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On *s*-semipermutable or *s*-quasinormally Embedded Subgroups of Finite Groups

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Abstract. Suppose that *G* is a finite group and *H* is a subgroup of *G*. *H* is said to be *s*-semipermutable in *G* if $HG_p = G_pH$ for any Sylow *p*-subgroup G_p of *G* with (p, |H|) = 1; *H* is said to be *s*-quasinormally embedded in *G* if for each prime *p* dividing the order of *H*, a Sylow *p*-subgroup of *H* is also a Sylow *p*-subgroup of some *s*-quasinormal subgroup of *G*. In every non-cyclic Sylow subgroup *P* of *G* we fix some subgroup *D* satisfying 1 < |D| < |P| and study the structure of *G* under the assumption that every subgroup *H* of *P* with |H| = |D| is either *s*-semipermutable or *s*-quasinormally embedded in *G*. Some recent results are generalized and unified.

1 Introduction

All groups considered in this paper are finite. We use conventional notions and notation. *G* always means a group, |G| is the order of *G*, $\pi(G)$ denotes the set of all primes dividing |G| and G_p is a Sylow *p*-subgroup of *G* for some $p \in \pi(G)$.

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 any 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.

A subgroup *H* of *G* is called *s*-quasinormal (or *s*-permutable, π -quasinormal) in *G* provided *H* permutes with all Sylow subgroups of *G*, *i.e.*, *HP* = *PH* for any Sylow subgroup *P* of *G*. This concept was introduced by Kegel in [6] and has been studied extensively by Deskins [2] and Schmidt [11]. More recently, Zhang and Wang [15] generalized *s*-quasinormal subgroups to *s*-semipermutable subgroups. A subgroup *H* is said to be *s*-semipermutable in *G* if $HG_p = G_pH$ for any Sylow *p*-subgroup G_p of *G* with (p, |H|) = 1. Clearly, every *s*-quasinormal subgroup of *G* is an *s*-semipermutable subgroup of *G*, but the converse does not hold. Many authors consider minimal or maximal subgroups of a Sylow subgroup of a group when investigating the structure of *G*, such as in [1, 2] and [5–15], *etc.* For example, in [5] Han proves the following result.

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Theorem 1.1 (Han) Let p be a prime dividing the order of a group G satisfying (|G|, p - 1) = 1 and P a Sylow p-subgroup of G. Suppose there exists a nontrivial subgroup D of P such that 1 < |D| < |P| and every subgroup H of P with order |H| = |D| or with order 2|D| (if P is a nonabelian 2-group and |P:D| > 2) is s-semipermutable in G. Then G is p-nilpotent.

As another generalization of the *s*-quasinormality, Ballester-Bolinches *et al.* [1] introduce the following concept: a subgroup H of G is said to be *s*-quasinormally *embedded* in G if for each prime p dividing the order of H, a Sylow p-subgroup of H is also a Sylow p-subgroup of some *s*-quasinormal subgroup of G. In [14], Wei and Guo provide a result as follows.

Theorem 1.2 (Wei and Guo) Let p be the smallest prime dividing the order of a group G and P a Sylow p-subgroup of G. Then G is p-nilpotent if and only if there is a subgroup D of P such that 1 < |D| < |P| and every subgroup H of P with order |H| = |D| or with order 2|D| (if P is a nonabelian 2-group and |P : D| > 2) is s-quasinormally embedded in G.

The aim of this article is to unify and improve the above theorems using *s*-semipermutable and *s*-quasinormally embedded subgroups. Our main theorem is as follows.

Theorem 3.5 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 $F^*(E)$ has a subgroup D such that 1 < |D| < |P| and every subgroup H of P with order |H| = |D| or with order 2|D| (if P is a nonabelian 2-group and |P:D| > 2) is either s-semipermutable or s-quasinormally embedded in G, where $F^*(E)$ is the generalized Fitting subgroup of E. Then $G \in \mathcal{F}$.

2 Basic Definitions and Preliminary Results

In this section, we collect some known results that are useful later.

Lemma 2.1 Suppose that H is an s-semipermutable subgroup of G. Then the following assertions hold.

- (i) If $H \le K \le G$, then H is s-semipermutable in K.
- (ii) Let N be a normal subgroup of G. If H is a p-group for some prime $p \in \pi(G)$, then HN/N is s-semipermutable in G/N.
- (iii) If $H \leq O_p(G)$, then H is s-permutable in G.

Proof (i) is [15, Property 1], (ii) is [15, Property 2], and (iii) is [15, Lemma 3].

Lemma 2.2 ([1]) Suppose that U is s-quasinormally embedded in a group G, and let $H \leq G$ and $K \leq G$. Then the following assertions hold.

(i) If $U \leq H$, then U is s-quasinormally embedded in H.

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- (ii) UK is s-quasinormally embedded in G and UK/K is s-quasinormally embedded in G/K.
- (iii) If $K \leq H$ and H/K is s-quasinormally embedded in G/K, then H is s-quasinormally embedded in G.

Lemma 2.3 ([13]) Let G be a group, K an s-quasinormal subgroup of G and P a Sylow p-subgroup of K, where p is a prime. If either $P \leq O_p(G)$ or $K_G = 1$, then P is s-quasinormal in G.

Lemma 2.4 ([11]) If P is an s-quasinormal p-subgroup of a group G for some prime p, then $N_G(P) \ge O^p(G)$.

Lemma 2.5 ([13]) *Let G be a group and p a prime dividing* |G| *with* (|G|, p-1) = 1.

- (i) If N is normal in G of order p, then $N \leq Z(G)$.
- (ii) If G has cyclic Sylow p-subgroup, then G is p-nilpotent.
- (iii) If $M \leq G$ and [G:M] = p, then $M \leq G$.

Lemma 2.6 ([12]) Let G be a group and P a Sylow p-subgroup of G, where p is the smallest prime dividing |G|. If every maximal subgroup of P is s-semipermutable in G, then G is p-nilpotent.

Lemma 2.7 ([3, III, 5.2, and IV, 5.4]) Suppose that p is a prime and G is a minimal non-p-nilpotent group, i.e., G is not a p-nilpotent group but whose proper subgroups are all p-nilpotent.

- (i) *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 $q \neq p$.
- (ii) $P/\Phi(P)$ is a minimal normal subgroup of $G/\Phi(P)$.
- (iii) The exponent of P is p or 4.

Lemma 2.8 ([7]) *Let H be a nilpotent subgroup of a group G. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) *H* is s-quasinormal in *G*;
- (ii) $H \leq F(G)$ and H is s-quasinormally embedded in G.

Lemma 2.9 Let N be an elementary abelian normal p-subgroup of a group G. If there exists a subgroup D in N such that 1 < |D| < |N| and every subgroup H of N with |H| = |D| is s-semipermutable in G, then there exists a maximal subgroup M of N such that M is normal in G.

Lemma 2.10 ([3, VI, 4.10]) Assume that A and B are two subgroups of a group G and $G \neq AB$. If $AB^g = B^g A$ holds for any $g \in G$, then either A or B is contained in a nontrivial normal subgroup of G.

The generalized Fitting subgroup $F^*(G)$ of *G* is the unique maximal normal quasinilpotent subgroup of *G*. Its definition and important properties can be found in [4, X, 13]. We would like to give the following basic facts we will use in our proof. *Lemma* 2.11 ([4, X, 13]) *Let* G *be a group and* M *a subgroup of* G.

- (i) If M is normal in G, then $F^*(M) \leq F^*(G)$.
- (ii) $F^*(G) \neq 1$ if $G \neq 1$; in fact, $F^*(G)/F(G) = \text{Soc}(F(G)C_G(F(G))/F(G))$;

(iii) $F^*(F^*(G)) = F^*(G) \ge F(G)$; if $F^*(G)$ is solvable, then $F^*(G) = F(G)$.

Lemma 2.12 ([10]) 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 $F^*(E)$ has a subgroup D such that 1 < |D| < |P| and every subgroup H of P with order |H| = |D| or with order 2|D| (if P is a nonabelian 2-group and |P:D| > 2) is weakly s-permutable in G, where $F^*(E)$ is the generalized Fitting subgroup of E. Then $G \in \mathcal{F}$.

3 Main Results

In this section, we will prove our main results.

Theorem 3.1 Let p be the smallest prime dividing the order of a group G and P be a Sylow p-subgroup of G. If every maximal subgroup of P is either s-semipermutable or s-quasinormally embedded in G, then G is p-nilpotent.

Proof Assume that the theorem is not true and let *G* be a counterexample of minimal order. We derive a contradiction in several steps.

By Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2, the following two steps are obvious.

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

Step 2. *G* has a unique minimal normal subgroup *N* and *G*/*N* is *p*-nilpotent. Moreover, $\Phi(G) = 1$.

Step 3. $O_p(G) = 1$: If $O_p(G) \neq 1$, then step 2 yields $N \leq O_p(G)$ and $\Phi(O_p(G)) \leq \Phi(G) = 1$. Therefore, *G* has a maximal subgroup *M* such that G = MN and $G/N \cong M$ is *p*-nilpotent. Since $O_p(G) \cap M$ is normalized by *N* and *M*, we conclude that $O_p(G) \cap M$ is normal in *G*. The uniqueness of *N* yields $N = O_p(G)$. Clearly, $P = N(P \cap M)$. Furthermore, $P \cap M < P$, and, thus there exists a maximal subgroup P_1 of *P* such that $P \cap M \leq P_1$. Hence, $P = NP_1$. By hypothesis, P_1 is *s*-semipermutable or *s*-quasinormally embedded in *G*. Suppose first P_1 is *s*-semipermutable in *G*. Then P_1M_q is a group for $q \neq p$. Hence

$$P_1\langle M_p, M_q | q \in \pi(M), q \neq p \rangle = P_1 M$$

is a group. Then $P_1M = M$ or *G* by maximality of *M*. If $P_1M = G$, then

$$P = P \cap P_1 M = P_1 (P \cap M) = P_1,$$

a contradiction. If $P_1M = M$, then $P_1 \leq M$. Therefore, $P_1 \cap N = 1$ and N is of prime order. Then the p-nilpotency of G/N implies the p-nilpotency of G, a contradiction. Therefore, we may assume that P_1 is s-quasinormally embedded in G. Then there is an s-quasinormal subgroup K of G such that $P_1 \in \text{Syl}_p(K)$. If $K_G \neq 1$, then $N \leq K$. Since N is a normal p-subgroup of K and $P_1 \in \text{Syl}_p(K)$, we have that $N \leq P_1$, a contradiction. Hence $K_G = 1$, and so by Lemma 2.3 P_1 is s-quasinormal in G. By

Lemma 2.4, $O^p(G) \le N_G(P_1)$, $P_1 \le G$. Then $N \cap P_1 = 1$ and |N| = p. By Lemma 2.5, $N \le Z(G)$ and hence *G* is *p*-nilpotent, a contradiction.

By Step 1 and Step 3, we have the following.

Step 4. There is no *p*-nilpotent minimal normal subgroup of *G*.

Step 5. The final contradiction: If $N \cap P \leq \Phi(P)$, then N is p-nilpotent by Tate's theorem [3, Satz 4.7, p. 431], contrary to Step 4. Consequently, there is a maximal subgroup P_1 of P such that $P = (N \cap P)P_1$. By the hypothesis, if P_1 is s-quasinormally embedded in G, there is an s-quasinormal subgroup K of G such that $P_1 \in \text{Syl}_p(K)$. If $K_G \neq 1$, then $N \leq K$ and $P_1 \cap N \in \text{Syl}_p(N)$. Clearly, $P \cap N \in \text{Syl}_p(N)$. Thus $P \cap N \leq P_1 \cap N \leq P_1$, contrary to the choice of P_1 . Therefore, $K_G = 1$, P_1 is s-quasinormal in G by Lemma 2.3, then $P_1 \leq G$. This leads to $P_1 = 1$ and |P| = p, G is p-nilpotent by Lemma 2.5(ii), a contradiction. Now we can assume that all maximal subgroups of P are s-semipermutable in G. Then G is p-nilpotent by Lemma 2.6, a contradiction.

Theorem 3.2 Let p be the smallest prime dividing the order of a group G and P be a Sylow p-subgroup of G. If P has a subgroup D such that 1 < |D| < |P| and every subgroup H of P with order |H| = |D| or with order 2|D| (if P is a nonabelian 2-group and |P:D| > 2) is either s-semipermutable or s-quasinormally embedded in G, then G is p-nilpotent.

Proof Suppose that the theorem is false and let *G* be a counterexample of minimal order. We will derive a contradiction in several steps.

Step 1. $O_{p'}(G) = 1$: If $O_{p'}(G) \neq 1$, Lemmas 2.1(ii) and 2.1(iii) guarantee that $G/O_{p'}(G)$ satisfies the hypotheses of the theorem. Thus $G/O_{p'}(G)$ is *p*-nilpotent by the choice of *G*. Then *G* is *p*-nilpotent, a contradiction.

Step 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(i), $G_1 = [P_1]Q$, where $P_1 \in \text{Syl}_p(G_1)$ and $Q \in \text{Syl}_q(G_1)$, $p \neq q$. Let $X/\Phi(P_1)$ be a subgroup of $P_1/\Phi(P_1)$ of order $p, x \in X \setminus \Phi(P_1)$ and $L = \langle x \rangle$. Then *L* is of order *p* or 4 by Lemma 2.7(ii). By the hypotheses, *L* is either *s*-semipermutable or *s*-quasinormally embedded in *G*, thus in G_1 by Lemmas 2.1(i) and 2.2(i). First, suppose that $L = \langle x \rangle$ is *s*-quasinormally embedded in G_1 for every element $x \in P_1$, then by Lemma 2.8 $\langle x \rangle$ is *s*-quasinormal in G_1 . Thus $LQ \leq G_1$. Therefore, $LQ = L \times Q$. Then $G_1 = P_1 \times Q$, a contradiction. Therefore, $L = \langle x \rangle$ is *s*-semipermutable in G_1 for every element $x \in P_1$. Thus $LQ \leq G_1$. Therefore, $LQ = L \times Q$. Then $G_1 = P_1 \times Q$, a contradiction.

Step 3. |P:D| > p: This follows from Theorem 3.1.

Step 4. *P* has a subgroup *D* such that 1 < |D| < |P| and every subgroup *H* of *P* with order |H| = |D| or with order 2|D| (if *P* is a nonabelian 2-group and |P:D| > 2) is *s*-semipermutable in *G*: Assume that $H \le P$ such that |H| = |D| and *H* is *s*-quasinormally embedded in *G*. Then there exists a normal subgroup *M* such that |G:M| = p and G = MH. Since |P:D| > p by Step 3, *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*.

Step 5. If $N \le P$ and N is minimal normal in G, then $|N| \le |D|$: Suppose that |N| > |D|. Since $N \le O_p(G)$, N is elementary abelian. By Lemma 2.9, N has a maximal subgroup which is normal in G, contrary to the minimality of N.

Step 6. Suppose that $N \leq P$ and N is minimal normal in G. Then G/N is p-nilpotent: If |N| < |D|, G/N satisfies the hypotheses of the theorem by Lemma 2.1(ii). Thus G/N is p-nilpotent by the minimal choice of G. So we may suppose that |N| = |D| by Step 5. We will show that every cyclic subgroup of P/N of order p or order 4 (when P/N is a non-abelian 2-group) is s-semipermutable in G/N. Let $K \leq P$ and |K/N| = p. By Step 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 s-semipermutable in G by the hypotheses, K/N = LN/N is s-semipermutable in G/N by Lemma 2.1(ii). 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|. By the hypotheses, L is s-semipermutable in G/N satisfies the hypotheses. By the minimal choice of G, G/N is p-nilpotent.

Step 7. $O_p(G) = 1$: Suppose that $O_p(G) \neq 1$. Take a minimal normal subgroup *N* of *G* contained in $O_p(G)$. By Step 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 $O_p(G)$ 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. 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 $M_p = P \cap M$. Then $NSM_{p'}$ is a subgroup of *G* with index *p*. Since *p* is the minimal prime in $\pi(G)$, we know that $NSM_{p'}$ is normal in *G*. Now by Step 3 and the induction, we have $NSM_{p'}$ is *p*-nilpotent. Therefore, *G* is *p*-nilpotent, a contradiction.

Step 8. The minimal normal subgroup *L* of *G* is not *p*-nilpotent: If *L* is *p*-nilpotent, then it follows from the fact that $L_{p'}$ char $L \triangleleft G$ that $L_{p'} \leq O_{p'}(G) = 1$. Thus *L* is a *p*-group. Whence $L \leq O_p(G) = 1$ by Step 7, a contradiction.

Step 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 Step 8. Hence $|L|_p \le |D|$. Take $P_* \ge L \cap P$ such that $|P_*| = p|D|$. Hence P_* is a Sylow *p*-subgroup of P_*L . Since every maximal subgroup of P_* is of order |D|, every maximal subgroup of P_* is *s*-semipermutable in *G* by hypotheses, thus in P_*L by Lemma 2.1(i). Now applying Theorem 3.1, we get P_*L is *p*-nilpotent. Therefore, *L* is *p*-nilpotent, contrary to Step 8.

Step 10. The final contradiction: Suppose that *H* is a subgroup of *P* with |H| = |D| and *Q* is a Sylow *q*-subgroup with $q \neq p$. Then $HQ^g = Q^g H$ for any $g \in G$ by the hypotheses that *H* is *s*-semipermutable in *G*. Since *G* is simple by Step 9, G = HQ from Lemma 2.10, the final contradiction.

The following corollary is immediate from Theorem 3.2.

Corollary 3.3 Suppose that G is a group. If every non-cyclic Sylow subgroup of G has a subgroup D such that 1 < |D| < |P| and every subgroup H of P with order |H| = |D| or with order 2|D| (if P is a nonabelian 2-group and |P : D| > 2) is either s-semipermutable or s-quasinormally embedded in G, then G has a Sylow tower of supersolvable type.

Theorem 3.4 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 of E has a subgroup D such that 1 < |D| < |P| and every subgroup H of P with order |H| = |D| or with order 2|D| (if P is a nonabelian 2-group and |P : D| > 2) is either s-semipermutable or s-quasinormally embedded in G. Then $G \in \mathcal{F}$.

Proof Suppose that *P* is a non-cyclic Sylow *p*-subgroup of *E*, $\forall p \in \pi(E)$. Since *P* has a subgroup *D* such that 1 < |D| < |P| and every subgroup *H* of *P* with order |H| = |D| or with order 2|D| (if *P* is a nonabelian 2-group and |P : D| > 2) is either *s*-semipermutable or *s*-quasinormally embedded in *G* by hypotheses, thus in *E* by Lemmas 2.1(i) and 2.2(i). Applying Corollary 3.3, we conclude 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 $Q \leq G$. 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 *s*-permutable in *G* by Lemmas 2.1(iii) and 2.8. Since *s*-permutable implies weakly *s*-permutable and $F^*(Q) = Q$ by Lemma 2.11, we get $G \in \mathcal{F}$ by applying Lemma 2.12.

Theorem 3.5 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 $F^*(E)$ has a subgroup D such that 1 < |D| < |P| and every subgroup H of P with order |H| = |D| or with order 2|D| (if P is a nonabelian 2-group and |P:D| > 2) is either s-semipermutable or s-quasinormally embedded 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.

Step 1. Every proper normal subgroup *N* of *G* containing $F^*(E)$ (if it exists) is supersolvable: If *N* is a proper normal subgroup of *G* containing $F^*(E)$, then $N/N \cap E \cong NE/E$ is supersolvable. By Lemma 2.11(iii), $F^*(E) = F^*(F^*(E)) \leq F^*(E \cap N) \leq F^*(E)$, so $F^*(E \cap N) = F^*(E)$. For any Sylow subgroup *P* of $F^*(E \cap N) = F^*(E)$, *P* has a subgroup *D* such that 1 < |D| < |P| and every subgroup *H* of *P* with order |H| = |D| or with order 2|D| (if *P* is a nonabelian 2-group and |P:D| > 2) is either *s*-semipermutable or *s*-quasinormally embedded in *G* by hypotheses, thus in *N*

by Lemmas 2.1(i) and 2.2 (i). So *N* and $N \cap H$ satisfy the hypotheses of the theorem, the minimal choice of *G* implies that *N* is supersolvable.

Step 2. E = G: If E < G, then $E \in \mathcal{U}$ by Step 1. Hence $F^*(E) = F(E)$ by Lemma 2.11. It follows that every Sylow subgroup of $F^*(E)$ is normal in *G*. By Lemmas 2.1(iii) and 2.8, every non-cyclic Sylow subgroup *P* of $F^*(E)$ has a subgroup *D* such that 1 < |D| < |P| and every subgroup *H* of *P* with order |H| = |D| or with order 2|D| (if *P* is a nonabelian 2-group and |P : D| > 2) is *s*-permutable in *G*. Applying Lemma 2.12 for the special case $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{U}$, $G \in \mathcal{U}$, a contradiction.

Step 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 Step 1, $F^*(G) \in \mathcal{U}$ and $F^*(G) = F(G)$ by Lemma 2.11.

Step 4. The final contradiction: Since $F^*(G) = F(G)$, each non-cyclic Sylow subgroup *P* of $F^*(G)$ has a subgroup *D* such that 1 < |D| < |P| and every subgroup *H* of *P* with order |H| = |D| or with order 2|D| (if *P* is a nonabelian 2-group and |P:D| > 2) is *s*-permutable in *G* by Lemmas 2.1(iii) and 2.8. Applying Lemma 2.12, $G \in \mathcal{U}$, a contradiction.

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

By hypotheses, every non-cyclic Sylow subgroup P of $F^*(E)$ has a subgroup D such that 1 < |D| < |P| and every subgroup H of P with order |H| = |D| or with order 2|D| (if P is a nonabelian 2-group and |P : D| > 2) is either *s*-semipermutable or *s*-quasinormally embedded in G, thus in E by Lemmas 2.1(i) and 2.2(i). Applying Case 1, $E \in \mathcal{U}$. Then $F^*(E) = F(E)$ by Lemmas 2.11. It follows that each Sylow subgroup of $F^*(E)$ is normal in G. By Lemmas 2.1 (iii) and 2.8, each non-cyclic Sylow subgroup of $F^*(E)$ has a subgroup D such that 1 < |D| < |P| and every subgroup H of P with order |H| = |D| or with order 2|D| (if P is a nonabelian 2-group and |P : D| > 2) is *s*-permutable in G. Applying Lemma 2.12, $G \in \mathcal{F}$. These complete the proof of the theorem.

The following corollaries are immediate from Theorem 3.5.

Corollary 3.6 Let \mathcal{F} be a saturated formation containing \mathcal{U} . Suppose that G is a group with a normal subgroup E such that $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$. Then $G \in \mathcal{F}$ if and only if every maximal subgroup of any Sylow subgroup of $F^*(E)$ is s-semipermutable in G.

Corollary 3.7 Let \mathcal{F} be a saturated formation containing \mathcal{U} . Suppose that G is a group with a normal subgroup E such that $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$. Then $G \in \mathcal{F}$ if and only if every cyclic subgroup of any Sylow subgroup of $F^*(E)$ of prime order or order 4 is s-semipermutable in G.

Corollary 3.8 Let \mathcal{F} be a saturated formation containing \mathcal{U} . Suppose that G is a group with a normal subgroup E such that $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$. Then $G \in \mathcal{F}$ if and only if every maximal subgroup of any Sylow subgroup of $F^*(E)$ is s-quasinormally embedded in G.

Corollary 3.9 Let \mathcal{F} be a saturated formation containing \mathcal{U} . Suppose that G is a group with a normal subgroup E such that $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$. Then $G \in \mathcal{F}$ if and only if every cyclic subgroup of any Sylow subgroup of $F^*(E)$ of prime order or order 4 is s-quasinormally embedded in G.

Corollary 3.10 ([8, Theorem 3.4]) Let \mathcal{F} be a saturated formation containing \mathcal{U} . Suppose that G is a group with a normal subgroup E such that $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$. Then $G \in \mathcal{F}$ if and only if every maximal subgroup of any Sylow subgroup of $F^*(E)$ is s-quasinormal in G.

Corollary 3.11 ([9, Theorem 3.3]) Let \mathcal{F} be a saturated formation containing \mathcal{U} . Suppose that G is a group with a normal subgroup E such that $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$. Then $G \in \mathcal{F}$ if and only if every cyclic subgroup of any Sylow subgroup of $F^*(E)$ of prime order or order 4 is s-quasinormal in G.

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