

Solvable CN-Groups and π -Separable $C_{\pi\pi}$ -Groups*

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G. Higman studied first the finite groups in which every element has prime power order except 1 (see[1]), that is, the centralizer of every element is a p -group except 1. Later many authors have generalized it. On the one hand, the generalization is CN-groups, that is, the finite groups in which the centralizer of every element is nilpotent except 1 (see[2,3]). On the other hand, the generalization is C22-groups, that is, the groups are of even order and the centralizer of any involution is a 2-group; a C22-group named again CIT-group (see[3]). [3] showed that a nonsolvable CN-group and a nonsolvable CIT-group are identical and classified such groups completely. About solvable CN-groups [2,13] have had a discussion. In recent years Z. Arad and other authors generalized a C22-group to a C_{pp} -group G , i.e. the centralizer of any non-identity p -element is a p -group for some prime $p \mid |G|$. They further generalized to a $C_{\pi\pi}$ -group, i.e. the centralizer of any non-identity π -element is a π -group of G , in which π is a nonempty proper subset of all prime divisors of $|G|$. About C_{pp} -groups [5,6] classified such groups completely for $p=3$. About $C_{\pi\pi}$ -groups [14,15,16] have had a discussion when it is π -solvable.

The main content of this paper is to continue a discussion of solvable CN-groups and π -separable $C_{\pi\pi}$ -groups. The results indicate that they possess roughly the same structure. This paper applies mainly the theory of fixed-point-free actions, thus the obtained results are more extensive and detailed than predecessors. In addition, we have produced the sufficient and necessary condition which CN-groups and $C_{\pi\pi}$ -groups are either solvable or supersolvable.

1. Solvable CN-Groups

Lemma 1. Let G be a CN-group, H_1 and H_2 be nilpotent subgroups of G , $(|H_1|, |H_2|) = 1$. If there are $1 \neq x_i \in H_i$, $i=1,2$, satisfy $x_1x_2 = x_2x_1$, then H_1 and H_2 commute elementwise.

This lemma is a generalization of [2] Lemma 2.3. Their proofs are all the same. By Lemma 1, the maximal nilpotent subgroups of G are Hall subgroups.

Lemma 2. Let G be a CN-group, if the 2-sylow subgroup of G is a generalized

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quaternion group, then G has a normal 2-complement, thereby G is solvable.

Proof. Since the 2-sylow subgroups of G are generalized quaternion groups, by [7] G possesses a maximal odd normal subgroup G_1 . Thus it causes G/G_1 to have a central element a of order 2. But since G_1 is an odd order group, it is solvable. By [2] Lemma 1.5 we see that G/G_1 is a CN-group, thus $G/G_1 = C_{G/G_1}(a)$ is a nilpotent group. Furthermore, from the maximum property of G_1 we see that G/G_1 is a 2-group, hence G has a normal 2-complement G_1 , therefore G is solvable.

As pointed out in the proof of [2] Lemma 1.8, Burnside's theorem on fixed-point-free actions ([8], p336 Theorem V) is false in general, but it is true for CN-groups.

Theorem 1. Let CN-group H act fixed-point-free on a group $K \neq 1$, then H is either a cyclic group or the direct product of a generalized quaternion group and a cyclic group of odd order.

Proof. By [9] Theorem 7.24, every sylow subgroup of H is a cyclic group or a generalized quaternion group. When the 2-sylow subgroup S_2 of H is cyclic, then by Burnside's theorem ([10] Theorem 14.3.1), H has a normal 2-complement, therefore H is solvable. When S_2 is a generalized quaternion group, also by Lemma 2 H is solvable. Thus H has a $p_1 p_2$ -Hall subgroup L for any $p_1 p_2 \mid |H|$. Let $p_1 < p_2$. If p_1, p_2 -sylow subgroups are cyclic, then $P_2 \triangleleft P_1 P_2 = L$. Hence if a is an element of order p_1 of P_1 and b is an element of order p_2 of P_2 , then L has the subgroup $\langle a, b \rangle$ of order $p_1 p_2$, moreover $\langle b \rangle \triangleleft \langle a, b \rangle$. If a and b do not permute, since $\langle b \rangle \cap K = 1$, then a does not permute with the elements of K except 1 either. Thus $\langle a \rangle$ acts fixed-point-free on $\langle b \rangle K$, by Thompson's theorem ([9] Theorem 12.9), $\langle b \rangle K$ is nilpotent, contrary to that $\langle b \rangle$ acts fixed-point-free on K . Therefore a permutes with b , and by Lemma 1, $L = P_1 \times P_2$. If P_1 is a generalized quaternion group, then by Lemma 2 $P_2 \triangleleft P_1 P_2 = L$. Let a be an element of order 2 of P_1 , b be an element of order p_2 of P_2 . Since P_2 is a cyclic group, its subgroups are characteristic subgroups. We see that $\langle b \rangle \triangleleft L$ and we obtain the group $\langle a \rangle \langle b \rangle$ of order $2p$. As the discussion above we conclude that a and b permute, $L = P_1 \times P_2$. Hence the elements of Sylow subgroups of coprime orders of H permute. Therefore H is nilpotent, and the theorem is proved.

Theorem 2. The Fitting subgroup F of CN-group G is either a Hall subgroup of G or a p -group. If G is nonsolvable, then $F = 1$ or F is a 2-group.

I. When $F \neq 1$ is a Hall subgroup of G , then $G = F$ or $G = HF$, $H \cap F = 1$. H is a cyclic group or the direct product of a generalized quaternion group and a cyclic group of odd order. Furthermore, G is a Frobenius group with Frobenius kernel F .

II. When G is solvable and F is not a Hall subgroup of G , then F is a p -group, $G = PHF$, $HF \triangleleft G$, in which P is a cyclic p -group; H is a cyclic p' -group. Furthermore, PH is a Frobenius group with Frobenius kernel H , HF is a Frobenius group with Frobenius kernel F . Also if p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r are all different prime factors of $|H|$, then $|P| \mid (p_1 - 1, p_2 - 1, \dots, p_r - 1)$.

Proof. If F is not a p -group, let $q_1 \mid |F|$, then $|F|$ possesses another prime factor q_2 at least. We write Q_1, Q_2 as q_1, q_2 -Sylow subgroups of G separately, $Q_{q_1}(G)$ for maximal normal q_1 -subgroup of G , $D = Z(O_{q_2}(G))$. Since $F = O_{q_1}(G) \times O_{q_2}(G) \times \dots$, by Lemma 1, thus any element of Q_1 permutes any element of D , that is, $C_G(D) \geq Q_1$. Moreover, since D is a characteristic subgroup of $O_{q_2}(G)$, thus it is a characteristic subgroup F , we conclude that $D \triangleleft G$, hence $C_G(D) \triangleleft N_G(D) = G$. But since G is a CN^* -group and $C_G(D)$ is a nilpotent group, $D \leq Z(F)$, we see that $C_G(D) = F$. Thus $F \geq Q_1$, therefore F is a Hall subgroup of G .

when $F \neq 1$, if F is a Hall subgroup of G , and $F \neq G$, since $F \triangleleft G$, then G splits over F , i. e. $G = HF$, $H \cap F = 1$, and since $C_G(F)$ is a nilpotent normal subgroup of G , $C_G(F) \leq F$, therefore F is a maximal nilpotent subgroup of G . Hence the elements of H do not permute with the elements of F except 1, i. e. $C_G(y) \leq F$, $1 \neq y \in F$, therefore H acts fixed-point-free on F . From Theorem 1, H is either a cyclic group or the direct product of a generalized quaternion group and a cyclic group of odd order, again by [9] Theorem 10.5, G is a Frobenius group with Frobenius kernel F . In this case G is obviously solvable. Suppose F is a p -group, as the proof above we show easily that any p -element and p' -element do not permute. If $p \neq 2$, then as G is a group of even order and 2-Sylow subgroup S_2 of G is a generalized quaternion group, by Lemma 2, G is solvable. Suppose S_2 is not a generalized quaternion group, then since S_2 acts fixed-point-free on F , we infer that S_2 is a cyclic group. Moreover, by Burnside's theorem ([10] Theorem 14.3.1), G has a normal 2-complement, thus G is solvable. Therefore, if G is nonsolvable, then $F = 1$ or F is a 2-group.

When G is solvable and F is not a Hall subgroup of G , we may assume that F is a p -group. Let us write H as p -complement of G , H acts fixed-point-free on F , by Theorem 1, H is a cyclic group or the direct product of a generalized quaternion group and a cyclic group of odd order. Since F is a maximal p -subgroup, the minimal normal subgroup \overline{P}_i of G/F is not a p -group, we may assume that HF/F contains \overline{P}_i ([10] Theorem 9.3.1), also since H is nilpotent group, then $HF/F \leq C_{G/F}(\overline{P}_i)$. But since G/F is a CN^* -group, H is

a maximal nilpotent subgroup of G , we conclude that HF/F is a maximal nilpotent subgroup of G/F , therefore.

$$C_{G/F}(\bar{P}_i) = HF/F \triangleleft N_{G/F}(\bar{P}_i) = G/F$$

Thus $HF \triangleleft G$. Since H is a cyclic group or the direct product of a generalized quaternion group and a cyclic group of odd order, also since \bar{P}_i is contained in HF/F , and $HF/F \cong H$, hence \bar{P}_i is a group of prime order. $|\bar{P}_i| = p_i |H|$, but

$$G/HF \cong \frac{G/F}{HF/F} = \frac{N_{G/F}(\bar{P}_i)}{C_{G/F}(\bar{P}_i)} \cong \text{a subgroup of a cyclic group of order } p_i - 1,$$

we conclude that G/HF is a cyclic p -group. Furthermore, $|G/HF| \mid (p_1 - 1, p_2 - 1, \dots, p_r - 1)$, in which p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r are different prime factors of $|HF/F| = |H|$. Since G/HF is a cyclic p -group, from $p \mid (p_1 - 1, \dots, p_r - 1)$ we see that p is the minimal prime factor of $|G|$, thus H is a group of odd order, it must be a cyclic p' -group. As the reason above, HF is a Frobenius group with Frobenius kernel F . Since HF is a solvable normal subgroup of G , H is a Hall subgroup of HF , by Frattini's argument ([11] Proposition IV. 2.e), $G = N_G(H)HF = N_G(H)F$. Also from $N_G(H) \cap F \triangleleft N_G(H)$, we obtain that the elements of $N_G(H) \cap F$ permute with the elements of H , hence $N_G(H) \cap F = 1$. Let P is a p -sylow subgroup of $N_G(H)$, thus $N_G(H) = PH$, $G = PHF$. $P \cong PH/H \cong \frac{PHF \cdot F}{HF \cdot F} \cong PHF/HF = G/HF$, P is a cyclic group. Since the p -elements and p' -elements of G do not permute, hence PH is a Frobenius group with Frobenius kernel H .

This theorem is a generalization of [1] Theorem 1, [2] Lemma 1.8, [13] p402, Theorem 1.5.

Corollary 1. If G is a 3-step group, then $G = PHF$, in which the meanings of P, H, F is stated in Theorem 2. II.

Proof. From [13] p401, Lemma 1.4, any 3-step group is a solvable CN-group, Again by Theorem 2, this completes the proof.

Corollary 2. CN-group G is solvable if, and only if, G has a 2-complement and the Fitting subgroup $F \neq 1$ of G .

Proof. It suffices to show sufficiency. Moreover, by Theorem 2, we need only show when F is a 2-group. Since $C_G(F)$ is a nilpotent normal subgroup of G , $C_G(F) \leq F$, hence a 2-complement H in G acts fixed-point-free on F . By Theorem 1, H is a cyclic group and $G = HS_2$, in which S_2 is a 2-sylow subgroup of G . By Wielandt-Kegel's theorem ([11] IX. 2.e), G is a solvable group.

To further understand the construction of the solvable CN-groups, first we give the following lemma.

Lemma 3. Let group $G = PQ$, in which P is a cyclic group, Q is a minimal

normal subgroup of G , and Q is a sylow subgroup of G . If $C_G(Q) = Q$, $|Q| = q^\beta$, then β is the exponent of $q \pmod{|P|}$.

Proof. Since Q is an elementary Abelian group of order q^β , and $G = PQ$, from Q is a minimal normal subgroup of G we see that Q is also a minimal P invariant subgroup of G . Whence $\rho: P \rightarrow GL(Q)$ is an irreducible representation ($GL(Q)$ is an automorphism group of Q , it is a full linear group). By $C_G(Q) = Q$ we see that the representation is faithful. Let $P = \langle a \rangle$, then the vector space Q does not contain a proper $\rho(a)$ invariant subspace, otherwise it is contrary to that Q is an irreducible P module. Let the matrix corresponding $\rho(a)$ be A on a certain basis of Q , then by [12] Chapter 3, Thorem 2 we see that the characteristic polynomial of A is a minimal polynomial. Also if the order of A is m , then $A^m = I$, that is, the characteristic polynomial of A divides exactly $x^m - 1$. Hence the characteristic roots of A are all unit roots of degree m on a certain finite extension field $K(q^n)$ of a q element field C_q , moreover, there is not a repeated root. Thus if $f(x) \pmod{q}$ could be reduced, $f(x) = f_1(x)f_2(x)$, we would prove easily that

$$A \sim \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & \\ & A_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

on C_q , in which A_1, A_2 are respectively take $f_1(x), f_2(x)$ as a characteristic polynomial. Since A is irreducible, therefore $f(x) \pmod{q}$ is also irreducible.

Let $\omega \in K(q^n)$, $f(\omega) = 0$, thus the number of the conjugate of ω is identical with the degree β of $f(x)$. Suppose ξ is a generator of $K(q^n)$, thus $\xi \mapsto \xi^{q^y}$ generates the automorphism group of $K(q^n)$. Under this automorphism, $\omega \mapsto \omega^q$. As the order of A is m , the order of ω is also m , $m = |P|$. Hence the all conjugates of ω are $\omega^{q^0}, \omega^{q^1}, \dots, \omega^{q^{y-1}}$, in which y is the exponent of $q \pmod{|P|}$, therefore $\beta = y$ and the lemma is proved.

Theorem 3. Let G be a solvable CN-group, and let G be not nilpotent; let F be the Fitting subgroup of G .

I. If F is a Hall subgroup of G , then $G = HF$, $H \cap F = 1$. Let $H = p_1^{a_1} \dots p_r^{a_r}$, $F = q_1^{\beta_1} \dots q_s^{\beta_s}$.

1. When H is a cyclic group, then G possesses the chief factors

$$\underbrace{p_1, \dots, p_1}_{a_1}, \dots, \underbrace{p_r, \dots, p_r}_{a_r}, \underbrace{q_1^{b_1}, \dots, q_1^{b_1}}_{\omega_1}, \dots, \underbrace{q_s^{b_s}, \dots, q_s^{b_s}}_{\omega_s}.$$

in which b_i is the exponent of $q_i \pmod{|H|}$, $\omega_i b_i = \beta_i$ ($i = 1, \dots, s$). Moreover the class of F is not more than

$$\sum_{i=1}^s \omega_i.$$

2. When H is the direct product of a generalized quaternion group and

a cyclic group of odd order, then G possesses the chief factors

$$2, \dots, 2; \underbrace{p_2, \dots, p_2}_{a_2}, \dots, \underbrace{p_r, \dots, p_r}_{a_r}; \underbrace{q_1^{b_1}, \dots, q_1^{b_1}}_{\omega_1}, \dots, \underbrace{q_s^{b_s}, \dots, q_s^{b_s}}_{\omega_s}.$$

in which $b_i | b_{ij}$, b_i is the exponent of $q_i \pmod{|H|}$, $\sum_{j=1}^{\omega_i} b_{ij} = \beta_i$, $b_{ij} \geq 1$

($i = 1, \dots, s, j = 1, \dots, \omega_i$). Moreover, the class of F is not more than $\sum_{i=1}^s \omega_i$.

II. If F is not a Hall subgroup of G , then $G = PHF$. Let $|P| = q^\gamma$, $|H| = p_1^{a_1} \dots p_r^{a_r}$, $|F| = q^{\beta-\gamma}$, $0 < \gamma < \beta$, we have $q^\gamma | (p_1 - 1, \dots, p_r - 1)$. Moreover, G possesses the chief factors

$$\underbrace{q, \dots, q}_\gamma; \underbrace{p_1, \dots, p_1}_{a_1}, \dots, \underbrace{p_r, \dots, p_r}_{a_r}; q^{d_1}, \dots, q^{d_k}.$$

in which $\sum_{i=1}^k d_i = \beta - \gamma$, $\gamma < d$, $d | d_i$, $i = 1, \dots, k$, and d is the exponent of $q \pmod{|H|}$.

Proof. I. If F is a Hall subgroup of G , then by Theorem 2, $G = HF$, H is a cyclic group or the direct product of a generalized quaternion group and a cyclic group of odd order. Since F is a nilpotent group, the Hall subgroups of F are normal in G , hence G has a chief series

$$G > \dots > F > \dots > C_i > 1,$$

in which C_i is an elementary Abelian group of order $q_i^{b_i}$, and q_i can be any number among q_1, \dots, q_s . We consider the subgroup $G_i = HC_i$, where C_i is a minimal normal subgroup of G_i . If not, we assume $1 \neq C_n < C_i$, $C_n \triangleleft C_i$, then by $Z(F) \triangleleft G$, $1 \neq Z(F) \cap C_i \triangleleft G$ we see that $C_i \leq Z(F)$, thereby $C_n \triangleleft F$. Hence $C_n \triangleleft \langle HC_i, F \rangle = HF = G$, contrary to that C_i is a minimal normal subgroup of G .

When H is a cyclic group, by Lemma 3, b_i is the exponent of $q_i \pmod{|H|}$. Considering the factor groups, by induction we see that G possesses the chief factors

$$\underbrace{p_1, \dots, p_1}_{a_1}, \dots, \underbrace{p_r, \dots, p_r}_{a_r}; \underbrace{q_1^{b_1}, \dots, q_1^{b_1}}_{\omega_1}, \dots, \underbrace{q_s^{b_s}, \dots, q_s^{b_s}}_{\omega_s},$$

in which $\omega_i b_i = \beta_i$ ($i = 1, \dots, s$) and the class of F is not more than $\sum_{i=1}^s \omega_i$.

When H is the direct product of a generalized quaternion group and a cyclic group of odd order, then by Lemma 2, G has a normal 2-complement G_1 . Suppose P is a cyclic group of order 2^{a_1-1} of the 2-sylow subgroup S_2 of G ($|S_2| = 2^{a_1}$), $G_2 = PG_1$, thus G has a normal series

$$G > G_2 > G_1 \geq F > 1.$$

Applying above discussion to G_2 , we conclude that G possesses the chief

factors

$$2, \dots, 2; \underbrace{p_1}_{a_1}, \dots, \underbrace{p_2}_{a_2}, \dots, \underbrace{p_r}_{a_r}; q_1^{b_{11}}, \dots, q_1^{b_{1\omega_1}}, \dots, q_s^{b_{s1}}, \dots, q_s^{b_{s\omega_s}}.$$

in which $b_i | b_{ij}$ ($j = 1, \dots, \omega_i$, $i = 1, \dots, s$), b_i is the exponent of $q_i \pmod{|H/2|}$,

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\omega_i} b_{ij} = \beta_i \quad (i = 1, \dots, s), \text{ moreover, the class of } F \text{ is not more than } \sum_{i=1}^s \omega_i.$$

Now we prove $b_{ij} > 1$, it must only show $b_{s\omega_s} > 1$. Let C_i is a minimal normal subgroup of G , if $|C_i| = q$, we discuss $S_2 C_i$, by Lemma 1, the centralizer of C_i in $S_2 C_i$ is itself. Also since the automorphism group of C_i is a cyclic group and S_2 is a generalized quaternion group, we see that this case can not happen.

II. If F is not a Hall subgroup of G , by Theorem 2, we can assume that F is a q -group, Moreover by $|P| = q^r$, we obtain that $q^r | (p_1 - 1, \dots, p_r - 1)$. In this case G has a normal series

$$G = PHF > HF > F > 1,$$

in which P and H are the cyclic groups of coprime orders. we refine it so as to obtain a chief series

$$G > \dots > HF > \dots > F > \dots > C_i > 1.$$

Its chief factors are $\underbrace{q, \dots, q}_\gamma; \underbrace{p_1, \dots, p_1}_{a_1}, \dots, \underbrace{p_r, \dots, p_r}_{a_r}; q^{d_1}, \dots, q^{d_k}$, in which $\sum_{i=1}^k$

$d_i = \beta - \gamma$. Discussing the normal series of HF , since F is a normal Hall subgroup of HF , therefore the chief factors of HF are $\underbrace{p_1, \dots, p_1}_{a_1}, \dots,$

$\underbrace{p_r, \dots, p_r}_{a_r}; q^d, \dots, q^d$, in which d is the exponent of $q \pmod{|H|}$. Hence

we refine the normal series $HF > \dots > F > \dots > C_i > 1$ of HF so as to obtain a chief series, we obtain that $d | d_i$, $i = 1, \dots, k$. Since $q^r | (p_1 - 1, \dots, p_r - 1)$, also since the elements of L_h in semi-direct product $L_h C_m$ (L_h is a subgroup of order p_h of H ; C_m is a minimal normal subgroup of HF) do not permute with the elements of C_m except 1, hence the normalizer of L_h in $L_h C_m$ is itself, thus $1 + kp_k = |C_m| = q^d$, we conclude that $p_h | q^d - 1$, $h = 1, \dots, r$. Therefore $q^r \leq p_h - 1 < p_h \leq q^d - 1 < q^d$, hence $\gamma < d$.

Theorem 4. A CN-group G is supersolvable if, and only if, $F \neq 1$ and there is a normal subgroup of order q in G , for all $q | |F|$, in which F is a Fitting subgroup of G .

Proof. It suffices to show sufficiency. If $|F|$ is an even number, then by the hypothesis G has a normal subgroup of order 2, G possesses a central element of order 2, from G is a CN-group we see that G is a nilpotent group. Clearly G is supersolvable.

If $|F|$ is an odd number, then by Theorem 2, G is solvable. Moreover since G has a normal subgroup Q of order q , for all $q \mid |F|$, it lies in the center of the q -Sylow subgroup Q_1 of G . Thus $C_G(Q) \geq Q_1$, but $C_G(Q)$ is a nilpotent normal subgroup of G , hence $F \geq C_G(Q) \geq Q_1$. Therefore F is a Hall subgroup of G . Since q is all a chief factor of G , for all $q \mid |F|$, by the uniqueness of the chief factors and Theorem 3. I., we conclude that G possesses the chief factors $\underbrace{p_1, \dots, p_1}_{\alpha_1}, \dots, \underbrace{p_r, \dots, p_r}_{\alpha_r}; \underbrace{q_1, \dots, q_1}_{\beta_1}, \dots, \underbrace{q_s, \dots, q_s}_{\beta_s}$. G is a supersolvable group.

2. π -Separable $C\pi\pi$ -Groups

From the definition of $C\pi\pi$ groups we see that G is a $C\pi\pi$ -group if, and only if, G does not contain (π, π') -mixed elements, that is, the non identity element in G is either a π -element or a π' -element. Thus, that G is a $C\pi\pi$ -group but G is not a π -group is equal to that G is a $C\pi'\pi'$ -group but G is not a π' -group.

Lemma 4. Let G be a $C\pi\pi$ -group, $A \triangleleft G$, if G/A has a non-identity π -element, then G/A is a $C\pi\pi$ -group.

Proof. Since G is a $C\pi\pi$ group, G has no (π, π') -mixed elements, this property is kept under the homomorphism. In fact, if G/A is not a $C\pi\pi$ group, since G/A has a non-identity π -element, G/A is not a π' -group. Then G/A has a (π, π') -mixed element \bar{g} . Suppose g is an inverse image of \bar{g} in G , since under the homomorphism $|\bar{g}| \mid |g|$, we conclude that g is a (π, π') -mixed element, contrary to that G is a $C\pi\pi$ -group.

Lemma 5. If G is a $C\pi\pi$ -group, G is not a π -group, $1 \neq A \triangleleft G$ and then $C_G(A)$ is a nilpotent normal subgroup of G .

Proof. Since $C_G(A) \triangleleft N_G(A) = G$, if $C_G(A) = 1$, then the conclusion is obviously true. Thus we can assume $C_G(A) \neq 1$, by $C_G(A)$ is a $C\pi\pi$ -group, G can only contain π -elements or π' -elements, thereby $C_G(A)$ is either a π -group or a π' -group. If $C_G(A)$ is a π -group, then since G is not a π -group, $C_G(A)$ admits a fixed-point-free automorphism of order q ($q \in \pi'$), by Thompson's theorem ([9] Theorem 12.9), $C_G(A)$ is a nilpotent group. If $C_G(A)$ is a π' -group, then since G is a $C\pi\pi$ -group, $C_G(A)$ admits a fixed-point-free automorphism of order p ($p \in \pi$), it is similarly nilpotent.

For convenience, we call the finite groups in which every Sylow subgroup is a cyclic group or a generalized quaternion group ZQ -groups. Obviously, the subgroups of ZQ -groups are ZQ -groups.

Lemma 6. If ZQ-group N is a characteristic simple group, then the order of N is a prime.

Proof. The characteristic simple group is the direct product of isomorphic simple groups, its every direct factor is a simple ZQ-group, by [7], a simple ZQ-group is a group of prime order. Again because every Sylow subgroup of ZQ-groups contains only a group of order p , we conclude that the order of N is a prime.

Theorem 5. Let G be a π -separable group and let G be not a π -group; let F be a fitting subgroup of G . Thus

I. F is a non-identity π' -group.

1. When F is a π' -Hall subgroup of G , $G = HF$, H is a ZQ-group. Moreover, G is a Frobenius group with Frobenius kernel F .

2. When F is not a π' -Hall subgroup of G , $G = KHF$, in which K is a cyclic π' -group, H is a cyclic π -group of odd order, $F = O_{\pi}(G)$. $|K| = (p_1 - 1, \dots, p_r - 1)$, p_1, \dots, p_r are all different prime factors of $|H|$. KH is a complementary group of F , moreover, it is a Frobenius group with Frobenius kernel H . $HF \triangleleft G$, HF is a Frobenius group with Frobenius kernel F or

II. F is a non-identity π -group. In this case we can suppose that H is a π' -Hall subgroup of G , and we have the same conclusion to I (exchanging only π and π').

Proof. Since G is a π -separable $C_{\pi\pi}$ -group, and G is not a π -group, hence $O_{\pi}(G)$ or $O_{\pi'}(G)$ is not 1 and G . But since G is a π' -separable $C_{\pi'\pi'}$ -group and G is not a π' -group, therefore II and I have completely the same conclusion, we need only discuss the case of $O_{\pi'}(G) \neq 1$.

Since G is a $C_{\pi\pi}$ -group, $O_{\pi'}(G)$ admits a fixed-point-free automorphism of order p ($p \in \pi$), by Thompson's theorem ([9] Theorem 12.9) $O_{\pi'}(G)$ is a nilpotent group, hence $F = O_{\pi'}(G)$. If F is a π' -Hall subgroup, then G has π' -complement H , H is a π -Hall subgroup. It acts fixed-point-free on π' -group F . Hence H is a ZQ-group and case I. 1, is true. Let F be not a π' -Hall subgroup, by the maximum property of F , $\overline{G} = G/F$ does not contain the normal π -subgroup, but \overline{G} is π -separable, it must contain a minimal normal π -subgroup \overline{P} , $\overline{P} = PF/F \cong P$. Since π -group P acts fixed-point-free on π' -group F , \overline{P} is a ZQ-group. And by Lemma 6, \overline{P} is a group of order p ($p \in \pi$). Moreover, since \overline{G} is a $C_{\pi\pi}$ -group, hence $C_{\overline{G}}(\overline{P})$ does not contain π' -elements, it is a π -group. Furthermore, from F is not a π' -Hall subgroup of G , \overline{G} is not a π -group and

$$N_{\overline{G}}(\overline{P})/C_{\overline{G}}(\overline{P}) = \overline{G}/C_{\overline{G}}(\overline{P}) \cong (\text{the subgroup of } \text{Aut}(\overline{P}), \text{ i.e. the subgroup}$$

of cyclic group of order $p-1$), we see that $\overline{G}/C_{\overline{G}}(\overline{P})$ can only contain π' -elements and can't contain π -elements, therefore $\overline{G}/C_{\overline{G}}(\overline{P})$ is a cyclic π' -group. That is, $\overline{G}/C_{\overline{G}}(\overline{P}) \cong \overline{L}$, in which \overline{L} is a π' -Hall subgroup of \overline{G} , moreover $|\overline{L}| \mid p-1$. Also by Lemma 5, $C_{\overline{G}}(\overline{P})$ is a nilpotent normal subgroup of \overline{G} , hence $C_{\overline{G}}(\overline{G}) = F(\overline{G})$, and $\overline{G} = F(\overline{G})\overline{L}$. Since the inverse image of $F(\overline{G})$ in G has the normal Hall subgroup F , hence its complement H exist. Therefore, $F(\overline{G}) = HF/F \cong H$, H is a nilpotent π -group of ZQ type and $HP \triangleleft G$. By Frattini's argument ([11] IV.2.e), we obtain $G = N_G(H)HF = N_G(H)F$, also since the non-identity elements between F and H do not permute, we conclude $N_G(H) \cap F = 1$. Let K be a π -complement of $N_G(H)$, thus $N_G(H) = KH$, $G = KHF$, and $K \cong \overline{L}$, K is a cyclic π' -group. Suppose p_1, \dots, p_r are all different prime factors of $|H|$, since $H \cong F(\overline{G}) \triangleleft \overline{G}$, H is a nilpotent ZQ-group, we obtain that \overline{G} has the normal subgroup of order p_i ($i=1, \dots, r$). Like the discussion of \overline{P} we can obtain $|K| \mid (p_1-1, \dots, p_r-1)$. Hence if H is a group of even order, then we have clearly that $K=1$, $G=HF$, F is a π' -Hall subgroup of G , contrary to hypothesis. Therefore, H is a cyclic π -group of odd order.

In this theorem the conclusions about Frobenius groups can immediately be obtained by the definition of $C\pi\pi$ -groups and [9] Theorem 10.5.

This theorem is a generalization of [1] Theorem 1, [3] II. Theorem 1, Theorem 2, the partial results of [6] and [15] Lemma 2.3.

From Theorem 5 we deduce easily the conclusion of [14] that if G is a solvable $C\pi\pi$ -group; G is not a π group, then either a π -Hall subgroup or a π' -Hall subgroup of G is a nilpotent CCT-subgroup. Furthermore, we can generalize following corollary from this theorem.

Corollary 3. If G is a π -separable $C\pi\pi$ -group and G is not a π -group, then either a π -Hall subgroup or a π' -Hall subgroup of G is a nilpotent CCT-subgroup.

Proof. By Theorem 5, we need only consider this case in which F is a non-identity π' -group. When F is a π' -Hall subgroup of G , $G=HF$, where F is a Frobenius kernel of G , by [9] Theorem 10.5.2) we see that F is a nilpotent CCT-subgroup. When F is not a π' -Hall subgroup of G , $G=KHF$, where the cyclic group H is a nilpotent π -Hall subgroup of G ; moreover, H is a Frobenius kernel of KH and H is a Frobenius complement of HF . Let g be an element of G . Since $g = khf$, $k \in K$, $h \in H$, $f \in F$, $H^g = H^f$, hence $H \cap H^g = H \cap H^f = 1$ or H , that is, H is a TI-set. Moreover, since if the element $g \neq 1$ of G permute with the element $h_1 \neq 1$ of H ,

then we can conclude $g = h \in H$. Thus $C_G(h_1) \leq H$, $1 \neq h_1 \in H$, i.e. H is a CC subgroup. Therefore, in this case the π -Hall subgroup H is a nilpotent CCT-subgroup.

According to Theorem 5 and Lemma 3, we may discuss the chief factors of the solvable $C\pi\pi$ groups as we discuss the solvable CN-groups.

Theorem 6. Let G be a $C\pi\pi$ -group and let G be not a π -group; let F be a Fitting subgroup of G . If G has a normal subgroup Q of order q , then G is solvable, and $F = C_G(Q)$, $|G/F| \mid q-1$; $G = HF$, in which H is a cyclic Hall subgroup of G . If G has a normal subgroup of order q_i , for all $q_i \mid |F|$, then G is supersolvable.

Proof. Since $Q \leq G$, $Q \leq O_q(G)$, we obtain that $Q \leq Z(O_q(G))$, hence $Q \leq Z(F)$, thus $C_G(Q) \geq F$. Also by Lemma 5, $C_G(Q)$ is a nilpotent normal subgroup of G , from the maximum property of F , $C_G(Q) = F$. But since

$G/F = N_G(Q)/C_G(Q) =$ the subgroup of cyclic group of order $q-1$, we obtain that G/F is solvable, deduce that G is solvable, and $|G/F| \mid q-1$. Since G is a $C\pi\pi$ group and G is not a π group, hence from G/F is an abelian group, we result in $(|G/F|, |F|) = 1$. Thereby $G = HF$. H is a cyclic Hall subgroup of G .

If G has a normal subgroup Q_i of order q_i , for all $q_i \mid |F|$, then from the discussion above we see that G is solvable. moreover $C_G(Q_i) = F$. Furthermore, $G = HF$, F is a Hall subgroup of G , and the complementary group H of F is cyclic. Like the case of Theorem 3. [.] completely, by Lemma 3 we can immediately conclude that the chief factors of G are $\underbrace{p_1, \dots, p_1}_{\alpha_1}, \dots, \underbrace{p_r, \dots, p_r}_{\alpha_r}, \underbrace{q_1^{b_1}, \dots, q_1^{b_1}}_{\beta_1}, \dots, \underbrace{q_s^{b_s}, \dots, q_s^{b_s}}_{\beta_s}$; in which $|H| = p_1^{\alpha_1} \dots p_r^{\alpha_r}$, $|F| = q_1^{\beta_1} \dots q_s^{\beta_s}$, b_i is the exponent of $q_i \pmod{|H|}$. Since q_i is all a chief factor of G , for all $q_i \mid |F|$, by the uniqueness of the chief factors we see that G is supersolvable.

We see easily that the supersolvable conditions is this theorem are also necessary.

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