

# On the $F_p$ -Normal Subgroups of Finite Groups

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**Abstract**—Let  $G$  be a finite group, and let  $F$  be a formation of finite group. We say that a subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G$  if there exists a normal subgroup  $T$  of  $G$  such that  $HT$  is a permutable Hall subgroup of  $G$  and  $(H \cap T)H_G / H_G$  is contained in the  $F$ -hypercenter  $Z_\infty^F(G/H_G)$  of  $G/H_G$ . In this note, we get some results about the  $F_p$ -normal subgroups and then use them to study the structure of finite groups.

**Keywords**—Finite group,  $F_p$ -normal subgroup, Sylow subgroup, Maximal subgroup

## I. INTRODUCTION

ALL groups considered in this paper are finite, and  $G$  denotes a finite group. The notation and terminology are standard, as in [1]. Recall that, for a class  $F$  of groups, a chief factor  $H/K$  of a group  $G$  is called  $F$ -central (see [2]) if  $[G/K](G/C_G(H/K)) \in F$ . The symbol  $Z_\infty^F(G)$  denotes the  $F$ -hypercenter of a group  $G$ , that is, the product of all such normal subgroups  $H$  of  $G$  whose  $G$ -chief factors are  $F$ -central. A subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is said to be  $F$ -hypercenter [3] in  $G$  if  $H \leq Z_\infty^F(G)$ . A class  $F$  of groups is called a formation if it is closed under a homomorphic image and a subdirect product. It is clear that every group  $G$  has a smallest normal subgroup (called  $F$ -residual of  $G$  and denoted by  $G^F$ ) with quotient in  $F$ . A formation  $F$  is said to be saturated if it contains every group  $G$  with  $G/\phi(G) \in F$ . We use  $U$  and  $S$  to denote the formations of all supersoluble groups and soluble groups, respectively. Recall that a subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is said to be complemented in  $G$  if  $G$  has a subgroup  $B$  such that  $G = AB$  and  $A \cap B = 1$  (see [4]). A subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is said to be  $F_h$ -normal [5] (or  $c$ -normal [6],  $F_c$ -normal [7] or  $F_n$ -supplemented [8]) in  $G$

if there exists a normal subgroup  $T$  of  $G$  such that  $HT$  is a normal Hall subgroup of  $G$ , and  $(H \cap T)H_G / H_G \leq Z_\infty^F(G/H_G)$ . By using the above subgroups, people have obtained some interesting results (see [5,7,8,9]). As a development of this topic, we now introduce the following new concept.

**Definition 1.1** Let  $F$  be a class of groups. A subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is said to be  $F_p$ -normal in  $G$  if there exists a normal subgroup  $T$  of  $G$  such that  $HT$  is a permutable Hall subgroup of  $G$ , and  $(H \cap T)H_G / H_G \leq Z_\infty^F(G/H_G)$ . Obviously, all normal subgroups,  $c$ -normal subgroups,  $F_n$ -supplemented subgroups and  $F_h$ -normal subgroups are all  $F_p$ -normal in  $G$  for any nonempty saturated formation  $F$ . However, the following example shows that the converse is not true. For example, if a subgroup  $H$  is  $c$ -normal in  $G$ , then there exists a normal subgroup  $K$  such that  $G = HK$  and  $(H \cap T)H_G / H_G = 1 \leq Z_\infty^F(G/H_G)$

However, the following example shows that the converse is not true.

**Example 1.2.** Let  $S_4$  be the symmetric group of degree 4,  $P$  be the Sylow 3-subgroup of  $S_4$  and  $Z$  be a group of order  $p$  with  $p \neq 2,3$ . Let  $G = Z \wr S_4 = [K]S_4$  be a regular wreath product, where  $K$  is the base group of the regular wreath product  $G$ . Then  $PK$  is a permutable Hall subgroup and  $P \cap K = 1$ . Hence  $P$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G$  for any nonempty saturated formation  $F$ . However, it is easy to see that  $P$  is not normal,  $c$ -normal,  $S_h$ -normal and is not  $U_c$ -supplemented in  $G$  (in fact, for example,  $G$  is the only normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $PG = G$  and  $P_G = 1$ ). However, since the unique minimal normal subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  is not cyclic,  $P \cap G = P \not\leq Z_\infty^S(G)$ . Thus,  $P$  is not  $S_h$ -normal in  $G$ .

In this paper, we study the properties of  $F_p$ -normal subgroups and use them to give some new characterizations of some classes of groups. Some previously known results are generalized.

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## II. PRELIMINARIES

A formation  $F$  is said to be  $S$ -closed (resp.  $S_n$ -closed) if it contains all subgroups (resp. all normal subgroups) of all its groups.

We cite the following lemmas which will be useful in the sequel.

*Lemma 2.1* [9, Lemma 2.1] Let  $G$  be a group and  $A \leq G$ . Let  $F$  be a non-empty saturated formation and  $Z = Z_\infty^F(G)$ .

Then

- (1) If  $A$  is normal in  $G$ , then  $AZ/A \leq Z_\infty^F(G/A)$ ;
- (2) If  $F$  is  $S$ -closed, then  $Z \cap A \leq Z_\infty^F(G)$ ;
- (3) If  $F$  is  $S_n$ -closed and  $A$  is normal in  $G$ , then  $Z \cap A \leq Z_\infty^F(G)$ ;
- (4) If  $G \in F$ , then  $Z = G$ .

*Lemma 2.2* Let  $F$  be a saturated formation containing  $U$  and  $G$  a group with a normal subgroup  $E$  such that  $G/E \in F$ . If  $\$E\$$  is cyclic, then  $G \in F$ .

*Proof.* We assume that  $E$  is a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $E \not\subseteq \phi(G)$ . Let  $M$  be a maximal subgroup such that  $G = [E]M$  and let  $C = C_G(E)$ . Then

$C \cap M = M_G \triangleleft G$ , and so we have

$G/M_G = [EM_G/M_G](M/M_G) \in F$ . Hence

$G \cong G/(E \cap M_G) \leq G/E \times G/M_G$  is supersoluble.

Thus  $G \in F$ .

This completes the proof.  $\square$

*Lemma 2.3* [14, Lemma 2.6] Let  $N$  be a soluble normal subgroup of  $G$ . If  $N \cap \phi(G) = 1$ , then  $F(N)$  is the direct product of minimal normal subgroups of  $G$  contained in  $N$ .

*Definition 2.4* Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . A subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  is said to be a supersoluble supplement of  $H$  in  $G$  if  $K$  is a supersoluble subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G = HK$ .

*Lemma 2.5* [5, Lemma 2.6] Suppose that  $H$  has a supersoluble supplement in  $G$ .

- (1) If  $N \triangleleft G$ , then  $HN/N$  has a supersoluble supplement in  $G/N$ .
- (2) If  $H \leq K \leq G$ , then  $H$  has a supersoluble supplement in  $K$ .

*Lemma 2.6* [5, Lemma 2.7] Suppose that  $G$  has a unique minimal normal subgroup  $N$  and  $\phi(G) = 1$ . If  $N$  is soluble, then there exist a maximal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  such

that  $G = [N]M$ , and  $N = O_p(G) = F(G) = C_G(N)$  for some prime  $p$ .

*Definition 2.7* Let  $F$  be a class of groups. A subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is said to be  $F_p$ -normal in  $G$  if there exists a normal subgroup  $T$  of  $G$  such that  $HT$  is a permutable Hall subgroup of  $G$ , and  $(H \cap T)H_G/H_G \leq Z_\infty^F(G/H_G)$ .

*Lemma 2.8* Let  $G$  be a group and  $H \leq K \leq G$ . Then

- (1)  $H$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G$  if and only if  $G$  has a normal subgroup  $T$  such that  $HT$  is a permutable Hall subgroup of  $G$ ,  $H_G \leq T$  and  $(H/H_G) \cap (T/H_G) \leq Z_\infty^F(G/H_G)$ .
- (2) Suppose that  $H$  is normal in  $G$ . Then  $K/H$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G/H$  if and only if  $K$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G$ .
- (3) Suppose that  $H$  is normal in  $G$ . Then for every  $F_p$ -normal subgroup  $E$  in  $G$  satisfying  $(|H|, |E|) = 1$ , the subgroup  $HE/H$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G/H$ .

(4) If  $H$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G$  and  $F$  is hereditary, then  $H$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $K$ .

(5) If  $K$  is normal in  $G$  and  $F$  is normally hereditary, then  $H$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $K$ .

(6) If  $G \in F$ , then every subgroup of  $G$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G$ .

*Proof.* (1) Assume that  $H$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G$  and let  $T$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $HT$  is a permutable Hall subgroup of  $G$  and

$$(H \cap T)H_G/H_G \leq Z_\infty^F(G/H_G). \text{ Let } T_0 = TH_G. \text{ Then } T_0 \text{ is normal in } G, HT_0 = HTH_G = HT \text{ is a permutable Hall subgroup of } G \text{ and}$$

$$(T_0/H_G) \cap (H/H_G) = (T_0 \cap H)/H_G$$

$$= (T \cap H)H_G/H_G \leq Z_\infty^F(G/H_G)$$

(2) First assume that  $K/H$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G/H$ . Then by (1),  $G/H$  has a normal subgroup  $T/H$  such that  $(K/H)(T/H)$  is a permutable Hall subgroup of  $G/H$ ,

$$(K/H)_{G/H} \leq T/H \text{ and}$$

$$(T/H)/(K/H)_{G/H} \cap (K/H)/(K \cap H)_{G/H}$$

$$\leq Z_\infty^F((G/H)/(K/H)_{G/H})$$

Then  $T$  is normal in  $G$  and  $KT$  is a permutable Hall subgroup of  $G$ . Besides, since

$$\begin{aligned} & (T/H)/(K/H)_{G/H} \cap (K/H)/(K/H)_{G/H} \\ &= (T/H)/(K_G/H) \cap (K/H)/(K_G/H) \\ &= ((T \cap K)/H)/(K_G/H) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$Z_\infty^F((G/H)/(K/H)_{G/H}) = Z_\infty^F((G/H)/(K_G/H)),$$

we have

$$(T \cap K)/K_G = (T/K_G) \cap (K/K_G) \leq Z_\infty^F(G/K_G).$$

Hence,  $K$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G$ . Analogously, one can show that if  $K$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G$ , then  $K/H$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G/H$ .

(3) Assume that  $E$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G$ . Then by (2),  $G$  has a normal subgroup  $T$  such that  $ET$  is a permutable Hall subgroup of  $G$ ,  $E_G \leq T$  and

$$(E/E_G) \cap (T/E_G) \leq Z_\infty^F(G/E_G).$$

We will prove that  $HE/H$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G/H$ . By (1), we only need to show that  $HE$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G$ . Since  $(|H|, |E|) = 1$ , we have  $H \leq T$  and so  $T \cap HE = H(T \cap E) \leq HZ$ ,

where  $Z/E_G = Z_\infty^F(G/E_G)$ . Hence from the  $G$ -isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} & HZ/HE_G = HE_G Z/HE_G \\ & \cong Z/(Z \cap HE_G) = Z/E_G(Z \cap H), \end{aligned}$$

we have  $HZ/HE_G \leq X/HE_G = Z_\infty^F(G/HE_G)$  and so  $(HE \cap T)/HE_G \leq X/HE_G$ . Let  $D = HE_G$ . By Lemma 2.3,

$$(X/HE_G)(D/HE_G)/(D/HE_G) \leq Z_\infty^F(G/HE_G).$$

Therefore,

$$(TD/D) \cap (HE/D) = D(T \cap HE)/D \leq Z_\infty^F(G/D)$$

and so  $HE$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $G$ .

(4) Let  $T$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $HT$  is a permutable Hall subgroup of  $G$ ,  $H_G \leq T$  and

$$(H/H_G) \cap (T/H_G) \leq Z_\infty^F(G/H_G).$$

Let  $T_1 = H_G(H \cap K)$ . Since  $K = K \cap HT = H(K \cap T)$ , we have  $K = HT_1$ . By Lemma 2.2(3),  $T_1$  is normal in  $K$ .

Besides,

$$\begin{aligned} & (T_1/H_G) \cap (H/H_G) \\ &= H_G(H \cap T \cap K)/H_G \\ &\leq Z/H_G = Z_\infty^F(G/H_G) \cap K/H_G. \end{aligned}$$

Assume that  $F$  is hereditary. Then by Lemma 2.3(2),

$$Z/H_G \leq Z_\infty^F(G/H_G).$$

$$(Z/H_G)(HK/H_G)/(HK/H_G)$$

$$\leq Z_\infty^F((K/H_G)/(H_K/H_G))$$

and so  $(T_1/H_K) \cap (H/H_K) \leq Z_\infty^F(K/H_K)$ . Hence,  $H$  is  $F_p$ -normal in  $K$

(5) See the proof of (4).

(6) Assume that  $G \in F$  and let  $H$  be an arbitrary subgroup of  $G$ . By Lemma 2.3(6),  $Z = Z_\infty^F(G) = G$ , and so by Lemma 2.3(1),  $Z_\infty^F(G/H_G) = G/H_G$ . Hence,  $H/H_G \leq Z_\infty^F(G/H_G)$ .

This completes the proof.  $\square$

*Lemma 2.9* Let  $R$  be a soluble minimal normal subgroup of  $G$ . If there exists a maximal subgroup  $R_1$  of  $R$  such that  $R_1$  is  $U_p$ -normal in  $G$ , then  $R$  is a group of prime order.

*Proof.* Assume that  $|R|$  is not a prime. Then  $R_1 \neq 1$ . Since  $R$  is a minimal normal subgroup  $R_1$  of  $R$ ,  $(R_1)_G = 1$ . Then, by hypothesis, there exists a normal subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such that  $R_1K$  is a permutable Hall subgroup of  $G$ ,  $R_1 \cap K \leq Z_\infty^F(G)$  and  $R_1K$  is subnormal in  $G$ . Hence  $R \leq R_1K$  since the minimality of  $R$ . Since  $R \cap K \triangleleft G$ ,  $R \cap K = 1$  or  $R \cap K = R$ . If  $R \cap K = 1$ , then  $R = R \cap R_1K = R_1(R \cap K) = R_1$ , a contradiction. If  $R \cap K = R$ , then  $R \leq K$ . Hence,  $R_1 \leq K$  and therefore,  $1 \neq R_1 = R_1 \cap K \leq Z_\infty^U(G)$ . Thus  $1 \neq R_1 \leq Z_\infty^U(G) \cap R \triangleleft G$ . It follows, from the minimality of  $R$ , that  $R \leq Z_\infty^U(G)$ . Consequently,  $|R|$  is a prime.

The final contradiction completes the proof.  $\square$

### III. CHARACTERIZATION OF SUPERSOLUBLE GROUPS

*Theorem 3.1* Let  $F$  be a saturated formation containing  $U$ . Then  $G \in F$  if and only if there exists a soluble normal subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  such that  $G/H \in F$ , and every maximal subgroup of every Sylow subgroup of  $F(H)$ , which has no supersoluble supplement in  $G$ , is  $U_p$ -normal in  $G$ .

*Proof.* The necessity part is obvious. We only need to prove the sufficiency part. Suppose that the assertion is false and let  $G$  be a contraexample with  $|G||H|$  minimal. Let  $P$  be an

arbitrary Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $F(H)$ . Since  $P$  char  $F(H)$  char  $H \triangleleft G$ . We proceed the proof via the following steps.

Step 1.  $\phi(G) = 1$ .

If  $\phi(G) \neq 1$ , then  $\phi(G) \leq F(H)$ . Let  $R = \phi(G)$ . Clearly,  $(G/R)/(H/R) \cong G/H \in F$ . By [10, III, Theorem 3.5], we have that  $F(H/R) = F(H)/R$ . Let  $P/R$  be a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $F(H)/R$ , and  $P_1/R$  be a maximal subgroup of  $P/R$ . Then  $P_1$  is a maximal subgroup of  $P$ . By hypothesis,  $P_1$  either has supersoluble supplement in  $G$  or is  $U_p$ -normal in  $G$ . It follows from Lemmas 2.5(1) and 2.8(2),  $P_1/R$  either has supersoluble supplement in  $G/R$  or is  $U_p$ -normal in  $G/R$ . Now Let  $Q/R$  be a maximal subgroup of some Sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $F(H)/R$ , where  $q \neq p$ . Then  $Q = Q_1R$ , where  $Q_1$  is a maximal subgroup of the Sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $F(H)$ . By hypothesis,  $Q_1$  either has supersoluble supplement in  $G$  or is  $U_p$ -normal in  $G$ . It follows from Lemmas 2.5(1) and 2.8(3), that  $Q_1R/R$  either has supersoluble supplement in  $G/R$  or is  $U_p$ -normal in  $G/R$ . Hence  $(G/R, H/R)$  satisfies the hypothesis. The minimal choice of  $(G, H)$  implies that  $G/R \in F$ . Since  $G/\phi(G) = G/R$  and  $F$  is a saturated formation, we have  $G \in F$ , a contradiction.

Step 2.  $P = Z_1 \times Z_2 \times \dots \times Z_m$ , where every  $Z_i$  is a normal subgroup of order  $p$  of  $G$ .

Since  $P \triangleleft G$ , by Step 1,  $P \cap \phi(G) = 1$ . Hence by Lemma 2.3,  $P = Z_1 \times Z_2 \times \dots \times Z_m$ , where all  $Z_i$  are minimal normal subgroups of  $G$ . Next, we prove that all  $Z_i$  are of prime order  $p$ .

Assume that  $|Z_i| > p$  for some  $i$ . Without loss of generality, let  $|Z_1| > p$ . Let  $Z_1^*$  be a maximal subgroup of  $Z_1$ . Then  $Z_1^* \times Z_2 \times \dots \times Z_m = P_1$  is a maximal subgroup of a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P$  of  $F(H)$ . Set  $T = Z_2 \times \dots \times Z_m$ , then  $(P_1)_G = T$ . If  $P_1$  has a supersoluble supplement  $K$  in  $G$ , then  $G = P_1K = Z_1^*Z_2 \dots Z_mK = Z_1^*TK$ . Since  $T \triangleleft G$ ,  $TK$  is a subgroup of  $G$  and so  $|G:TK| \leq |Z_1^*| < |Z_1|$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} (Z_1 \cap TK)^G &= (Z_1 \cap TK)^{Z_1^*TK} \\ &= (Z_1 \cap TK)^{TK} = Z_1 \cap TK, \end{aligned}$$

we have  $Z_1 \cap TK \triangleleft G$ . Hence, we have either  $Z_1 \cap TK = 1$  or  $Z_1 \cap TK = Z_1$ . If  $Z_1 \cap TK = 1$ , then we have  $|G:TK| = |Z_1| > |Z_1^*|$ , a contradiction.

If  $Z_1 \cap TK = Z_1$ , then  $Z_1 \leq TK$  and so  $G = TK$ . Since  $T \triangleleft G$ , then  $K \cong G/T = TK/T = K/T \cap K$  is supersoluble as  $K$  is a supersoluble supplement and  $Z_1 \cong Z_1T/T$  is chief factor of  $G/T$ . It follows that  $|Z_1| = |Z_1T/T| = p$ , which is a contradiction. Thus  $P_1$  is  $U_p$ -normal in  $G$ , and so by Lemma 2.8(1), there exists a normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$  such that  $(P_1)_G \leq N$ ,  $P_1N$  is a permutable Hall subgroup of  $G$ , and  $(P_1 \cap N)/(P_1)_G \leq Z_\infty^U(G/(P_1)_G)$ . Hence  $P_1N = Z_1^*Z_2 \dots Z_mN = Z_1^*(P_1)_G N = Z_1^*N$ . We only think the following two cases.

Case 1.  $Z_1^* \cap N = 1$ .

In this case,  $(Z_1^*)_G \leq Z_1^* \cap N$  and so  $(Z_1)_G = 1 \leq N \triangleleft Z_\infty^F(G/(Z_1^*)_G)$ ,  $Z_1^N = P_1N$  is a permutable subgroup of  $G$ , which implies that  $Z_1^*$  is  $U_p$ -normal in  $G$ . Hence By Lemma 2.9,  $Z_1$  is a cyclic group of order  $p$ , a contradiction.

Case 2.  $Z_1^* \cap N \neq 1$ .

In this case,  $1 < Z_1 \cap N \triangleleft G$  since  $Z_1$  and  $N$  are both normal in  $G$ . By the minimality of  $Z_1$ , we have either  $Z_1 \cap N = 1$  or  $Z_1 \cap N = Z_1$ . We assume that  $Z_1 \cap N = 1$ . Hence  $Z_1^* \cap N = 1$ , a contradiction. Hence  $Z_1 \cap N = Z_1$  and so  $Z_1 \leq N$ . Thus  $P_1N = Z_1^*N = N$ . Consequently,  $P_1 \leq N$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} P_1/(P_1)_G &= (P_1 \cap N)/(P_1)_G \leq Z_\infty^F(G/(P_1)_G) \cap P/(P_1)_G \\ &= P_1/(P_1)_G, \text{ then } Z_1^* = 1, \text{ which contradicts} \\ &Z_1^* \cap N \neq 1. \text{ Hence } (P_1)_G < P_1 \text{ and so} \\ 1 &\neq P_1/(P_1)_G = (P_1 \cap N)/(P_1)_G \\ &\leq Z_\infty^F(G/(P_1)_G) \cap P_1/(P_1)_G. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $P = Z_1 \times \dots \times Z_m = Z_1T = Z_1(P_1)_G$ , then we have that  $P/(P_1)_G = P/P_1 \cong Z_1$  and  $P/(P_1)_G$  is a chief factor of

$G$  because of the minimality of  $Z_1$ . This implies that  $Z_\infty^F(G/(P_1)_G) \cap P/(P_1)_G$ , and thereby,  $P/(P_1)_G \leq Z_\infty^F(G/(P_1)_G)$ . It means that  $|P/(P_1)_G| = p$ . Therefore  $P_1/(P_1)_G = 1$ , which contradicts  $P_1/(P_1)_G \neq 1$ .

Step 3.  $P = F(H)$ .

Obviously,  $P \leq F(H)$ . Assume that  $P < F(H)$ , then since  $F(H)$  is nilpotent, there exists a Sylow  $q$ -subgroup  $Q$  of  $F(H)$  and  $Q \triangleleft G$ . From Step 2,  $P = Z_1 \times \dots \times Z_m$  and  $P = R_1 \times \dots \times R_s$ , where  $Z_i, R_j$  are a normal subgroup of  $G$  of order  $p, q$  respectively. Obviously,  $F(H)/Z_i \leq F(H/Z_i)$  and  $F(H)/R_j \leq F(H/R_j)$ . From Step 1, we have  $G/Z_i \in F$  and  $G/R_j \in F$ . It follows that  $G/1 \cong G/Z_i \times G/R_j$ , a contradiction.

Step 4.  $G/F(H) \in F$ .

From Steps 2 and 3,  $P = F(H) = Z_1 \times Z_2 \times \dots \times Z_m$ , where every  $Z_i$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  of order  $p$ . Since  $G/C_G(Z_i)$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(Z_i)$ ,  $G/C_G(Z_i)$  is cyclic and so it lies in  $U$  for each  $i$ . It follows that  $G/\cap_{i=1}^m C_G(Z_i) \in U$ . Obviously,  $C_G(F(H)) = \cap_{i=1}^m C_G(Z_i)$ . Hence,  $G/C_G(F(H)) \in U \subseteq F$ . Consequently,  $G/(H \cap C_G(F(H))) = G/C_H(F(H)) \in F$ . Since  $F(H)$  is abelian and  $H$  is soluble, we have that  $F(H) \leq C_G(F(H)) \leq F(H)$ . Thus,  $F(H) = C_G(F(H)) = P$  and so  $G/F(H) \in F$ .

Step 5. If  $K$  is a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$  contained in  $H$ , then  $G/K \in F$ .

Since  $H$  is soluble, then  $K \leq F(H)$ . By Lemmas 2.5(1) and 2.8(2), we have that every maximal subgroup of  $F(H)/K$  either has a supersoluble supplement in  $G/K$  or is  $U_p$ -normal in  $G/K$  and  $(G/K)/(H/K) \in F$ . It follows that  $(G/K, F(H)/K)$  satisfies the hypothesis. The minimal choice of  $(G, H)$  implies that  $G/K \in F$ .

Step 6. Final contradiction.

Since  $F$  is a saturated formation, then by Steps 2 and 4, we have that  $F(H)$  is the unique minimal normal subgroup of  $G$  contained in  $H$ , and  $F(H) = R_1$  is a cyclic group of order  $p$ . Hence by Step 4 and Lemma 2.2,  $G \in F$ , a contradiction. The final contradiction completes the proof.  $\square$

Corollary 3.2 [5] Let  $F$  be a saturated formation containing  $U$ . Then  $G \in F$  if and only if there exists a soluble normal subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  such that  $G/H \in F$ , and every maximal subgroup of every Sylow subgroup of  $F(H)$ , which has no supersoluble supplement in  $G$ , is  $U_p$ -normal in  $G$ .

Corollary 3.3 [12] Let  $G$  be a soluble group having a normal subgroup  $H$  such that  $G/H$  is supersoluble. If every maximal subgroup of any Sylow subgroup of  $F(H)$  is either normal in  $G$  or has a supersoluble supplement in  $G$ , then  $G$  is supersoluble.

Corollary 3.4 [14] Let  $G$  be a group. If  $H$  is a soluble normal subgroup of  $G$  with supersoluble quotient  $G/H$  and all maximal subgroups of all Sylow subgroups of  $F(H)$  are  $c$ -normal in  $G$ , then  $G$  is supersoluble.

Corollary 3.5 [15] If  $G$  is a soluble group and all maximal subgroups of Sylow subgroups of  $F(G)$  are normal in  $G$ , then  $G$  is supersoluble.

Corollary 3.6 [16] Let  $F$  be a saturated formation containing  $U$ . Suppose that  $G$  is a group with a soluble normal subgroup  $H$  such that  $G/H \in F$ . If all maximal subgroups of any Sylow subgroup of  $F(H)$  are  $c$ -normal in  $G$ , then  $G \in F$ .

#### IV. CHARACTERIZATION OF SOLUBLE GROUPS

Theorem 4.1 Let  $p$  be the smallest prime dividing  $|G|$ , and let  $P$  be some Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P$ . Then group  $G$  is soluble if and only if every maximal subgroup of  $P$  is  $U_p$ -normal in  $G$ .

Proof. Let  $P$  be an arbitrary Sylow subgroup of  $G$ . If  $G$  is soluble, then  $G/P_G$  is also soluble and so

$Z_\infty^S(G/P_G) = G/P_G$ . Hence, the necessity part obviously holds. We now prove the sufficiency part. Suppose that the assertion is false, and let  $G$  be a counterexample of minimal order. Then by the well-known Feit-Thompson's theorem, we have  $p=2$ . Now, we proceed the proof by the following steps.

Step 1.  $O_2(G) = 1$ .

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Let  $N = O_2(G) \neq 1$ . Obviously,  $P/N$  is a Sylow 2-subgroup of  $G/N$ . Let  $M/N$  be a maximal subgroup of  $P/N$ . Then  $M$  is a maximal subgroup of  $P$  and so  $M$  is Up-normal in  $G$  by hypothesis. By Lemma 2.8(2),  $M/N$  is Up-normal in  $G/N$ . The minimality of  $G$  implies that  $G/N$  is soluble. It follows that  $G$  is soluble, a contradiction.

Step 2.  $O_2(G) = 1$ .

Let  $D = O_2(G) \neq 1$ . Then  $PD/D$  is a Sylow 2-subgroup of  $G/D$ . Let  $M/D$  be a maximal subgroup of  $PD/D$ . Then there exists a maximal subgroup  $P_1$  of  $P$  such that  $M = P_1D$  and so  $P_1$  is Up-normal in  $G$  by hypothesis. By Lemma 2.8(3),  $M/D$  is Up-normal in  $G/D$ . Hence  $G/D$  is soluble by the minimal choice of  $G$ , and so  $G$  is soluble, a contradiction.

Step 3. Final contradiction.

Let  $P_1$  be a maximal subgroup of  $P$ . By the hypothesis, there exists a normal subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such that  $P_1K$  is a permutable Hall subgroup of  $G$  and  $(P_1 \cap K)(P_1)_G / (P_1)_G \leq Z_\infty^S(G / (P_1)_G)$ .

By Steps 1 and 2, we have  $(P_1)_G = 1$  and  $Z_\infty^S(G) = 1$ . This induces that  $P_1 \cap K = 1$ . Since  $P_1K$  is a permutable Hall subgroup of  $G$ ,  $|K_2| = 2$ , where  $K_2$  is some Sylow 2-subgroup of  $K$ . By [Theorem 10.1.9]{robin}, we see that  $K$  is 2-nilpotent, and so  $K$  has a normal 2-complement  $K_2$ . Since  $K_2 \text{ char } K \triangleleft G$ ,  $K_2 \triangleleft G$ .

Hence, by Step 2,  $K_2 = 1$ , and so  $|K| = 2$ , which contradicts Step 1.

This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.2** Let  $M$  be a maximal subgroup of  $G$  with  $|G : M| = r$ , where  $r$  is a prime. Let  $p$  be the smallest prime dividing  $|M|$ . If there exists a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P$  of  $M$  such that every maximal subgroup of  $P$  is Sp-normal in  $G$ , then  $G$  is soluble.

**Proof.** By Feit-Thompson's theorem, we may assume that  $2 \nmid |G|$ . If  $r = 2$ , then  $M$  is normal in  $G$ . By Lemma 2.8(4), every maximal subgroup of  $P$  is Sp-normal in  $M$ . Hence, by Theorem 4.1,  $M$  is soluble. It follows that  $G$  is soluble. If  $r \neq 2$ , then  $p = 2$ , and so  $P$  is a Sylow 2-subgroup of  $G$ . By Theorem 4.1, we have that  $G$  is soluble.

This completes the proof.  $\square$