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## FINITE GROUPS WITH SOME SS-SUPPLEMENTED SUBGROUPS

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*Abstract.* A subgroup  $H$  of a finite group  $G$  is said to be SS-supplemented in  $G$  if there exists a subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such that  $G = HK$  and  $H \cap K$  is S-quasinormal in  $K$ . We analyze how certain properties of SS-supplemented subgroups influence the structure of finite groups. Our results improve and generalize several recent results.

*Keywords:* SS-supplemented subgroup; maximal subgroup; solvable group; minimal subgroup

*MSC 2020:* 20D10, 20D20

### 1. INTRODUCTION

All groups considered in this paper are finite and  $G$  always denotes a finite group. Our notation and terminology are standard and the reader is referred to [4], [8]. Recall that a subgroup  $H$  of a group  $G$  is said to be S-quasinormal in  $G$  if  $H$  permutes with every Sylow subgroup of  $G$ . This concept was introduced by Kegel and Deskins in 1962, see [10]. In 2012, Guo and Lu gave the definition of SS-supplemented subgroups.

**Definition 1.1** ([6], Definition 2.1). A subgroup  $H$  of a group  $G$  is called *SS-supplemented* in  $G$  if there exists a subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such that  $G = HK$  and  $H \cap K$  is S-quasinormal in  $K$ . In this case, we say that  $K$  is an SS-supplement of  $H$  in  $G$ .

**Theorem 1.2** ([6], Theorem 3.3). *A group  $G$  is solvable if and only if every maximal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  has a subnormal SS-supplement in  $G$ .*

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The research on the SS-supplemented subgroups of a given group still continues and many related results have been recently obtained, see [11], [12]. It has been proved that the SS-supplemented subgroups are suitable for describing the structure of groups. The aim of this paper is to give a generalization of the above mentioned theorems. We investigate the solvability of some normal subgroup by using certain maximal subgroups, which is a generalization of the results known. We also study the structure of groups based on the assumption that every subgroup of  $P \cap P^x \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$  of order  $p$  or 4 (if  $p = 2$ ) is SS-supplemented in  $G$ , where  $x \in G \setminus N_G(P)$  and  $G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$  is the  $p$ -nilpotent residual of  $G$ . Some results for a group to be  $p$ -nilpotent and supersolvable are obtained and many known results are generalized.

Recall that a formation  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a class of groups which is closed under taking epimorphic images and such that every group  $G$  has a smallest normal subgroup with quotient in  $\mathfrak{F}$ . This subgroup is called the  $\mathfrak{F}$ -residual of  $G$  and denoted by  $G^{\mathfrak{F}}$ . Throughout this paper,  $\mathfrak{N}_p$  and  $\mathfrak{N}$  denote the classes of  $p$ -nilpotent groups and nilpotent groups, respectively.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

In this section we present some lemmas, which are required in the proofs of our main results.

**Lemma 2.1** ([6], Lemma 2.4). *Let  $H$  be an SS-supplemented subgroup of a group  $G$ . Then, the following statements hold:*

- (1) *If  $M$  is a subgroup of  $G$  and  $H \leq M$ , then  $H$  is SS-supplemented in  $M$ .*
- (2) *If  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  and  $N \leq H$ , then  $H/N$  is SS-supplemented in  $G/N$ .*
- (3) *Let  $\pi$  be a set of primes. If  $H$  is a  $\pi$ -subgroup of  $G$  and  $N$  is a normal  $\pi'$ -subgroup of  $G$ , then  $HN/N$  is SS-supplemented in  $G/N$ .*

The following two lemmas are known results for S-quasinormal subgroups of a given group  $G$ .

**Lemma 2.2** ([10]). *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$ . If  $H$  is S-quasinormal in  $G$ , then  $H$  is subnormal in  $G$ .*

**Lemma 2.3** ([16], Lemma A). *If  $H$  is a  $p$ -subgroup of a group  $G$  for some prime  $p$ , then  $H$  is S-quasinormal in  $G$  if and only if  $O^p(G) \leq N_G(H)$ .*

**Lemma 2.4** ([4], Lemma 14.3). *If  $A$  is a subnormal subgroup of a group  $G$  and  $B$  is a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $B \leq N_G(A)$ .*

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $P$  be a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of a group  $G$  and  $H$  a normal subgroup of  $G$ . If  $N$  is a normal  $p'$ -subgroup of  $G$ , then  $HN \cap PN \cap P^x N = (H \cap P \cap P^{xn})N$  for some  $n \in N$ , where  $x \in G \setminus N_G(P)$ .*

*Proof.* From Sylow's theorem, we have  $HN \cap PN = (HN \cap P)N = (H \cap P)N$ . So  $HN \cap PN \cap P^x N = (H \cap P \cap P^x N)N$ . Take  $P_0 = H \cap P \cap P^x N$ . Then  $P_0$  is contained in a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $P^x N$ . Thus by Sylow's theorem again there exists an element  $n$  in  $N$  such that  $P_0 \leq P^{xn}$ . It follows that  $P_0 = H \cap P \cap P^x N \geq H \cap P \cap P^{xn} \geq P_0$  and hence  $P_0 = H \cap P \cap P^{xn}$ . This implies that  $HN \cap PN \cap P^x N = (H \cap P \cap P^{xn})N$ .  $\square$

A 2-group is called *quaternion-free* if it has no section isomorphic to the quaternion group of order 8.

**Lemma 2.6** ([5], Theorem 2.8). *If a solvable group  $G$  has a Sylow 2-subgroup  $P$  which is quaternion-free, then  $P \cap Z(G) \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}} = 1$ .*

**Lemma 2.7.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$ , then  $H^{\mathfrak{N}_p} \leq G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $HG^{\mathfrak{N}_p}/G^{\mathfrak{N}_p} \leq G/G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$  and  $G/G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$  is  $p$ -nilpotent, we have that  $H/(H \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}_p})$  is  $p$ -nilpotent and so  $H^{\mathfrak{N}_p} \leq H \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.8** ([1], Lemma 2). *Let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be a saturated formation. Assume that  $G$  is a non- $\mathfrak{F}$ -group and there exists a maximal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  such that  $M \in \mathfrak{F}$  and  $G = MF(G)$ , where  $F(G)$  is the Fitting subgroup of  $G$ . Then*

- (1)  $G^{\mathfrak{F}}/(G^{\mathfrak{F}})'$  is a chief factor of  $G$ ;
- (2)  $G^{\mathfrak{F}}$  is a  $p$ -group for some prime  $p$ ;
- (3)  $G^{\mathfrak{F}}$  has exponent  $p$  if  $p > 2$  and exponent is at most 4 if  $p = 2$ ;
- (4)  $G^{\mathfrak{F}}$  is either an elementary abelian group or  $(G^{\mathfrak{F}})' = Z(G^{\mathfrak{F}}) = \Phi(G^{\mathfrak{F}})$  is an elementary abelian group.

**Lemma 2.9** ([17], Lemma 2.16). *Let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be a saturated formation containing all supersolvable groups and  $G$  be a group with a normal subgroup  $E$  such that  $G/E \in \mathfrak{F}$ . If  $E$  is cyclic, then  $G \in \mathfrak{F}$ .*

Let  $H$  be a normal subgroup of a group  $G$ . We define the following families of subgroups:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{M}(G) &= \{M \mid M \triangleleft G\}, \\ \mathfrak{M}_{pc}(G) &= \{M \mid M \in \mathfrak{M}(G), |G : M|_p = 1 \text{ and } |G : M| \text{ is composite}\}, \\ \mathfrak{M}^{pcn}(G) &= \{M \mid M \in \mathfrak{M}(G), N_G(P) \leq M \text{ for a Sylow } p\text{-subgroup } P \text{ of } G, M \text{ is} \\ &\quad \text{nonnilpotent and } |G : M| \text{ is composite}\}, \\ \mathfrak{M}_H(G) &= \{M \mid M \in \mathfrak{M}(G) \text{ and } H \not\leq M\}. \end{aligned}$$

### 3. MAIN RESULTS

In this section, we firstly study the solvability of a normal subgroup  $H$  of a group  $G$  when some subgroups are assumed to be SS-supplemented subgroups of  $G$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $H$  be a normal subgroup of a group  $G$  and  $p$  the largest prime dividing the order of  $G$ . If every maximal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  in  $\mathfrak{M}_{pc}(G) \cap \mathfrak{M}_H(G)$  has a subnormal SS-supplement in  $G$ , then  $H$  is solvable.*

*Proof.* If  $\mathfrak{M}_{pc}(G) \cap \mathfrak{M}_H(G) = \emptyset$ , then we claim that  $H$  is solvable. In fact, if  $\mathfrak{M}_{pc}(G) = \emptyset$ , by [13], Theorem 8,  $G$  is solvable and so is  $H$ . If  $\mathfrak{M}_{pc}(G) \neq \emptyset$ , then  $H$  is contained in every maximal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  in  $\mathfrak{M}_{pc}(G)$ . Applying [13], Theorem 8 again,  $H$  is solvable. This proves our claim.

Now we may assume that  $\mathfrak{M}_{pc}(G) \cap \mathfrak{M}_H(G) \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $N$  be a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$ , and let  $M/N$  be a maximal subgroup of  $\overline{G} = G/N$  with  $M/N \in \mathfrak{M}_{pc}(\overline{G}) \cap \mathfrak{M}_{\overline{H}}(\overline{G})$ . Then  $M \in \mathfrak{M}_{pc}(G) \cap \mathfrak{M}_H(G)$ . Furthermore,  $M/N$  has a subnormal SS-supplement in  $G/N$  by Lemma 2.1. It is clear that  $(\overline{G}, \overline{H})$  satisfies the hypotheses of the theorem and so  $\overline{H}$  is solvable by induction. If  $N \not\leq H$ , then  $H \cong \overline{H}$  is solvable, as desired. Hence, we may assume that  $N \leq H$ , and it follows that  $H/N$  is solvable. If  $G$  has two different minimal normal subgroups  $N_1$  and  $N_2$ , then both  $H/N_1$  and  $H/N_2$  are solvable and so is  $H/(N_1 \cap N_2)$ . This implies that the group  $H$  is solvable. Hence we may assume that  $G$  has a unique minimal normal subgroup  $N$ .

Suppose that  $N$  is nonsolvable. Let  $q$  be the largest prime dividing the order of  $N$  and  $Q$  a Sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $N$ . Then  $G = N_G(Q)N$  by the Frattini argument. So there exists a maximal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  which contains  $N_G(Q)$ , but  $N \not\leq M$ . By hypothesis,  $p \geq q$ . If  $p > q$ , it is clear that  $|G : M|_p = |N : M \cap N|_p = 1$ . If  $p = q$ , then  $N_G(Q)$  contains a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ . Thus, we conclude that  $|G : M|_p = 1$  in these two cases. If  $|G : M| = r$  for some prime  $r$ , then, since  $M_G = 1$ , we have that  $G$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of the symmetric group  $S_r$  of degree  $r$ . This implies that  $|G| \mid r!$ , which is a contradiction as  $p$  is not a divisor of  $r!$ . Hence, we conclude that  $M \in \mathfrak{M}_{pc}(G) \cap \mathfrak{M}_H(G)$ .

By our hypotheses, there exists a subnormal subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such that  $G = MK$  and  $M \cap K$  is S-quasinormal in  $K$ . Since  $K$  is subnormal in  $G$ , Lemma 2.2 implies that  $M \cap K$  is subnormal in  $G$ . We claim that  $M \cap K = 1$ . Otherwise, we may take a minimal subnormal subgroup  $L$  of  $G$  contained in  $M \cap K$ . Since  $L \cap N \trianglelefteq L$ , either  $L \cap N = 1$  or  $L \leq N$ . If  $L \cap N = 1$ , then from Lemma 2.4  $NL = N \times L$  and  $L \leq C_G(N) = 1$ , a contradiction. Suppose  $L \leq N$ . We have  $L^G = L^{NM} = L^M \leq M_G = 1$ , which implies  $L = 1$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $M \cap K = 1$ . By using the same arguments, we can similarly prove that all minimal subnormal subgroups

of  $G$  are contained in  $N$ . Let  $N = N_1 \times \dots \times N_r$ , where each  $N_i$  is isomorphic to a fixed nonabelian simple group. It follows that  $N_1, \dots, N_r$  coincide with all minimal subnormal subgroups of  $G$ . Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $N_1 \leq K$ . Then a prime  $p$  exists such that  $p$  divides  $|K| = |G : M|$ . By [2], Lemma 3, we can see that  $N$  is solvable, this is a contradiction. The proof is completed.  $\square$

From Theorem 3.1, we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.2.** *Let  $p$  be the largest prime dividing the order of a group  $G$ . Then  $G$  is solvable if and only if every maximal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  in  $\mathfrak{M}_{pc}(G)$  has a subnormal SS-supplement in  $G$ .*

**Proof.** From Theorem 1.2, only the sufficiency requires a proof. In fact, let  $G = H$  in Theorem 3.1. Then we have the corollary.  $\square$

**Remark 3.3.** In Theorem 3.1, the group  $G$  is not necessary solvable. For example: Let  $L, H$  be the alternating groups of degree 5 and 4, respectively, and let  $G = L \times H$ . Suppose that  $M = L \times C_3$ , where  $C_3$  is a cyclic group of order 3 of  $H$ . Then  $M$  is a maximal subgroup of  $G$ . It is clear that  $H \not\leq M$  and  $|G : M| = 4$ . Thus  $M \in \mathfrak{M}_{pc}(G) \cap \mathfrak{M}_H(G)$  and we can also see that  $\mathfrak{M}_{pc}(G) \cap \mathfrak{M}_H(G) = \{M^g : g \in G\}$ . Furthermore, it is easy to see that  $G = MK_4$  and  $M \cap K_4$  is S-quasinormal in  $K_4$ , where  $K_4$  is the Klein four group contained in  $H$ . That is,  $M$  has a subnormal SS-supplement in  $G$ . However,  $G$  is not solvable.

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $H$  be a normal subgroup of a group  $G$  and  $p$  the largest prime dividing the order of  $G$ . If every maximal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  in  $\mathfrak{M}^{pcn}(G) \cap \mathfrak{M}_H(G)$  has a subnormal SS-supplement in  $G$ , then  $H$  is  $p$ -solvable.*

**Proof.** If  $\mathfrak{M}^{pcn}(G) \cap \mathfrak{M}_H(G) = \emptyset$ , then we can see that  $H$  is  $p$ -solvable by [7], Lemma 2.4. Now, we may assume that  $\mathfrak{M}^{pcn}(G) \cap \mathfrak{M}_H(G) \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $P \in \text{Syl}_p(G)$ . If  $P$  is normal in  $G$ , then  $G$  is certainly  $p$ -solvable and so is  $H$ . So we may assume that  $N_G(P) < G$ .

Let  $N$  be a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$ . It is clear that  $G/N$  satisfies the hypotheses of the theorem for the normal subgroup  $HN/N$  and so  $HN/N$  is  $p$ -solvable by induction. By a routine argument, we can assume that  $N$  is contained in  $H$  and  $N$  is the unique minimal normal subgroup of  $G$ .

Suppose that  $N$  is not  $p$ -solvable. Then  $p$  is a divisor of the order of  $N$ . We know that  $N \cap P \in \text{Syl}_p(N)$  and  $P \cap N$  is not a normal subgroup of  $N$ . By the Frattini argument, we have that  $G = N_G(P \cap N)N$ . So there exists a maximal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  which contains  $N_G(P \cap N)$  and  $M \not\leq N$ . It is clear that  $N_G(P) \leq M$ . If  $|G : M| = q$  is a prime, then by Sylow's theorem, we have  $q = 1 + kp$  and  $q \mid |N|$ . This contradicts  $p$  being the largest prime which divides the order of  $N$ . Hence  $|G : M|$

must be a composite number. If  $M$  is nilpotent, then the Sylow 2-subgroup  $M_2$  of  $M$  is not identity by [14], Theorem 10.4.2. Let  $M_{2'}$  be a Hall  $2'$ -subgroup of  $M$ . By [15], Theorem 1,  $M_{2'}$  is normal in  $G$  and therefore  $P \trianglelefteq G$  since  $P$  is a characteristic subgroup of  $M_{2'}$ . It follows that  $P \cap N \trianglelefteq G$ , a contradiction. Thus,  $M \in \mathfrak{M}^{pcn}(G) \cap \mathfrak{M}_H(G)$ . By the hypotheses,  $M$  has a subnormal SS-supplement subgroup  $K$  in  $G$ . By using similar arguments as in the proof of Theorem 3.1, we can get that  $|K| = |G : M| \leq |G : N_G(P)|$  and so  $p \nmid |K|$ . However,  $K$  is subnormal in  $G$ , which implies that  $K$  contains  $N_i$  for some  $i$  and hence  $p \mid |K|$ , a contradiction. This shows that  $N$  is  $p$ -solvable and therefore  $H$  is  $p$ -solvable. The proof of the theorem is now complete.  $\square$

From Theorem 3.4, we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.5.** *Let  $p$  be the largest prime dividing the order of a group  $G$ . Then  $G$  is  $p$ -solvable if and only if every maximal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  in  $\mathfrak{M}^{pcn}(G)$  has a subnormal SS-supplement in  $G$ .*

*Proof.* Only the necessity of the condition is in doubt by Theorem 3.4. Suppose that  $G$  is  $p$ -solvable and  $M$  is a maximal subgroup of  $G$ . We argue by induction on  $|G|$ . Assume that  $M_G \neq 1$ . Set  $\overline{G} = G/M_G$ . By induction, we can see that  $\overline{M}$  has a subnormal SS-supplement  $\overline{K}$  in  $\overline{G}$  and so  $K$  is a subnormal SS-supplement of  $M$  in  $G$ . Hence, we may assume that  $M_G = 1$  and let  $N$  be a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $G = MN$  and  $M \cap N \leq M_G = 1$ , which implies that  $N$  is the normal SS-supplement of  $M$  in  $G$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.6.** In Theorem 3.4, the group  $G$  need not be  $p$ -solvable as the following example shows. Let  $H = C_2 \times C_2 \times C_2 \times C_2$  be an elementary abelian group of order  $2^4$ . Then there is a subgroup  $M = A_5$  in the automorphism group of  $H$ , where  $A_5$  is the alternating group of degree 5. Let  $G = (C_2 \times C_2 \times C_2 \times C_2) \rtimes A_5$  be the corresponding semidirect product. We can deduce that  $\mathfrak{M}^{pcn}(G) \cap \mathfrak{M}_H(G) = \{M^g : g \in G\}$ . It is clear that  $M$  has a subnormal SS-supplement  $H$  in  $G$ . That is,  $G$  satisfies the hypotheses of Theorem 3.4 for normal subgroup  $H$ . However,  $G$  is not 5-solvable.

Finally we study the  $p$ -nilpotency and supersolvability of a group  $G$  by looking at certain minimal subgroups, leading to generalizations of known results.

**Theorem 3.7.** *Let  $p$  be the smallest prime dividing the order of a group  $G$  and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ . If every minimal subgroup of  $P \cap P^x \cap G^{\mathfrak{M}_p}$  is SS-supplemented in  $G$  and when  $p = 2$ , either cyclic subgroup of order 4 of  $P \cap P^x \cap G^{\mathfrak{M}_p}$  is also SS-supplemented in  $G$  for all  $x \in G \setminus N_G(P)$  or  $P$  is quaternion-free, then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.*

*Proof.* Suppose that the theorem is false and let  $G$  be a counterexample of minimal order. Then  $G$  is not  $p$ -nilpotent. Noticing that all its Sylow  $p$ -subgroups are conjugate in  $G$ , we see that the hypotheses of our theorem are a subgroup-closure by Lemma 2.1. Consequently,  $G$  is a minimal non- $p$ -nilpotent group (that is, every proper subgroup of a group is  $p$ -nilpotent but is not  $p$ -nilpotent itself). Now, by a result of Itô (see [14], Theorem 10.3.3),  $G$  must be a minimal nonnilpotent group. By a result of Schmidt (see [14], Theorem 9.1.9 and Exercise 9.1.11), we know that  $G$  is of order  $p^a q^b$ , where  $q$  is a prime which is different from  $p$ ,  $P$  is normal in  $G$  and any Sylow  $q$ -subgroup  $Q$  of  $G$  is cyclic. Moreover,  $P = G^{\mathfrak{M}_p}$  and  $P$  is of exponent  $p$  when  $p$  is odd and of exponent at most 4 when  $p = 2$ .

Let  $P_1$  be a minimal subgroup of  $P$ . Then by hypotheses there exists a subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such that  $G = P_1 K$  and  $P_1 \cap K$  is S-quasinormal in  $K$ . Assume that  $P_1 \cap K = 1$ . Since  $p$  is the smallest prime divisor of the order of  $G$ , we get that  $K$  is normal in  $G$ . Noticing that  $K$  is a proper subgroup of  $G$ , we have that  $K$  is nilpotent. It follows that the Sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $K$  is normal in  $G$  and therefore  $G$  is nilpotent, which is a contradiction. Hence,  $P_1 \leq K$  and so  $P_1$  is S-quasinormal in  $G$ . Therefore every minimal subgroup of  $P$  is S-quasinormal in  $G$ .

Let  $Q$  be a Sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $P_1 Q$  is a proper group of  $G$  and  $P_1 Q$  is nilpotent by the minimality of  $G$ . It follows that  $Q \subseteq C_G(P_1)$  and hence  $Q \subseteq C_G(\Omega_1(P))$ . If  $C_G(\Omega_1(P)) < G$ , then  $C_G(\Omega_1(P))$  is nilpotent and so  $Q \leq G$ , a contradiction. This leads to  $C_G(\Omega_1(P)) = G$  and  $\Omega_1(P) \leq Z(G)$ . If  $p > 2$ , then from Itô's Lemma (see [9])  $G$  is nilpotent, a contradiction. Hence  $p = 2$ . If  $P$  is quaternion-free, then by Lemma 2.6, we get that  $\Omega_1(P) \leq P \cap G^{\mathfrak{M}_p} \cap Z(G) \leq P \cap G^{\mathfrak{M}_p} \cap Z(G) = 1$ , a contradiction. Now assume that every cyclic subgroup of order 4 of  $P \cap P^x \cap G^{\mathfrak{M}_p}$  is SS-supplemented in  $G$ . Let  $A = \langle a \rangle$  be a cyclic subgroup of  $P \cap P^x \cap G^{\mathfrak{M}_p}$  with order 4. Then there exists a subgroup  $T$  of  $G$  such that  $G = AT$  and  $A \cap T$  is S-quasinormal in  $T$ . Noticing that  $\langle a^2 \rangle \subseteq Z(G)$ , we see that  $\langle a^2 \rangle T$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . If  $|G : T| = 4$ , then  $|G : \langle a^2 \rangle T| = 2$  and  $\langle a^2 \rangle T$  is normal in  $G$ . This implies that the Sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $\langle a^2 \rangle T$  is normal in  $G$  and therefore  $G$  is nilpotent, this is a contradiction. If  $|G : T| = 2$ , then  $T$  itself is a normal subgroup and  $T$  is nilpotent. Since the normal  $p$ -complement of  $T$  is the normal  $p$ -complement of  $G$ , it follows that  $G$  is nilpotent, a contradiction. Consequently,  $T = G$  and so  $A$  is S-quasinormal in  $G$ . If  $A = P$ , then  $G$  is nilpotent, a contradiction. Thus,  $A \neq P$ . Since  $G$  is a minimal nonnilpotent group and the exponent of  $P$  is at most 4, we have  $P \leq C_G(Q)$  and therefore  $G = P \times Q$ , a contradiction. The proof is complete. □



We say that a group  $G$  is a Sylow tower group of supersolvable type if  $p_1 > p_2 > \dots > p_r$  are the distinct prime divisors of the order of  $G$ , then there exists a series of normal subgroups of  $G$ ,

$$1 = G_0 \leq G_1 \leq \dots \leq G_r = G,$$

such that  $G_i/G_{i-1}$  is a Sylow  $p_i$ -subgroup of  $G/G_{i-1}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, r$ . Given a group  $G$ , observing that  $H^{\mathfrak{N}_p} \leq G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$  for every subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  by Lemma 2.7 and using Lemma 2.1 and Theorem 3.7, we obtain at once the following result.

**Corollary 3.8.** *Let  $G$  be a group. Suppose that for every prime  $p$  dividing the order of  $G$  and for every Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P$  of  $G$ , every minimal subgroup of  $P \cap P^x \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$  is SS-supplemented in  $G$ , and when  $p = 2$ , either cyclic subgroup of order 4 of  $P \cap P^x \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$  is also SS-supplemented in  $G$  for all  $x \in G \setminus N_G(P)$  or  $P$  is quaternion-free. Then  $G$  is a Sylow tower group of supersolvable type.*

**Theorem 3.9.** *Let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be a saturated formation containing the class of all supersolvable groups and  $N$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/N \in \mathfrak{F}$ . Suppose that for every prime  $p$  dividing the order of  $N$  and for every Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P$  of  $N$ , every minimal subgroup of  $P \cap P^x \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$  is SS-supplemented in  $G$ , and when  $p = 2$ , every cyclic subgroup of order 4 of  $P \cap P^x \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$  is also SS-supplemented in  $G$  for all  $x \in G \setminus N_G(P)$  or  $P$  is quaternion-free. Then  $G \in \mathfrak{F}$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that the theorem is false and let  $G$  be a counterexample of minimal order. By Lemma 2.1 and Corollary 3.8, we know that  $N$  is a Sylow tower group of supersolvable type. Thus if  $p$  is the largest prime dividing the order of  $N$  and  $P$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $N$ , then  $P$  must be normal in  $G$  and  $G/P/N/P \cong G/N \in \mathfrak{F}$ . It is clear that  $G/P$  satisfies the hypotheses of our theorem for its normal subgroup  $N/P$  by Lemmas 2.5 and 2.1. Then the minimality of  $G$  implies that  $G/P \in \mathfrak{F}$ .

Now, when  $G$  is not in  $\mathfrak{F}$ , the  $\mathfrak{F}$ -residual  $G^{\mathfrak{F}}$  of  $G$  is nontrivial. Since  $G/G^{\mathfrak{N}}$  is nilpotent and therefore  $G/G^{\mathfrak{N}}$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{F}$ , necessarily  $G/(P \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}})$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{F}$  as well. It follows that  $G^{\mathfrak{F}} \leq P \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}}$ . Furthermore, we claim that  $G^{\mathfrak{F}} \leq P \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$ . Let  $P^*$  be a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ . As  $G/G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$  is  $p$ -nilpotent, we can see that  $P^*G^{\mathfrak{N}_p} \cap O^p(G)G^{\mathfrak{N}_p} = G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$  and so  $P^* \cap O^p(G) \leq G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$ , which means that  $P^* \cap O^p(G) = P \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$ . A similar argument shows that  $P^* \cap O^p(G) = P \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}}$  and this proves our claim. By [3], Theorem 3.5, there exists a maximal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  such that  $G = MF'(G)$ , where  $F'(G) = \text{Soc}(G \text{ mod } \Phi(G))$  and  $G/M_G \notin \mathfrak{F}$ . Then  $G = MG^{\mathfrak{F}}$  and so  $G = MF(G)$  since  $G^{\mathfrak{F}}$  is a  $p$ -group, where  $F(G)$  is the Fitting

subgroup of  $G$ . It is now clear that  $M$  satisfies the hypotheses of our theorem for its normal subgroup  $M \cap P$ . Hence, the minimality of  $G$  implies that  $M \in \mathfrak{F}$ .

Now, by Lemma 2.8, we get that  $G^{\mathfrak{S}}/\Phi(G^{\mathfrak{S}})$  is a minimal normal subgroup of  $G/\Phi(G^{\mathfrak{S}})$ ,  $G$  has exponent  $p$  when  $p > 2$  and exponent at most 4 when  $p = 2$ . Let  $\Phi = \Phi(G^{\mathfrak{S}})$  and  $A/\Phi$  be any subgroup of  $G^{\mathfrak{S}}/\Phi$  with order  $p$ ,  $a \in A \setminus \Phi$  and  $X = \langle a \rangle$ . Then  $|X| = p$  or  $|X| = 4$  and so  $X$  is SS-supplemented in  $G$ . Thus, there exists a subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such that  $G = XK$  and  $X \cap K$  is S-quasinormal in  $K$ . Clearly,  $(X\Phi/\Phi)(K/\Phi) = G/\Phi$ . Assume that  $X \not\leq K$ , then  $X\Phi/\Phi \not\leq K\Phi/\Phi$ . Hence, the minimality of  $G^{\mathfrak{S}}/\Phi$  implies that  $(G^{\mathfrak{S}} \cap K)/\Phi = 1$ , since  $G^{\mathfrak{S}}/\Phi \cap K/\Phi \trianglelefteq G/\Phi$ . By order comparison,  $|G^{\mathfrak{S}}/\Phi| = p$ . Assume that  $X \leq K$ , then  $K = G$  and  $X$  is S-quasinormal in  $G$ . It follows that  $A/\Phi = X\Phi/\Phi$  is S-quasinormal in  $G/\Phi$ . By Lemma 2.3,  $O^p(G/\Phi) \leq N_{G/\Phi}(A/\Phi)$  and so  $|G/\Phi : N_{G/\Phi}(A/\Phi)| = p^a$  for some  $a \in \mathbb{N}$ . Thus if  $\{A_1/\Phi, \dots, A_t/\Phi\}$  is the set of all minimal subgroups of  $G^{\mathfrak{S}}/\Phi$ , then it follows from [8], III, 8.5 Hilfssatz, that  $|G/\Phi : N_{G/\Phi}(A_i/\Phi)| = 1$  for some  $i \in \{1, \dots, t\}$ . Hence,  $A_i/\Phi$  is normal in  $G/\Phi$ . The minimality of  $G^{\mathfrak{S}}/\Phi$  also implies that  $|G^{\mathfrak{S}}/\Phi| = p$ .

Now  $(G/\Phi)/(G^{\mathfrak{S}}/\Phi) \cong G/G^{\mathfrak{S}} \in \mathfrak{F}$  and  $G^{\mathfrak{S}}/\Phi$  is a cyclic group of order  $p$ . Hence,  $(G/\Phi, G^{\mathfrak{S}}/\Phi)$  satisfies the hypotheses of the theorem. If  $\Phi \neq 1$ , then by the minimality of  $G$ ,  $G/\Phi \in \mathfrak{F}$ . It follows that  $G \in \mathfrak{F}$ , a contradiction. Thus  $\Phi = 1$  and so  $G^{\mathfrak{S}}$  is a cyclic group of order  $p$ . By Lemma 2.9, we can conclude that  $G \in \mathfrak{F}$ , a contradiction.

There remains the case, where  $p = 2$  and  $P$  is quaternion-free. Let  $R$  be a Sylow  $r$ -subgroup of  $G$  with  $r \neq 2$  and  $G_1 = RG^{\mathfrak{S}}$ . Then  $G^{\mathfrak{S}}$  is a Sylow 2-subgroup of  $G_1$ . Observing that  $G^{\mathfrak{S}} \leq P \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$ , we have that  $G_1$  is 2-nilpotent by Theorem 3.7. It follows that  $G^{\mathfrak{S}} \leq C_G(R)$  and therefore  $Z(G) \cap G^{\mathfrak{S}} \neq 1$ . Since  $G^{\mathfrak{S}} \leq G^{\mathfrak{N}}$ , we have  $Z(G) \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}} \cap P \neq 1$ , in contradiction to Lemma 2.6. This completes the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

As an immediate consequence of Theorem 3.9, we have:

**Corollary 3.10.** *Let  $G$  be a group. Suppose that, for every prime  $p$  dividing the order of  $G$  and for every Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P$  of  $G$ , every minimal subgroup of  $P \cap P^x \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$  is SS-supplemented in  $G$ , and when  $p = 2$ , every cyclic subgroup of order 4 of  $P \cap P^x \cap G^{\mathfrak{N}_p}$  is also SS-supplemented in  $G$  for all  $x \in G \setminus N_G(P)$  or  $P$  is quaternion-free. Then  $G$  is supersolvable.*

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