



## A NOTE ON SOLVABILITY OF FINITE GROUPS

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**Abstract.** Let  $G$  be a finite group. A subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is said to be  $c$ -normal in  $G$  if there exists a normal subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such that  $G = HK$  and  $H \cap K \leq H_G$ , where  $H_G$  is the largest normal subgroup of  $G$  contained in  $H$ . In this note we prove that if every Sylow subgroup  $P$  of  $G$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| < |P|$  and all subgroups  $H$  of  $P$  with  $|H| = |D|$  are  $c$ -normal ( $S$ -permutable) in  $G$ , then  $G$  is solvable. This results improve and extend classical and recent results in the literature.

**Keywords and phrases:** Sylow subgroup;  $c$ -normal subgroup;  $c$ -supplement subgroup; solvable group; supersolvable group.

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

All groups considered in the sequel will be finite. Most of the notation is standard and can be found in Huppert [10].

The relationship between the properties of the Sylow subgroups of a group  $G$  and its structure has been investigated by a number of authors. In particular, Gaschütz and Itô [10, p. 436, Satz 5.7] proved that a group  $G$  is solvable if all its minimal subgroups are normal (a subgroup of prime order is called a minimal subgroup). Buckley [5] proved that a group of odd order is supersolvable if all its minimal subgroups are normal. Srinivasan [14] got the supersolvability of  $G$  under the assumption that the maximal subgroups of all Sylow subgroups are  $S$ -permutable in  $G$  (a subgroup which permutes with all Sylow subgroups of a group  $G$  is called  $S$ -permutable in  $G$ ; see Kegel [11]). Recall that a subgroup  $H$  of a group  $G$  is said to be  $c$ -normal in  $G$  if there exists a normal subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such that  $G = HK$  and  $H \cap K \leq H_G$ , where  $H_G = Core_G(H)$  is the largest normal subgroup of  $G$  contained in  $H$ . This concept was introduced by Wang [15] in 1996 and has been studied extensively by many authors. In fact, Wang extended the above results by proving that a group  $G$  is supersolvable when all minimal subgroups and the cyclic subgroups of order 4 are  $c$ -normal in  $G$  or the maximal subgroups of all Sylow subgroups of  $G$  are  $c$ -normal in  $G$ . In 2000, Ballester-Bolinches et al. [4] introduced the concept of  $c$ -supplementation of a finite group which is weaker than  $c$ -normality. A subgroup  $H$  of a group  $G$  is said to be  $c$ -supplement in  $G$  if there exists a subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such that  $G = HK$  and  $H \cap K \leq H_G$ . By using this concept, Ballester-Bolinches et al. [4] proved that a group  $G$  is solvable if and only if every Sylow subgroup of  $G$  is  $c$ -supplemented in  $G$ . Moreover, as applications, they proved that if all minimal subgroups and the cyclic subgroups of order 4 of a group  $G$  are  $c$ -supplemented in  $G$ , then  $G$  is supersolvable. In 2008, Asaad and Ramadan [2] dropped the assumption that every cyclic subgroup of order 4 is  $c$ -supplemented in  $G$  and proved that: If every minimal subgroup of  $G$  is  $c$ -supplemented in  $G$ , then  $G$  is solvable. In 2012, Asaad [1] achieved interesting results about the structure of the group  $G$  when certain subgroups of prime power orders are  $c$ -supplemented in  $G$ . In 2014, Heliel [9] continued the above mentioned studies and obtained results improved and generalized the results of Hall [7-8], Ballester-Bolinches and Guo [3], Ballester-Bolinches et al. [4] and Asaad and Ramadan [2] as follows:

**Theorem A.** If each subgroup of prime odd order of a group  $G$  is  $c$ -supplemented in  $G$ , then  $G$  is solvable.

**Theorem B.** Let  $G$  be a group. Then  $G$  is solvable if and only if every Sylow subgroup of odd order of  $G$  is  $c$ -supplemented in  $G$ .

In connection with the above two Theorems, the following conjecture is posed at the end of Heliel [9].

**Conjecture.** Let  $G$  be a finite group such that every non-cyclic Sylow subgroup  $P$  of odd order of  $G$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| \leq |P|$  and all subgroups  $H$  of  $P$  with  $|H| = |D|$  are  $c$ -supplemented in  $G$ . Is  $G$  solvable?

In the same year 2014, Li et al. [12] presented a counterexample to show that the answer of this conjecture is negative and also gave a generalization of Theorems A and B.

Based on the above mentioned results, the main goal of this note is to prove the following results:

**Theorem C.** Suppose that each Sylow subgroup  $P$  of  $G$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| < |P|$  and all subgroups  $H$  of  $P$  with  $|H| = |D|$  are  $S$ -permutable in  $G$ . Then  $G$  is solvable.

**Theorem D.** Suppose that each Sylow subgroup  $P$  of  $G$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| < |P|$  and all subgroups  $H$  of  $P$  with  $|H| = |D|$  are  $c$ -normal in  $G$ . Then  $G$  is solvable.

**Remark.** The research on  $c$ -normal subgroups has formed a series, which is similar to the series of  $S$ -permutable subgroups. However, the two series are independent of each other.

## 2 Proofs

First we give an improvement of Gaschütz and Itô result that was mentioned in the introduction as follows:

**Theorem 3.1.** Suppose that each Sylow subgroup  $P$  of a finite group  $G$  has a subgroup  $D$  such that  $1 < |D| < |P|$  and all subgroups  $H$  of  $P$  with  $|H| = |D|$  are normal in  $G$ . Then  $G$  is solvable.



**Proof.** Assume that the result is false and let  $G$  be a counterexample of minimal order. If all minimal subgroups of  $G$  are normal in  $G$ , then  $G$  is solvable by Gaschütz and Itô result [10, p. 436, satz 5.7], a contradiction. Thus there exists a subgroup  $L$  of  $G$  of prime order, say  $p$ , such that  $L$  is not normal in  $G$ . Let  $P$  be a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  such that  $L \leq P$ . Then there exists a subgroup  $H$  of  $P$  such that  $L \leq H < P$  with  $|H| = |D|$ . By the hypothesis,  $H$  is normal in  $G$  and since  $L$  is not normal in  $G$ , we have  $L < H < P$ . Clearly,  $\Phi(H)$  is characteristic in  $H$  and since  $H \triangleleft G$ , we have  $\Phi(H) \triangleleft G$ . If  $\Phi(H) \neq 1$ , then  $G/\Phi(H)$  satisfies the hypothesis of the theorem and so  $G/\Phi(H)$  is solvable by the minimal choice of  $G$ . Hence  $G$  is solvable as the class of solvable groups is a saturated formation, a contradiction. Thus  $\Phi(H) = 1$  and  $H$  is elementary abelian  $p$ -group by [6, p. 174,

**Theorem 1.3].** In fact,  $|H| > p$  and so  $H$  is noncyclic. We argue that  $|P/H| \neq p$ . If not,  $|P| = p|H|$  and  $P$  is noncyclic. Then  $P$  contains a subgroup  $N$  such that  $|P:N| = p$  and  $N \neq H$ . By hypothesis,  $H$  and  $N$  are both normal in  $G$  and so  $P = HN$  is normal in  $G$ . Then, by Schur-Zassenhaus Theorem [6, p. 221,

**Theorem 1.2],** there exists a subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such that  $G = PK$  and  $P \cap K = 1$ . But  $K$  is solvable by the minimal choice of  $G$ , then  $G$  is solvable, a contradiction. Thus  $|P/H| = p^n$ , where  $n \geq 2$ . Let  $L_1/H$  be a subgroup of  $P/H$  of order  $p$ . Then  $|L_1| = p|H|$  and since  $L_1$  is noncyclic as above, we have  $L_1 \triangleleft G$  and so  $L_1/H \triangleleft G/H$ . Hence  $G/H$  is solvable by the minimal choice of  $G$  and so  $G$  is solvable, a final contradiction completing the proof of the theorem. 0.3cm

**Proof of Theorem C.** Assume that the result is false and let  $G$  be a counterexample of minimal order. Then, by **Theorem 3.1**, there exists a subgroup  $H$  of  $P$  with  $|H| = |D|$  such that  $H$  is not normal in  $G$ . By the hypothesis,  $H$  is  $S$ -permutable in  $G$ . By [13, Lemma A],  $O^p(G) \leq N_G(H)$  and since  $H$  is not normal in  $G$ , we have  $N_G(H) < G$ . Let  $M$  be a maximal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $N_G(H) \leq M < G$ . Then  $M$  is normal in  $G$  and  $|G/M| = p$  (recall that  $P$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ ). Clearly,  $P \cap M$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $M$  and  $H \leq P \cap M$ . Hence if  $1 < H < P \cap M$ ,  $M$  satisfies the hypothesis of the Theorem and so  $M$  is solvable by the minimal choice of  $G$  and consequently so  $G$  is solvable, a contradiction. Thus we may assume that  $H = P \cap M$ , so  $|P:H| = p$ , that is,  $H \triangleleft P$ . Hence  $G = \langle P, O^p(G) \rangle \leq N_G(H) \leq M < G$ , a contradiction completing the proof of the Theorem.

### Proof of Theorem D.

Assume that the result is false and let  $G$  be a counterexample of minimal order. Then, by Theorem 3.1, there exists a subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  such that  $|H| = |D|$  and  $H$  is not normal in  $G$ . Without loss of generality we may assume that  $H < P$ , where  $P$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  for some prime  $p$  dividing the order of  $G$ . Then, by the hypothesis,  $H$  is  $c$ -normal in  $G$ , that is, there exists a normal subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such that  $G = HK$  and  $H \cap K \leq H_G$ . As  $H$  is not normal in  $G$ , we have  $H_G < H$ . Hence if  $H_G \neq 1$ ,  $G/H_G$  satisfies the hypothesis of the theorem by [15, Lemma 2.1], and so  $G/H_G$  is solvable and since  $H_G$  is of prime power order, it follows that  $G$  is solvable, a contradiction. Thus we may assume that  $H_G = 1$ . Since  $G/K \cong H$  and  $H < P$ , where  $P$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ , it follows that there exists a subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  such that  $K \leq M$ ,  $M \triangleleft G$  and  $|G/M| = p$ . Clearly,  $P \cap M$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $M$ . Hence if  $|D| = |H| < |P \cap M|$ ,  $M$  satisfies the hypothesis of the theorem by [15, Lemma 2.1], and so  $M$  is solvable by the minimal choice of  $G$ . But  $|G/M| = p$ , that is,  $G/M$  is solvable, then  $G$  is solvable, a contradiction. So we may assume that  $|P \cap M| \leq |D|$ . Then by the hypothesis,  $|P \cap M| = |D|$ . Set  $P \cap M = L$ . By [15, Lemma 2.1],  $L$  is  $c$ -normal in  $M$ , that is there exists a normal subgroup  $N$  of  $M$  such that  $M = LN$  and  $L \cap N \leq L_M$ . Hence if  $L_M = 1$ ,  $N$  is a normal  $p'$ -Hall subgroup of  $M$ . Clearly,  $N$  is a  $p'$ -Hall subgroup of  $G$  and  $N$  satisfies the hypothesis of the theorem and so  $N$  is solvable by the minimal choice of  $G$ . Then  $M$  is solvable and so  $G$  is solvable, a contradiction. Thus we may assume that  $L_M \neq 1$ . Hence if



$L_M = L = P \cap M \triangleleft M$ ,  $M = LN$ ,  $N \triangleleft M$  and  $L \cap N = 1$  by Schur-Zassenhaus Theorem [6, p. 221, Theorem 1.2]. As above,  $N$  is solvable and so  $G$  is solvable, a contradiction. Thus  $1 \neq L_M < L$ . Now we consider the normal closure of  $L_M$ , that is,  $L_M^G = \langle L_M^g : g \in G \rangle$ . Since  $G = MH$ , we have  $L_M^g = L_M^{mh} = L_M^h \leq P$  (where  $m \in M$  and  $h \in H$ ) and so  $L_M^G \leq P$ . Hence if  $L_M^G = P$ , once again Schur-Zassenhaus Theorem implies that  $G = PK$ ,  $P \cap K = 1$  and  $K$  is solvable by the minimal choice of  $G$  and so  $G$  is solvable, a contradiction. Thus we may assume that  $L_M^G < P$ . Hence if  $|L_M^G| < |D|$ ,  $G/L_M^G$  is solvable by the minimal choice of  $G$  and so  $G$  is solvable, a contradiction. Now we may assume that  $|L_M^G| \geq |D|$ . Since  $|P \cap M| = |D|$  and  $|P/P \cap M| = p$  and  $L_M^G < P$ , we should have  $|L_M^G| = |D|$ . Also,  $L_M^G \neq P \cap M$  (otherwise,  $G$  is solvable, a contradiction). Then  $G = L_M^G M$  and  $L_M^G \cap M \triangleleft G$  and  $|L_M^G \cap M| < |D|$ . Hence  $G/(L_M^G \cap M)$  is solvable by the minimal choice of  $G$  and so  $G$  is solvable, a final contradiction completing the proof of the theorem.

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