec{u}_h - \vec{u}\ _0$	$ \vec{u}_h - \vec{u} _1$	$\ p_h - p\ _0$	$\ \phi_h - \phi\ _0$	$ \phi_h - \phi _1$
1/4	3.018×10^{-2}	6.284×10^{-1}	2.689×10^{-1}	2.657×10^{-1}	6.240×10^{-1}
1/8	3.737×10^{-3}	1.671×10^{-1}	2.886×10^{-2}	3.741×10^{-2}	1.042×10^{-1}
1/12	1.099×10^{-3}	7.561×10^{-2}	7.998×10^{-3}	1.121×10^{-2}	3.830×10^{-2}
1/16	4.608×10^{-4}	4.286×10^{-2}	3.238×10^{-3}	4.743×10^{-3}	1.966×10^{-2}
1/20	2.349×10^{-4}	2.754×10^{-2}	1.615×10^{-3}	2.430×10^{-3}	1.198×10^{-2}
1/24	1.356×10^{-4}	1.917×10^{-2}	9.179×10^{-4}	1.407×10^{-3}	8.081×10^{-3}
1/28	8.518×10^{-5}	1.411×10^{-2}	5.708×10^{-4}	8.862×10^{-4}	5.830×10^{-3}
1/32	5.698×10^{-5}	1.081×10^{-2}	3.788×10^{-4}	5.937×10^{-4}	4.410×10^{-3}

Next, we choose $\Delta t = h$. The first non-iterative domain decomposition algorithm is still stable; error information is given in Table 2. Again, all L^2 norm errors are consistent with the theoretical results of Section 6. For example, for \vec{u} and ϕ we see the expected $O(h^3 + \Delta t) = O(h)$ behavior.

TABLE 2. Errors of the first non-iterative domain decomposition algorithm for $\Delta t = h$.

h	$\ \vec{u}_h - \vec{u}\ _0$	$ \vec{u}_h - \vec{u} _1$	$\ p_h - p\ _0$	$\ \phi_h - \phi\ _0$	$ \phi_h - \phi _1$
1/4	3.341×10^{-2}	6.301×10^{-1}	5.697×10^{-1}	4.630×10^{-1}	1.022×10^0
1/8	7.148×10^{-3}	1.683×10^{-1}	2.079×10^{-1}	2.643×10^{-1}	5.711×10^{-1}
1/16	2.475×10^{-3}	4.373×10^{-2}	8.549×10^{-2}	1.416×10^{-1}	3.048×10^{-1}
1/32	1.035×10^{-3}	1.146×10^{-2}	3.848×10^{-2}	7.333×10^{-2}	1.577×10^{-1}
1/64	4.687×10^{-4}	3.227×10^{-3}	1.826×10^{-2}	3.731×10^{-2}	8.025×10^{-2}

To further illustrate the unconditional stability of the first non-iterative domain decomposition method, we also considered the choice $\Delta t = \sqrt{h} > h$. The numerical results did indeed show that the method remained stable and the accuracy obtained was what was expected, given the estimates obtained in Section 6. For the sake of brevity, we do not to report details about the numerical results for this case.

8.2. Results for the second non-iterative domain decomposition method.

We choose $\Delta t = h$. Table 3 provides errors for different choices of h for the second non-iterative domain decomposition algorithm. Using linear regression, the errors in Table 3 satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{u}_h - \vec{u}\|_0 &\approx 1.9480 h^{3.0128}, & |\vec{u}_h - \vec{u}|_1 &\approx 9.8117 h^{1.9663}, \\ \|p_h - p\|_0 &\approx 13.8987 h^{3.1332}, \\ \|\phi_h - \phi\|_0 &\approx 2.8731 h^{3.0012}, & |\phi_h - \phi|_1 &\approx 4.4010 h^{2.0050}. \end{aligned}$$

TABLE 3. Errors of the second non-iterative domain decomposition algorithm for $\Delta t = h$.

h	$\ \bar{u}_h - \bar{u}\ _0$	$ \bar{u}_h - \bar{u} _1$	$\ p_h - p\ _0$	$\ \phi_h - \phi\ _0$	$ \phi_h - \phi _1$
1/4	2.980×10^{-2}	6.285×10^{-1}	1.739×10^{-1}	5.115×10^{-2}	2.760×10^{-1}
1/8	3.726×10^{-3}	1.671×10^{-1}	2.185×10^{-2}	4.865×10^{-3}	6.734×10^{-2}
1/16	4.589×10^{-4}	4.286×10^{-2}	2.341×10^{-3}	6.620×10^{-4}	1.687×10^{-2}
1/32	5.673×10^{-5}	1.081×10^{-2}	2.603×10^{-4}	8.747×10^{-5}	4.225×10^{-3}
1/64	7.051×10^{-6}	2.711×10^{-3}	3.065×10^{-5}	1.159×10^{-5}	1.058×10^{-3}

These rates of convergence are entirely consistent with the expectations in Section 7; in particular, we see the $O(h^3 + \Delta t^3) = O(h^3)$ convergence rates with respect to L^2 norms for \bar{u} and ϕ .

9. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, we present two parallel non-iterative domain decomposition methods for the approximate solution of the time-dependent Stokes-Darcy system with the Beavers-Joseph-Saffman-Jones interface condition. From the numerical experiments, it can be seen that both methods are unconditionally stable and optimally convergent with respect to the finite element spaces and the temporal discretizations used. The stability and convergence of the first method are proven and illustrated through numerical experiments whereas, for the second method, only numerical experiments are provided. The analysis of the second method, studying more general configurations of the domain and the interface, error estimation for the interface approximation and for non-matching meshes on the interface are of interest for future work; see [6, 11, 13, 29, 63] and the references therein for related topics.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work was supported in part by the CMG program of the National Science Foundation under grant numbers DMS-0620035 (for MG, XH, and XW) and DMS-0914554 (for YC) and the University of Missouri Research Board (for XH). We also thank the referees for helpful comments.

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