

## On weakly $SS$ -permutable subgroups of a finite group

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**Abstract.** Suppose that  $G$  is a finite group and  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . We say that  $H$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$  if there is a supplement  $B$  of  $H$  to  $G$  such that  $H$  permutes with every Sylow subgroup of  $B$ ;  $H$  is weakly  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$  if there exist a subnormal subgroup  $T$  of  $G$  and an  $SS$ -permutable subgroup  $H_{ss}$  of  $G$  contained in  $H$  such that  $G = HT$  and  $H \cap T \leq H_{ss}$ . We investigate the influence of weakly  $SS$ -permutable subgroups on the structure of finite groups. Some recent results are generalized and unified.

### 1. Introduction

All groups considered in this paper are finite.  $G$  always denotes a finite group,  $|G|$  the order of  $G$ ,  $\pi(G)$  the set of all primes dividing  $|G|$ ,  $G_p$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  for some  $p \in \pi(G)$ .  $M \cdot G$  means that  $M$  is a maximal subgroup of  $G$ .

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a class of groups. We call  $\mathcal{F}$  a formation provided that (i) if  $G \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $H \trianglelefteq G$ , then  $G/H \in \mathcal{F}$ , and (ii) if  $G/M$  and  $G/N$  are in  $\mathcal{F}$ , then  $G/(M \cap N)$  is in  $\mathcal{F}$  for normal subgroups  $M, N$  of  $G$ . A formation  $\mathcal{F}$  is said to be saturated if  $G/\Phi(G) \in \mathcal{F}$  implies that  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ . In this paper,  $\mathcal{U}$  will denote the class of all supersolvable groups. Clearly,  $\mathcal{U}$  is a saturated formation (ref. [1, p. 713, Satz 8.6]).

A subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is called  $S$ -permutable (or  $\pi$ -quasinormal) in  $G$  provided that  $H$  permutes with all Sylow subgroups of  $G$ , i.e.,  $HS = SH$  for any Sylow

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subgroup  $S$  of  $G$  [2];  $H$  is said *c-normal* [3] in  $G$  if  $G$  has a normal subgroup  $T$  such that  $G = HT$  and  $H \cap T \leq H_G$ , where  $H_G$  is the normal core of  $H$  in  $G$ . Recently, SKIBA in [4] introduces the following concept, which covers both  $s$ -permutability and  $c$ -normality:

*Definition 1.1.* Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ .  $H$  is called weakly  $s$ -permutable in  $G$  if there is a subnormal subgroup  $T$  of  $G$  such that  $G = HT$  and  $H \cap T \leq H_{sG}$ , where  $H_{sG}$  is the maximal  $s$ -permutable subgroup of  $G$  contained in  $H$ , that is, the subgroup of  $H$  generated by all those subgroups of  $H$  which are  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ .

More recently, LI, etc. [5], introduced the concept of *SS-quasinormality* [5] which is a generalization of  $s$ -permutability:

*Definition 1.2.* Let  $G$  be a finite group. A subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is said to be an *SS-quasinormal* subgroup of  $G$  if there is a supplement  $B$  of  $H$  to  $G$  such that  $H$  permutes with every Sylow subgroup of  $B$ .

*Remark.* For convenience, it is suitable to call *SS-quasinormal* subgroups as *SS-permutable* subgroups.

In general, an *SS-permutable* subgroup need not be a subnormal subgroup. For instance,  $S_3$  is an *SS-permutable* subgroup of the symmetric group  $S_4$ , but  $S_3$  is not subnormal in  $S_4$ . Hence, we give a new concept which covers properly both *SS-permutability* and Skiba's weakly  $s$ -permutability.

*Definition 1.3.* Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ .  $H$  is called weakly *SS-permutable* in  $G$  if there is a subnormal subgroup  $T$  of  $G$  such that  $G = HT$  and  $H \cap T \leq H_{ss}$ , where  $H_{ss}$  is an *SS-permutable* subgroup of  $G$  contained in  $H$ .

*Remark.* It is easy to see that weakly  $s$ -permutability (or *SS-permutability*) implies weakly *SS-permutability*. The converse does not hold in general.

*Example 1.4.* 1. Let  $G = A_5$ , the alternative group of degree 5. Then  $A_4$  is *SS-permutable* in  $G$ , certainly, weakly *SS-permutable*, but not weakly  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ .

2. Let  $G = S_4$ , the symmetric group of degree 4. Take  $H = \langle (34) \rangle$ . Then  $H$  is weakly *SS-permutable* in  $G$ , but not *SS-permutable* in  $G$ .

In the literature, authors usually put the assumptions on either the minimal subgroups (and cyclic subgroups of order 4 when  $p = 2$ ) or the maximal subgroups of some kinds of subgroups of  $G$  when investigating the structure of  $G$ , such as

in [5]–[12], ect. In the nice paper [4], SKIBA provided a unified viewpoint for a series of similar problems.

For the sake of convenience of statement, we introduce the following notation.

Let  $P$  be a  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ . We call  $P$  satisfies  $(*)$   $((*)'$ ,  $(\diamond_1)$ ,  $(\diamond_2)$  respectively) in  $G$  if

$(*)$ :  $P$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| < |P|$  and all subgroups  $H$  of  $P$  with order  $|H| = |D|$  and with order  $|H| = 2|D|$  (if  $P$  is a non-abelian 2-group and  $|P : D| > 2$ ) are weakly  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ .

$(*)'$ :  $P$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| < |P|$  and all subgroups  $H$  of  $P$  with order  $|H| = |D|$  are weakly  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ . When  $P$  is a non-abelian 2-group and  $|P : D| > 2$ , in addition, suppose that  $H$  is weakly  $s$ -permutable in  $G$  if there exists  $D_1 \trianglelefteq H \leq P$  with  $2|D_1| = |D|$  and  $H/D_1$  is cyclic of order 4.

$(\diamond_1)$ :  $P$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| < |P|$  and all subgroups  $H$  of  $P$  with order  $|H| = |D|$  are weakly  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ . When  $p = 2$  and  $|P : D| > 2$ , in addition, suppose that  $H$  is weakly  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$  if there exists  $D_1 \trianglelefteq H \leq P$  with  $2|D_1| = |D|$  and  $H/D_1$  is cyclic of order 4.

$(\diamond_2)$ :  $P$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| < |P|$  and all subgroups  $H$  of  $P$  with order  $|H| = |D|$  are  $SS$ -quasinormal in  $G$ . When  $p = 2$  and  $|P : D| > 2$ , in addition, suppose that  $H$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$  if there exists  $D_1 \trianglelefteq H \leq P$  with  $2|D_1| = |D|$  and  $H/D_1$  is cyclic of order 4.

**Theorem 1.5** (4, Theorem 1.3). *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$ , the class of all supersolvable groups and  $G$  a group with  $E$  as a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . Suppose that every non-cyclic Sylow subgroup  $P$  of  $F^*(E)$  satisfies  $(*)$  in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

Scrutinizing the proof of [4, Theorem 1.3], we can find that the following Theorem 1.6 holds:

**Theorem 1.6** (4, Theorem 1.3). *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $G$  a group with  $E$  as a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . Suppose that every non-cyclic Sylow subgroup  $P$  of  $F^*(E)$  satisfies  $(*)'$  in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

In this paper, the main purpose is to generalize Theorem 1.6 as follows:

**Theorem 1.7** (i.e. Theorem 3.5). *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $G$  a group with  $E$  as a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . Suppose that every non-cyclic Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  satisfies  $\diamond_1$  in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

## 2. Preliminaries

**Lemma 2.1** (5, Lemma 2.1 and Lemma 2.5). *Let  $H$  be  $SS$ -permutable in a group  $G$ ,  $K \leq G$  and  $N$  a normal subgroup of  $G$ . We have:*

- (1) *If  $H \leq K$ , then  $H$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $K$ .*
- (2)  *$HN/N$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G/N$ .*
- (3) *If  $N < K$ , then  $K/N$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G/N$  if and only if  $K$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ .*
- (4) *If  $K$  is quasinormal (or permutable) in  $G$ , then  $HK$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ .*
- (5) *If a  $p$ -subgroup  $P$  of  $G$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ , where  $p$  is a prime, then  $P$  permutes with every Sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $G$  with  $q \neq p$ .*

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $U$  be a weakly  $SS$ -permutable subgroup of  $G$  and  $N$  a normal subgroup of  $G$ . Then*

- (1) *If  $U \leq H \leq G$ , then  $U$  is weakly  $SS$ -permutable in  $H$ .*
- (2) *Suppose that  $U$  is a  $p$ -group for some prime  $p$ . If  $N \leq U$ , then  $U/N$  is weakly  $SS$ -permutable in  $G/N$ .*
- (3) *Suppose that  $U$  is a  $p$ -group for some prime  $p$  and  $N$  is a  $p'$ -subgroup. Then  $UN/N$  is weakly  $SS$ -permutable in  $G/N$ .*
- (4) *Suppose that  $U$  is a  $p$ -group for some prime  $p$  and  $U$  is not  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ . Then  $G$  has a normal subgroup  $M$  such that  $|G : M| = p$  and  $G = MU$ .*
- (5) *If  $U \leq O_p(G)$  for some prime  $p$ , then  $U$  is weakly  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ .*

**PROOF.** By the hypotheses, there are a subnormal subgroup  $T$  of  $G$  and an  $SS$ -permutable subgroup  $U_{ss}$  of  $G$  contained in  $U$  such that  $G = UT$  and  $U \cap T \leq U_{ss}$ .

- (1) We can get that  $H = U(H \cap T)$ . Obviously,  $H \cap T$  is subnormal in  $H$  and  $U \cap (H \cap T) = U \cap T \leq U_{ss}$ . By Lemma 2.1(1),  $U_{ss}$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $H$ . Hence,  $U$  is weakly  $SS$ -permutable in  $H$ .
- (2) We have that  $G/N = (U/N)(TN/N)$ . Obviously,  $TN/N$  is subnormal in  $G/N$  and  $(U/N) \cap (TN/N) = (U \cap TN)/N = (U \cap T)N/N \leq (U_{ss}N)/N$ . By Lemma 2.1(2),  $(U_{ss}N)/N$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G/N$ . Hence,  $U/N$  is weakly  $SS$ -permutable in  $G/N$ .
- (3) It is easy to see that  $N \leq T$  and  $G/N = (UN/N)(T/N)$ . Since  $T/N$  is subnormal in  $G/N$  and  $(UN/N) \cap T/N = (U \cap T)N/N \leq (U_{ss}N)/N$ ,  $(U_{ss}N)/N$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G/N$  by Lemma 2.1(2). Hence,  $(UN)/N$  is weakly  $SS$ -permutable in  $G/N$ .

- (4) If  $T = G$ , then  $U = U \cap T \leq U_{ss} \leq U$ , therefore,  $U = U_{ss}$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ , contrary to the hypotheses. Consequently,  $T$  is a proper subgroup of  $G$ . Hence,  $G$  has a proper normal subgroup  $K$  such that  $T \leq K$ . Since  $G/K$  is a  $p$ -group,  $G$  has a normal maximal subgroup  $M$  such that  $|G : M| = p$  and  $G = MU$ .
- (5) We can get that by Lemma 2.1(3). □

By Lemma 2.2(5) and [4, Lemma 2.11], we have that:

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $N$  be an elementary abelian normal subgroup of a group  $G$ . Assume that  $N$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| < |N|$  and every subgroup  $H$  of  $N$  satisfying  $|H| = |D|$  is weakly  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ . Then some maximal subgroup of  $N$  is normal in  $G$ .*

**Lemma 2.4** (13, A, 1.2). *Let  $U, V$  and  $W$  be subgroups of a group  $G$ . Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1)  $U \cap VW = (U \cap V)(U \cap W)$ .
- (2)  $UV \cap UW = U(V \cap W)$ .

Applying Lemma 2.4, we have that:

**Lemma 2.5.** *Suppose that  $N$  is a normal subgroup of a group  $G$  and  $G_q$  is a Sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $G$  and  $P$  is a  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ , where  $q \neq p$  for some primes  $p$  and  $q$ . If  $PG_q$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , then*

- (1)  $N \cap PG_q = (N \cap P)(N \cap G_q)$ .
- (2)  $P \cap NG_q = P \cap N$ .

**Lemma 2.6** (1, VI, 4.10). *Assume that  $A$  and  $B$  are two subgroups of a group  $G$  and  $G \neq AB$ . If  $AB^g = B^gA$  holds for any  $g \in G$ , then either  $A$  or  $B$  is contained in a nontrivial normal subgroup of  $G$ .*

**Lemma 2.7** (1, III, 5.2 and IV, 5.4). *Suppose that  $p$  is a prime and  $G$  is a minimal non  $p$ -nilpotent, i.e.,  $G$  is not a  $p$ -nilpotent group but whose proper subgroups are all  $p$ -nilpotent. Then*

- (1)  $G$  has a normal Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P$  for some prime  $p$  and  $G = PQ$ , where  $Q$  is a non-normal cyclic  $q$ -subgroup for some prime  $q \neq p$ .
- (2)  $P/\Phi(P)$  is a minimal normal subgroup of  $G/\Phi(P)$ .
- (3) The exponent of  $P$  is  $p$  or 4.

**Lemma 2.8** (14, X, 13). *Let  $M$  be a subgroup of  $G$ .*

- (1) *If  $M$  is normal in  $G$ , then  $F^*(M) \leq F^*(G)$ .*

- (2)  $F^*(G) \neq 1$  if  $G \neq 1$ ; in fact,  $F^*(G)/F(G) = \text{Soc}(F(G)C_G(F(G)))/F(G)$ .  
(3)  $F^*(F^*(G)) = F^*(G) \geq F(G)$ ; if  $F^*(G)$  is solvable, then  $F^*(G) = F(G)$ .

**Lemma 2.9** (1, IV, Satz 4.7). *If  $P$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of a group  $G$  and  $N \trianglelefteq G$  such that  $P \cap N \leq \Phi(P)$ , then  $N$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.*

### 3. Main results

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $p$  be the smallest prime of  $\pi(G)$  and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ . If all maximal subgroups of  $P$  are weakly  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.*

PROOF. Suppose that the theorem is false and let  $G$  be a counterexample of minimal order, then we have:

- (1)  $G$  has the unique minimal normal subgroup  $N$  such that  $G/N$  is  $p$ -nilpotent and  $\Phi(G) = 1$ .

Let  $N$  be a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$ . We consider the factor group  $G/N$ . Let  $M/N$  is a maximal subgroup of  $PN/N$ . It is easy to see that  $M = P_1N$  for some maximal subgroup  $P_1$  of  $P$ . It follows that  $P \cap N = P_1 \cap N$  is a Sylow subgroup of  $N$ . By the hypotheses, there are a subnormal subgroup  $K_1$  of  $G$  and an  $SS$ -permutable subgroup  $(P_1)_{ss}$  of  $G$  contained in  $P_1$  such that  $G = P_1K_1$  and  $P_1 \cap K_1 \leq (P_1)_{ss}$ . Then  $G/N = (P_1N/N)(K_1N/N) = (M/N)(K_1N/N)$ . It is easy to see that  $K_1N/N$  is subnormal in  $G/N$ . Since  $(|N : N \cap P_1|, |N : K_1 \cap N|) = 1$ ,  $(P_1 \cap N)(K_1 \cap N) = N = N \cap G = N \cap (P_1K_1)$ . By Lemma 2.4,  $(P_1N) \cap (K_1N) = (P_1 \cap K_1)N$ . Hence,  $(P_1N)/N \cap (K_1N)/N = (P_1 \cap K_1)N/N \leq (P_1)_{ss}N/N$ . It follows from Lemma 2.1(2) that  $(P_1)_{ss}N/N \leq M/N$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G/N$ . Hence,  $M/N$  is weakly  $SS$ -permutable in  $G/N$ . Therefore,  $G/N$  satisfies the hypotheses of the theorem. The choice of  $G$  yields that  $G/N$  is  $p$ -nilpotent. The uniqueness of  $N$  and  $\Phi(G) = 1$  are obvious.

- (2)  $O_{p'}(G) = 1$ .

If  $O_{p'}(G) \neq 1$ , then  $N \leq O_{p'}(G)$  and  $G/O_{p'}(G)$  is  $p$ -nilpotent by (1),  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent, a contradiction. Hence  $O_{p'}(G) = 1$ .

- (3)  $O_p(G) = 1$ . Therefore,  $G$  is not solvable and  $N$  is a direct product of some isomorphic non-abelian simple groups.

If  $O_p(G) \neq 1$ , we have that  $N \leq O_p(G)$  and  $\Phi(O_p(G)) \leq \Phi(G) = 1$  by (1). Thus,  $G$  has a maximal subgroup  $M$  such that  $G = MN$  and  $M \cap N = 1$ . Since  $O_p(G) \cap M$  is normalized by  $N$  and  $M$ , hence, by  $G$ , the uniqueness of  $N$  yields  $N = O_p(G)$ . Clearly,  $P = N(P \cap M)$ . Since  $P \cap M < P$ , let  $P_1$  be a maximal

subgroup of  $P$  such that  $P \cap M \leq P_1$ . Then  $P = NP_1$ . By the hypotheses, there are a subnormal subgroup  $T$  of  $G$  and an  $SS$ -permutable subgroup  $(P_1)_{ss}$  of  $G$  contained in  $P_1$  such that  $G = P_1T$  and  $P_1 \cap T \leq (P_1)_{ss}$ . Since  $N \leq O^p(G) \leq T$  by (1), we have that  $P_1 \cap N = (P_1)_{ss} \cap N$ . For any Sylow  $q$ -subgroup  $G_q$  of  $G$ , there holds

$$\begin{aligned} [P_1 \cap N, G_q] &= [(P_1)_{ss} \cap N, G_q] = [(P_1)_{ss}G_q \cap N, G_q] \leq N \cap (P_1)_{ss}G_q \\ &= N \cap (P_1)_{ss} = N \cap P_1 \end{aligned}$$

by Lemma 2.1(5) and Lemma 2.5(1), where  $q \neq p$ . Obviously,  $P_1 \cap N$  is normalized by  $P$ . Therefore,  $P_1 \cap N$  is normal in  $G$ . The minimality of  $N$  implies that  $P_1 \cap N = 1$ . Hence,  $N$  is of order  $p$ . Thus,  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent, a contradiction. Hence,  $O_p(G) = 1$ . Combining (2), we can see that  $G$  is not solvable and  $N$  is a direct product of some isomorphic non-abelian simple groups.

(4) The final contradiction.

If  $N \cap P \leq \Phi(P)$ , then  $N$  is  $p$ -nilpotent by Lemma 2.9, contrary to (3). Consequently, there is a maximal subgroup  $P_1$  of  $P$  such that  $P = (N \cap P)P_1$ . Since  $P_1$  is weakly  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ , by the hypotheses, there are a subnormal subgroup  $T$  of  $G$  and an  $SS$ -permutable subgroup  $(P_1)_{ss}$  of  $G$  contained in  $P_1$  such that  $G = P_1T$  and  $P_1 \cap T \leq (P_1)_{ss}$ .

For any Sylow  $q$ -subgroup  $N_q$  of  $N$  with  $q \neq p$ , we now claim that  $((P_1)_{ss} \cap N)N_q = N_q((P_1)_{ss} \cap N)$ . In fact, pick any Sylow  $q$ -subgroup  $G_q$  of  $G$  containing  $N_q$ . Then  $(P_1)_{ss}G_q \cap NG_q = ((P_1)_{ss} \cap NG_q)G_q = ((P_1)_{ss} \cap N)G_q$  by Lemma 2.1(5) and Lemma 2.5(2). Hence,

$$((P_1)_{ss} \cap N)G_q \cap N = ((P_1)_{ss} \cap N)(G_q \cap N) = ((P_1)_{ss} \cap N)N_q$$

Therefore,  $((P_1)_{ss} \cap N)N_q = N_q((P_1)_{ss} \cap N)$ .

Applying Lemma 2.6, we know that  $N$  has a proper normal subgroup  $M$  such that either  $(P_1)_{ss} \cap N \leq M$  or  $N_q \leq M$ . If  $N_q \leq M$ , this is contrary to [1, I, Satz 9.12(b)]. If  $(P_1)_{ss} \cap N \leq M$ , notice that  $P_1 \cap N = (P_1)_{ss} \cap N \leq P_1 \cap M \leq P \cap M$ , we have that

$$|N/M|_p = \frac{|N|_p}{|M|_p} = [P \cap N : P \cap M] \leq [P \cap N : P_1 \cap N] = [P : P_1] = p$$

$|N/M|_p = p$  with  $p$  minimum prime divisor implies that  $N/M$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.

By (3),  $N$  is a direct product of some isomorphic non-abelian simple groups, say,  $N \cong N_1 \times \cdots \times N_k$ .  $N/M$  is isomorphic to a direct product of some  $N_i$ . Hence  $N_1$  is  $p$ -nilpotent. Contrary to that  $N_1$  is a non-abelian simple group.

This completes the proof of Theorem 3.1.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $G$  be a group and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ , where  $p$  is the smallest prime of  $\pi(G)$ . If  $P$  satisfies  $(\diamond_1)$  in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.*

PROOF. Suppose that the theorem is false and let  $G$  be a counterexample of minimal order, then:

(1)  $O_{p'}(G) = 1$ .

Denote  $N = O_{p'}(G)$ . If  $N \neq 1$ , then Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $PN/N$  of  $G/N$  satisfies  $(\diamond_1)$  in  $G/N$  by Lemma 2.2(3). By the minimality of  $G$ , we have  $G/N$  is  $p$ -nilpotent. Then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent, a contradiction. Hence,  $N = O_{p'}(G) = 1$ .

(2)  $|D| > p$ .

Suppose that  $|D| = p$ . Since  $G$  is not  $p$ -nilpotent,  $G$  has a minimal non  $p$ -nilpotent subgroup  $G_1$ . By Lemma 2.7(1),  $G_1 = [P_1]Q$ , where  $P_1 \in \text{Syl}_p(G_1)$  and  $Q \in \text{Syl}_q(G_1)$ ,  $p \neq q$ . Denote  $\Phi = \Phi(P_1)$ . Let  $X/\Phi$  be a subgroup of  $P_1/\Phi$  of order  $p$ ,  $x \in X \setminus \Phi$  and  $L = \langle x \rangle$ . Then  $L$  is of order  $p$  or 4 by Lemma 2.7(3). By the hypotheses,  $L$  is weakly  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ , thus, in  $G_1$  by Lemma 2.2(1). If  $L$  is not  $SS$ -permutable in  $G_1$ , then by Lemma 2.2(4),  $G_1$  has a normal subgroup  $T$  such that  $G_1 = LT$  and  $|G_1 : T| = p$ . Since  $G_1$  is a minimal non  $p$ -nilpotent group,  $T$  is  $p$ -nilpotent. Then  $T_q \text{ char } T \trianglelefteq G_1$  and  $T_q \trianglelefteq G_1$ . Therefore,  $G_1$  is  $p$ -nilpotent, a contradiction. Hence,  $L$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G_1$ . So  $X/\Phi = L\Phi/\Phi$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G_1/\Phi$  by Lemma 2.1(2). Now Lemma 2.3 and Lemma 2.7(2) imply that  $|P_1/\Phi| = p$ . It follows immediately that  $P_1$  is cyclic. Thus,  $G_1$  is  $p$ -nilpotent by [1, IV, Satz 2.8], contrary to the choice of  $G_1$ .

(3)  $|P : D| > p$ .

By Theorem 3.1.

(4)  $P$  satisfies  $\diamond_2$  in  $G$ .

Assume that  $H \leq P$  such that  $|H| = |D|$  and  $H$  is not  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ . By Lemma 2.2(4), there is a normal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  such that  $|G : M| = p$ . Since  $|P : D| > p$  and Lemma 2.2(1),  $M$  satisfies the hypotheses of the theorem. The choice of  $G$  yields that  $M$  is  $p$ -nilpotent. It is easy to see that  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent, contrary to the choice of  $G$ .

(5) If  $N \leq P$  and  $N$  is a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $|N| \leq |D|$ .

Suppose that  $|N| > |D|$ . Since  $N \leq O_p(G)$ ,  $N$  is elementary abelian. By Lemma 2.3,  $N$  has a maximal subgroup which is normal in  $G$ , contrary to the minimality of  $N$ .

(6) Suppose that  $N \leq P$  and  $N$  is a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $G/N$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.

If  $|N| < |D|$ ,  $G/N$  satisfies the hypotheses of the theorem by Lemma 2.1(2). Thus,  $G/N$  is  $p$ -nilpotent by the minimal choice of  $G$ . So we may suppose that



$|N| = |D|$  by (5). We will show every cyclic subgroup of  $P/N$  of order  $p$  or order 4 (when  $P/N$  is a non-abelian 2-group) is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G/N$ . Let  $K \leq P$  and  $|K/N| = p$ . By (2),  $N$  is non-cyclic, so are all subgroups containing  $N$ . Hence, there is a maximal subgroup  $L \neq N$  of  $K$  such that  $K = NL$ . Of course,  $|N| = |D| = |L|$ . Since  $L$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$  by the hypotheses,  $K/N = LN/N$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G/N$  by Lemma 2.1(2). If  $p = 2$  and  $P/N$  is non-abelian, take a cyclic subgroup  $X/N$  of  $P/N$  of order 4. Let  $K/N$  be maximal in  $X/N$ . Then  $K$  is maximal in  $X$  and  $|K/N| = 2$ . Since  $X$  is non-cyclic and  $X/N$  is cyclic, there is a maximal subgroup  $L$  of  $X$  such that  $N$  is not contained in  $L$ . Thus,  $X = LN$  and  $|L| = |K| = 2|D|$ . Since  $X/N = LN/N \cong L/(L \cap N)$  is cyclic of order 4, by the hypotheses,  $L$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ . By Lemma 2.1,  $X/N = LN/N$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G/N$ . Hence,  $P/N$  satisfies  $\diamond_2$  in  $G/N$ . By the minimal choice of  $G$ ,  $G/N$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.

(7)  $O_p(G) = 1$ .

If  $O_p(G) \neq 1$ . Take a minimal normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$  contained in  $O_p(G)$ . By (6),  $G/N$  is  $p$ -nilpotent. It is easy to see that  $N$  is the unique minimal normal subgroup of  $G$  contained in  $O_p(G)$ . Furthermore,  $O_p(G) \cap \Phi(G) = 1$ . Hence,  $O_p(G) = F(G)$  is an elementary abelian  $p$ -group. On the other hand,  $G$  has a maximal subgroup  $M$  such that  $G = MN$  and  $M \cap N = 1$ . It is easy to deduce that  $O_p(G) \cap M = 1$ ,  $N = O_p(G)$  and  $M \cong G/N$  is  $p$ -nilpotent and  $N_G(M_{p'}) = M$ . Then  $G$  can be written as  $G = N(M \cap P)M_{p'}$ , where  $M_{p'}$  is the normal  $p$ -complement of  $M$ . Pick a maximal subgroup  $S$  of  $M_{p'}$ . Then  $SM_{p'} \leq M$  and  $|M : SM_{p'}| = p$ . Hence,  $NSM_{p'} \leq G$  is a subgroup of  $G$  with index  $p$ . By the minimality of  $p$ , we know that  $NSM_{p'} \trianglelefteq G$ . Now by (3) and Lemma 2.1(1), we have that  $NSM_{p'}$  is  $p$ -nilpotent. Therefore,  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent, a contradiction.

(8) The minimal normal subgroup  $L$  of  $G$  is not  $p$ -nilpotent.

If  $L$  is  $p$ -nilpotent, by the fact that  $L_{p'} \text{ char } L \trianglelefteq G$ , we have that  $L_{p'} \leq O_{p'}(G) = 1$ . Thus,  $L$  is a  $p$ -group. Then  $L \leq O_p(G) = 1$  by Step (7), a contradiction.

(9)  $G$  is a non-abelian simple group.

Suppose that  $G$  is not a simple group. Take a minimal normal subgroup  $L$  of  $G$ . Then  $L < G$ . If  $|L|_p > |D|$ , then  $L$  is  $p$ -nilpotent by the minimal choice of  $G$ , contrary to (7). If  $|L|_p \leq |D|$ . Take  $P_1 \geq L \cap P$  such that  $|P_1| = p|D|$ . Hence,  $P_1$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $P_1L$ . Since every maximal subgroup of  $P_1$  is of order  $|D|$ , every maximal subgroup of  $P_1$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$  by hypotheses, thus, in  $P_1L$  by Lemma 2.1(1). Now applying Theorem 3.1, we can get  $P_1L$  is  $p$ -nilpotent. Therefore,  $L$  is  $p$ -nilpotent, contrary to (8).

(10) The final contradiction.

Suppose that  $H$  is a subgroup of  $P$  with  $|H| = |D|$  and  $Q$  is a Sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $G$  with  $q \neq p$ . Then  $HQ^g = Q^gH$  for any  $g \in G$  by (4) and Lemma 2.1(5). Since  $G$  is simple by (9),  $G = HQ$  from Lemma 2.6, the final contradiction.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.3.** *Suppose that  $G$  is a group. If every non cyclic Sylow subgroup of  $G$  satisfies  $\diamond_1$  in  $G$ , then  $G$  has the Sylow Tower of supersolvable type.*

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $G$  a group with  $E$  as a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . Suppose that every non-cyclic Sylow subgroup of  $E$  satisfies  $\diamond_1$  in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

PROOF. Suppose that  $P$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $E$ , for any prime  $p \in \pi(E)$ . Since  $P$  satisfies  $\diamond_1$  in  $G$  by hypotheses,  $P$  satisfies  $\diamond_1$  in  $E$  by Lemma 2.2(1). Applying Corollary 3.3, we have that  $E$  has a Sylow tower of supersolvable type. Let  $q$  be the maximal prime divisor of  $|E|$  and  $Q \in \text{Syl}_q(E)$ . Then  $Q \trianglelefteq G$ . Since  $(G/Q, E/Q)$  satisfies the hypotheses of the theorem, by induction,  $G/Q \in \mathcal{F}$ . For any subgroup  $H$  of  $Q$  with  $|H| = |D|$ , since  $Q \leq O_q(G)$ ,  $H$  is weakly  $s$ -permutable in  $G$  by Lemma 2.2(5). Hence,  $Q$  satisfies  $(*)'$  in  $G$ . Since  $F^*(Q) = Q$  by Lemma 2.8, we get  $G \in \mathcal{F}$  by applying Theorem 1.6.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $G$  a group with  $E$  as a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . Suppose that every non-cyclic Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  satisfies  $\diamond_1$  in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

PROOF. We distinguish two cases:

*Case 1.*  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{U}$

Let  $G$  be a minimal counter-example.

(1) Every proper normal subgroup  $N$  (if it exists) of  $G$  containing  $F^*(E)$  is supersolvable.

If  $N$  is a proper normal subgroup of  $G$  containing  $F^*(E)$ , we have that  $N/N \cap E \cong NE/E$  is supersolvable. By Lemma 2.8(3),  $F^*(E) = F^*(F^*(E)) \leq F^*(E \cap N) \leq F^*(E)$ , so  $F^*(E \cap N) = F^*(E)$ . For any Sylow subgroup  $P$  of  $F^*(E \cap N)$ ,  $P$  satisfies  $\diamond_1$  in  $G$  by hypotheses. Hence,  $P$  satisfies  $\diamond_1$  in  $N$  by Lemma 2.2(1). So  $(N, N \cap E)$  satisfy the hypotheses of the theorem, the minimal choice of  $G$  implies that  $N$  is supersolvable

(2)  $E = G$ .

If  $E < G$ , then  $E \in \mathcal{U}$  by (1). Hence  $F^*(E) = F(E)$  by Lemma 2.8(3). It follows that every Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  is normal in  $G$ . By Lemma 2.2(5),

every Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  satisfies  $(*)'$  in  $G$ . Applying Theorem 1.6 for the special case  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{U}$ ,  $G \in \mathcal{U}$ , a contradiction.

(3)  $F^*(G) = F(G) < G$ .

If  $F^*(G) = G$ , then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$  by Theorem 3.4, contrary to the choice of  $G$ . So  $F^*(G) < G$ . By (1),  $F^*(G) \in \mathcal{U}$  and  $F^*(G) = F(G)$  by Lemma 2.8(3).

(4) The final contradiction.

Since  $F^*(G) = F(G)$ , each Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(G)$  satisfies  $(*)'$  in  $G$  by Lemma 2.2(5). Applying Theorem 1.4,  $G \in \mathcal{U}$ , a final contradiction.

*Case 2.  $\mathcal{F} \neq \mathcal{U}$ .*

By hypotheses, every non-cyclic Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  satisfies  $\diamond_1$  in  $G$ , thus, in  $E$  by Lemma 2.2(1). Applying CASE 1,  $E \in \mathcal{U}$ . Then  $F^*(E) = F(E)$  by Lemma 2.8(3). It follows that each Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  is normal in  $G$ . By Lemma 2.2(5), each Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  satisfies  $(*)'$  in  $G$ . Applying Theorem 1.6,  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .  $\square$

#### 4. Some applications

From the definition of weakly  $SS$ -permutable subgroup, we can see that [4, Corollary 5.1–5.24] are corollaries of Theorem 3.5. Furthermore, we have

**Corollary 4.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $G$  a group with  $E$  as a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . Suppose that all maximal subgroups of any Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  are either  $SS$ -permutable or  $c$ -normal in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

**Corollary 4.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $G$  a group with  $E$  as a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . Suppose that the cyclic subgroups of prime order or order 4 of  $F^*(E)$  are either  $SS$ -permutable or  $c$ -normal in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

**Corollary 4.3** (14, Theorem 3.3). *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $G$  a group with  $E$  as a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . Suppose that all maximal subgroups of any Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  are  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

**Corollary 4.4** (14, Theorem 3.7). *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $G$  a group with  $E$  as a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . Suppose that the cyclic subgroups of prime order or order 4 of  $F^*(E)$  are  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

Theorem 3.2 is also interesting. Using routine way, we can generalize it as follows.

**Corollary 4.5.** *Let  $G$  be a group,  $H$  a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/H$  is  $p$ -nilpotent and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $H$ , where  $p$  is a prime divisor of  $|G|$  with  $(|G|, p - 1) = 1$ . If  $P$  satisfies  $\diamond_1$  in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.*

**Corollary 4.6.** *Let  $G$  be a group,  $H$  a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/H$  is  $p$ -nilpotent and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $H$ , where  $p$  is a prime divisor of  $|G|$  with  $(|G|, p - 1) = 1$ . If every maximal subgroup of  $P$  is either  $SS$ -permutable or  $c$ -normal in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.*

**Corollary 4.7.** *Let  $G$  be a group,  $H$  a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/H$  is  $p$ -nilpotent and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $H$ , where  $p$  is a prime divisor of  $|G|$  with  $(|G|, p - 1) = 1$ . If the cyclic subgroups of prime order or order 4 of  $P$  are either  $SS$ -permutable or  $c$ -normal in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.*

**Corollary 4.8.** *Let  $G$  be a group,  $H$  a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/H$  is  $p$ -nilpotent and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $H$ , where  $p$  is a prime divisor of  $|G|$  with  $(|G|, p - 1) = 1$ . If every maximal subgroup of  $P$  is  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.*

**Corollary 4.9.** *Let  $G$  be a group,  $H$  a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/H$  is  $p$ -nilpotent and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $H$ , where  $p$  is a prime divisor of  $|G|$  with  $(|G|, p - 1) = 1$ . If the cyclic subgroups of prime order or order 4 of  $P$  are either  $SS$ -permutable in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.*

**Corollary 4.10.** *Let  $G$  be a group,  $H$  a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/H$  is  $p$ -nilpotent and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $H$ , where  $p$  is a prime divisor of  $|G|$  with  $(|G|, p - 1) = 1$ . If  $P$  satisfies  $(*)'$  in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.*

**Corollary 4.11.** *Let  $G$  be a group,  $H$  a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/H$  is  $p$ -nilpotent and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $H$ , where  $p$  is a prime divisor of  $|G|$  with  $(|G|, p - 1) = 1$ . If  $P$  satisfies  $\diamond_2$  in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.*

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