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# On $\mathfrak{F}_s$ -Quasinormality of 2-Maximal Subgroups

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Abstract Let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be a class of finite groups. A subgroup H of a finite group G is said to be  $\mathfrak{F}_s$ -quasinormal in G if there exists a normal subgroup T of G such that HT is s-permutable in G and  $(H \cap T)H_G/H_G$  is contained in the  $\mathfrak{F}$ -hypercenter  $Z^{\mathfrak{F}}_{\infty}(G/H_G)$  of  $G/H_G$ . In this paper, we use  $\mathfrak{F}_s$ -quasinormal subgroups to study the structure of finite groups. Some new results are obtained.

 $\label{eq:stability} \textbf{Keywords} \quad \mathfrak{F}_{s}\text{-quasinormal subgroup; Sylow subgroup; maximal subgroup; 2-maximal subgroup; 2-maximal subgroup.}$ 

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## 1. Introduction

All groups considered in the paper are finite and G denotes a finite group, the notations and terminology in this paper are standard, as in [2] and [8].

Recall that a subgroup H of G is called an s-quasinormal subgroup (or s-permutable subgroup [6]) in G if H is permutable with every Sylow subgroup P of G (that is, HP = PH). Wang [10] defined c-normal subgroup: A subgroup H of a group G is said to be c-normal if there exists a normal subgroup K such that G = HK and  $H \cap K \leq H_G$ , where  $H_G$  is the maximal normal subgroup of G contained in H. Moreover, Feng and Guo [1] defined the concept of  $\mathfrak{F}_h$ -normal subgroup: A subgroup H of a group G is said to be  $\mathfrak{F}_h$ -normal in G if there exists a normal subgroup: A subgroup H of a group G is said to be  $\mathfrak{F}_h$ -normal in G if there exists a normal subgroup K of G such that HK is a normal Hall subgroup of G and  $(H \cap K)H_G/H_G$  is contained in the  $\mathfrak{F}$ -hypercenter  $Z^{\mathfrak{F}}_{\infty}(G/H_G)$  of  $G/H_G$ . By using these concepts mentioned above, many interesting results have been obtained (see, for example, [1, 3, 7, 10]). Recently, Huang [6] introduced the following concept:

**Definition 1.1** Let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be a non-empty class of groups and H a subgroup of a group G. H is said to be  $\mathfrak{F}_s$ -quasinormal in G if there exists a normal subgroup T of G such that HT is s-permutable in G and  $(H \cap T)H_G/H_G \leq Z^{\mathfrak{F}}_{\infty}(G/H_G)$ .

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Recall that, for a class  $\mathfrak{F}$  of groups, a chief factor H/K of a group G is called  $\mathfrak{F}$ -central (see [9] or [2, Definition 2.4.3]) if  $[H/K](G/C_G(H/K)) \in \mathfrak{F}$ . The symbol  $Z^{\mathfrak{F}}_{\infty}(G)$  denotes the  $\mathfrak{F}$ -hypercenter of a group G, that is, the product of all such normal subgroups H of G whose G-chief factors are  $\mathfrak{F}$ -central. A subgroup H of G is said to be  $\mathfrak{F}$ -hypercenter in G if  $H \leq Z^{\mathfrak{F}}_{\infty}(G)$ . We use  $\mathfrak{N}, \mathfrak{U}$ , and  $\mathfrak{S}$  to denote the formations of all nilpotent groups, supersoluble groups and soluble groups, respectively.

Obviously, all subgroups, whether they are c-normal, s-quasinormal or  $\mathfrak{F}_h$ -normal, are all  $\mathfrak{F}_s$ -quasinormal in G, for any nonempty saturated formation  $\mathfrak{F}$ . For example, if a subgroup H is c-normal in G, then there exists a normal subgroup K such that G = HK and  $(H \cap K)H_G/H_G = 1 \leq Z^{\mathfrak{F}}_{\infty}(G/H_G)$ . However, the converse is not true (see Example 1.2 in [6]).

By using this new concept, Huang [6] has given some conditions under which a finite group belongs to some formations. In this article, we study further the influence of  $\mathfrak{F}_{s}$ -quasinormal subgroups on the structure of finite groups. Some new results are obtained and a series of known results are generalized.

## 2. Preliminaries

The following known results are useful in our proof.

**Lemma 2.1** ([5, Lemma 2.2]) Let G be a group and  $H \leq K \leq G$ .

(1) If H is s-permutable in G, then H is s-permutable in K;

(2) Suppose that H is normal in G. Then K/H is s-permutable in G/H if and only if K is s-permutable in G;

- (3) If H is s-permutable in G, then H is subnormal in G;
- (4) If H and F are s-permutable in G, the  $H \cap F$  is s-permutable in G;
- (5) If H is s-permutable in G and  $M \leq G$ , then  $H \cap M$  is s-permutable in M.

**Lemma 2.2** ([4, Lemma 2.2]) If H is a p-subgroup of G for some prime p and H is s-permutable in G, then the following properties hold:

(1) 
$$H \leq O_p(G);$$

(2)  $O^p(G) \leq N_G(H).$ 

**Lemma 2.3** ([12]) Let G be a group and  $A \leq G$ . If A is subnormal in G and A is soluble, then A is contained in some normal soluble subgroup of G.

**Lemma 2.4** ([11, Theorem 4.1]) Let p be a prime number divisor of |G| such that (|G|, p-1) = 1. Assume that the order of G is not divisible by  $p^3$  and G is  $A_4$ -free. Then G is p-nilpotent.

**Lemma 2.5** ([4, Lemma 2.5]) Let G be a group and p a prime number such that  $p^{n+1} \nmid |G|$  for some integer  $n \geq 1$ . If  $(|G|, (p-1)(p^2-1)\cdots(p^n-1)) = 1$ , then G is p-nilpotent.

**Lemma 2.6** ([6, Lemma 2.3]) Let G be a group and  $H \le K \le G$ .

(1) H is  $\mathfrak{F}_{s}$ -quasinormal in G if and only if there exists a normal subgroup T of G such

that HT is s-permutable in G,  $H_G \leq T$  and  $H/H_G \cap T/H_G \leq Z^{\mathfrak{F}}_{\infty}(G/H_G)$ ;

(2) Suppose that H is normal in G. Then K/H is  $\mathfrak{F}_s$ -quasinormal in G/H if and only if K is  $\mathfrak{F}_s$ -quasinormal in G;

(3) Suppose that H is normal in G. Then, for every  $\mathfrak{F}_s$ -quasinormal subgroup E of G satisfying (|H|,|E|)=1, HE/H is  $\mathfrak{F}_s$ -quasinormal in G/H;

(4) If H is  $\mathfrak{F}_s$ -quasinormal in G and  $\mathfrak{F}$  is S-closed, then H is  $\mathfrak{F}_s$ -quasinormal in K;

(5) If H is  $\mathfrak{F}_s$ -quasinormal in G, K is normal in G and  $\mathfrak{F}$  is  $S_n$ -closed, then H is  $\mathfrak{F}_s$ quasinormal in K;

(6) If  $G \in \mathfrak{F}$ , then every subgroup of G is  $\mathfrak{F}_s$ -quasinormal in G.

#### 3. Main results and applications

Recall that a subgroup H is said to be a 2-maximal subgroup of G if H is a maximal subgroup of some maximal subgroup of G.

**Theorem 3.1** Let G be a group and P a Sylow p-subgroup of G, where p is the prime divisor of |G| with  $(|G|, p^2 - 1) = 1$ . If every 2-maximal subgroup of P (if exists) is  $\mathfrak{N}_s$ -quasinormal in G, then G is soluble.

**Proof** Assume that the theorem is false and let G be a counterexample of minimal order. If p > 2, then G is soluble by  $(|G|, p^2 - 1) = 1$  and the well-known Feit-Thompson Theorem of odd groups. Hence we only need to consider the case that p = 2.

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

If  $O_2(G) = P$  or  $O_2(G)$  is a maximal subgroup or a 2-maximal subgroup of P, then  $G/O_2(G)$  is 2-nilpotent by Lemma 2.5. It follows that G is soluble, a contradiction. Hence, there exists some 2-maximal subgroup  $P_2$  such that  $O_2(G) < P_2$ . By Lemma 2.6 (2), we see that  $G/O_2(G)$  satisfies the hypothesis. The minimal choice of G implies that  $G/O_2(G)$  is soluble and thereby G is soluble, also a contradiction. Hence (1) holds.

- (2)  $2^3 | |G|$  (This follows directly from Lemma 2.5).
- (3) Final contradiction.

Let  $P_2$  be a 2-maximal subgroup of P. Then  $P_2 \neq 1$  and  $(P_2)_G = 1$ . By the hypothesis, there exists a normal subroup K of G such that  $P_2K$  is s-permutable in G and  $P_2 \cap K \leq Z_{\infty}^{\mathfrak{N}}(G)$ . Hence  $P_2 \cap K \leq Z_{\infty}^{\mathfrak{N}}(G)_p \leq O_2(G) = 1$ . By Lemma 2.5, K is soluble. Since  $P_2K/K \cong P_2/P_2 \cap K \cong P_2$ , we have  $P_2K/K$  is soluble. Hence  $P_2K$  is soluble. Since  $P_2K$  is s-permutable in G,  $P_2K$  is subnormal in G by Lemma 2.1(3). It follows from Lemma 2.3 that  $P_2K$  is contained in some soluble normal subgroup L of G. Obviously,  $p^3 \nmid |G/L|$ . Hence G/L is soluble by Lemma 2.5. This implies that G is soluble, a contradiction.

**Lemma 3.2** Let p be the smallest prime dividing |G| and P some Sylow p-subgroup of G. Then G is soluble if and only if every maximal subgroup of P is  $\mathfrak{S}_s$ -quasinormal in G.

**Proof** The necessity part is obvious by Lemma 2.6(6). We only need to prove the sufficiency

part. Suppose that the assertion is false and let G be a counterexample of minimal order. Then p = 2 by the well known Feit-Thompson theorem of odd group. We proceed with the proof by the following steps.

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

Assume that  $N = O_2(G) \neq 1$ . Then 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. By the hypothesis and Lemma 2.6(2), M/N is  $\mathfrak{S}_s$ -quasinormal in G/N. The minimal choice of G implies that G/N is soluble. It follows that G is soluble, a contradiction. Hence (1) holds.

(2)  $O_{2'}(G) = 1.$ 

Assume that  $D = O_{2'}(G) \neq 1$ . Then PD/D is a Sylow 2-subgroup of G/D. Suppose that M/D is a maximal subgroup of PD/D. Then there exists a maximal subgroup  $P_1$  of P such that  $M = P_1D$ . By the hypothesis and Lemma 2.6(3),  $M/D = P_1D/D$  is  $\mathfrak{S}_s$ -quasinormal in G/D. Hence G/D is soluble by the choice of G. It follows that G is soluble, a contradiction.

(3) Final contradiction.

Let  $P_1$  be a maximal subgroup of P. By the hypothesis, there exists a normal subroup K of G such that  $P_1K$  is s-permutable in G and  $(P_1 \cap K)(P_1)_G/(P_1)_G \leq Z_{\infty}^{\mathfrak{S}}(G/(P_1)_G)$ . Note that  $Z_{\infty}^{\mathfrak{S}}(G)$  is a soluble normal subgroup of G. By (1) and (2), we have  $(P_1)_G = 1$  and  $Z_{\infty}^{\mathfrak{S}}(G) = 1$ . This induces that  $P_1 \cap K = 1$ . If K = 1, then  $P_1$  is s-permutable in G and so  $P_1 = 1$  by (1) (2) and Lemma 2.2(1). This means that |P| = 2. Then by [8, (10.1.9)], G is 2-nilpotent and so G is soluble, a contradiction. Now assume that  $K \neq 1$ . If  $2 \mid |K|$ , then  $|K_2| = 2$ , where  $K_2$  is some Sylow 2-subgroup of K. By [8, (10.1.9)] again, we see that K is 2-nilpotent, and so K has a normal 2-complement  $K_{2'}$ . Since  $K_{2'}$  char  $K \leq G$ ,  $K_{2'} \leq G$ . Hence by (2),  $K_{2'} = 1$  and so |K| = 2, which contradicts (1). If  $2 \nmid |K|$ , then K is a 2'-group. Hence by (2),  $K \leq O_{2'}(G) = 1$ , also a contradiction. The theorem is proved.  $\Box$ 

**Corollary 3.3** 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  $\mathfrak{S}_{s}$ -quasinormal in G, then G is soluble.

**Proof** By the well known Feit-Thompson's theorem, we may assume that 2 | |G|. If r = 2, then M is normal in G. By Lemma 2.6(4), every maximal subgroup of P is  $\mathfrak{S}_s$ -quasinormal in M. Hence by Lemma 3.2, M is soluble. It follows that G is soluble. If  $r \neq 2$ , then p = 2 and P is a Sylow 2-subgroup of G. By using Lemma 3.2, we obtain that G is soluble.

**Corollary 3.4** ([1, Theorem 4.2]) Let p be the smallest prime dividing |G| and P some Sylow p-subgroup of G. Then G is soluble if and only if every maximal subgroup of P is  $\mathfrak{S}_h$ -normal in G.

**Theorem 3.5** Let P be some Sylow p-subgroup of G, where p is the smallest prime dividing |G|. Assume that G is A<sub>4</sub>-free and every 2-maximal subgroup of P (if exists) is  $\mathfrak{S}_s$ -quasinormal in G. Then G is soluble.

**Proof** Suppose that the assertion is false and let G be a counterexample of minimal order. Then p = 2 by the well-known Feit-Thompson theorem. We proceed with the proof via the following steps.

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

Assume that  $N = O_2(G) \neq 1$ . Then P/N is a Sylow 2-subgroup of G/N. Let M/N be a 2-maximal subgroup of P/N. Then M is a 2-maximal subgroup of P. By the hypothesis and Lemma 2.6(2), M/N is  $\mathfrak{S}_s$ -quasinormal in G/N. The minimal choice of G implies that G/N is soluble. It follows that G is soluble, a contradiction. Hence (1) holds.

(2)  $O_{2'}(G) = 1.$ 

Assume that  $D = O_{2'}(G) \neq 1$ . Then PD/D is a Sylow 2-subgroup of G/D. Suppose that M/D is a 2-maximal subgroup of PD/D. Then there exists a 2-maximal subgroup  $P_2$  of P such that  $M = P_2D$ . By the hypothesis and Lemma 2.6(3),  $M/D = P_2D/D$  is  $\mathfrak{S}_s$ -quasinormal in G/D. Hence G/D is soluble by the choice of G. It follows that G is soluble, a contradiction.

(3) Final contradiction.

Let  $P_2$  be a 2-maximal subgroup of P. By the hypothesis, there exists a normal subroup Kof G such that  $P_2K$  is s-permutable in G and  $(P_2 \cap K)(P_2)_G/(P_2)_G \leq Z_{\infty}^{\mathfrak{S}}(G/(P_2)_G)$ . If K = 1, then as the same proof in Lemma 3.2, we may assume that  $K \neq 1$ . Note that  $Z_{\infty}^{\mathfrak{S}}(G)$  is a soluble normal subgroup of G. By (1) and (2), we have  $(P_2)_G = 1$  and  $Z_{\infty}^{\mathfrak{S}}(G) = 1$ . This induces that  $P_2 \cap K = 1$ . If  $2 \nmid |K|$ , then K is a 2'-group, Hence by (2),  $K \leq O_{2'}(G) = 1$ , a contradiction. If  $2 \mid |K|$  and  $2^2 \nmid |K|$ , then by [8, (10.1.9)], K has a normal Hall 2'-subgroup  $K_{2'}$ . Since  $K_{2'}$ char  $K \leq G$ ,  $K_{2'} \leq G$ . Then by (2),  $K_{2'} = 1$ . It follows that |K| = 2, which is impossible by (1). Finally assume that  $2^2 \mid |K|$ , then  $|K_2| = 2^2$  since  $P_2 \cap K = 1$ , where  $K_2$  is some Sylow 2-subgroup of K. By Lemma 2.4, K is 2-nilpotent. Hence K has a normal 2-complement  $K_{2'}$ . Since  $K_{2'}$  char  $K \leq G$ ,  $K_{2'} \leq G$ . Hence  $K_{2'} = 1$  by (2) and so  $|K| = 2^2$ , which contradicts (1). The theorem is proved.  $\Box$ 

**Corollary 3.6** ([1, Theorem 4.3]) Let P be some Sylow p-subgroup of G, where p is the smallest prime dividing |G|. Assume that G is A<sub>4</sub>-free and every 2-maximal subgroup of P (if exists) is  $\mathfrak{S}_h$ -normal in G. Then G is soluble.

**Theorem 3.7** Let p be the smallest prime number dividing the order of a group G and P a Sylow p-subgroup of G. If every 2-maximal subgroup of P (if exists) is  $\mathfrak{U}_s$ -quasinormal in G and G is  $A_4$ -free, then G is p-nilpotent.

**Proof** Suppose that the assertion is false and let G be a counterexample of minimal order. Then:

(1)  $O_{p'}(G) = 1$ , and if  $|P| = p^{\alpha}$ , then  $\alpha \ge 3$ .

If  $O_{p'}(G) \neq 1$ , then by Lemma 2.6(3), we see that every 2-maximal subgroup of  $PO_{p'}(G)/O_{p'}(G)$ is  $\mathfrak{U}_{s}$ -quasinormal in  $G/O_{p'}(G)$ . By the minimal choice of G,  $G/O_{p'}(G)$  is *p*-nilpotent and so Gis *p*-nilpotent, a contradiction. Hence,  $O_{p'}(G) = 1$ . By Lemma 2.4, we have  $\alpha \geq 3$ .

(2) G is soluble and  $O_p(G) \neq 1$ .

Obviously, a  $\mathfrak{U}_{s}$ -quasinormal subgroup of G is  $\mathfrak{S}_{s}$ -quasinormal in G. Hence by Theorem 3.5, we see that G is soluble. It follows from (1) that  $O_{p}(G) \neq 1$ .

(3)  $O_p(G)$  is a minimal normal subgroup of G and  $G/O_p(G)$  is p-nilpotent.

Let N be a minimal normal subgroup of G contained in  $O_p(G)$ . By Lemma 2.6(2), G/N satisfies the hypothesis. The minimal choice of G implies that G/N is p-nilpotent. If G has another minimal normal subgroup  $N_1$  contained in  $O_p(G)$ , then  $G/N_1$  is also p-nilpotent. It follows that  $G \simeq G/(N \cap N_1)$  is p-nilpotent, a contradiction. Thus N is the unique minimal normal subgroup of G contained in  $O_p(G)$ .

Let T/N be a normal *p*-complement of G/N. By the well known Schur-Zassenhaus theorem, N has a complement H in T and any two complements are conjugate in T. Then G = PT = PNH = PH and  $G = TN_G(H) = NN_G(H)$  by Frattini argument. Assume that  $\Phi(O_p(G)) \neq 1$ . Then  $N \leq \Phi(O_p(G))$ , and so  $G = N_G(H)$  since  $\Phi(O_p(G)) \leq \Phi(G)$ . This means that H is a normal Hall *p'*-subgroup of G. It follows that G is *p*-nilpotent. The contradiction shows that  $\Phi(O_p(G)) = 1$ . Hence  $O_p(G)$  is an elementary abelian group ([2, Theorem 1.8.17]). If  $N < O_p(G)$ , then  $1 \neq O_p(G) \cap N_G(H)$  is normal in  $NN_G(H) = G$ . Obviously,  $N \notin N_G(H)$ , so  $N \notin O_p(G) \cap N_G(H)$ , which contradicts the fact that N is the unique minimal normal subgroup of G contained in  $O_p(G)$ . Hence  $O_p(G) = N$  is a minimal normal subgroup of G.

(4) Final contradiction.

Let  $T/O_p(G)$  be the normal p'-complement of  $G/O_p(G)$ . Then by Schur-Zassenhaus theorem,  $N = O_p(G)$  has a complement H in T, which is a Hall p'-subgroup of G and any two complements of  $O_p(G)$  are conjugate in T. This implies that  $G = TN_G(H)$  by Frattini argument. Let  $P^*$  be a Sylow p-subgroup of  $N_G(H)$  which is contained in P. Thus  $P^* = P \cap N_G(H)$ . By the choice of G, we have  $N_G(H) < G$ . Hence  $P^* < P$ . If  $|P:P^*| = p$ , then  $|G:N_G(H)| = p$ . Since p is the smallest prime divisor of |G|,  $N_G(H)$  is a normal subgroup of G. It follows that H is a normal subgroup of G, a contradiction. Thus  $|P:P^*| \ge p^2$ . Let  $P_2$  be a 2-maximal subgroup of P and  $P_1$  a maximal subgroup of P with  $P^* \leq P_2 < P_1$ . If  $O_p(G) \leq P_1$ , then  $O_p(G)P^* \leq P_1$ . But since  $G = TN_G(H) = O_p(G)N_G(H), P = O_p(G)P^* \leq P_1$ , a contradiction. Hence  $O_p(G) \notin P_1$  and so  $(P_2)_G = (P_1)_G = 1$  by (3). Then by the hypothesis, there exists a normal subgroup K of G such that  $P_2K$  is s-permutable in G and  $P_2 \cap K \leq Z^{\mathfrak{U}}_{\infty}(G)$ . If  $Z^{\mathfrak{l}}_{\infty}(G) \neq 1$ , then there exists  $L \leq Z^{\mathfrak{l}}_{\infty}(G)$  such that L is a minimal normal subgroup of G with |L| = r, for some prime  $r \in \pi(G)$ . Since  $O_{p'}(G) = 1$  by (1), r = p, which is impossible. Hence  $Z_{\infty}^{\mathfrak{U}}(G) = 1$ . It follows that  $P_2 \cap K = 1$ . Assume that  $P_2 K < G$ . If  $p \nmid |K|$ , then K is a p'-group. By (1),  $K \leq O_{p'}(G) = 1$ . Hence,  $P_2$  is s-permutable in G. By Lemma 2.2(2), we have  $O^p(G) \leq N_G(P_2)$ . By (1),  $p^3 \mid |G|$ . Hence,  $P_2 \neq 1$ . Then  $O_p(G) \leq P_2^G \leq P_2^{O^p(G)P} \leq P_1^P \leq P_1$ , which contradicts the fact that  $O_p(G) \leq P_1$ . If  $p \mid |K|$  and  $p^2 \nmid |K|$ , then by [8, (10.1.9)], K has a normal Hall p'-subgroup of  $K_{p'}$ . Since  $K_{p'}$  char  $K \leq G$ ,  $K_{p'} \leq G$ . Then by (1),  $K_{p'} = 1$ . It follows that |K| = p and so  $K = O_p(G)$ . Hence by Lemma 2.2(1),  $P_2K \leq O_p(G) = K$ . This induces that  $P_2 \leq K$ . Obviously,  $P_2 < K$ . Hence  $|P_2| = 1$ , which is impossible by (1). Now assume  $p^2 \mid |K|$ . Then since  $K \leq G$ ,  $K_p \leq P$ , where  $K_p$  is some Sylow *p*-subgroup of K. Hence  $P_2K_p = P$ . This induces that  $P \subseteq P_2K$ . Hence  $P_2K$  satisfies the hypothesis by Lemma 2.6(4).

The minimal choice of G implies that  $P_2K$  is p-nilpotent. Let  $H_1$  be a p-complement of  $P_2K$ . Then by (1),  $H_1 = 1$  and so  $P_2K = P$ . By Lemma 2.2(1),  $O_p(G) \leq P_2K = P \leq O_p(G)$ . It follows from (3) that  $K = P = O_p(G)$ . Consequently  $P_2 = 1$  and so  $|P| = p^2$ , which contradicts (1). Therefore  $P_2K = G$ . In this case, the order of Sylow p-subgroup of K is  $p^2$ . By Lemma 2.4, K is p-nilpotent and so K has a normal p-complement  $H_1$ . By (1),  $H_1 = 1$  and so  $|K| = p^2$ . It follows that  $G = P_2K$  is a p-group. The final contradiction completes the proof.  $\Box$ 

**Corollary 3.8** ([1, Theorem 5.1]) Let p be the smallest prime number dividing the order of G and P a Sylow p-subgroup of G. If every 2-maximal subgroup of P is  $\mathfrak{U}_h$ -normal in G and G is  $A_4$ -free, then G is p-nilpotent.

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