

# An efficient method for simultaneously reconstructing Robin coefficient and heat flux in an elliptic equation using an MCGM

TALAAAT ABDELHAMID

Physics and Mathematical Engineering Dep.  
Faculty of Electronic Engineering  
Menouf ya University  
EGYPT  
talaat.2008@yahoo.com

OLATUNJI MUMINI OMISORE

Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Tech.  
Chinese Academy of Sciences  
Shenzhen 518055  
CHINA  
omisore@siat.ac.cn

*Abstract:* A modified conjugate gradient method (MCGM) is proposed for simultaneously reconstructing Robin coefficient and heat flux in an elliptic system from a single part of the boundary measurements of the solution. The simultaneous identification problem is formulated as a constrained optimization problem using the output least squares method with Tikhonov regularization. The differentiability and adjoint equations are investigated for finding the gradient formulas and determining the step lengths, respectively. Finite element method is employed to discretize the constrained optimization problem which reduced to a sequence of unconstrained optimization problem by adding the regularization term. Some comparisons are presented with the Levenberg-Marquardt method proposed by [1]. Numerical examples investigate the efficiency and accuracy of the proposed algorithm.

*Key-Words:* Simultaneous identification, Numerical reconstruction, Heat flux and Robin coefficient, Tikhonov's regularization, FEM, MCGM.

## 1 Introduction

Ill-posed inverse problem of reconstructing Robin coefficient and heat flux from transient temperature histories measured in the heat conduction problems and stationary diffusion equations are constantly of a great interest during three last decades. A literature review and a presentation of different method is presented in [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7] and the references therein. Several numerical methods are proposed for the Robin inverse problems in the context of corrosion detection [8, 9, 10]. [11] employed the nonlinear CGM for reconstructing the Robin coefficient with Laplace equation and noted that the convergence was relatively slowly. Also, used preconditioning technique using Hilbert space scales and Sobolev gradients for accelerating its convergence but did not test it numerically. [12] introduced an application of conjugate gradient method for estimation of the wall heat flux of a supersonic combustor. [13, 14] introduced the mathematical and numerical justification for the reconstruction of only one parameter Robin coefficient of the inverse problem using the nonlinear conjugate gradient method.

One of the advantages of the finite element method as compared with the finite difference method are that complicated geometry, general boundary conditions and variable or non-linear material properties

can be manipulated relatively easily [15, 16, 13, 17]. The finite element method has a solid theoretical foundation which gives added reliability and in many cases is able to mathematically analyze and estimate the error in the approximate finite element solution [18]. [1] studied numerically the simultaneous identification of Robin coefficient and heat flux using surrogate functional and Levenberg-Marquardt method. Moreover, there is a little work in the literature on simultaneous reconstructing Robin coefficient and heat flux using a modified conjugate gradient method (MCGM) and comparison between the two methods are the focus of this work.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows: Sections 2 is devoted to describe the variational formulation for the elliptic problem and stability of the optimization problem. Section 3 briefly derives the partial Fréchet derivatives of the forward solution to obtain the gradient of the Robin coefficient and heat flux also introduces the adjoint equations to find a simple explicit expressions to simplify computing the minimization equation. Section 4 introduces the finite element approximation and its convergence. Section 5 discusses the numerical algorithm using a modified conjugate gradient method (MCGM). Section 6 introduces some numerical experiments to present the efficiency, accuracy, and robustness of

the proposed method for simultaneously reconstructing Robin coefficient and heat flux in the optimization problem. Some comparisons presented to illustrate the efficiency of the proposed modified conjugate gradient method (MCGM) comparing with Levenberg-Marquardt method.

## 2 Mathematical formulation

Consider an elliptic system which occupies an open, bounded, and connected polyhedral domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  with the boundaries  $\Gamma_i (i = 1, 2, 3)$  which can be modeled by the following elliptic equation:

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot (\alpha(\mathbf{x})\nabla u) + c(\mathbf{x})u = f(\mathbf{x}) & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \alpha(\mathbf{x})\frac{\partial u}{\partial n} + \gamma(\mathbf{x})u(\mathbf{x}) = g(\mathbf{x}) & \text{on } \Gamma_1, \\ \alpha(\mathbf{x})\frac{\partial u}{\partial n} = q(\mathbf{x}) & \text{on } \Gamma_2, \\ \alpha(\mathbf{x})\frac{\partial u}{\partial n} = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_3. \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

Hence  $\alpha(\mathbf{x})$  is the heat conductivity and a smooth boundary  $\partial\Omega$  consists of three parts i.e.  $\partial\Omega = \Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma_2 \cup \Gamma_3$  is a finite collection of disjoint, smooth  $(d-1)$ -dimensional polyhedral domain. The functions  $\alpha(\mathbf{x})$  and  $c(\mathbf{x})$  are the heat conductivity and radiation which be constraint by  $0 < \alpha_1 < \alpha(\mathbf{x}) < \alpha_2$  and  $0 < c_1 < c(\mathbf{x}) < c_2$ , respectively. The parameters identification problem  $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$  and  $q(\mathbf{x})$  are contained in the following constrained sets:  $K_\gamma = \{\gamma(\mathbf{x}) \in L^2(\Gamma_1) : 0 < \gamma_1 \leq \gamma(\mathbf{x}) \leq \gamma_2, \text{ a.e. on } \Gamma_1\}$ , and  $K_q = \{q(\mathbf{x}) \in L^2(\Gamma_2) : 0 < q_1 \leq q(\mathbf{x}) \leq q_2, \text{ a.e. on } \Gamma_2\}$ . Such that  $(x, y)$  denoted by  $\mathbf{x}$ . Let  $u$  solve system (2.1) and Let  $u(\mathbf{x}) = z^\delta$  on  $\Gamma_3$  where  $z^\delta$  is the measurement data of the exact solution  $u$ , the parameter  $\delta$  is used here to emphasize the existence of the noise in the measured data.

This paper aims to justify numerically the validation and effectiveness of the regularization formulation for solving the ill-posed inverse problem of the two parameters Robin coefficient on  $\Gamma_1$  and heat flux on  $\Gamma_2$  reconstruction. In addition, we will solve the nonlinear finite element minimization problem by using a modified conjugate gradient method for simultaneously reconstructing the Robin coefficient and heat flux.

Now, we formulate the considered parameters identification problem as a constrained minimizing process

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{(\gamma, q) \in K_\gamma \times K_q} J(\gamma, q) &= \|u(\gamma, q) - z^\delta\|_{\Gamma_3}^2 + \beta \|\gamma\|_{\Gamma_1}^2 \\ &+ \eta \|q\|_{\Gamma_2}^2, \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

where  $(\gamma, q) \in K_\gamma \times K_q$  and  $u \equiv u(\gamma, q)(\mathbf{x}) \in H^1(\Omega)$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \int_\Omega a \nabla u \cdot \nabla v dx + \int_\Omega c u v dx + \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma u v ds &= \int_\Omega f v dx \\ + \int_{\Gamma_1} g v ds + \int_{\Gamma_2} q v ds \quad \forall v \in H^1(\Omega). \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

Note that (2.3) is the variational formulation associated with the elliptic problem (2.1). For any  $(\gamma, q) \in K_\gamma \times K_q$  there exists a unique solution  $u(\gamma, q) \in H^1(\Omega)$  to (2.1)(see, Theorem 2.1 [1]).

To deal with the instability of the inverse problem, we reformulate it as a constrained minimization problem (2.2) where  $u(\gamma, q)$  solves the variational formulation (2.3). We assume that,  $\beta$  and  $\eta$  are the regularization parameters. Furthermore,  $\gamma \in L^\infty(\Gamma_1)$  in the admissible set  $K_\gamma$  which replaced by  $\gamma \in L^2(\Gamma_1) \cap L^\infty(\Gamma_1)$ . Suppose that  $\|\cdot\|_{H^1(\Gamma_1)}$  is defined by

$$\|v\|_{H^1(\Gamma_1)}^2 = \|\nabla v\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \|v\|_{L^2(\Gamma_1)}^2,$$

which equivalent to the standard norm  $\|\cdot\|_{H^1(\Omega)}$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** *There exists at least one minimizer to the optimization problem (2.2).*

*Proof.* Clearly,  $\inf J(\gamma, q)$  is a finite over the admissible set  $K_\gamma \times K_q$ , and thus there exists a minimizing sequence  $(\gamma^n, q^n) \in K_\gamma \times K_q$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} J(\gamma^n, q^n) = \inf_{(\gamma, q) \in K_\gamma \times K_q} J(\gamma, q). \quad (2.4)$$

Using Banach-Alaoglu theorem, the boundedness of the sequence  $\gamma^n$  in  $L^\infty(\Gamma_1)$  and  $q^n$  in  $L^\infty(\Gamma_2)$  implies that there exists a subsequence, still denoted by  $\{\gamma^n, q^n\}$ , and some  $(\gamma^*, q^*) \in K_\gamma \times K_q$  such that

$(\gamma^n, q^n) \rightharpoonup (\gamma^*, q^*)$  weak convergence in  $K_\gamma \times K_q$ ,

Using (2.4), the strong convergence of  $u^n$  in  $L^2(\partial\Omega)$ , and lower semicontinuity imply that

$$\begin{aligned} J(\gamma^*, q^*) &= \|u(\gamma^*, q^*) - z^\delta\|_{\Gamma_3}^2 + \beta \|\gamma^*\|_{\Gamma_1}^2 \\ &+ \eta \|q^*\|_{\Gamma_2}^2, \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|u(\gamma^n, q^n) - z^\delta\|_{\Gamma_3}^2 + \beta \|\gamma^*\|_{\Gamma_1}^2 \\ &+ \eta \|q^*\|_{\Gamma_2}^2, \\ &\leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|u(\gamma^n, q^n) - z^\delta\|_{\Gamma_3}^2 \\ &+ \beta \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf \|\gamma^n\|_{\Gamma_1}^2 + \eta \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf \|q^n\|_{\Gamma_2}^2, \\ &\leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf J(\gamma^n, q^n) \\ &= \inf_{(\gamma, q) \in K_\gamma \times K_q} J(\gamma, q). \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

Which implies that  $(\gamma^*, q^*)$  is a minimizer of the functional (2.2).  $\square$

The stability property of the optimization problem with respect to the observation errors  $z^\delta$  and the sequence  $\{(\gamma^n, q^n)\}$  of the minimizers has a subsequence weak convergence in  $K_\gamma \times K_q$  (see, Theorem 3.2 [1]).

### 3 Differentiability results for the sensitivity and adjoint equations

In this section, we introduce the sensitivity problems and establish the differentiability of the solution  $u(\gamma, q)$  with respect to the heat flux  $q(\mathbf{x})$  and Robin coefficient  $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$ . We suppose that the Robin coefficient  $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$  is perturbed by a small amount  $\gamma(\mathbf{x}) + \lambda$ , and the heat flux  $q(\mathbf{x})$  perturbed by  $q(\mathbf{x}) + \xi$ , such that  $\lambda$  and  $\xi$  any directions in  $L^\infty(\Gamma_1)$  and  $L^\infty(\Gamma_2)$ , respectively:

$$u(\gamma(\mathbf{x}) + \lambda, q) \approx u(\gamma, q) + u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda + \mathcal{O}(\|\lambda\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_1)}^2),$$

and

$$u(\gamma(\mathbf{x}), q + \xi) \approx u(\gamma, q) + u'_q(\gamma, q)\xi + \mathcal{O}(\|\xi\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_2)}^2).$$

Then replacing  $\gamma$  in the direct problem by  $\gamma(\mathbf{x}) + \lambda$ , and  $u(\gamma, q)$  by  $u(\gamma(\mathbf{x}) + \lambda, q)$ , subtracting from the forward problem (2.1), neglecting the second order terms as well as  $q(\mathbf{x})$  are all similarly, we obtain

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot (\alpha(\mathbf{x})\nabla(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda)) + c(\mathbf{x})(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \alpha(\mathbf{x})\frac{\partial(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda)}{\partial n} + \gamma(\mathbf{x})(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda) = -\lambda u(\gamma, q) & \text{on } \Gamma_1, \\ \alpha(\mathbf{x})\frac{\partial(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda)}{\partial n} = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_2, \\ \alpha(\mathbf{x})\frac{\partial(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda)}{\partial n} = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_3, \end{cases}$$

and

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot (\alpha(\mathbf{x})\nabla(u'_q(\gamma, q)\xi)) + c(\mathbf{x})(u'_q(\gamma, q)\xi) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \alpha(\mathbf{x})\frac{\partial(u'_q(\gamma, q)\xi)}{\partial n} + \gamma(\mathbf{x})(u'_q(\gamma, q)\xi) = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_1, \\ \alpha(\mathbf{x})\frac{\partial(u'_q(\gamma, q)\xi)}{\partial n} = \xi & \text{on } \Gamma_2, \\ \alpha(\mathbf{x})\frac{\partial(u'_q(\gamma, q)\xi)}{\partial n} = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_3, \end{cases}$$

which are linear with respect to  $\lambda$  and  $\xi$ , respectively.

**Lemma 3.1.** For any  $(\gamma, q) \in K_\gamma \times K_q$  and the solution  $u(\gamma, q)$  is differentiable with respect to  $(\gamma, q)$  in the sense that

$$\frac{\|u(\gamma + \lambda, q) - u(\gamma, q) - u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda\|_{H^1(\Omega)}}{\|\lambda\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_1)}} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \lambda \rightarrow 0 \text{ in } L^\infty(\Gamma_1), \quad (3.1)$$

and

$$\frac{\|u(\gamma, q + \xi) - u(\gamma, q) - u'_q(\gamma, q)\xi\|_{H^1(\Omega)}}{\|\xi\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_2)}} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \xi \rightarrow 0 \text{ in } L^\infty(\Gamma_2). \quad (3.2)$$

*Proof.* We assume the function  $w \equiv u(\gamma + \lambda, q) - u(\gamma, q) - u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)$  which satisfies

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot (\alpha\nabla w) + cw = 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \alpha\frac{\partial w}{\partial n} + \gamma w = -\lambda(u(\gamma + \lambda, q) - u(\gamma, q)) & \text{on } \Gamma_1, \\ \alpha\frac{\partial w}{\partial n} = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_2, \\ \alpha\frac{\partial w}{\partial n} = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_3, \end{cases} \quad (3.3)$$

we obtain the variational form

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_\Omega \alpha|\nabla w|^2 dx + \int_\Omega c|w|^2 dx + \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma|w|^2 ds \\ & = - \int_{\Gamma_1} \lambda(u(\gamma + \lambda, q) - u(\gamma, q))w ds. \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

By using Sobolev trace theorem, we derive

$$\|w\|_{H^1(\Omega)} \leq C\|\lambda\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_1)}\|u(\gamma + \lambda, q) - u(\gamma, q)\|_{H^1(\Omega)}. \quad (3.5)$$

Also, by replacing  $u(\gamma, q)$  by  $u(\gamma + \lambda, q)$  into (2.1), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_\Omega \alpha|\nabla(u(\gamma + \lambda, q) - u(\gamma, q))|^2 dx \\ & + \int_\Omega c|(u(\gamma + \lambda, q) - u(\gamma, q))|^2 dx \\ & + \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma|(u(\gamma + \lambda, q) - u(\gamma, q))|^2 ds \\ & = - \int_{\Gamma_1} \lambda u(\gamma + \lambda, q)(u(\gamma + \lambda, q) - u(\gamma, q)) ds. \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

Using Sobolev trace theorem, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \|u(\gamma + \lambda, q) - u(\gamma, q)\|_{H^1(\Omega)}^2 \\ & + \|u(\gamma + \lambda, q) - u(\gamma, q)\|_{L^2(\Gamma_1)}^2 \\ & \leq C\|\lambda\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_1)}\|u(\gamma + \lambda, q)\|_{H^1(\Omega)} \\ & \|u(\gamma + \lambda, q) - u(\gamma, q)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

Then,

$$\|u(\gamma + \lambda, q) - u(\gamma, q)\|_{H^1(\Omega)} \leq C\|\lambda\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_1)}\|u(\gamma + \lambda, q)\|_{H^1(\Omega)}. \quad (3.8)$$

The proof of Theorem 2.1 indicates that  $\|\lambda\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_1)}$  is sufficiently small and  $\|u(\gamma + \lambda, q)\|_{H^1(\Omega)}$  is uniformly bounded. Thus, it follows that

$$\frac{\|u(\gamma + \lambda, q) - u(\gamma, q) - u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda\|_{H^1(\Omega)}}{\|\lambda\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_1)}} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \lambda \rightarrow 0 \text{ in } L^\infty(\Gamma_1). \quad (3.9)$$

Similarly, for  $u(\gamma, q + \xi)$  we deduce that (3.2) is valid.  $\square$

From the proof of the Lemma 3.1, we have the following expansion:

$$u(\gamma + \lambda, q) = u(\gamma, q) + u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda + \mathcal{O}(\|\lambda\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_1)}^2),$$

and

$$u(\gamma, q + \xi) = u(\gamma, q) + u'_q(\gamma, q)\xi + \mathcal{O}(\|\xi\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_2)}^2).$$

We introduce the adjoint equations for the previous partial derivatives equations which be associated to  $u(\gamma, q)$  in any direction  $d \equiv (u - z^\delta)|_{y=1} \in L^2(\Gamma_3)$ , and  $p \equiv (u - z^\delta)|_{x=0} \in L^2(\Gamma_3)$ . We define  $u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)^*d$  and  $u'_q(\gamma, q)^*p$  by solving the following systems

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot (\alpha(\mathbf{x})\nabla(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)^*d)) + c(\mathbf{x})(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)^*d) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \alpha(\mathbf{x})\frac{\partial(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)^*d)}{\partial n} + \gamma(\mathbf{x})(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)^*d) = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_1, \\ \alpha(\mathbf{x})\frac{\partial(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)^*d)}{\partial n} = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_2, \\ \alpha(\mathbf{x})\frac{\partial(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)^*d)}{\partial n} = -d & \text{on } \Gamma_3, \end{cases}$$

and

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot (\alpha(\mathbf{x})\nabla(u'_q(\gamma, q)^*p)) + c(\mathbf{x})(u'_q(\gamma, q)^*p) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \alpha(\mathbf{x})\frac{\partial(u'_q(\gamma, q)^*p)}{\partial n} + \gamma(\mathbf{x})(u'_q(\gamma, q)^*p) = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_1, \\ \alpha(\mathbf{x})\frac{\partial(u'_q(\gamma, q)^*p)}{\partial n} = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_2, \\ \alpha(\mathbf{x})\frac{\partial(u'_q(\gamma, q)^*p)}{\partial n} = p & \text{on } \Gamma_3. \end{cases}$$

**Theorem 3.1.** *The objective functional  $J(\gamma, q)$  is Fréchet differentiable and its Fréchet derivative is  $\frac{\partial J(\gamma, q)}{\partial \gamma}$ ,  $\gamma \in K_\gamma$  in the direction  $\lambda$  and Fréchet derivative  $\frac{\partial J(\gamma, q)}{\partial q}$  with respect to  $q \in K_q$  in the direction  $\xi$  are given by*

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial \gamma}[\lambda] = 2 \int_{\Gamma_1} \lambda[u(\gamma, q)(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)^*d) + \beta\gamma]ds, \quad (3.10)$$

and

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial q}[\xi] = 2 \int_{\Gamma_2} \xi[(u'_q(\gamma, q)^*p) + \eta q]ds. \quad (3.11)$$

*Proof.* From Lemma 3.1, noting that

$$\|u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda\|_{H^1(\Omega)} \leq C\|\lambda\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_1)}$$

and

$$\|u'_q(\gamma, q)\xi\|_{H^1(\Omega)} \leq C\|\xi\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_2)},$$

we have

$$\min_{(\gamma, q) \in K_\gamma \times K_q} J_0(\gamma, q) = \int_{\Gamma_3} (u(\gamma, q) - z^\delta)^2 ds. \quad (3.12)$$

Then, we derive

$$\begin{aligned} J_0(\gamma + \lambda, q) - J_0(\gamma, q) &= \int_{\Gamma_3} (u(\gamma + \lambda, q) - z^\delta)^2 ds \\ &\quad - \int_{\Gamma_3} (u(\gamma, q) - z^\delta)^2 ds, \\ &= \int_{\Gamma_3} (u(\gamma, q) + u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda + \mathcal{O}(\|\lambda\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_1)}^2) - z^\delta)^2 ds \\ &\quad - \int_{\Gamma_3} (u(\gamma, q) - z^\delta)^2 ds, \\ &= 2 \int_{\Gamma_3} (u(\gamma, q) - z^\delta)u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda + \mathcal{O}(\|\lambda\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_1)}^2) ds \\ &\quad + 2 \int_{\Gamma_3} (u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda + \mathcal{O}(\|\lambda\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_1)}^2))^2 ds, \\ &= 2 \int_{\Gamma_3} (u(\gamma, q) - z^\delta)u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda ds + \mathcal{O}(\|\lambda\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_1)}^2). \end{aligned}$$

Then, we obtain

$$\frac{\partial J_0}{\partial \gamma}[\lambda] = 2 \int_{\Gamma_3} (u(\gamma, q) - z^\delta)(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda) ds. \quad (3.13)$$

Similarly, the Fréchet derivative of  $J_0$  with respect to  $q$  in the direction  $\xi$  shows that

$$\frac{\partial J_0}{\partial q}[\xi] = 2 \int_{\Gamma_3} (u(\gamma, q) - z^\delta)(u'_q(\gamma, q)\xi) ds. \quad (3.14)$$

By taking  $\varphi = u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)\lambda$ ,  $\psi = u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)^*d$ , and multiplying (3.1) by  $\psi$  and (3.10) by  $\varphi$ , then we apply Green's second identity by subtracting the two equations

$$0 = \int_{\Omega} \{ \psi \nabla \cdot (\alpha \nabla \varphi) - \varphi \nabla \cdot (\alpha \nabla \psi) \} dx = \int_{\partial\Omega} \left( \alpha \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial n} \psi - \alpha \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial n} \varphi \right) ds. \quad (3.15)$$

By substituting the boundary conditions for  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$ , we obtain

$$\int_{\Gamma_1} \lambda u(\gamma, q) \psi ds = \int_{\Gamma_3} d \varphi ds. \quad (3.16)$$

Taking  $\tilde{\varphi} = u'_q(\gamma, q)\xi$ ,  $\tilde{\psi} = u'_q(\gamma, q)^*p$ , and multiplying (3.1) by  $\tilde{\psi}$  and (3.10) by  $\tilde{\varphi}$ , then we apply Green's second identity

$$0 = \int_{\Omega} \{ \tilde{\psi} \nabla \cdot (\alpha \nabla \tilde{\varphi}) - \tilde{\varphi} \nabla \cdot (\alpha \nabla \tilde{\psi}) \} dx = \int_{\partial\Omega} \left( \alpha \frac{\partial \tilde{\varphi}}{\partial n} \tilde{\psi} - \alpha \frac{\partial \tilde{\psi}}{\partial n} \tilde{\varphi} \right) ds. \quad (3.17)$$

By substituting the boundary conditions for  $\tilde{\varphi}$  and  $\tilde{\psi}$ , we obtain

$$\int_{\Gamma_2} \xi \tilde{\psi} ds = \int_{\Gamma_3} p \tilde{\varphi} ds. \quad (3.18)$$

By substituting from (3.16) into (3.13), we deduce

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial \gamma}[\lambda] = 2 \int_{\Gamma_1} \lambda \left[ u(\gamma, q)(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)^*d) + \beta \gamma \right] ds, \quad (3.19)$$

such that

$$\frac{\partial J_0}{\partial \gamma}[\lambda] = 2 \int_{\Gamma_1} \lambda u(\gamma, q)(u'_\gamma(\gamma, q)^*d) ds.$$

Similarly, the Fréchet derivative of  $J_0$  with respect to  $q$  in the direction  $\xi$ , we obtain

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial q}[\xi] = 2 \int_{\Gamma_2} \xi \left[ (u'_q(\gamma, q)^*p) + \eta q \right] ds, \quad (3.20)$$

and

$$\frac{\partial J_0}{\partial q}[\xi] = 2 \int_{\Gamma_2} \xi (u'_q(\gamma, q)^*p) ds.$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 3.1. □

**Remark 3.1.** *The idea of the conventional gradient  $\frac{\partial J}{\partial q}$  and  $\frac{\partial J}{\partial \gamma}$  are the  $L^2(\Gamma_2)$  and  $L^2(\Gamma_1)$  gradient respectively. which can be defined as follows:*

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial q}[\xi] = \int_{\Gamma_2} \xi \frac{\partial J}{\partial q} ds \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial J}{\partial \gamma}[\lambda] = \int_{\Gamma_1} \lambda \frac{\partial J}{\partial \gamma} ds.$$

such that the integral refers to duality between  $L^\infty(\Gamma_2)$  and its dual  $(L^2(\Gamma_2))'$  for the heat flux  $q$ . and  $\frac{\partial J}{\partial q}$  is an element in the dual space  $(L^2(\Gamma_2))'$ . According to the Robin coefficient on the boundary  $\Gamma_1$  is same. The gradient is used to update an element in the admissible set  $K_q$  and  $K_\gamma$ .

## 4 Methodology of the finite element technique

Finite element method is a powerful tool and an effective numerical technique for partial differential equations in engineering and many fields. The fact that modern engineers can obtain detailed information about the structure, thermal, electromagnetic problems with virtual experiments largely gives credit finite element method. Now, we apply the finite element approximation method for solving the continuous minimization problem (2.2). We triangulate the polyhedral domain  $\Omega$  with a regular triangulation  $\mathcal{T}^h$  of a simplicial elements. Then we define the linear finite element space  $V_h$  by

$$V_h = \{ \phi_h \in C(\Omega) : \phi_h|_{\mathcal{T}_i} \in \tilde{F}(\mathcal{T}_i) \quad \forall \mathcal{T}_i \in \mathcal{T}_h \},$$

such that  $\tilde{F}(\mathcal{T}_i)$  denotes the space of linear polynomials on the elements  $\mathcal{T}_i$ . We define a restrictions of the space  $V_h$  are  $V_{\Gamma_1}^h$  and  $V_{\Gamma_2}^h$  on  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  respectively. Also, the discrete admissible sets  $K_\gamma^h$  and  $K_q^h$  defined as follows

$$K_\gamma^h = \{ \gamma_h \in V_{\Gamma_1}^h : \gamma_1 \leq \gamma_h(x) \leq \gamma_2 \quad \forall x \in \Gamma_1 \},$$

and

$$K_q^h = \{ q_h \in V_{\Gamma_2}^h : q_1 \leq q_h(x) \leq q_2 \quad \forall x \in \Gamma_2 \},$$

where  $K_\gamma^h \subset K_\gamma$  and  $K_q^h \subset K_q$ , we approximate the optimization problem (2.2) by the following discrete minimization system

$$\min_{(\gamma_h, q_h) \in K_\gamma^h \times K_q^h} J_h(\gamma_h, q_h) = \int_{\Gamma_3} (u_h(\gamma_h, q_h) - z^\delta)^2 ds + \beta \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma_h^2 ds + \eta \int_{\Gamma_2} q_h^2 ds, \quad (4.1)$$

where the function  $u_h(\gamma_h, q_h) \in V^h$  satisfies the weak formulation

$$\int_{\Omega} \alpha \nabla u_h \cdot \nabla v_h dx + \int_{\Omega} c u_h v_h dx + \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma_h u_h v_h ds = \int_{\Omega} f v_h dx + \int_{\Gamma_1} g v_h ds + \int_{\Gamma_2} q_h v_h ds \quad \forall v_h \in V^h. \quad (4.2)$$



In the following analysis, we need the standard interpolation operator  $I_h : W^{1,\infty}(\Omega) \rightarrow v_h$  and the projection operator  $Q_h : H^1(\Omega) \rightarrow v_h$  is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} \nabla Q_h w \cdot \nabla v_h dx + \int_{\partial\Omega} Q_h w v_h ds \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \nabla w \cdot \nabla v_h dx + \int_{\partial\Omega} w v_h ds \\ & \quad \forall w \in H^1(\Omega) \quad v_h \in V_h. \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

Then, for any  $p > d = \dim(\Omega)$ , we have

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \|I_h w - w\|_{W^{1,\infty}(\Omega)} = 0 \quad \forall w \in W^{1,\infty}(\Omega),$$

and

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \|Q_h w - w\|_{H^1(\Omega)} = 0 \quad \forall w \in H^1(\Omega).$$

The following theorem shows the existence of the minimizer for the finite element discretization problem (4.1).

**Theorem 4.1.** *There exists at least one minimizer to the finite element problem (4.1).*

*Proof.* Such that  $\min J_h(\gamma_h, q_h)$  is finite over the admissible set  $K_{\gamma}^h \times K_q^h$ . Hence, there exists a minimizing sequence  $\{(\gamma_h, q_h)\} \in K_{\gamma}^h \times K_q^h$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} J_h(\gamma_h^n, q_h^n) = \min_{(\gamma_h, q_h) \in K_{\gamma}^h \times K_q^h} J_h(\gamma_h, q_h).$$

The uniform boundedness of  $\{(\gamma_h, q_h)\}$  in  $K_{\gamma}^h \times K_q^h$  and the norm equivalence in the finite dimensional space implies that there exists a subsequence denoted by  $\{(\gamma_h^n, q_h^n)\}$  and some  $\{(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*)\}$  in  $K_{\gamma}^h \times K_q^h$  such that

$$\{(\gamma_h^n, q_h^n)\} \rightharpoonup (\gamma_h^*, q_h^*) \text{ in } K_{\gamma}^h \times K_q^h, \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Now, we prove that  $(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*)$  is a minimizer of (4.1). From the definition of  $u_h(\gamma_h^n, q_h^n)$  and  $u_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} \alpha \nabla u_h(\gamma_h^n, q_h^n) \cdot \nabla v_h dx + \int_{\Omega} c u_h(\gamma_h^n, q_h^n) v_h dx \\ & \quad + \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma_h^n u_h(\gamma_h^n, q_h^n) v_h ds = \int_{\Omega} f v_h dx \\ & \quad + \int_{\Gamma_1} g v_h ds + \int_{\Gamma_2} q_h^n v_h ds \quad \forall v_h \in V^h, \end{aligned} \quad (4.4)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} \alpha \nabla u_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*) \cdot \nabla v_h dx + \int_{\Omega} c u_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*) v_h dx \\ & \quad + \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma_h^* u_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*) v_h ds = \int_{\Omega} f v_h dx \\ & \quad + \int_{\Gamma_1} g v_h ds + \int_{\Gamma_2} q_h^* v_h ds \quad \forall v_h \in V^h. \end{aligned} \quad (4.5)$$

By taking  $v_h = u_h(\gamma_h^n, q_h^n)$  into (4.4), we see that

$$\|u_h(\gamma_h^n, q_h^n)\|_{H^1(\Omega)} \leq C,$$

where  $C$  is a constant independent on  $n$  and  $h$ . By subtracting equation (4.5) from (4.4) and assume that  $w_h^n \equiv u_h(\gamma_h^n, q_h^n) - u_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*)$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} \alpha \nabla w_h^n \cdot \nabla v_h dx + \int_{\Omega} c w_h^n v_h dx \\ & + \int_{\Gamma_1} (\gamma_h^n u_h(\gamma_h^n, q_h^n) - \gamma_h^* u_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*)) v_h ds = \\ & \quad \int_{\Gamma_2} (q_h^n - q_h^*) v_h ds, \end{aligned} \quad (4.6)$$

we can rewrite it as following

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} \alpha \nabla w_h^n \cdot \nabla v_h dx + \int_{\Omega} c w_h^n v_h dx + \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma_h^n w_h^n v_h ds \\ & = - \int_{\Gamma_1} (\gamma_h^n - \gamma_h^*) u_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*) v_h ds \\ & \quad + \int_{\Gamma_2} (q_h^n - q_h^*) v_h ds. \end{aligned} \quad (4.7)$$

Then, taking  $v_h = w_h^n$  and using the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, and the lower bound of the above assumptions, we derive

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha_0 \|\nabla w_h^n\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + c_0 \|w_h^n\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \gamma_0 \|w_h^n\|_{L^2(\Gamma_1)}^2 \\ & \leq \|\gamma_h^n - \gamma_h^*\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_1)} \|u_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*)\|_{L^2(\Gamma_1)} \|w_h^n\|_{L^2(\Gamma_1)} \\ & \quad + \|q_h^n - q_h^*\|_{L^2(\Gamma_2)} \|w_h^n\|_{L^2(\Gamma_2)}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.8)$$

Hence the norm equivalence in the finite dimensional spaces implies that  $w_h^n \rightarrow 0$  (i.e.,  $u_h(\gamma_h^n, q_h^n) \rightarrow u_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*)$  in  $H^1(\Omega)$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ).

Consequently, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 J_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*) &= \int_{\Gamma_3} (u_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*) - z^\delta)^2 ds ds \\
 &+ \beta \int_{\Gamma_1} (\gamma_h^*)^2 + \eta \int_{\Gamma_2} (q_h^*)^2 ds \\
 &\leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Gamma_3} (u_h(\gamma_h^n, q_h^n) - z^\delta)^2 ds \\
 &+ \beta \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma_h^{n2} ds \\
 &+ \eta \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Gamma_2} q_h^{n2} ds \\
 &\leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \int_{\Gamma_3} (u_h(\gamma_h^n, q_h^n) - z^\delta)^2 ds \right. \\
 &\left. + \beta \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma_h^{n2} ds + \eta \int_{\Gamma_2} q_h^{n2} ds \right\} \\
 &= \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} J_h(\gamma_h^n, q_h^n) \\
 &= \min_{(\gamma_h, q_h) \in K_\gamma^h \times K_q^h} J_h(\gamma_h, q_h). \quad (4.9)
 \end{aligned}$$

This show that  $(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*) \in K_\gamma^h \times K_q^h$  is a minimizer of the discrete optimization problem (4.1).  $\square$

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $\{(\gamma_h, q_h)\} \in K_\gamma^h \times K_q^h$  be weak convergence to  $(\gamma^*, q^*) \in K_\gamma \times K_q$  as  $h \rightarrow 0$ , then there exists a subsequence which denoted by  $\{(\gamma_h, q_h)\}$ , such that*

$$u_h(\gamma_h, q_h) \rightarrow u(\gamma^*, q^*) \text{ in } L^2(\Gamma_3) \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0,$$

which implies that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Gamma_3} (u(\gamma_h, q_h) - z^\delta)^2 ds = \int_{\Gamma_3} (u(\gamma^*, q^*) - z^\delta)^2 ds.$$

*Proof.* Let  $v_h = u_h$  into (4.2), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\int_{\Omega} \alpha |\nabla u_h|^2 dx + \int_{\Omega} c |u_h|^2 dx + \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma_h |u_h|^2 ds \\
 &= \int_{\Omega} f u_h dx + \int_{\Gamma_1} g u_h ds + \int_{\Gamma_2} q_h u_h ds \\
 &\quad \forall v_h \in V^h. \quad (4.10)
 \end{aligned}$$

Then  $\|u_h(\gamma_h, q_h)\|_{H^1(\Omega)} \leq C$  is bounded and  $C$  is constant not depend on  $h$ . There exists a convergent subsequence, still denoted by  $u_h(\gamma_h, q_h)$ , such that

$$u_h(\gamma_h, q_h) \rightarrow u^* \text{ weakly in } H^1(\Omega) \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0.$$

From the compactness results, this implies

$$u_h(\gamma_h, q_h) \rightarrow u^* \text{ strongly in } L^2(\Gamma_3) \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0.$$

We show that  $u^* \equiv u(\gamma^*, q^*)$ . For any  $v \in H^1(\Omega)$ , let  $v_h = Q_h v$  be a test function, obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\int_{\Omega} \alpha \nabla u_h \cdot \nabla v_h dx + \int_{\Omega} c u_h v_h dx + \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma_h u_h v_h ds \\
 &= \int_{\Omega} f v_h dx + \int_{\Gamma_1} g v_h ds + \int_{\Gamma_2} q_h v_h ds \\
 &\quad \forall v_h \in V^h, \quad (4.11)
 \end{aligned}$$

such that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{\Omega} \alpha \nabla u_h \cdot \nabla v_h dx &= \int_{\Omega} \alpha \nabla u_h \cdot \nabla v dx \\
 &+ \int_{\Omega} \alpha \nabla u_h \cdot \nabla (v_h - v) dx, \\
 \int_{\Omega} c u_h v_h dx &= \int_{\Omega} c u^* v dx + \int_{\Omega} c u_h (v_h - v) dx \\
 &+ \int_{\Omega} c (u_h - u^*) v dx, \\
 \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma_h u_h v_h ds &= \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma_h u^* v ds + \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma_h u_h (v_h - v) ds \\
 &+ \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma_h (u_h - u^*) v ds, \\
 \int_{\Omega} f v_h dx &= \int_{\Omega} f v dx + \int_{\Omega} f (v_h - v) dx.
 \end{aligned}$$

By the convergence of  $v_h = Q_h v$ ,  $u_h(\gamma_h, q_h)$  weak convergence in  $H^1(\Omega)$ , and  $(\gamma_h, q_h)$  weak convergence in  $K_\gamma^h \times K_q^h$  as  $h \rightarrow 0$ , we derive

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\int_{\Omega} \alpha \nabla u^* \cdot \nabla v dx + \int_{\Omega} c u^* v dx + \int_{\Gamma_1} \gamma^* u^* v ds \\
 &= \int_{\Omega} f v dx + \int_{\Gamma_1} g v ds + \int_{\Gamma_2} q^* v ds. \quad (4.12)
 \end{aligned}$$

Then we conclude that  $u^* \equiv u(\gamma^*, q^*)$ .  $\square$

The following lemma we will need illustrates the density result. It has been proved in [13].

**Lemma 4.2.**  $C^\infty(\Omega)$  is weak \* dense in  $L^\infty(\Omega)$ .

For any  $\chi \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ , there exists an  $\chi^n \in C^\infty(\Omega)$  such that

$$\int_{\Omega} \chi^n \varphi dx \rightarrow \int_{\Omega} \chi \varphi dx \quad \forall \varphi \in L^1(\Omega), \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

The following theorem shows that the convergence of the finite element solution to the minimizer of the continuous optimization problem.

**Theorem 4.2.** Let  $\{(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*)\}$  be a sequence of minimizers to the discrete minimization problem (4.1). Then each subsequence of  $\{(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*)\}$  has a subsequence converging to a minimizer of the continuous optimization problem(2.2).

*Proof.* From the uniform boundedness of  $\gamma_h^*$  in  $L^\infty(\Gamma_1)$  and  $q_h^*$  in  $K_2$  implies that there exists a subsequence, also denoted by  $\{(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*)\}$ , and some  $\{(\gamma^*, q^*)\}$  such that

$$\gamma_h^* \rightarrow \gamma^* \text{ weak * in } L^\infty(\Gamma_1) \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0,$$

$$q_h^* \rightarrow q^* \text{ weak * in } L^\infty(\Gamma_2) \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0,$$

and Lemma 4.1 implies that

$$u_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*) \rightarrow u(\gamma^*, q^*) \text{ in } L^2(\Gamma_3).$$

For any  $(\gamma, q) \in K_\gamma \times K_q$  and let  $\varepsilon > 0$ , from Lemma 4.2 there exists a  $(\gamma^\varepsilon, q^\varepsilon) \in C^\infty(\Gamma_1) \times C^\infty(\Gamma_2)$  such that

$$(\gamma^\varepsilon, q^\varepsilon) \rightarrow (\gamma, q) \text{ weak in } K_\gamma \times K_q.$$

For any  $(\gamma^\varepsilon, q^\varepsilon) \in K_\gamma \times K_q$ , let  $(\gamma_h^\varepsilon, q_h^\varepsilon) = (Q_h \gamma^\varepsilon, Q_h q^\varepsilon) \in K_\gamma^h \times K_q^h$ . The property of interpolation operator  $Q_h$  implies that

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \|u_h(\gamma_h^\varepsilon, q_h^\varepsilon) - u(\gamma, q)\|_{L^2(\Gamma_3)} = 0.$$

We derive that  $(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*)$  is the minimizer of  $J$  over  $K_\gamma^h \times K_q^h$

$$\begin{aligned} J_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*) &= \int_{\Gamma_3} (u_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*) - z^\delta)^2 ds + \beta \int_{\Gamma_1} (\gamma_h^*)^2 ds \\ &+ \eta \int_{\Gamma_2} (q_h^*)^2 ds, \\ &\leq \int_{\Gamma_3} (u_h(\gamma_h^\varepsilon, q_h^\varepsilon) - z^\delta)^2 ds + \beta \int_{\Gamma_1} (\gamma_h^\varepsilon)^2 ds \\ &+ \eta \int_{\Gamma_2} (q_h^\varepsilon)^2 ds, \\ &= J_h(\gamma_h^\varepsilon, q_h^\varepsilon) = J_h(Q_h \gamma^\varepsilon, Q_h q^\varepsilon). \end{aligned} \quad (4.13)$$

Then from Lemma 4.1 and the convergence property

of the interpolation operator  $Q_h$

$$\begin{aligned} J(\gamma^*, q^*) &= \int_{\Gamma_3} (u(\gamma^*, q^*) - z^\delta)^2 ds + \beta \int_{\Gamma_1} (\gamma^*)^2 ds \\ &+ \eta \int_{\Gamma_2} (q^*)^2 ds, \\ &\leq \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \int_{\Gamma_3} (u_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*) - z^\delta)^2 ds \\ &+ \liminf_{h \rightarrow 0} [\beta \int_{\Gamma_1} (\gamma_h^*)^2 ds + \eta \int_{\Gamma_2} (q_h^*)^2 ds], \\ &\leq \liminf_{h \rightarrow 0} J_h(\gamma_h^*, q_h^*), \\ &\leq \liminf_{h \rightarrow 0} J_h(Q_h \gamma^\varepsilon, Q_h q^\varepsilon), \\ &\leq \int_{\Gamma_3} (u_h(\gamma^\varepsilon, q^\varepsilon) - z^\delta)^2 ds + \beta \int_{\Gamma_1} (\gamma^\varepsilon)^2 ds \\ &+ \eta \int_{\Gamma_2} (q^\varepsilon)^2 ds. \end{aligned} \quad (4.14)$$

By assuming  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we obtain

$$J(\gamma^*, q^*) \leq J(\gamma, q) \quad \forall (\gamma, q) \in K_\gamma \times K_q,$$

which indicates that  $(\gamma^*, q^*)$  is a minimizer of the functional  $J(\gamma, q)$ .  $\square$

## 5 Numerical algorithm using an M-CGM

In this section, we describe the MCGM for the numerical solution of the minimization problem to identify the two parameters Robin coefficient and heat flux, simultaneously. Each iteration requires solving two sensitivity and two adjoint equations to compute the gradient formulas with respect to  $\gamma$  and  $q$ . The idea of the modification in CGM is summarized as follows: The given initial guess  $(\gamma^0, q^0)$  helps for computing the heat flux  $q^{k+1}$  (i.e.,  $q^{k+1}$  computed by  $(\gamma^k, q^k)$ ), while the heat transfer coefficient  $\gamma^{k+1}$  is computed by  $(\gamma^k, q^{k+1})$  as shown in the following algorithm. MCGM stops when the reconstructions are accurate enough or satisfy the stopping criteria.

### Algorithm 5.1.

a- Choose the initial guess  $(\gamma^0, q^0)$ , directions  $(d_q^0, d_\gamma^0)$ , and set  $k := 0$ .

b- Solve the forward problem (2.1)  $u(\gamma^k, q^k)$  and compute the residual  $r_q^k$

$$r_q^k = u(\gamma^k, q^k) - z^\delta \text{ on } \Gamma_3.$$

c- Solve the adjoint equation (3.10)



d- Determine the gradient  $\frac{\partial J(\gamma^k, q^k)}{\partial q}$  such that

$$\frac{\partial J(\gamma^k, q^k)}{\partial q} = 2(u'_q(\gamma^k, q^k) * p + \eta q^k).$$

e- The conjugate coefficient  $\beta_q^k$  is given by

$$\beta_q^k = \frac{\|\partial J(\gamma^k, q^k)/\partial q\|_{L^2(\Gamma_2)}^2}{\|\partial J(\gamma^{k-1}, q^{k-1})/\partial q\|_{L^2(\Gamma_2)}^2}.$$

f- Compute the descent direction with respect to  $q(x, y)$

$$d_q^{k+1} = -\frac{\partial J(\gamma^k, q^k)}{\partial q} + \beta_q^k d_q^k.$$

g- Solve the sensitivity equation  $u'_q(\gamma^k, q^k)\xi$  in (3.1).

h- Compute the step length  $\alpha_q^k$

$$\alpha_q^k = -\frac{\langle r_k, u'_q(\gamma^k, q^k, d_q^{k+1}) \rangle_{L^2(\Gamma_3)} + \eta \langle q^k, d_q^{k+1} \rangle_{L^2(\Gamma_2)}}{\|u'_q(\gamma^k, q^k, d_q^{k+1})\|_{L^2(\Gamma_3)}^2 + \eta \|d_q^{k+1}\|_{L^2(\Gamma_2)}^2}. \quad (5.1)$$

i- Update the heat flux  $q(x, y)$  by

$$q^{k+1} = q^k + \alpha_k d_q^{k+1}.$$

j- Solve the forward problem (2.1)  $u(\gamma^k, q^{k+1})$  and compute  $r_\gamma^k$

$$r_\gamma^k = u(\gamma^k, q^{k+1}) - z^\delta \quad \text{on } \Gamma_3.$$

k- Solve the adjoint problem  $u'_\gamma(\gamma^k, q^{k+1}) * d$  in (3.10)

l- Determine the gradient  $\frac{\partial J(\gamma^k, q^{k+1})}{\partial \gamma}$  such that

$$\frac{\partial J(\gamma^k, q^{k+1})}{\partial \gamma} = 2(u(\gamma^k, q^{k+1})(u'_\gamma(\gamma^k, q^{k+1}) * d) + \beta \gamma^k).$$

m- The conjugate coefficient  $\beta_\gamma^k$  given by

$$\beta_\gamma^k = \frac{\|\partial J(\gamma^k, q^{k+1})/\partial \gamma\|_{L^2(\Gamma_1)}^2}{\|\partial J(\gamma^{k-1}, q^{k+1})/\partial \gamma\|_{L^2(\Gamma_1)}^2}.$$

n- Compute the descent direction for  $\gamma(x, y)$

$$d_\gamma^k = -\frac{\partial J(\gamma^k, q^{k+1})}{\partial \gamma} + \beta_\gamma^k d_\gamma^k.$$

o- Solve the sensitivity equation  $u'_\gamma(\gamma^k, q^{k+1})\lambda$  in (3.1).

p- Compute  $\alpha_\gamma^k$

$$\alpha_\gamma^k = -\frac{\langle r_k, u'_\gamma(\gamma^k, q^{k+1}, d_\gamma^{k+1}) \rangle_{L^2(\Gamma_3)} + \beta \langle \gamma^k, d_\gamma^{k+1} \rangle_{L^2(\Gamma_1)}}{\|u'_\gamma(\gamma^k, q^{k+1}, d_\gamma^{k+1})\|_{L^2(\Gamma_3)}^2 + \beta \|d_\gamma^{k+1}\|_{L^2(\Gamma_1)}^2}. \quad (5.2)$$

q- Update the Robin coefficient  $\gamma^k$  by

$$\gamma^{k+1} = \gamma^k + \alpha_\gamma^k d_\gamma^{k+1}.$$

r- If  $\frac{\|q^{k+1} - q^k\|_{L^2(\Gamma_2)}}{\|q^k\|_{L^2(\Gamma_2)}} \leq \varepsilon_1$ , and  $\frac{\|\gamma^{k+1} - \gamma^k\|_{L^2(\Gamma_1)}}{\|\gamma^k\|_{L^2(\Gamma_1)}} \leq \varepsilon_2$  Stop; otherwise  $k := k + 1$ , and go to Step 2.

The step lengths  $\alpha_q^k$  and  $\alpha_\gamma^k$  are determined by the quadratic approximation of a two-variable functional. By using the mean value theorem and Taylor expansion, we can derive the forward operator  $u(\gamma, q)$  with respect to  $\gamma$ , and  $q$  as shown in equations (5.1) and (5.2) to determine the step lengths  $\alpha_q^k$  and  $\alpha_\gamma^k$ , respectively. For determining the step lengths  $\alpha_q^k$  and  $\alpha_\gamma^k$ , this requires solving two auxiliary and adjoint equations for every iteration. The considered numerical examples in the present study and previous studies of inverse problems [19, 13] prove that the step lengths work very well.

## 6 Numerical experiments and discussions

In this section, we will execute the proposed algorithm 5.1 to simultaneously reconstruct the parameters heat flux and Robin coefficient in the optimization problem (2.1). The considered solution domain  $\Omega$  is a rectangular as  $\Omega = (0, 1) \times (0, 2)$  which discretized using triangular mesh such that each small rectangular is divided to two triangles as a finite element triangulation. We have the domain boundary consists of three parts  $\Gamma_1 = \{(x, y) : x = 1, 0 \leq y \leq 2\}$ ,  $\Gamma_2 = \{(x, y) : y = 0, 0 \leq x \leq 1\}$ , and  $\Gamma_3 = \partial\Omega \setminus (\Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma_2)$ . We solve the forward problem using the continuous linear finite element method and the exact data can obtain from the exact solution. To verify the issue of robustness and sensitivity for the reconstruction algorithm against the noise in the data, we introduce some multiplicative noise to the data  $z^\delta$  along  $\Gamma_c$  in the time domain:  $z^\delta = u + \delta \mathfrak{R}u$  on  $\Gamma_c \times (0, T)$ , where  $\mathfrak{R}$  a uniformly distributed random variable varying in  $[-1, 1]$ , and  $\delta$  is the noise level. We will apply  $\delta = 5\%$  in our numerical tests unless specified otherwise. Assume that the regularization parameters  $\beta = 10^{-4}$  and  $\eta = 10^{-3}$  are chosen according to the theory of residues due to Morozov (see, [20]) and two tolerance parameters  $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon_2 = 2 \times 10^{-3}$ . Furthermore, we set the initial directions  $(d_q^0, d_\gamma^0)$  to be zeros vectors.

Now, we introduce five numerical examples for reconstructing the unknown parameters in the elliptic system (2.1), and assume that  $\alpha(\mathbf{x}) = c(\mathbf{x}) = 1$ . For example, we assume the exact solution for the forward problem (2.1) is given by

$$u(x, y) = x \cdot \cos(\pi y) + y \cdot \sin(\pi x),$$

Table 1 and Figs. 1, 2 present the convergence rate for the numerical solution of the forward problem. We assume that the source function for all examples is given by

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = (\pi^2 + 1) \cos(\pi y) + yx^2 - 3 \text{ in } \Omega,$$

and the boundary temperature is given by

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \cos(\pi y + 1)\gamma(\mathbf{x}) + 2 \text{ on } \Gamma_1.$$

**Remark 6.1.** The relative error of Robin coefficient is defined by  $\mathcal{RE}_\gamma = \frac{\|\gamma^k - \gamma\|_{L^2(\Gamma_1)}}{\|\gamma\|_{L^2(\Gamma_1)}}$  and relative error of heat flux is defined by  $\mathcal{RE}_q = \frac{\|q^k - q\|_{L^2(\Gamma_2)}}{\|q\|_{L^2(\Gamma_2)}}$  where the accuracy error is defined by the relative error.

**Example 6.1.** Consider the exact heat flux is given by  $q(\mathbf{x}) = -x + 3$  on  $\Gamma_2$ , exact Robin coefficient  $\gamma(\mathbf{x}) = 2 - (y - 1)^4$  on  $\Gamma_1$ , and initial guess  $(\gamma^0, q^0) = (2, \frac{3}{2})$

- In this example we notice that the relative error of Robin coefficient decrease gradually with increasing the number of iterations and relative error of heat flux is regular with  $k$ .
- The obtained numerical results in Table 2 lead to the accuracy of the proposed algorithm for simultaneous reconstructing Robin coefficient and heat flux in Example 6.1.

**Example 6.2.** Consider the heat flux is given by  $q(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2}(x - 1)^2 + 2$  on  $\Gamma_2$ , exact Robin coefficient is given by  $\gamma(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{3}{4}(y - 1)^4 + \frac{5}{2}$  on  $\{(x, y) \in \Gamma_1; 0 \leq y \leq 1\}$ ,  $\gamma(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{3}{4}(y - 1)^4 + \frac{5}{2}$  on  $\{(x, y) \in \Gamma_1; 1 \leq y \leq 2\}$ , and initial guess  $(\gamma^0, q^0) = (\frac{5}{2}, 2)$ .

Fig.4 shows the exact and numerical reconstruction of Robin coefficient and heat flux such that  $\mathcal{RE}_\gamma = 0.028$ ,  $\mathcal{RE}_q = 0.0148$ , and  $k = 5$  at  $\delta = 0.02$  noise in the data as shown in Table 2.

**Example 6.3.** Consider the exact heat flux is given by  $q(\mathbf{x}) = -\frac{2}{5}(x - 1)^2 + 2$  on  $\Gamma_2$ . The exact Robin coefficient is given by  $\gamma(\mathbf{x}) = 1 + \frac{1}{5}(y - 1)^2$  on  $\Gamma_1$  and initial guess is given by  $(\gamma^0, q^0) = (1, \frac{5}{2})$ .

Fig.5 shows the exact and numerical reconstruction Robin coefficient and heat flux such that  $\mathcal{RE}_\gamma = 0.0238$ ,  $\mathcal{RE}_q = 0.0148$ , and  $k = 8$  at the noise level  $\delta = 0.02$ .

**Example 6.4.** Consider the exact heat flux  $q(\mathbf{x}) = -x + 3$  on  $\Gamma_2$ , the Robin coefficient is given by  $\gamma(\mathbf{x}) = 4 - (y - 1)^2$  on  $\Gamma_1$ , and the initial guess  $(\gamma^0, q^0) = (4, \frac{3}{2})$ .

Fig.6 shows the behaviour and performance of  $\gamma$  and  $q$  with the exact solutions. In addition, the relative errors are given by  $\mathcal{RE}_\gamma = 0.0257$ ,  $\mathcal{RE}_q = 0.020$ , and  $k = 5$  at  $\delta = 0.02$ .

**Example 6.5.** Assume that the exact heat flux is given by  $q(\mathbf{x}) = -x + 3$  on  $\Gamma_2$ , the Robin coefficient is given by  $\gamma(\mathbf{x}) = 3 - (y - 1)^4$  on  $\{(x, y) \in \Gamma_1; 0 \leq y \leq 1\}$ ,  $\gamma(\mathbf{x}) = 3 + (y - 1)^4$  on  $\{(x, y) \in \Gamma_1; 1 \leq y \leq 2\}$ , and initial guess  $(\gamma^0, q^0) = (3, \frac{3}{2})$ .

By increasing the number of elements  $\mathcal{N}_{el}$  and applying for any example such as Example 6.4. Then, we find that the numerical results in Table 4 and Fig. 7 are very stable and accurate. The numerical results show that the initial guess of Robin coefficient and heat flux depend on the given functions of  $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$  and  $q(\mathbf{x})$ , respectively. Fig. 9 shows the numerical results for Example 6.1, such that decreasing the noise in the data gradually leads to increase the accuracy of the reconstruction heat flux and Robin coefficient accordingly. Table 2 declares that the proposed approach is convergent with respect to the noise in data for the all examples, this is more clearly seen in Figs. 9 and 10 for reconstructing the two parameters, simultaneously. The numerical reconstruction of the two parameters remain very steady and reasonable according to the noise level to 5%. We notice that, the results for the continuous functions are more accuracy about the discontinuous cases i.e. the smooth functions are adapted with the optimization problem (2.2). Tables 2 and 3 are presented to illustrate the efficiency and accuracy of the Levenberg-Marquardt method in addition to numerical convergence of the method. Fig. 11 shows the stability and accuracy of the modified conjugate gradient algorithm, such that the accuracy error decreases gradually with increasing the number of iterations.

Table 1: The convergence rate of the numerical solution of (2.1).

$\mathcal{N}_{el}$	$\mathcal{RE}_{sol}$
128	0.3121
512	0.1227
2048	0.0529
8192	0.0243
32768	0.0116
131072	0.0057

Table 2: Numerical results for the parameters identification using MCGM and L-M method.

<b>MCGM</b>	$\delta$	k	$\mathcal{RE}_\gamma$	$\mathcal{RE}_q$
Example 6.1	0.01	5	0.0146	0.0215
Example 6.2	0.01	4	0.0209	0.0217
Example 6.3	0.01	7	0.0139	0.0154
Example 6.4	0.01	5	0.0247	0.0185
Example 6.5	0.01	4	0.0135	0.0078
Example 6.1	0.02	5	0.0146	0.0216
Example 6.2	0.02	5	0.028	0.0148
Example 6.3	0.02	8	0.0238	0.0148
Example 6.4	0.02	5	0.0257	0.020
Example 6.5	0.02	3	0.0201	0.0109
<b>L-M method</b>	$\delta$	k	$\mathcal{RE}_\gamma$	$\mathcal{RE}_q$
Example 6.1	0.01	14	0.0681	8.194e-004
Example 6.2	0.01	16	0.0387	0.0015
Example 6.3	0.01	12	0.0345	5.886e-004
Example 6.4	0.01	14	0.0391	0.0026
Example 6.5	0.01	17	0.0326	5.878e-004
Example 6.1	0.02	15	0.0676	6.763e-004
Example 6.2	0.02	16	0.0354	0.0015
Example 6.3	0.02	12	0.0416	7.213e-004
Example 6.4	0.02	14	0.0382	0.0027
Example 6.5	0.02	17	0.0330	5.371e-004

Table 3: Numerical results for the parameters identification at 3% and 5% noise in the data by **L-M method**.

Example	$\delta$	k	$\mathcal{RE}_\gamma$	$\mathcal{RE}_q$	J
6.1	0.03	17	0.0688	5.84e-004	0.0856
6.2	0.03	17	0.0321	0.0016	0.0568
6.3	0.03	13	0.0505	8.36e-004	0.0418
6.4	0.03	14	0.0379	0.0028	0.0806
6.5	0.03	18	0.0350	5.00e-004	0.0846
6.1	0.05	35	0.0913	0.0021	0.1644
6.2	0.05	20	0.0317	0.0022	0.1183
6.3	0.05	38	0.1172	0.0031	0.0920
6.4	0.05	15	0.0381	0.0032	0.1553
6.5	0.05	20	0.0444	7.19e-004	0.1606

Table 4: Numerical results for Example 6.5 in the case of increasing the number of elements  $\mathcal{N}_{el}$  by **MCGM**.

$\mathcal{N}_{el}$	k	$\mathcal{RE}_\gamma$	$\mathcal{RE}_q$	$\mathcal{N}_{el}$	k	$\mathcal{RE}_\gamma$	$\mathcal{RE}_q$
1408	4	0.024	0.007	614	5	0.028	0.008
1824	4	0.028	0.006	835	6	0.027	0.011
2584	5	0.02	0.017	998	5	0.028	0.011
3952	5	0.026	0.005	1184	6	0.025	0.01

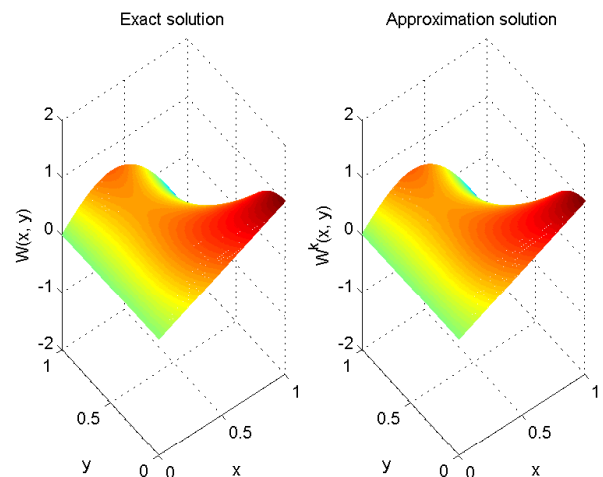


Figure 1: Exact solution (left) and numerical solution (right) with  $\mathcal{N}_{el} = 131072$ .

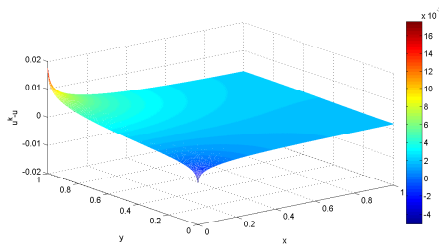


Figure 2: The difference between the exact and numerical solution for  $u(x,y) = x \cdot \cos(\pi y) + y \cdot \sin(\pi x)$ ,  $\mathcal{RE}_{sol} = 0.0057$ .

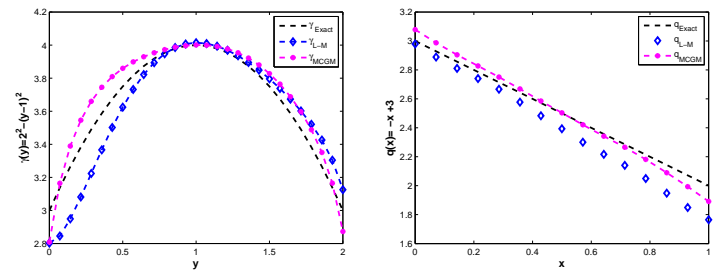


Figure 6: Exact and numerical reconstruction  $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$  (left) and  $q(\mathbf{x})$  (right) for Example 6.4 at  $\mathcal{N}_{el} = 784$  by MCGM and L-M method.

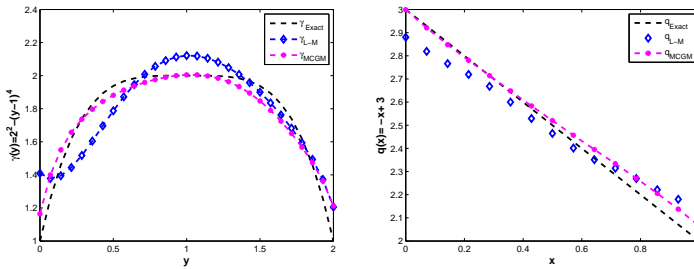


Figure 3: Exact and numerical reconstruction  $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$  (left) and  $q(\mathbf{x})$  (right) for Example 6.1 at  $\mathcal{N}_{el} = 784$  by MCGM and L-M method.

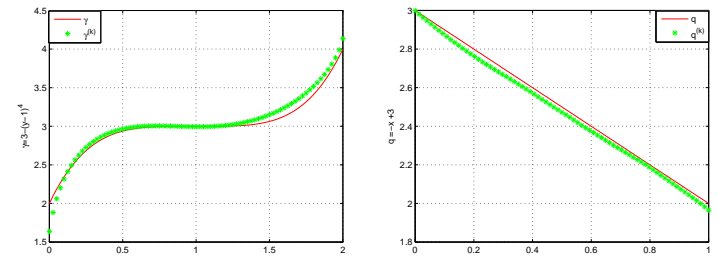


Figure 7: Exact and numerical reconstruction  $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$  (left) and  $q(\mathbf{x})$  (right) by Algorithm 5.1 for Example 6.5 at  $\mathcal{N}_{el} = 11840$  and  $\delta = 0.02$ .

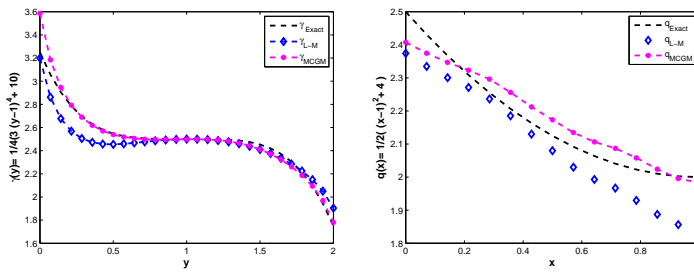


Figure 4: Exact and numerical reconstruction  $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$  (left) and  $q(\mathbf{x})$  (right) for Example 6.2 at  $\mathcal{N}_{el} = 784$  by MCGM and L-M method.

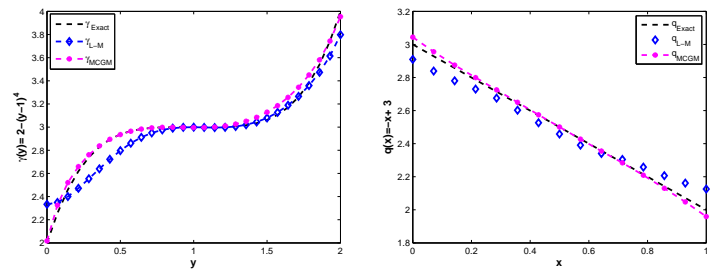


Figure 8: Exact and numerical reconstruction  $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$  (left) and  $q(\mathbf{x})$  (right) for Example 6.5 at  $\mathcal{N}_{el} = 784$  by MCGM and L-M method.

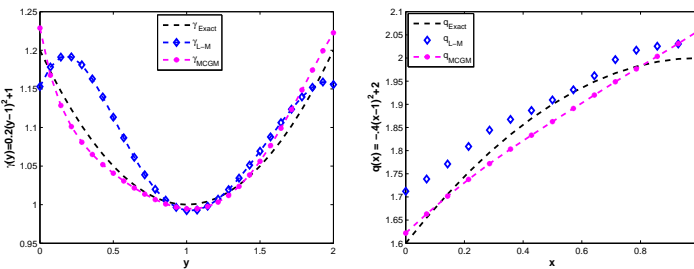


Figure 5: Exact and numerical reconstruction  $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$  (left) and  $q(\mathbf{x})$  (right) for Example 6.3 at  $\mathcal{N}_{el} = 784$  by MCGM and L-M method.

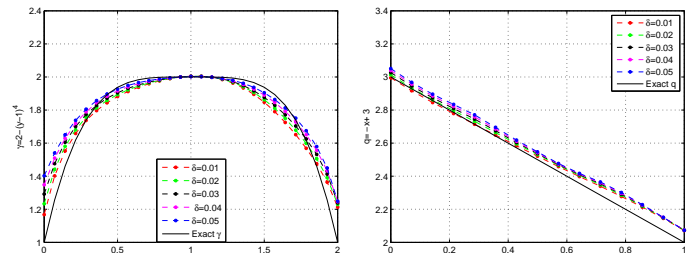


Figure 9: Exact and numerical reconstruction  $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$  (left) and  $q(\mathbf{x})$  (right) by Algorithm 5.1 for Example 6.1 with various levels of noise  $\delta \in [0.01, 0.05]$ .

## 7 Concluding remarks

In this work, we studied the nonlinear inverse problem of simultaneous identifying the Robin coefficient and heat flux. We used the philosophy of the conjugate gradient method to simultaneously identifying two parameters. We derived the partial Fréchet derivatives of the forward solution to obtain the gradient formulas of the Robin coefficient and heat flux. Furthermore, introduced the adjoint equations to determine the step lengths. The finite element approximation and its numerical analysis convergence is investigated. We presented the numerical algorithm in details using the modified conjugate gradient method (MCGM) in addition to the idea of the modification. The foregoing numerical results and experiments with various levels of noise indicate that the proposed algorithm MCGM is very stable and efficient for simultaneously reconstructing the two parameters heat flux and Robin coefficient. Moreover, they appear quite satisfactory in spite of the highly ill-posedness of the nonlinear inverse and discontinuity problem. We presented the numerical results by using Levenberg-Marquardt method with various levels of the noise to verify the robustness and efficiency of the method. The comparison between the two methods MCGM and Levenberg-Marquardt methods in the work of [1] is investigated.

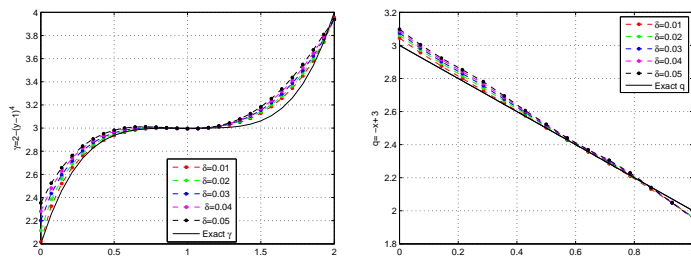


Figure 10: Exact and numerical reconstruction  $\gamma(x)$  (left) and  $q(x)$  (right) by Algorithm 5.1 for Example 6.5 with various levels of noise in the data  $\delta \in [0.01, 0.05]$ .

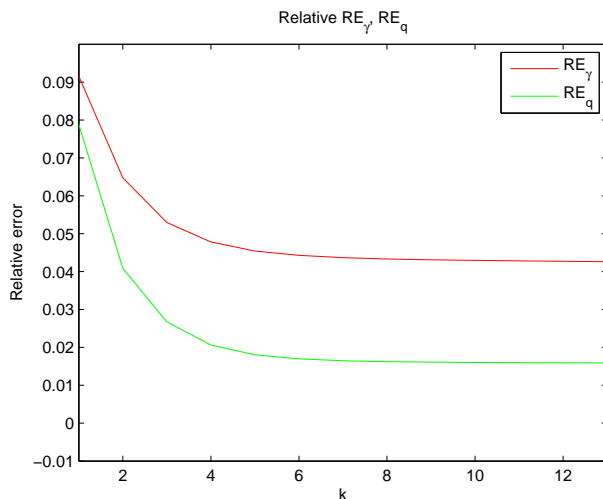


Figure 11: Convergence of the method for Example 6.1 with  $\delta = 1\%$  noise in the data.

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