

## ON WEAKLY $s$ -PERMUTABLY EMBEDDED SUBGROUPS OF FINITE GROUPS II

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Dedicated to Professor John Cossey for his 70th birthday

### Abstract

A subgroup  $H$  is called weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$  if there are a subnormal subgroup  $T$  of  $G$  and an  $s$ -permutably embedded subgroup  $H_{se}$  of  $G$  contained in  $H$  such that  $G = HT$  and  $H \cap T \leq H_{se}$ . In this note, we study the influence of the weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded property of subgroups on the structure of  $G$ , and obtain the following theorem. 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  $P$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| < |P|$  and all subgroups  $H$  of  $P$  with order  $|H| = |D|$  are  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$ . Also, when  $p = 2$  and  $|D| = 2$ , we suppose that each cyclic subgroup of  $P$  of order four is weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .

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### 1. Introduction

All groups considered in this paper will be finite. We use conventional notions and notation, as in Huppert [H]. Throughout the paper,  $G$  denotes a finite 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 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 (see [H, p. 713, Satz 8.6]).

A subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is said to be  *$s$ -permutable* (or  *$s$ -quasinormal*,  *$\pi$ -quasinormal*) [K] in  $G$  if  $H$  permutes with every Sylow subgroup of  $G$ ;  $H$  is said to be  *$c$ -normal* [W] in  $G$  if  $G$  has a normal subgroup  $T$  such that  $G = HT$  and  $H \cap T \leq H_G$ ,

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where  $H_G$  is the normal core of  $H$  in  $G$ . More recently, Skiba in [S] introduced the following concept, which covers both  $s$ -permutability and  $c$ -normality.

**DEFINITION 1.1.** Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $H$  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  $H$ .

In [LWQ1], the following definition is given. It covers both weakly  $s$ -permutability and the  $s$ -permutably embedding property [BP] of subgroups.

**DEFINITION 1.2.** Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . We say that  $H$  is weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$  if there are a subnormal subgroup  $T$  of  $G$  and an  $s$ -permutably embedded subgroup  $H_{se}$  of  $G$  contained in  $H$  such that  $G = HT$  and  $H \cap T \leq H_{se}$ .

In [S], Skiba proved the following result.

**THEOREM 1.3.** Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $G$  a group with a normal subgroup  $E$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . Suppose that every noncyclic Sylow subgroup  $P$  of  $F^*(E)$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| < |P|$  and all subgroups  $H$  of  $P$  with order  $|H| = |D|$  and with order  $2|D|$  (if  $P$  is a nonabelian 2-group and  $|P : D| > 2$ ) are weakly  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .

Along this line, in [LWQ1], the authors proved the following result by using  $s$ -permutably embedded subgroups. This generalised Theorem 1.3 in some sense.

**THEOREM 1.4.** Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$ , and  $G$  a group with  $E$  as a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . For every noncyclic Sylow subgroup  $P$  of  $F^*(E)$ , suppose that  $P$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| < |P|$  and all subgroups  $H$  of  $P$  with order  $|H| = |D|$  are weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$ . When  $p = 2$  and  $|P : D| > 2$ , in addition, suppose that  $H$  is weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$  if there exists  $D_1 \trianglelefteq H \leq P$  with  $2|D_1| = |D|$  and  $H/D_1$  is cyclic of order four. Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .

On the other hand, in [LWQ2] the authors improved Theorem 1.3 as follows.

**THEOREM 1.5.** 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 noncyclic Sylow subgroup  $P$  of  $F^*(E)$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| < |P|$  and all subgroups  $H$  of  $P$  with order  $|H| = |D|$  are weakly  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ ; in addition, we suppose that all cyclic subgroups of  $P$  of order four are weakly  $s$ -permutable in  $G$  if  $P$  is a nonabelian 2-group and  $|D| = 2$  in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .

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

Let  $P$  be a  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ . We say  $P$  satisfies  $(\Delta_1)$  ( $(\Delta_2)$ ), respectively) in  $G$  if:

- $(\Delta_1)$   $P$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| < |P|$  and all subgroups  $H$  of  $P$  with order  $|H| = |D|$  are weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$ ; when  $p = 2$  and  $|D| = 2$ , in addition, suppose that each cyclic subgroup of  $P$  of order four is weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$ ;

- ( $\Delta_2$ )  $P$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| < |P|$  and each subgroup  $H$  of  $P$  with order  $|H| = |D|$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ ; when  $p = 2$  and  $|D| = 2$ , in addition, suppose that each cyclic subgroup of  $P$  of order four is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ .

In this paper, the main purpose is to prove the following result which improves Theorems 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5.

**THEOREM 1.6.** *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$ , and  $G$  a group with  $E$  as a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$ . If every noncyclic Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  satisfies  $\Delta_1$  in  $G$ , then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

**REMARK 1.7.** This work is a continuation of [LWQ1, LWQ2]. We investigate the influence of the weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded property of subgroups on the structure of a finite group.

## 2. Preliminaries

**LEMMA 2.1** [K].

- An  $s$ -permutable subgroup of  $G$  is subnormal in  $G$ .
- If  $H \leq K \leq G$  and  $H$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ , then  $H$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $K$ .
- If  $H$  is a subnormal Hall subgroup of  $G$ , then  $H \triangleleft G$ .
- Let  $K \triangleleft G$ . If  $H$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ , then  $HK/K$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G/K$ .
- If  $P$  is an  $s$ -permutable  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  for some prime  $p$ , then  $O^p(G) \leq N_G(P)$ .

**LEMMA 2.2** [BP, Lemma 1]. *Suppose that  $U$  is  $s$ -permutably embedded in a group  $G$ , and that  $H \leq G$  and  $N \trianglelefteq G$ .*

- If  $U \leq H$ , then  $U$  is  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $H$ .
- We have that  $UN$  is  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$  and  $UN/N$  is  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G/N$ .

**LEMMA 2.3** [LWW, Lemma 2.3]. *Suppose that  $H$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ , and that  $P$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $H$ , where  $p$  is a prime. If  $H_G = 1$ , then  $P$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ .*

**LEMMA 2.4** [LWW, Lemma 2.4]. *Suppose that  $P$  is a  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  contained in  $O_p(G)$ . If  $P$  is  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$ , then  $P$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ .*

Now we give some basic properties of weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded subgroups.

**LEMMA 2.5** [LWQ1, Lemma 2.5]. *Let  $U$  be a weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded subgroup of  $G$  and  $N$  a normal subgroup of  $G$ .*

- If  $U \leq H \leq G$ , then  $U$  is weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $H$ .
- If  $N \leq U$ , then  $U/N$  is weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G/N$ .
- Let  $\pi$  be a set of primes,  $U$  a  $\pi$ -subgroup and  $N$  a  $\pi'$ -subgroup. Then  $(UN)/N$  is weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G/N$ .
- Suppose that  $U$  is a  $p$ -group for some prime  $p$  and  $U$  is not  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$ . Then  $G$  has a normal subgroup  $M$  such that  $|G : M| = p$  and  $G = MU$ .

- (e) Suppose that  $U$  is a  $p$ -group contained in  $O_p(G)$  for some prime  $p$ . Then  $U$  is weakly  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ .

**LEMMA 2.6** [LWQ1, Lemma 2.6]. 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  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$ . Then some maximal subgroup of  $N$  is normal in  $G$ .

**LEMMA 2.7** [H, III, 5.2 Satz and IV, 5.4 Satz]. Suppose that  $p$  is a prime and  $G$  is minimal non- $p$ -nilpotent, that is,  $G$  is not a  $p$ -nilpotent group but its proper subgroups are all  $p$ -nilpotent. Then the following statements hold:

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

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

**LEMMA 2.8** [HB, X 13]. Let  $G$  be a group and  $M$  a subgroup of  $G$ .

- If  $M$  is normal in  $G$ , then  $F^*(M) \leq F^*(G)$ .
- We have  $F^*(G) \neq 1$  if  $G \neq 1$ ; in fact,  $F^*(G)/F(G) = \text{soc}(F(G)C_G(F(G)))/F(G)$ .
- We have  $F^*(F^*(G)) = F^*(G) \geq F(G)$ ; if  $F^*(G)$  is solvable, then  $F^*(G) = F(G)$ .

### 3. Main results

**THEOREM 3.1.** Let  $G$  be a group and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ , where  $p$  is the smallest prime dividing  $|G|$ . If  $P$  satisfies  $\Delta_1$  in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.

**PROOF.** Suppose that the theorem is false and  $G$  is a counterexample with minimal order. We will derive a contradiction in several steps.

*Step 1:*  $O_{p'}(G) = 1$ . If  $O_{p'}(G) \neq 1$ , Lemma 2.5(c) guarantees that  $G/O_{p'}(G)$  satisfies the hypothesis 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(a),  $G_1 = [P_1]Q$ , where  $P_1 \in \text{Syl}_p(G_1)$  and  $Q \in \text{Syl}_q(G_1)$ ,  $p \neq q$ . We use the notation  $\Phi = \Phi(P_1)$ . 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 four by Lemma 2.7(c). By the hypothesis,  $L$  is weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$ , and thus in  $G_1$  by Lemma 2.5(a). If  $L$  is not  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G_1$ , then by Lemma 2.5(d),  $G_1$  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  $T_q \text{ char } T \triangleleft G_1$  and  $T_q \triangleleft G_1$ . Therefore,  $G_1$  is  $p$ -nilpotent, a contradiction. Hence,  $L$  is  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G_1$ .

So  $X/\Phi = L\Phi/\Phi$  is  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G_1/\Phi$  by Lemma 2.2(b). Now Lemmas 2.6 and 2.8(b) imply that  $|P_1/\Phi| = p$ . It follows immediately that  $P_1$  is cyclic. Hence,  $G_1$  is  $p$ -nilpotent by [H, IV, Satz 2.8], contrary to the choice of  $G_1$ .

*Step 3:  $|P : D| > p$ .* This follows by [LWQ1, Theorem 3.1].

*Step 4:  $G$  has no subgroup of index  $p$ .* Let  $M$  be a subgroup of  $G$  of index  $p$ . Then  $M \triangleleft G$ . By Step 3 together with induction,  $M$  is  $p$ -nilpotent. It follows that  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent, a contradiction.

*Step 5:  $P$  satisfies  $\Delta_2$  in  $G$ .* Assume that  $H \leq P$  such that  $|H| = |D|$  and  $H$  is not  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$ . By Lemma 2.5(d), there is a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $|G : M| = p$ , contrary to Step 4. Thus,  $H$  is  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$ . Let  $L$  be an  $s$ -permutable subgroup of  $G$  such that  $H \in \text{Syl}_p(L)$ . Since  $|L_p| \neq |P|$ ,  $L \neq G$ . If  $LP = G$ ,  $G$  has a normal subgroup of index  $p$  since  $|G : L|$  is  $p$ -power and  $L \triangleleft \triangleleft G$ , contrary to Step 4. Thus,  $LP \neq G$ . By induction,  $LP$  is  $p$ -nilpotent. Then  $L$  is  $p$ -nilpotent. By Step 1,  $L_{p'} \leq O_{p'}(G) = 1$ . Then  $H = L$  which is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ .

*Step 6: if  $P$  is a nonabelian 2-group, then  $|D| > 4$ .* Suppose that  $|D| = 4$ . Since  $P$  is nonabelian,  $P$  has a cyclic subgroup  $H := \langle x \rangle$  of order four. By Step 5,  $\langle x \rangle$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ . Thus,  $\langle x^2 \rangle$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ . If  $\langle x^2 \rangle \leq Z(P)$ , pick another subgroup  $\langle a \rangle$  of  $P$  of order two, so  $\langle a \rangle \times \langle x^2 \rangle$  has order four. Thus, by Step 5,  $\langle a \rangle \times \langle x^2 \rangle$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ . Since  $\langle x^2 \rangle$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ , then  $O^p(G) \leq N_G(\langle x^2 \rangle)$ . Then  $\langle x^2 \rangle$  is centralised by  $O^p(G)$ . By a result of Maschke,  $\langle a \rangle \times \langle x^2 \rangle$  has a subgroup of order two which is normalised, so centralised, by  $O^p(G)$ . Then  $\langle a \rangle \times \langle x^2 \rangle$  is centralised by  $O^p(G)$ . Thus,  $\langle a \rangle$  is centralised in  $G$ , and  $\langle a \rangle$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ . Then every minimal subgroup of  $P$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ , contrary to Step 2. If  $\langle x^2 \rangle \not\leq Z(P)$ , pick  $\langle a \rangle \leq Z(P)$  of order two. Consider the subgroup  $\langle a \rangle \times \langle x^2 \rangle$ ; similar analysis with the above will lead to a contradiction. Thus,  $|D| > 4$ .

*Step 7: if  $N \leq P$  and  $N$  is minimal normal in  $G$ , then  $|N| \leq |D|$ .* Suppose that  $|N| > |D|$ . Since  $N \leq O_p(G)$ ,  $N$  is elementary abelian. By Lemma 2.6,  $N$  has a maximal subgroup which is normal in  $G$ , contrary to the minimality of  $N$ .

*Step 8: if  $N \leq P$  and  $N$  is minimal normal in  $G$ , then  $G/N$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.* If  $|N| < |D|$ ,  $G/N$  satisfies the hypothesis of the theorem by Lemma 2.2. Thus,  $G/N$  is  $p$ -nilpotent by the minimal choice of  $G$ . So we may suppose that  $|N| = |D|$  by Step 6. Now we show every cyclic subgroup of  $P/N$  of order  $p$  or order four is  $s$ -permutable in  $G/N$ . Let  $K \leq P$  and  $|K/N| = p$ . By Step 2,  $N$  is noncyclic, 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  $s$ -permutable in  $G$  by Step 5,  $K/N = LN/N$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G/N$  by Lemma 2.2(b). If  $p = 2$ , take  $X/N \leq P/N$  which is cyclic of order four. Since  $N$  is noncyclic,  $X$  is noncyclic. This yields that there is a maximal subgroup  $X_1$  such that  $X = X_1N$ . If  $X_1$  is noncyclic, then  $X_1$  has at least two maximal subgroups  $X_{11}, X_{12}$  of order  $|D|$  which are  $s$ -permutable in  $G$  by Step 4. Then  $X_1 = X_{11}X_{12}$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ , and

so  $X/N = X_1N/N$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ . Now suppose that  $X_1$  is cyclic. Therefore,  $|X_1 \cap N| \leq 2$  as  $N$  is elementary abelian. By the computation of  $|X| = |X_1||N|/|X_1 \cap N|$ , we have that  $|N| = 2$  or  $4$ . Since  $N$  is noncyclic, we have  $|N| = |D| = 4$ , contrary to Step 6.

**Step 9: a final contradiction.** By Step 5,  $O_p(G) \neq 1$ . 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  $M$ . First, if  $M \cap P = 1$ , then  $N = P$ , a contradiction. Second, suppose that  $1 < |M \cap P| \leq |D|$ . Pick  $H \leq P$  such that  $M \cap P \leq H$  and  $|H| = |D|$ . By Step 4,  $H$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ . It follows that  $M \cap P \leq H \leq O_p(G) = N$ , then  $M \cap P \leq M \cap N = 1$ , a contradiction. Finally, suppose that  $|M \cap P| \geq |D|$ . Pick  $H \leq M \cap P$  with  $|H| = |D|$ . By Step 4,  $H$  is  $s$ -permutable in  $G$ . It follows that  $H \leq O_p(G) = N$ , and so  $H \leq N \cap M = 1$ , a final contradiction.

This finishes the proof.  $\square$

**COROLLARY 3.2.** *Suppose that  $G$  is a group. If every noncyclic Sylow subgroup of  $G$  satisfies  $\Delta_1$  in  $G$ . Then  $G$  has a Sylow tower of supersolvable type.*

**THEOREM 3.3.** *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 noncyclic Sylow subgroup of  $E$  satisfies  $\Delta_1$  in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

**PROOF.** Suppose that  $P$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $E$  for all  $p \in \pi(E)$ . Since  $P$  satisfies  $\Delta_1$  in  $G$  by hypotheses,  $P$  satisfies  $\Delta_1$  in  $E$  by Lemma 2.5. Applying Corollary 3.2, 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 hypothesis 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 2.5(e). By [LWQ2, Theorem 3.3], we get  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .  $\square$

Now, we are ready to prove the main theorem of this paper.

**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 noncyclic Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  satisfies  $\Delta_1$  in  $G$ . Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

**PROOF.** We distinguish two cases.

**Case 1:  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{U}$ .** Let  $(G, E)$  be a counterexample with  $|G||E|$  minimal.

*Step 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(c),  $F^*(E) = F^*(F^*(E)) \leq F^*(E \cap N) \leq F^*(E)$ , so  $F^*(E \cap N) = F^*(E)$ . For any Sylow subgroup  $P$  of  $F^*(E \cap N) = F^*(E)$ ,  $P$  satisfies  $\Delta_1$  in  $G$  by hypotheses. Hence,  $P$  satisfies  $\Delta_1$  in  $N$  by Lemma 2.5. So  $(N, N \cap H)$  satisfies 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 2.8. It follows that every Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  is normal in  $G$ . By Lemma 2.5(e),  $(G, E)$  satisfies the hypotheses of Theorem 1.2 of [LWQ2]. By [LWQ2, Theorem 1.2],  $G \in \mathcal{U}$ , a contradiction.

*Step 3:  $F^*(G) = F(G) < G$ .* If  $F^*(G) = G$ , then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$  by Theorem 3.3, 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 2.8.

*Step 4: the final contradiction.* Since  $F^*(G) = F(G)$ , by Lemma 2.5(e),  $(G, E)$  satisfies the hypotheses of Theorem 1.2 of [LWQ2]. By [LWQ2, Theorem 1.2],  $G \in \mathcal{U}$ , a final contradiction.

*Case 2:  $\mathcal{F} \neq \mathcal{U}$ .* By hypotheses, every noncyclic Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  satisfies  $\Delta_1$  in  $G$ , thus in  $E$  by Lemma 2.5. Applying case 1,  $E \in \mathcal{U}$ . Then  $F^*(E) = F(E)$  by Lemma 2.8. It follows that each Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  is normal in  $G$ , by Lemma 2.5(e).

Since  $F^*(G) = F(G)$ , by Lemma 2.5(e),  $(G, E)$  satisfies the hypotheses of Theorem 1.2 of [LWQ2]. By [LWQ2, Theorem 1.2],  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ .

This finishes the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

#### 4. Some applications

From the definition of weakly  $s$ -permutably embedded subgroup, we can see that [S, Corollaries 5.1–5.5.24] are corollaries of our Theorem 3.1. Furthermore, we have the following corollary.

**COROLLARY 4.1** [LW, Theorem 1.1]. *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$  and let  $G$  be a group. Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$  if and only if there exists a normal subgroup  $E$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$  and all maximal subgroups of any Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  are  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$ .*

**COROLLARY 4.2** [LW, Theorem 1.2]. *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$  and let  $G$  be a group. Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$  if and only if there exists a normal subgroup  $E$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$  and the cyclic subgroups of prime order or order four of  $F^*(E)$  are  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$ .*

**COROLLARY 4.3** [LW, Theorem 3.8]. *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$  and let  $G$  be a group. Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$  if and only if there exists a normal subgroup  $E$*

such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$  and all maximal subgroups of any Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  are either  $s$ -permutably embedded or  $c$ -normal in  $G$ .

**COROLLARY 4.4** [LW, Theorem 4.3]. Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$  and let  $G$  be a group. Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$  if and only if there exists a normal subgroup  $E$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$  and the cyclic subgroups of prime order or order four of  $F^*(E)$  are either  $s$ -permutably embedded or  $c$ -normal in  $G$ .

**COROLLARY 4.5** [WW, Theorem 4.1]. Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$  and let  $G$  be a group. Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$  if and only if there exists a normal subgroup  $E$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$  and all maximal subgroups of any Sylow subgroup of  $F^*(E)$  are  $c^*$ -normal in  $G$ .

**COROLLARY 4.6.** Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathcal{U}$  and let  $G$  be a group. Then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$  if and only if there exists a normal subgroup  $E$  such that  $G/E \in \mathcal{F}$  and the cyclic subgroups of prime order or order four of  $F^*(E)$  are  $c^*$ -normal in  $G$ .

A generalisation of Theorem 3.1 is also interesting. In a routine way, we can generalise it as follows.

**THEOREM 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  $P$  satisfies  $\Delta_1$  in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.

**COROLLARY 4.8** [WW, Theorem 3.1]. 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  $c^*$ -normal in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.

**COROLLARY 4.9** [LWW, Theorem 3.1]. Let  $G$  be a group and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ , where  $p$  is a prime divisor of  $|G|$  with  $(|G|, p - 1) = 1$ . If every maximal subgroup of  $P$  is  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.

**COROLLARY 4.10** [AH, Theorem 3.1]. Let  $G$  be a group and  $P$  a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ , where  $p$  is the minimal prime divisor of  $|G|$ . If every maximal subgroup of  $P$  is  $s$ -permutably embedded in  $G$ , then  $G$  is  $p$ -nilpotent.

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