

# On $S$ -permutable subgroups of finite groups

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## Abstract

Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a finite group  $G$ . Then we say that  $H$  is  $S$ -permutable in  $G$  provided  $G$  has a subgroup  $B$  such that  $G = N_G(H)B$  and  $H$  permutes with all Sylow subgroups of  $B$ . In this paper we analyze the influence of  $S$ -permutable subgroups on the structure of  $G$ .

## 1 Introduction

Throughout this paper, all groups are finite and  $G$  always denotes a finite group. Moreover  $p$  is always supposed to be a prime and  $\pi$  is a non-empty subset of the set  $\mathbb{P}$  of all primes. We use  $\mathcal{M}_\phi(G)$  to denote a set of maximal subgroups of  $G$  such that  $\Phi(G)$  coincides with the intersection of all subgroups in  $\mathcal{M}_\phi(G)$ . If for subgroups  $A$  and  $B$  of  $G$  we have  $AB = BA$ , then  $A$  is said to *permute* with  $B$ . If  $G = AB$ , then  $B$  is said to be a *supplement* of  $A$  to  $G$ .

Recall that a subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is said to be  $S$ -permutable,  $S$ -quasinormal, or  $\pi$ -quasinormal Kegel [11] in  $G$  provided  $HP = PH$  for all Sylow subgroups  $P$  of  $G$ . The  $S$ -permutable subgroups possess many interesting properties (see [11, 3, 15] or Chapter 1 in [1]), and such subgroups are used for the analysis of many questions of the group theory (see Section 5 in [20]). This circumstance was the main motivation for the introduction and study of various generalizations of the  $S$ -permutability. One of the most interesting generalizations of  $S$ -permutability was found by Shirong Li, Zhencai Shen, Jianjun Liu and Xiaochun Liu: A subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is called  $SS$ -quasinormal [18] in  $G$  if  $H$

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permutes with all Sylow subgroups of some supplement of  $H$  to  $G$ . Nice results obtained in the papers [18, 19, 22] were based on applications of this concept.

In this paper we consider another generalization of  $S$ -permutable subgroups.

**Definition 1.1.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Then we say that  $H$  is  $S$ -propermutable in  $G$  provided there is a subgroup  $B$  of  $G$  such that  $G = N_G(H)B$  and  $H$  permutes with all Sylow subgroups of  $B$ .*

In fact, we meet  $S$ -propermutable subgroups quite often.

**Example 1.1.** *1. Every maximal subgroup of a soluble group  $G$  and every its Hall subgroup  $E$  with  $|G : N_G(E)| = p^a$  are  $S$ -propermutable in  $G$ . Indeed, since  $G$  is soluble, there is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P$  of  $G$  such that  $EP = PE$ . On the other hand, since  $|G : N_G(E)| = p^a$  we have  $G = N_G(E)P$ . Hence  $E$  is  $S$ -propermutable in  $G$ .*

*2. If  $|H| = p^a$  and  $H \leq Z_\infty(G)$ , then  $H \leq P$ , where  $P$  is the Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $Z_\infty(G)$ . Therefore, since  $G/C_G(P)$  is a  $p$ -group (see Lemma 2.9 below),  $G = N_G(H)G_p$  and  $H \leq P \leq G_p$ , where  $G_p$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ . Hence  $H$  is  $S$ -propermutable in  $G$ .*

*3. If  $G$  is metanilpotent, that is  $G/F(G)$  is nilpotent, then for every Sylow subgroup  $P$  of  $G$  we have  $G = N_G(P)F(G)$ . Therefore, in this case, every characteristic subgroup of every Sylow subgroup of  $G$  is  $S$ -propermutable in  $G$ . In particular, every Sylow subgroup of a supersoluble group is  $S$ -propermutable.*

It is clear that every  $SS$ -quasinormal subgroup is  $S$ -propermutable. The following elementary example shows that in general the set of all  $S$ -propermutable subgroups of  $G$  is wider than the set of all its  $SS$ -quasinormal subgroups.

**Example 1.2.** *Let  $p > q > r$  be primes such that  $qr$  divides  $p - 1$ . Let  $P$  be a group of order  $p$  and  $QR \leq \text{Aut}(P)$ , where  $Q$  and  $R$  are groups with order  $q$  and  $r$ , respectively. Let  $G = P \rtimes (QR)$ . Then  $R$  is  $S$ -propermutable in  $G$ . Suppose that  $R$  is  $SS$ -quasinormal in  $G$ . Then  $Q^x R = RQ^x$  for all  $x \in G$  (see Lemma 1.4 below). But  $Q^x R \simeq G/P$  is cyclic, so  $Q^G = PQ \leq N_G(R)$ . Hence  $R$  is normal in  $G$ , which implies that  $R \leq C_G(P) = P$ . This contradiction shows that  $R$  is not  $SS$ -quasinormal in  $G$ .*

The results of the above-mentioned papers [18, 19, 22] are motivations for the following our theorem.

**Theorem A.** *Let  $E$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$  and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $E$ . Suppose that  $|P| > p$ .*

(I) *If every number  $V$  of some fixed  $\mathcal{M}_\phi(P)$  is  $S$ -propermutable in  $G$ , then  $E$  is  $p$ -supersoluble.*

(II) *If every maximal subgroup of  $P$  is  $S$ -propermutable in  $G$ , then every chief factor of  $G$  between  $E$  and  $O_{p'}(E)$  is cyclic.*

As a first application of Theorem A, we prove also the following result.

**Theorem B.** *Let  $X \leq E$  be normal subgroups of  $G$ . Suppose that every maximal subgroup of every non-cyclic Sylow subgroup of  $X$  is  $S$ -permutable in  $G$ . If either  $X = E$  or  $X = F^*(E)$ , then every chief factor of  $G$  below  $E$  is cyclic.*

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a class of groups. If  $1 \in \mathcal{F}$ , then we write  $G^{\mathcal{F}}$  to denote the intersection of all normal subgroups  $N$  of  $G$  with  $G/N \in \mathcal{F}$ . The class  $\mathcal{F}$  is said to be a *formation* if either  $\mathcal{F} = \emptyset$  or  $1 \in \mathcal{F}$  and every homomorphic image of  $G/G^{\mathcal{F}}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{F}$  for any group  $G$ . The formation  $\mathcal{F}$  is said to be *solubly saturated* if  $G \in \mathcal{F}$  whenever  $G/\Phi(N) \in \mathcal{F}$  for some soluble normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$ .

Note that if  $\mathcal{F}$  is a solubly saturated formation and  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ , where every chief factor of  $G$  below  $E$  is cyclic, then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$  (see Lemma 2.13 below). Therefore from Theorem B we get

**Corollary 1.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a solubly saturated formation containing all supersoluble groups and  $X \leq E$  normal subgroups of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . Suppose that every maximal subgroup of every non-cyclic Sylow subgroup of  $X$  is  $S$ -permutable in  $G$ . If either  $X = E$  or  $X = F^*(E)$ , then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

Note Theorem A and Corollary 1.4 cover results of many papers and, in particular, some main results in [14, 18, 19] (see Section 4).

The proof of Theorem A consists of many steps, and the following useful result is one of them.

**Theorem C.** *Let  $E$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$  and  $P$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of  $E$ . If  $P$  is  $S$ -permutable in  $G$ , then  $E$  is  $p$ -soluble.*

All unexplained notation and terminology are standard. The reader is referred to [17], [4], [6] or [2] if necessary.

## 2 Preliminaries

**Lemma 2.1** (See [9]). *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be subgroups of  $G$  with  $G = AB$ .*

(1) *If  $G$  is  $\pi$ -soluble, then there are Hall  $\pi$ -subgroups  $A_\pi$ ,  $B_\pi$  and  $G_\pi$  of  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $G$ , respectively, such that  $G_\pi = A_\pi B_\pi$*

(2) *For any prime  $p$  dividing  $|G|$ , there are Sylow  $p$ -subgroups  $A_p$ ,  $B_p$  and  $G_p$  of  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $G$ , respectively, such that  $G_p = A_p B_p$ .*

**Lemma 2.2** (See Lemma 1.6 in [4]). *Let  $H$ ,  $K$  and  $N$  be subgroups of  $G$ . If  $HK = KH$  and  $HN = NH$ , then  $H\langle K, N \rangle = \langle K, N \rangle H$ .*

We say that  $H$  is *propermutable* in  $G$  provided there is a subgroup  $B$  of  $G$  such that  $G = N_G(H)B$  and  $H$  permutes with all subgroups of  $B$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $H \leq G$  and  $N$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$ . Suppose that  $H$  is  $S$ -permutable (propermutable) in  $G$ .*

- (1)  $HN/N$  is  $S$ -permutable (propermutable, respectively) in  $G/N$ .
- (2)  $H$  permutes with some Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  for any prime  $p$  dividing  $|G|$ .
- (3) If  $G$  is  $\pi$ -soluble, then  $H$  permutes with some Hall  $\pi$ -subgroup of  $G$ .
- (4)  $|G : N_G(H \cap N)|$  is a  $\pi$ -number, where  $\pi = \pi(N) \cup \pi(H)$ .

*Proof.* (1) First suppose that  $H$  is  $S$ -permutable in  $G$ . By hypothesis there is a subgroup  $B$  of  $G$  such that  $G = N_G(H)B$  and  $H$  permutes with all Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of  $B$  for all primes  $p$  dividing  $|B|$ . Then

$$G/N = (N_G(H)N/N)(BN/N) = N_{G/N}(HN/N)(BN/N).$$

Suppose that  $p$  divides  $|BN/N|$  and let  $K/N$  be any Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $BN/N$ . Then  $K = (K \cap B)N$ , so by Lemma 2.1, there are Sylow  $p$ -subgroups  $K_p$ ,  $P$  and  $N_p$  of  $K$ ,  $K \cap B$  and  $N$ , respectively, such that  $K_p = PN_p$ . Let  $P \leq B_p$ , where  $B_p$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $B$ . Then  $K/N \leq B_pN/N$ , which implies that  $K/N = B_pN/N$ . But  $H$  permutes with  $B_p$ , so that  $HN/N$  permutes with  $K/N$ . Therefore  $HN/N$  is  $S$ -permutable in  $G/N$ . The second assertion of (1) is proved similarly.

(2) By Lemma 2.1 there are Sylow  $p$ -subgroups  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$  and  $P$  of  $N_G(H)$ ,  $B$  and  $G$ , respectively, such that  $P = P_1P_2$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} HP &= H(P_1P_2) = (HP_1)P_2 = (P_1H)P_2 = \\ &P_1(HP_2) = P_1(P_2H) = (P_1P_2)H = PH. \end{aligned}$$

(3) See the proof of (2) and use Lemma 2.2.

(4) Let  $p$  be a prime such that  $p \notin \pi$ . Then by (3) there is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P$  of  $G$  such that  $HP = PH$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . Hence  $HP \cap N = H \cap N$  is a normal subgroup of  $HP$ . Thus  $p$  does not divide  $|G : N_G(H \cap N)|$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $H$  and  $B$  be subgroups of  $G$ . If  $G = N_G(H)B$  and  $HV^b = V^bH$  for some subgroup  $V$  of  $B$  and for all  $b \in B$ , then  $HV^x = V^xH$  for all  $x \in G$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $G = N_G(H)B$  we have  $x = bn$  for some  $b \in B$  and  $n \in N_G(H)$ . Hence  $HV^x = HV^{bn} = Hn(V^b)n^{-1} = n(V^b)n^{-1}H = V^xH$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5.** *Suppose that for subgroups  $A$  and  $B$  of  $G$  we have  $AB = BA$  and  $G = N_G(A)B$ . Then*

- (1)  $A^G = A(A^G \cap B)$ .
- (2) If  $A$  permutes with all Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of  $B$ , then  $A$  permutes with all Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of  $A^G \cap B$ .

*Proof.* (1) Since  $AB = BA$ ,  $AB$  is a subgroup of  $G$  and so  $A^G = A^{N_G(A)B} = A^B \leq \langle A, B \rangle = AB$ . Hence  $A^G = A^G \cap AB = A(A^G \cap B)$ .

(2) By (1) we have  $A^G = A(A^G \cap B)$ . Let  $P$  be any Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $A^G \cap B$  and  $P \leq B_p$ , where  $B_p$  is a Sylow of  $B$ . Then  $AB_p = B_pA$  and  $P = A^G \cap B \cap B_p = A^G \cap B_p$ . Hence  $AB_p \cap A^G = A(B_p \cap A^G) = AP = PA$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.6** (See Kegel [12]). *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be subgroups of  $G$  such that  $G \neq AB$  and  $AB^x = B^xA$ , for all  $x \in G$ . Then  $G$  has a proper normal subgroup  $N$  such that either  $A \leq N$  or  $B \leq N$ .*

In our proofs we shall need the following well-known properties of supersoluble and  $p$ -supersoluble groups.

**Lemma 2.7.** *Let  $N$  and  $R$  be normal subgroups of  $G$ .*

(1) *If  $N \leq \Phi(G) \cap R$  and  $R/N$  is  $p$ -supersoluble, then  $R$  is  $p$ -supersoluble.*

(2) *If  $G$  is  $p$ -supersoluble and  $O_{p'}(G) = 1$ , then  $p$  is the largest prime dividing  $|G|$ ,  $G$  is supersoluble and  $F(G) = O_p(G)$  is a normal Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ .*

(3) *If  $G$  is supersoluble, then  $G' \leq F(G)$ .*

**Lemma 2.8** (See Knyagina and Monakhov [13]). *Let  $H, K$  and  $N$  be subgroups of  $G$ . If  $N$  is normal in  $G$ ,  $H$  permutes with  $K$  and  $H$  is a Hall subgroup of  $G$ , then*

$$N \cap HK = (N \cap H)(N \cap K).$$

We use  $\mathcal{A}(p-1)$  to denote the class of all abelian groups of exponent dividing  $p-1$ . The symbol  $Z_u(G)$  denotes the product of all normal subgroups  $N$  of  $G$  such that every chief factor of  $G$  below  $N$  is cyclic.

**Lemma 2.9** (See Lemma 2.2 in [21]). *Let  $E$  be a normal  $p$ -subgroup of a group  $G$ . If  $E \leq Z_u(G)$  (if  $E \leq Z_\infty(G)$ ), then*

$$(G/C_G(E))^{A(p-1)} \leq O_p(G/C_G(E))$$

*( $G/C_G(E)$  is a  $p$ -group, respectively).*

*Proof.* See the proof of Lemma 2.2 in [21].  $\square$

**Lemma 2.10.** *Suppose that  $G$  is  $p$ -soluble and  $O_{p'}(G) = 1$ . Then  $F^*(G) = O_p(G)$ .*

*Proof.* It is clear that  $F(G) = O_p(G) \leq F^*(G)$ . Suppose that  $O_p(G) \neq F^*(G)$  and let  $H/O_p(G)$  be a chief factor of  $G$  below  $F^*(G)$ . Then, since  $G$  is  $p$ -soluble,  $H/O_p(G)$  is a non-abelian  $p'$ -group and  $O_p(G) \leq Z_\infty(H)$  by [10, Chapter X, Theorems 13.6 and 13.7]. Hence  $H/C_H(O_p(G))$  is a  $p$ -group by Lemma 2.9. On the other hand, by the Schur-Zassenhaus theorem,  $O_p(G)$  has a complement  $E$  in  $H$ . Then  $E \leq C_H(O_p(G))$ , which implies that  $E$  is normal in  $H$ . Thus  $E$  is a characteristic subgroup of  $E$ , so  $E \leq O_{p'}(G) = 1$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.11** (See Lemma 2.15 in [7]). *Let  $E$  be a normal non-identity quasinilpotent subgroup of  $G$ . If  $\Phi(G) \cap E = 1$ , then  $E$  is the direct product of some minimal normal subgroups of  $G$ .*

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a class of groups. A chief factor  $H/K$  of  $G$  is called  $\mathcal{F}$ -central in  $G$  provided  $(H/K) \rtimes (G/C_G(H/K)) \in \mathcal{F}$ .

**Lemma 2.12** (See Theorem B in [21]). *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be any formation and  $E$  a normal subgroup of  $G$ . If each chief factor of  $G$  below  $F^*(E)$  is  $\mathcal{F}$ -central in  $G$ , then each chief factor of  $G$  below  $E$  is  $\mathcal{F}$ -central in  $G$  as well.*

**Lemma 2.13** (See Lemma 3.3 in [7]). *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a solubly saturated formation containing all supersoluble groups and  $E$  a normal subgroups of  $G$  with  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . If every chief factor of  $G$  below  $E$  is cyclic, then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

Recall that  $G$  is called a *Schmidt group* provided  $G$  is not nilpotent but every proper subgroup of  $G$  is nilpotent. We shall need in our proofs the following facts on Schmidt groups.

**Lemma 2.14** (See Theorem 25.4 in [16]). *Let  $G$  be a Schmidt group Then*

(a)  $G = P \rtimes Q$ , where  $P$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  of exponent  $p$  or exponent 4 (if  $P$  is a non-abelian 2-group),  $Q$  is a Sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $G$  for some primes  $p \neq q$ .

(b)  $P/\Phi(P)$  is a chief factor of  $G$  and  $C_G(P/\Phi(P)) \neq G$ .

**Lemma 2.15.** *Let  $E$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$  and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $E$  such that  $(p - 1, |G|) = 1$ . If either  $P$  is cyclic or  $G$  is  $p$ -supersoluble, then  $E$  is  $p$ -nilpotent and  $E/O_{p'}(E) \leq Z_\infty(G/O_{p'}(E))$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $H/K$  be any chief factor of  $G$  such that  $O_{p'}(E) \leq K < H \leq E$ . Then  $|H/K| = p$ , so  $G/C_G(H/K)$  divides  $p - 1$ . But by hypothesis,  $(p - 1, |G|) = 1$ . Hence  $C_G(H/K) = G$ . Thus  $E/O_{p'}(E) \leq Z_\infty(G/O_{p'}(E))$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.16.** *Let  $P$  be a normal  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ . If  $P/\Phi(P) \leq Z_{\mathcal{U}}(G/\Phi(P))$ , then  $P \leq Z_{\mathcal{U}}(G)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $C = C_G(P)$ ,  $H/K$  any chief factor of  $G$  below  $P$ . Then  $O_p(G/C_G(H/K)) = 1$  by [23, Appendix C, Corollary 6.4]. Suppose that  $P/\Phi(P) \leq Z_{\mathcal{U}}(G/\Phi(P))$ . Then by Lemma 2.9,  $(G/C_G(P/\Phi(P)))^{A(p-1)}$  is a  $p$ -group. Hence  $(G/C)^{A(p-1)}$  is a  $p$ -group by [5, Chapter 5, Theorem 1.4]. Thus  $G/C_G(H/K) \in \mathcal{A}(p-1)$  and so  $|H/K| = p$  by [23, Chapter 1, Theorem 1.4]. This implies that  $P \leq Z_{\mathcal{U}}(G)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.17** (See Corollary 1.11 in [7]). *Let  $N$  be a normal soluble subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $F^*(G/\Phi(N)) = F^*(G)/\Phi(N)$ .*

**Lemma 2.18** (See Theorem A\* in [8]). *Let  $H$  be a Hall  $\pi$ -subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $G = HT$  for some subgroup  $T$  of  $G$ , and  $q$  a prime. If  $H$  permutes with every Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $T$  for all primes  $p \neq q$ , then  $T$  contains a complement of  $H$  in  $G$  and any two complements of  $H$  in  $G$  are conjugate.*

**Lemma 2.19.** *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be subgroups of  $G$ . If  $A^x B = BA^x$  for all  $x \in G$ , then  $AB^x = B^x A$  for all  $x \in G$ .*

*Proof.* Indeed, from  $A^{x^{-1}} B = BA^{x^{-1}}$  we get  $AB^x = (A^{x^{-1}} B)^x = (BA^{x^{-1}})^x = B^x A$ . □

A group  $G$  is said to be  $\pi$ -closed ( $p$ -closed) provided  $G$  has a normal Hall  $\pi$ -subgroup (a normal Sylow  $p$ -subgroup, respectively).

**Lemma 2.20** (See Corollary 1.7 in [7]). *Let  $N$  and  $R$  be normal subgroups of  $G$ . If  $N \leq \Phi(G) \cap R$  and  $R/N$  is  $\pi$ -closed, then  $R$  is  $\pi$ -closed*

### 3 Proofs of Theorems A, B and C

**Proof of Theorem C.** Suppose that this theorem is false and let  $G$  be a counterexample with  $|G| + |E|$  minimal. Suppose that there is a non-identity  $p$ -soluble normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$  such that  $N \leq E$ . If  $P \leq N$ , then  $G/N$  is a  $p'$ -group and so the  $p$ -solubility of  $N$  implies the  $p$ -solubility of  $E$ . On the other hand, if  $P \not\leq N$ , then the hypothesis holds for  $G/N$  by Lemma 2.3 (1). Hence  $E/N$  is  $p$ -soluble by the choice of  $(G, E)$  since  $|G/N| < |G|$ . Therefore  $E$  is  $p$ -soluble. But this contradicts the choice of  $(G, E)$ . Hence every non-identity normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$  contained in  $E$  is not  $p$ -soluble.

By hypothesis there is a subgroup  $B$  of  $G$  such that  $G = N_G(P)B$  and  $P$  permutes with all Sylow subgroups of  $B$ . We shall show that  $E = P^G = G = PB$ . Indeed, by Lemma 2.5,  $P^G = P(P^G \cap B)$  and  $P$  permutes with all Sylow subgroups of  $P^G \cap B$ . Hence  $P$  is  $S$ -propermutable in  $P^G$ . If  $P^G \neq G$ , then  $P^G$  is  $p$ -soluble by the choice of  $(G, E)$  since  $P^G \leq E$ . Therefore  $G$  has a non-identity  $p$ -soluble normal subgroup, a contradiction. Thus  $E = P^G = G = PB$ .

Let  $Q$  be any Sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $B$  such that  $q \neq p$ . Then  $p$  divides  $|Q^G|$  and  $P_0 = P \cap Q^G$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $Q^G$ . We show that the hypothesis holds for  $(Q^G, P_0)$ . Indeed, let  $R$  be a Sylow  $r$ -subgroup of  $Q^G \cap B$ , where  $r \neq p$ . Then for some Sylow  $r$ -subgroup  $B_r$  of  $B$  we have

$$R = B_r \cap (Q^G \cap B) = B_r \cap Q^G.$$

By Lemma 2.8 we also know that

$$PB_r \cap Q^G = (P \cap Q^G)(B_r \cap Q^G) = P_0 R = RP_0.$$

Therefore  $P_0$  is  $S$ -propermutable in  $Q^G$ . But since  $G$  has no non-identity  $p$ -soluble normal subgroups, the choice of  $(G, E)$  implies that  $Q^G = G$ . Note that by Burnside's  $p^a q^b$ -theorem we have  $PQ \neq G$ .

On the other hand, by Lemma 2.4,  $PQ^x = Q^xP$  for all  $x \in G$  and so by Lemma 2.6,  $P^G \neq G$ . This contradiction completes the proof of the result.

**Proof of Theorem A.** (I) Suppose that this assertion is false and let  $G$  be a counterexample with  $|G|+|E|$  minimal. Let  $V \in \mathcal{M}_\phi(P)$ . By hypothesis there is a subgroup  $B$  of  $G$  that  $G = N_G(V)B$  and  $V$  permutes with all Sylow  $q$ -subgroups of  $B$ .

(1)  $V^G = V(V^G \cap B)$  and  $V$  permutes with every Sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $V^G \cap B$  for all primes  $q$  dividing  $|V^G \cap B|$  (This directly follows from Lemma 2.5).

(2)  $O_{p'}(N) = 1$  for every normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$  contained in  $E$ .

Suppose that for some normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$  contained in  $E$  we have  $O_{p'}(N) \neq 1$ . Since  $O_{p'}(N)$  is a characteristic subgroup of  $N$ , it is normal in  $G$ . On the other hand, by Lemma 2.3 (1), the hypothesis holds for  $(G/O_{p'}(N), E/O_{p'}(N))$ . Hence  $E/O_{p'}(N)$  is  $p$ -supersoluble by the choice of  $(G, E)$ . Thus  $E$  is  $p$ -supersoluble, a contradiction.

(3) If  $L$  is a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $L \not\leq \Phi(P)$ .

Indeed, in the case, where  $L \leq \Phi(P)$ , we have  $L \leq \Phi(E)$  and the hypothesis holds for  $(G/L, E/L)$  by Lemma 2.3 (1). Hence  $E/L$  is  $p$ -supersoluble by the choice of  $(G, E)$ . Therefore  $E$  is  $p$ -supersoluble by Lemma 2.7 (1), which contradicts to our assumption on  $E$ .

(4) If  $D$  is a normal  $p$ -soluble subgroup of  $G$  contained in  $E$ , then  $D$  is supersoluble and  $p$ -closed.

By (2),  $O_{p'}(D) = 1$ . Therefore  $O_p = O_p(D) \neq 1$ . Let  $N$  be a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$  contained in  $O_p$ . In view of (3) we have  $N \not\leq \Phi(P)$ . Hence for some subgroup  $W \in \mathcal{M}_\phi(P)$  we have  $P = NW$ . Let  $S = N \cap W$ . Then  $S$  is normal in  $P$ . On the other hand, by Lemma 2.3 (4),  $|G : N_G(S)|$  is a power of  $p$ . Hence  $|E : N_E(S)| = |E : N_G(S) \cap E| = |EN_G(S) : N_G(S)|$  is a power of  $p$ . Thus  $S$  is normal in  $E$ . By Proposition 4.13 (c) in [4, Chapter A],  $N = N_1 \times \dots \times N_t$ , where  $N_1, \dots, N_t$  are minimal normal subgroups of  $E$ , and from the proof of this proposition we know also that  $|N_i| = |N_j|$  for all  $i, j$ . Therefore there is a minimal normal subgroup  $L$  of  $E$  such that  $N = SL$  and  $S \cap L = 1$ . Hence  $P = L \rtimes W$ , which implies by Gaschütz's theorem [9, Chapter I, Satz 17.4] that  $L$  has a complement  $M$  in  $E$ . Thus  $N \not\leq \Phi(E)$  and  $N_1, \dots, N_t$  are groups of order  $p$ . It is clear that  $\Phi(E) \cap O_p$  is normal in  $G$ . Therefore  $\Phi(E) \cap O_p = 1$ . Hence  $O_p = L_1 \times \dots \times L_t$ , where  $L_1, \dots, L_t$  are minimal normal subgroups of  $E$  by Lemma 2.11. If for some  $i$  we have  $L_i \not\leq \Phi(P)$ , then, as above, one can show that  $|L_i| = p$ . Therefore there are normal subgroups  $F$  and  $M$  of  $E$  such that  $O_p = FM$ , every chief factor of  $E$  below  $M$  is cyclic and  $F \leq \Phi(P) \leq \Phi(E)$ . Now consider  $D/F$ . It is clear  $O_p(D/F) = O_p/F = MF/F$ . On the other hand, by Lemma 2.20,  $O_{p'}(D/F) = 1$  since  $O_{p'}(D) = 1$ . Therefore by Lemma 2.10,  $F^*(D/F) = O_p/F$ , where every chief factor of  $D/F$  below  $F^*(D/F)$  is cyclic. Hence  $D/F$  is supersoluble, so  $D$  is supersoluble by Lemma 2.7 (1). But  $O_{p'}(D) = 1$ , so  $O_p$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $D$  by Lemma 2.7 (2).

(5)  $E$  is  $p$ -soluble.

Assume that  $E$  is not  $p$ -soluble.



(a) If  $O_p(E) \neq 1$ , then  $P$  is not cyclic.

Suppose that  $P$  is cyclic. Let  $L$  be a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$  contained in  $O_p(E) \leq P$ . Suppose that  $C_E(L) = E$ , so  $L \leq Z(E)$ . Let  $N = N_E(P)$ . If  $P \leq Z(N)$ , then  $E$  is  $p$ -nilpotent by Burnside's theorem [9, Chapter IV, Satz 2.6], which contradicts the choice of  $(G, E)$ . Hence  $N \neq C_E(P)$ . Let  $x \in N \setminus C_E(P)$  with  $(|x|, |P|) = 1$  and  $K = P \rtimes \langle x \rangle$ . By [9, Chapter III, Satz 13.4],  $P = [K, P] \times (P \cap Z(K))$ . Since  $L \leq P \cap Z(K)$  and  $P$  is cyclic, it follows that  $P = P \cap Z(K)$  and so  $x \in C_K(P)$ . This contradiction shows that  $C_E(L) \neq E$ .

Since  $P$  is cyclic,  $|L| = p$ . Hence  $G/C_G(L)$  is a cyclic group of order dividing  $p-1$ . If  $|P/L| > p$ , then the hypothesis holds for  $(G/L, E/L)$  by Lemma 2.3 (1). Hence  $E/L$  is  $p$ -supersoluble by the choice of  $(G, E)$  and so  $E$  is  $p$ -soluble, a contradiction. Thus  $|P/L| = p$  and hence  $V = L$  is normal in  $G$ . Therefore the hypothesis holds for  $(G, C_E(L))$ , so  $C_E(L)$  is  $p$ -supersoluble since  $C_E(L) \neq E$ . But then  $E$  is  $p$ -soluble since  $E/C_E(L) = E/E \cap C_G(L) \simeq EC_G(L)/C_G(L)$  is cyclic. This contradiction shows that we have (a).

(b) If  $P \not\leq V^G$ , then  $V$  is normal in  $G$ .

Indeed, since  $P \not\leq V^G \leq E$ ,  $V$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $V^G$ . On the other hand, by (1) we have  $V^G = V(V^G \cap B)$  and  $V$  is  $S$ -permutable in  $V^G$ . Therefore  $V^G$  is  $p$ -soluble by Theorem C. Thus  $V$  is normal in  $V^G$  by (4). Since  $V$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $V^G$ ,  $V$  is characteristic in  $V^G$ . Hence  $V = V^G$  is normal in  $G$ .

(c)  $P$  is not cyclic.

Suppose that  $P$  is cyclic. Then  $\mathcal{M}_\phi(P) = \{V\}$ , and by (1), (a) and (b) we have  $P \leq V^G = V(V^G \cap B)$  and  $V$  permutes with every Sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $V^G \cap B$  for all primes  $q$  dividing  $|V^G \cap B|$ . Hence the hypothesis holds for  $(V^G, V^G)$ . Assume that  $V^G \neq G$ . Then  $V^G$  is  $p$ -supersoluble by the choice of  $(G, E)$ . Hence by (4),  $P$  is normal in  $G$ , which contradicts (a). Therefore  $V^G = G$ , which implies that  $G = VB$  by (1). Hence  $P = P \cap VB = V(P \cap B)$ , so  $P \leq B$  since  $P$  is cyclic. Therefore  $B = G$ , so  $V$  is  $S$ -permutable in  $G$ . Hence  $V \leq P_E \leq O_p(E)$ , which contradicts (a). Hence  $P$  is not cyclic.

(d)  $P$  permutes with every Sylow  $q$ -subgroup  $Q$  of  $P^G$  for all primes  $q \neq p$  dividing  $|P^G|$ .

Let  $D = P^G$ . In view (c), there is a subgroup  $W \in \mathcal{M}_\phi(P)$  such that  $V \neq W$ . Then  $P = VW$ . Hence in view of Lemma 2.2 we have only to show that  $V$  and  $W$  permute with  $Q$ . In view of (b) we may suppose that  $P \leq V^G$  and  $P \leq W^G$ . Then  $D = P^G \leq V^G$  and so by (1),  $D = V(D \cap B)$  and  $V$  permutes with every Sylow  $q$ -subgroup  $Q_1$  of  $D \cap B$ . It is also clear that  $Q_1$  is a Sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $D$ . Therefore for some  $x \in D$  we have  $Q_1 = Q^x$ . Hence  $V$  permutes with  $Q$  by Lemma 2.4. Similarly, it may be proved that  $W$  permutes with  $Q$ .

*Final contradiction for (5).* By (d) and Lemma 2.18,  $P^G$  has a Hall  $p'$ -subgroup. Hence by (d),  $P$  is  $S$ -permutable in  $P^G$ . Therefore by Theorem C,  $P^G$  is  $p$ -soluble. Hence by (4),  $P$  is normal in  $G$ . Therefore  $E$  is  $p$ -soluble. This contradiction completes the proof of (5).

By (5),  $E$  is  $p$ -soluble. Hence  $E$  is supersoluble by (4). This contradiction completes the proof of (I).

(II) Suppose that this assertion is false and let  $G$  be a counterexample with  $|G| + |E|$  minimal. Let  $Z = Z_{\mathcal{U}}(G)$ . First we show that  $O_{p'}(E) = 1$ . Indeed, suppose that  $O_{p'}(E) \neq 1$ . It is clear that  $O_{p'}(E)$  is normal in  $G$ . Moreover, the hypothesis holds for  $(G/O_{p'}(E), E/O_{p'}(E))$  by Lemma 2.3 (1). Therefore every chief factor of  $G/O_{p'}(E)$  below  $E/O_{p'}(E)$  is cyclic by the choice of  $(G, E)$ . Hence every chief factor of  $G$  between  $E$  and  $O_{p'}(E)$  is cyclic, a contradiction. Thus  $O_{p'}(E) = 1$ .

By (I),  $E$  is  $p$ -supersoluble. Hence by Lemma 2.7 (2),  $E$  is supersoluble and  $P = F(E)$ . Hence the hypothesis is true for  $(G, P)$ . If  $P \neq E$ , then every chief factor of  $G$  below  $P$  is cyclic by the choice of  $(G, E)$ . Hence every chief factor of  $G$  below  $E$  is cyclic by Lemma 2.12, contrary to the choice of  $(G, E)$ . Hence  $P = E$ .

Let  $N$  be any minimal normal subgroup of  $G$  contained in  $P$ . Then the hypothesis holds for  $(G/N, P/N)$ , so every chief factor of  $G/N$  below  $P/N$  is cyclic by the choice of  $(G, E)$ . Thus  $|N| > p$ . Moreover,  $N \not\leq \Phi(P)$ , otherwise every chief factor of  $G$  below  $P$  is cyclic by Lemma 2.16. Thus  $\Phi(P) = 1$  and so  $P$  is elementary abelian  $p$ -group. Let  $W$  be a maximal subgroup of  $N$  such that  $W$  is normal in a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $G_p$  of  $G$ . Let  $V = WS$ , where  $S$  is a complement of  $N$  in  $P$ . Then  $W = V \cap N$  and  $V$  is  $S$ -permutable in  $G$  by hypothesis. Hence by Lemma 2.3 (4),  $G = G_p N_G(W)$ . Therefore  $W$  is normal in  $G$ , so  $W = 1$ . This contradiction completes the proof of Assertion (II).

Theorem is proved.

**Proof of Theorem B.** First we assume that  $X = E$ . Suppose that in this case the theorem is false and consider a counterexample  $(G, E)$  for which  $|G| + |E|$  is minimal. Let  $p$  be the smallest prime dividing  $|E|$  and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $E$ . Then  $E$  is  $p$ -nilpotent by Lemma 2.15 and Theorems A. Let  $V$  be the normal Hall  $p'$ -subgroup of  $E$ . Since  $V \text{ char } E \triangleleft G$ ,  $V$  is normal in  $G$ . Moreover, the hypothesis holds for  $(G, V)$  and for  $(G/V, E/V)$  by Lemma 2.3 (1). Hence in the case when  $V \neq 1$  we have  $V \leq Z_{\mathcal{U}}(G)$  and  $E/V \leq Z_{\mathcal{U}}(G/V)$  by the choice of  $(G, E)$ . This induces that  $E \leq Z_{\mathcal{U}}(G)$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $E = P$  and consequently  $E \leq Z_{\mathcal{U}}(G)$  by Theorem A.

Finally, if  $X = F^*(E)$ , then as above we have  $F^*(E) \leq Z_{\mathcal{U}}(G)$ . Therefore  $E \leq Z_{\mathcal{U}}(G)$  by Lemma 2.12.

## 4 Some applications of Theorem A and Corollary 1.4

In the literature one can find many special cases of Theorem A and Corollary 1.4. Here we discuss only some of them.

From Theorem A and Lemma 2.15 we get

**Corollary 4.1** (See Theorem 1.1 in [18]). *Let  $P$  be a Sylow subgroup of  $G$ , where  $p$  is the smallest*

prime dividing  $|G|$ . If every number  $V$  of some fixed  $\mathcal{M}_\phi(P)$  is  $SS$ -quasinormal in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.

**Corollary 4.2.** *Let  $P$  be a Sylow subgroup of  $G$ . If  $N_G(P)$  is  $p$ -nilpotent and every number  $V$  of some fixed  $\mathcal{M}_\phi(P)$  is  $S$ -permutable in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.*

*Proof.* If  $|P| = p$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent by Burnside's theorem [9, IV, 2.6]. Otherwise,  $G$  is  $p$ -supersoluble by Theorem A. The hypothesis holds for  $G/O_{p'}(G)$  by Lemma 2.3(1), so in the case, where  $O_{p'}(G) \neq 1$ ,  $G/O_{p'}(G)$  is  $p$ -nilpotent by induction. Hence  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent. Therefore we may assume that  $O_{p'}(G) = 1$ . But then, by Lemma 2.7(2),  $P$  is normal in  $G$ . Hence  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent by hypothesis.  $\square$

From Corollary 4.2 we get

**Corollary 4.3** (See Theorem 1.2 in [18]). *Let  $P$  be a Sylow subgroup of  $G$ . If  $N_G(P)$  is  $p$ -nilpotent and every number  $V$  of some fixed  $\mathcal{M}_\phi(P)$  is  $SS$ -quasinormal in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.*

**Corollary 4.4.** *Let  $P$  be a Sylow subgroup of  $G$ . If  $G$  is  $p$ -soluble and every number  $V$  of some fixed  $\mathcal{M}_d(P)$  is  $S$ -permutable in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -supersoluble.*

*Proof.* In the case, when  $|P| = p$ , this directly follows from the  $p$ -solubility of  $G$ . If  $|P| > p$ , this corollary follows from Theorem A.  $\square$

The next fact follows from Corollary 4.4.

**Corollary 4.5** (See Theorem 1.3 in [18]). *Let  $P$  be a Sylow subgroup of  $G$ . If  $G$  is  $p$ -soluble and every number  $V$  of some fixed  $\mathcal{M}_\phi(P)$  is  $SS$ -quasinormal in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -supersoluble.*

**Corollary 4.6.** *If, for every prime  $p$  dividing  $|G|$  and  $P \in \text{Syl}_p(G)$ , every number  $V$  of some fixed  $\mathcal{M}_\phi(P)$  is  $S$ -permutable in  $G$ , then  $G$  is supersoluble.*

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be the smallest prime dividing  $|G|$ . Then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent by Corollary 4.1, so  $G$  is soluble by Feit-Thompson's theorem. Hence  $G$  is supersoluble by Corollary 4.4.  $\square$

From Corollary 4.6 we get

**Corollary 4.7** (See Theorem 1.4 in [18]). *If, for every prime  $p$  dividing  $|G|$  and  $P \in \text{Syl}_p(G)$ , every number  $V$  of some fixed  $\mathcal{M}_\phi(P)$  is  $SS$ -quasinormal in  $G$ , then  $G$  is supersoluble.*

The formation  $\mathcal{F}$  is said to be *saturated* if  $G \in \mathcal{F}$  whenever  $G/\Phi(G) \in \mathcal{F}$ . It is clear that every saturated formation is soluble saturated. Hence from Corollary 1.4 we get

**Corollary 4.8.** *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing all supersoluble groups and  $X \leq E$  normal subgroups of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . Suppose that every maximal subgroup of any non-cyclic Sylow subgroup of  $X$  is  $S$ -permutable in  $G$ . If either  $X = E$  or  $X = F^*(E)$ , then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

The following results are special cases of Corollary 4.8.

**Corollary 4.9** (See Theorem 1.5 in [18]). *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing all supersoluble groups and  $E$  a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . Suppose that for every maximal subgroup of every non-cyclic Sylow subgroup of  $E$  is  $SS$ -quasinormal in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

**Corollary 4.10** (See Theorem 3.2 in [19]). *Let  $E$  a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/E$  is supersoluble. Suppose that for every maximal subgroup of every Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  is  $SS$ -quasinormal in  $G$ . Then  $G$  is supersoluble.*

**Corollary 4.11** (See Theorem 3.3 in [19]). *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing all supersoluble groups and  $E$  a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . Suppose that for every maximal subgroup of every Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  is  $SS$ -quasinormal in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

**Corollary 4.12** (See Theorem 3.2 in [14]). *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing all supersoluble groups and  $E$  a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . If all maximal subgroups of  $F^*(E)$  are  $S$ -permutable in  $G$ , then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

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