

# On the intersection of certain maximal subgroups of a finite group

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Communicated by Francesco de Giovanni

*Dedicated to Professor Ben Brewster on the occasion of his 70th birthday*

**Abstract.** Let  $\Delta(G)$  denote the intersection of all non-normal maximal subgroups of a group  $G$ . We introduce the class of  $T_2$ -groups which are defined as the groups  $G$  for which  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a  $T$ -group, that is, a group in which normality is a transitive relation. Several results concerning the class  $T_2$  are discussed. In particular, if  $G$  is a solvable group, then Sylow permutability is a transitive relation in  $G$  if and only if every subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group such that the nilpotent residual of  $H$  is a Hall subgroup of  $H$ .

## 1 Introduction and statements of results

All groups considered are finite.

It seems that knowing some information about the intersection of certain types of maximal subgroups of a finite group often provides some worthwhile insight into the structure of a finite group. In [11], Gaschütz developed many interesting properties of the Frattini subgroup of a finite group and showed how these properties could be used to find new structural information of such groups. In [11], he introduced a subgroup  $\Delta(G)$  similar to the Frattini subgroup and developed some of its properties. Here  $\Delta(G)$  is defined as the intersection of all non-normal maximal subgroups of  $G$  (and  $\Delta(G) = G$  if all maximal subgroups of  $G$  are normal, that is, if  $G$  is nilpotent). In [11], the following was established:

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $G$  be a group. Then*

- (i)  $\Delta(G)$  is nilpotent,
- (ii)  $\Delta(G)/\Phi(G) = Z(G/\Phi(G))$ .

Asaad and Ramadan established several other properties of  $\Delta(G)$  and their results can be found in [2]. The second author and Seo [9] used  $\Delta(G)$  to determine

a number of results about certain nilpotent properties of subnormal subgroups of a group  $G$ .

For a group  $G$ , we will denote the hypercenter, nilpotent residual, and the Frattini subgroup of  $G$ , respectively, by  $Z_*(G)$ ,  $\gamma_*(G)$ , and  $\Phi(G)$ . A group  $G$  is called a  $T_0$ -group provided that  $G/\Phi(G)$  is a  $T$ -group, that is, a group in which normality is a transitive relation;  $T_0$ -groups have been studied in [4, 7, 8, 13, 16]. A group  $G$  is called a  $T_1$ -group if  $G/Z_*(G)$  is a  $T$ -group. The second and third authors introduced the concept of a  $T_1$ -group and some of the properties of these groups were developed in [7, 8]. One of our purposes in this paper is to introduce a new class of groups which we call the  $T_2$ -groups and develop some of the properties of these groups. We call a group  $G$  a  $T_2$ -group provided that  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a  $T$ -group. The next two results provide some of the basic properties of  $T_2$ -groups.

**Theorem A.** *Let  $G$  be a group and let  $N \trianglelefteq G$ . Then:*

- (i) *If  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group, then  $G/N$  is a  $T_2$ -group.*
- (ii) *If  $N \leq \Delta(G)$  and  $G/N$  is a  $T_2$ -group, then  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group.*
- (iii) *Let  $G = H \times K$  for subgroups  $H$  and  $K$  of  $G$ . Then  $\Delta(G) = \Delta(H) \times \Delta(K)$ .*
- (iv) *If  $G$  is a solvable  $T_2$ -group, then  $G$  is supersolvable.*
- (v)  *$G$  is a  $T_2$ -group if and only if  $G/\Phi(G)$  is a  $T_1$ -group.*
- (vi) *If  $G/Z_*(G)$  is a  $T_0$ -group, then  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group.*

In Example 4.5 we will see that the converse of part (vi) of Theorem A is false. If  $G$  is a solvable group from Example 4.4 or Example 4.6, then  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group which is neither a  $T_0$ -group nor a  $T_1$ -group.

**Theorem B.** *Let  $G$  be a solvable  $T_2$ -group. Then  $G$  is a  $T_0$ -group if and only if  $\gamma_*(G)$  is a Hall subgroup of  $G$ .*

Let  $G$  be the group in Example 4.1.  $G$  is a solvable  $T_2$ -group which is also a  $T_1$ -group but not a  $T_0$ -group. Note that  $\gamma_*(G)$  is not a Hall subgroup of  $G$ . Also  $\Delta(\text{Fit}(G)) = \text{Fit}(G)$  and  $\Delta(G) = Z(G)$ . This is very different from how the Frattini subgroup of a group behaves. Recall that if  $H$  is a group and  $X \trianglelefteq H$ , then  $\Phi(X) \leq \Phi(H)$ . Note that every subgroup of  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group.

Let  $G$  be the group in Example 4.2. Then  $G$  is a  $T_0$ -group, a  $T_1$ -group, and a  $T_2$ -group.

The group  $G$  in Example 4.3 is a  $T_2$ -group and a  $T_0$ -group but not a  $T_1$ -group. The subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is neither a  $T_2$ -group nor a  $T_0$ -group. Hence the classes of solvable  $T_2$ -groups and solvable  $T_0$ -groups are not subgroup closed. We note that the class of  $T_1$ -groups is subgroup closed by [7, Lemma 1].

Let  $H$  and  $K$  be subgroups of the group  $G$ . The subgroup  $H$  is said to permute with  $K$  provided that  $HK$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , and the subgroup  $H$  is said to be permutable (S-permutable) if it permutes with every subgroup (Sylow subgroup) of  $G$ . Kegel [12] showed that an S-permutable subgroup of  $G$  is subnormal.

A group  $G$  is said to be a *PST*-group (*PT*-group) if  $H$  and  $K$  are subgroups of  $G$  such that  $H$  is S-permutable (permutable) in  $K$  and  $K$  is S-permutable (permutable) in  $G$ , then  $H$  is S-permutable (permutable) in  $G$ ; *PST*-groups and *PT*-groups have been studied in great detail in [1, 3, 4, 8, 13]. By Kegel's result it follows that a group  $G$  is a *PST*-group (*PT*-group) if and only if the subnormal subgroups of  $G$  are S-permutable (permutable).

The next theorem provides a relationship between solvable *PST*-groups and  $T_2$ -groups.

**Theorem C.** *Let  $G$  be a group. If  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a solvable *PST*-group, then  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group.*

By a result of Agrawal [1], we are able to characterize solvable  $T_2$ -groups.

**Theorem D.** *Let  $G$  be a solvable group. Then  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group if and only if it satisfies:*

- (i)  $\gamma_*(G)\Delta(G)/\Delta(G)$  is an abelian Hall subgroup of  $G/\Delta(G)$ ,
- (ii)  $G$  acts by conjugation on  $\gamma_*(G)/\Delta(G) \cap \gamma_*(G)$  as a group of power automorphisms.

For a class of groups,  $X$ , let  $X_0$  denote the class of groups  $G$  such that  $G/\Phi(G)$  is an  $X$ -group. Likewise, for a class of groups  $X$ , let  $X_2$  denote the class of groups  $G$  such that  $G/\Delta(G)$  is an  $X$ -group. In [13], the fourth author proved that the classes of solvable  $T_0$ -groups, solvable  $PT_0$ -groups, and solvable  $PST_0$ -groups are one and the same. A similar result was established in [8, Theorem B]. We will prove a similar result for solvable  $T_2$ -groups.

**Theorem E.** *The classes of solvable  $T_2$ -groups, solvable  $PT_2$ -groups, and solvable  $PST_2$ -groups are equal.*

Let  $G$  be the group in Example 4.3. Then  $G$  is a  $T_0$ -group and  $G$  has a subgroup which is not a  $T_0$ -group. We also note that  $G$  is not a *PST*-group. However, the following theorem is established in [4].

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $G$  be a group. The following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $G$  is a solvable *PST*-group.
- (ii) Every subgroup of  $G$  is a  $T_0$ -group.

A finite group  $G$  is said to satisfy property  $\alpha$  if it satisfies the following two conditions:

- ( $\alpha_1$ ) every subgroup of  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group,
- ( $\alpha_2$ ) for every subgroup  $H$  of  $G$ ,  $\gamma_*(H)$  is a Hall subgroup of  $H$ .

The group in Example 4.1 is a  $T_2$ -group whose subgroups are  $T_2$ -groups; moreover,  $G$  is not a  $T_0$ -group and its nilpotent residual is not a Hall subgroup.

**Remark 1.3.** If  $G$  satisfies ( $\alpha_1$ ), then  $G$  is supersolvable.

**Theorem F.** *Let  $G$  be a group. The following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $G$  satisfies conditions ( $\alpha_1$ )–( $\alpha_2$ ).
- (ii) Every subgroup of  $G$  is a  $T_0$ -group.
- (iii)  $G$  is a solvable PST-group.

**Theorem G.** *Let  $G$  be a group. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) Every subgroup of  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group.
- (ii) Every subgroup of  $G$  is a  $PT_2$ -group.
- (iii) Every subgroup of  $G$  is a  $PST_2$ -group.
- (iv) Every subgroup of  $G$  is a solvable  $T_2$ -group.

Let  $p$  be a prime. A group  $G$  satisfies  $C_p$  if and only if each subgroup of a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P$  of  $G$  is normal in the normalizer  $N_G(P)$ . Robinson showed (see [3, Theorem 2.2.2] or [14]) that a group  $G$  is a solvable  $T$ -group if and only if it is a  $C_p$ -group for all primes  $p$ .

Let  $\Delta_p(G)$  be the Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $\Delta(G)$ . Then  $G$  satisfies  $\overline{C_p}$  if and only if  $G/\Delta_p(G)$  is a  $C_p$ -group.

**Theorem H.** *A group  $G$  is a solvable  $T_2$ -group if and only if  $G$  is a  $\overline{C_p}$ -group for all primes  $p$ .*

We now consider how the subgroup  $\Delta(G)$  provides some interesting information about certain formations. The following information about formations can be found in [5, 10, 15].

A class of groups  $\mathfrak{F}$  is called a formation if it satisfies the following two conditions:

- (i) If  $G \in \mathfrak{F}$  and  $N \trianglelefteq G$ , then  $G/N \in \mathfrak{F}$ .
- (ii) If  $G$  is a group and  $N$  and  $M$  are normal subgroups such that  $G/N$  and  $G/M$  belong to  $\mathfrak{F}$ , then  $G/M \cap N \in \mathfrak{F}$ .

A formation is said to be saturated provided that if  $G$  is a group such that  $G/\Phi(G) \in \mathfrak{F}$ , then  $G \in \mathfrak{F}$ . Let  $P$  denote the set of primes. Any function  $f$  from  $P$  to the set of formations is called a formation function. Given a formation function  $f$ , we define the class of groups  $\text{LF}(f)$  satisfying the following condition:  $G \in \text{LF}(f)$  if for all chief factors  $H/K$  of  $G$  and for primes  $p$  dividing  $|H/K|$ , we have  $\text{Aut}_G(H/K) = G/C_G(H/K) \in f(p)$ . Then the class  $\text{LF}(f)$  is a formation. A class of groups  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a local formation if there exists a formation function  $f$  such that  $\mathfrak{F} = \text{LF}(f)$ .

**Theorem 1.4** ([5, 10]). *A formation  $\mathfrak{F}$  is saturated if and only if  $\mathfrak{F}$  is local.*

Let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be a saturated formation defined locally by the formation function  $f$ . Let  $G$  be a group and let  $H/K$  be a chief factor of  $G$ . If for each prime divisor  $p$  of  $|H/K|$  we have  $G/C_G(H/K) \in f(p)$ , then  $H/K$  is said to be  $\mathfrak{F}$ -central. Otherwise  $H/K$  is called  $\mathfrak{F}$ -eccentric. By Theorem 1.4, a group  $G$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{F}$  if and only if every chief factor of  $G$  is  $\mathfrak{F}$ -central.

Let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be a saturated formation containing the class of nilpotent groups. The following theorem is important for our last two results.

**Theorem 1.5** ([6]). *Let  $G$  be a group and let  $H$  be a subnormal subgroup of  $G$  containing  $\Phi(G)$ . If  $H/\Phi(G)$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{F}$ , then  $H$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{F}$ .*

Using Theorem 1.5 we are able to obtain the following two theorems.

**Theorem I.** *Let  $G$  be a group and let  $H$  be a subnormal subgroup of  $G$  containing  $\Delta(G)$ . If  $H/\Delta(G)$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{F}$ , then  $H$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{F}$ .*

**Theorem J.** *Let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be a formation containing the class of nilpotent groups. Then  $\mathfrak{F}$  is saturated if and only if, for a group  $G$ ,  $G/\Delta(G) \in \mathfrak{F}$ , then  $G \in \mathfrak{F}$ .*

## 2 Preliminary lemmas

Next we present four lemmas which are needed to prove Theorems A–J.

**Lemma 2.1** ([11]). *Let  $G = H \times K$ . Then  $\Phi(G) = \Phi(H) \times \Phi(K)$ .*

**Lemma 2.2** ([7]). *Let  $R$  be the nilpotent residual of  $G$  and let  $G$  be a solvable  $T_1$ -group. Then  $G$  is a  $T_0$ -group if and only if  $R$  is a Hall subgroup of  $G$ .*

**Lemma 2.3** ([13]). *Let  $G$  be a solvable  $T_0$ -group. Then the nilpotent residual of  $G$  is a nilpotent Hall subgroup of  $G$  of odd order.*

**Lemma 2.4** ([13]). *Let  $G$  be a group with nilpotent residual  $R$ . Then  $G$  is a solvable  $T_0$ -group if and only if  $G/R'$  is a solvable PST-group and  $R$  is nilpotent.*

### 3 Proofs of the main results

*Proof of Theorem A.* Let  $G$  be a group and let  $N \trianglelefteq G$ .

(i) Assume  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group. Then the factor  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a  $T$ -group. Since  $\Delta(G)N/N \leq \Delta(G/N)$  and a homomorphic image of a  $T$ -group is a  $T$ -group, it follows that  $(G/N)/\Delta(G/N)$  is a  $T$ -group. Hence  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group.

(ii) Assume  $N \leq \Delta(G)$  and  $G/N$  is a  $T_2$ -group. By (i),  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a  $T_2$ -group. Since  $\Delta(G/\Delta(G)) = 1$ ,  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group.

(iii) Let  $G = H \times K$ . By Lemma 2.1, we obtain  $\Phi(G) = \Phi(H) \times \Phi(K)$  and  $Z(G/\Phi(G)) = Z(H/\Phi(H)) \times Z(K/\Phi(K))$ . It now follows by Theorem 1.1 that  $\Delta(G)/\Phi(G) = \Delta(H)/\Phi(H) \times \Delta(K)/\Phi(K)$  so that  $\Delta(G) = \Delta(H) \times \Delta(K)$ .

(iv) Let  $G$  be a solvable  $T_2$ -group. Then  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a solvable  $T$ -group and hence  $G/\Delta(G)$  is supersolvable. Consider  $(G/\Phi(G))/(\Delta(G)/\Phi(G))$  which is isomorphic to  $G/\Delta(G)$ . Thus, by induction,  $G/\Phi(G)$  is a solvable  $T$ -group and hence supersolvable. It follows that  $G$  is supersolvable.

(v) Assume  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group. Then the factor  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a  $T$ -group and so  $(G/\Phi(G))/(\Delta(G)/\Phi(G))$  is a  $T$ -group. But

$$\Delta(G)/\Phi(G) = Z(G/\Phi(G)) = Z_*(G/\Phi(G))$$

so that  $G/\Phi(G)$  is a  $T_1$ -group. Conversely, assume that  $G/\Phi(G)$  is a  $T_1$ -group. Then it follows that  $G/\Delta(G) \simeq (G/\Phi(G))/Z(G/\Phi(G))$  is a  $T$ -group and thus  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group.

(vi) Assume that  $G/Z_*(G)$  is a  $T_0$ -group. Since  $Z_*(G) \leq \Delta(G)$ , it follows that  $G/\Phi(G) \simeq (G/\Phi(G))/Z(G/\Phi(G))$  is a  $T$ -group and so  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group.  $\square$

In Example 4.4 we note that there are  $T_2$ -groups which are neither  $T_0$ -groups nor  $T_1$ -groups.

*Proof of Theorem B.* Let  $G$  be a solvable  $T_2$ -group. First, if  $G$  is a  $T_0$ -group, then by Lemma 2.3,  $R = \gamma_*(G)$  is a Hall subgroup of  $G$ . So, let us assume that  $R$  is a Hall subgroup of  $G$ . Since  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group, we may assume  $\Delta(G) \neq \Phi(G)$ . Assume that  $\Phi(G) = 1$ . Then  $\Delta(G) = Z(G)$  by Theorem 1.1 and  $G$  is a  $T_1$ -group. Hence, by Lemma 2.2,  $G$  is a  $T_0$ -group. We may assume that  $\Phi(G) \neq 1$  and  $|G/\Phi(G)| < |G|$ . By part (i) of Theorem A,  $G/\Phi(G)$  is a solvable  $T_2$ -group and  $R\Phi(G)/\Phi(G)$  is a Hall subgroup and it is the nilpotent residual of  $G/\Phi(G)$ . By induction on  $|G|$ , it follows that  $G/\Phi(G)$  is a  $T_0$ -group whence  $G$  is as well.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem C.* Let  $G/\Delta(G)$  be a solvable  $PST$ -group. By part (v) of Theorem A,  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a  $T_1$ -group. Since  $Z_*(G/\Delta(G)) \leq \Delta(G/\Delta(G)) = 1$ , it follows that  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a  $T_2$ -group. By part (ii) of Theorem A,  $G$  is a solvable  $T_2$ -group.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem D.* Assume that  $G$  is a solvable  $T_2$ -group. Then  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a  $T$ -group and by [13, Theorem 3 (i) and (iii)], (i) and (ii) hold.

Conversely, assume (i) and (ii) are satisfied by  $G/\Delta(G)$ . By [13, Theorem 3 (i) and (iii)],  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a solvable  $PST$ -group and by Theorem C,  $G$  is a solvable  $T_2$ -group.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem E.* Let  $G$  be a solvable  $PST_2$ -group. Then  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a solvable  $PST$ -group and, by Theorem C,  $G$  is a solvable  $T_2$ -group. Equality of the classes follows easily now as it is clear that  $\mathfrak{S} \cap T_2 \subseteq \mathfrak{S} \cap PT_2 \subseteq \mathfrak{S} \cap PST_2$ , where  $\mathfrak{S}$  is the class solvable groups.  $\square$

*Proof of Remark 1.3.* Let  $G$  be a group satisfying condition  $(\alpha_1)$ . Then every subgroup of  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group. Hence, by induction, every subgroup of  $G$  is supersolvable. By a well-known result of Huppert, [15, Theorem 10.3.4],  $G$  is solvable. Thus, by part (iv) of Theorem A,  $G$  is supersolvable.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem F.* Let  $G$  be a group that satisfies condition  $\alpha$ . By Remark 1.3,  $G$  is supersolvable. Therefore, by Theorem B, every subgroup of  $G$  is a  $T_0$ -group and so (i) implies (ii).

Now assume (ii) holds. Then  $G$  is a solvable  $PST$ -group by Theorem 1.2 and (iii) holds.

Assume (iii). Then every subgroup of  $G$  is also a solvable  $PST$ -group. Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $H$  is a solvable  $T_2$ -group by Theorem C. By Agrawal, [1, Theorem 1], the nilpotent residual of  $H$  is a Hall subgroup of  $H$ . Thus,  $G$  satisfies property  $\alpha$  and (i) holds completing the proof.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem G.* The implications (i) implies (ii), (ii) implies (iii), and (iv) implies (i) are clear.

Let us show (iii) implies (iv). Assume that every subgroup of  $G$  is a  $PST_2$ -group. Then every proper subgroup is a solvable  $T_2$ -group by induction. Then, by part (iv) of Theorem A, we have that every proper subgroup of  $G$  is supersolvable. By a result of Huppert (see [15, Theorem 10.3.4]),  $G$  is a solvable group. Hence  $G$  is a solvable  $PST_2$ -group and by Theorem E,  $G$  is a solvable  $T_2$ -group.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem H.* Assume  $G$  is a  $\overline{C}_p$ -group for all primes. We must show the factor  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a solvable  $T$ -group, or equivalently,  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a  $C_q$ -group for all primes  $q$ . Assume  $q$  does not divide  $|\Delta(G)|$ . Then  $G$  is a  $C_q$ -group so that

$G/\Delta(G)$  is a  $C_q$ -group. Now assume that  $q$  divides  $|\Delta(G)|$  and let  $\Delta(G)_q$  be the Sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $\Delta(G)$ . Then the factor  $G/\Delta(G)_q$  is a  $C_q$ -group and by [8, Lemma 2 (iii)], we have that  $(G/\Delta(G)_q)/(\Delta(G)/\Delta(G)_q)$  is a  $C_q$ -group. Now  $\Delta(G/\Delta_q) = \Delta(G)/\Delta(G)_q$  so that  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a  $C_q$ -group. Therefore,  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a solvable  $T$ -group and  $G$  is a solvable  $T_2$ -group.

Conversely, assume that  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a solvable  $T$ -group. We want to show that  $G$  is a  $\overline{C}_q$ -group for all primes  $q$ . Assume  $q$  divides  $|\Delta(G)|$ . Then  $G/\Delta(G)_q$  is a solvable  $T_2$ -group by part (ii) of Theorem A. If  $q$  does not divide  $|G/\Delta(G)_q|$ , then  $G$  is a  $C_q$ -group and hence a  $\overline{C}_q$ -group. Now  $q$  does not divide  $|\Delta(G)/\Delta(G)_q|$  and hence, by induction,  $G/\Delta(G)_q$  is a  $\overline{C}_q$ -group. This means  $G/\Delta(G)_q$  is a  $C_q$ -group and  $G$  is a  $\overline{C}_q$ -group.

Now assume that  $q$  does not divide  $|\Delta(G)|$ . Then  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a  $C_q$ -group. Now  $\Delta(G)$  is a  $q'$ -group and one has  $G/\Delta(G) \in C_q$  so that  $G$  is a  $C_q$ -group by [8, Lemma 2 (ii)]. Thus  $G$  is a  $\overline{C}_q$ -group and the proof is complete.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem I.* Let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be a saturated formation containing  $\mathfrak{N}$ . By [10, Proposition IV, 3.8], there is a unique formation function, say  $f$ , defining  $\mathfrak{F}$  which is integrated and full.

Let  $G$  be a group and  $H$  a subnormal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $H/\Delta(G) \in \mathfrak{F}$ . We are to show  $H \in \mathfrak{F}$ . Note that

$$\Phi(G) \subseteq \Delta(G) \subseteq H$$

and

$$(H/\Phi(G))/(\Delta(G)/\Phi(G)) \simeq H/\Delta(G) \in \mathfrak{F}.$$

Assume  $\Phi(G) \neq 1$ . By induction on  $|G|$ , it follows that  $H/\Phi(G) \in \mathfrak{F}$ . By Theorem 1.5,  $H \in \mathfrak{F}$ . Hence, we may assume that  $\Delta(G) = Z(G)$ . Let  $K/L$  be a chief factor of  $H$  such that  $Z(G) \subseteq L \subseteq K \subseteq H$ . Then the factor  $K/L$  is  $\mathfrak{F}$ -central since  $H/\Delta(G) \in \mathfrak{F}$ . Next let  $Y/X$  be a  $p$ -chief factor of  $H$  below  $\Delta(G)$ . Then  $Y/X$  is central in  $H$  and so  $1 = G/C_H(Y/X) \in f(p)$ . This means that each chief factor of  $H$  is  $\mathfrak{F}$ -central and hence  $H \in \mathfrak{F}$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem J.* Let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be a formation containing  $\mathfrak{N}$ . Assume first that  $\mathfrak{F}$  is saturated and  $G$  is a group such that  $G/\Delta(G) \in \mathfrak{F}$ . By Theorem I it follows that  $G \in \mathfrak{F}$ .

Conversely, assume that  $G \in \mathfrak{F}$  whenever  $G/\Delta(G) \in \mathfrak{F}$ . We are to show  $\mathfrak{F}$  is saturated. Let  $G$  be a group such that  $G/\Phi(G) \in \mathfrak{F}$ . We must show  $G \in \mathfrak{F}$ . Consider the group  $(G/\Phi(G))/(\Delta(G)/\Phi(G)) \simeq G/\Delta(G)$ . Now  $G/\Phi(G) \in \mathfrak{F}$  and so  $G/\Delta(G) \in \mathfrak{F}$  being a homomorphic image of  $G/\Phi(G)$ . Therefore,  $G \in \mathfrak{F}$  and  $\mathfrak{F}$  is saturated.  $\square$

## 4 Examples

**Example 4.1.** Let  $X$  be a non-abelian group of order  $pq$  where  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct primes such that  $q$  divides  $p - 1$ . Let  $Y$  be a group of order  $p$  and put  $G = X \times Y$ . Then  $\Phi(G) = 1$ ,  $\Delta(G) = Z(G) = Y$  and  $G/\Delta(G) \simeq X$  which is a  $T$ -group. Thus  $G$  is a  $T_1$ -group and a  $T_2$ -group. Note  $G$  is not a  $T_0$ -group. Let  $W$  be the Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $X$  and note that  $\gamma_*(G) = W$  which is not a Hall subgroup of  $G$ . Also,  $\Delta(F(G)) = F(G) = W \times Y$ , the Fitting subgroup of  $G$ . Thus  $\Delta(G) = Y \leq \Delta(F(G))$ . Recall that  $\Phi(H) \leq \Phi(M)$  where  $H$  is a normal subgroup of the group  $M$  and the  $\Delta$ -subgroup does not satisfy this property of the Frattini subgroup of a group.

**Example 4.2.** Let  $E = \langle x, y \mid x^3 = y^3 = [x, y] = [[x, y], x] = [[x, y], y] = 1 \rangle$  so that  $E$  is an extra-special 3-group of order 27 and exponent 3. There is an automorphism  $\sigma$  of  $E$  of order 2 given by  $x^\sigma = x^{-1}$ ,  $y^\sigma = y^{-1}$  and  $[x, y]^\sigma = [x, y]$ . Let  $G = E \rtimes \langle \sigma \rangle$ . Then  $Z(G) = Z(E) = \Phi(E) = \Phi(G)$  and  $G$  is both a  $T_1$ -group and a  $T_0$ -group;  $G$  is also a  $T_2$ -group with  $Z(G) = \langle [x, y] \rangle$  and  $\Delta(G) = \Phi(G)$ .

**Example 4.3.** Let  $P = \langle x, y \mid x^5 = y^5 = [x, y]^5 = 1 \rangle$  be an extra-special group of order 125 and exponent 5. Let  $z = [x, y]$  and note that  $Z(P) = \Phi(P) = \langle z \rangle$ . Note that  $P$  has an automorphism  $a$  of order 4 given by  $x^a = x^2$ ,  $y^a = y^2$ , and  $z^a = z^4 = z^{-1}$ . Put  $G = P \rtimes \langle a \rangle$ . Now  $Z(G) = 1$ ,  $\Delta(G) = \langle z \rangle$ , and  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a  $T$ -group. Thus  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group and note it is also a  $T_0$ -group. Let  $H = \langle y, z, a \rangle$  and notice that  $\Phi(H) = \Delta(H) = 1$ . Further observe that  $H$  is not a  $T$ -group since  $\gamma_*(H) = \langle y, z \rangle$  and  $a$  does not act as a power automorphism on the abelian subgroup  $\gamma_*(H)$ . This means that  $H$  is neither a  $T_2$ -group nor a  $T_0$ -group. Therefore, the class of solvable  $T_2$ -groups is not subgroup-closed. Likewise, the class of solvable  $T_0$ -groups is not subgroup-closed.

**Example 4.4.** Let  $p$  be an odd prime and let  $C = \langle x \rangle$  be a cyclic group of order  $p^2$ . Let  $S = \langle y, z \mid y^p = z^2 = 1, y^z = y^{-1} \rangle$  be a dihedral group of order  $2p$ . Let  $S$  act on  $C$  as follows:  $x^z = x^{-1}$  and  $x^y = x$ . Put  $H = C \rtimes S$ . Note that  $\Phi(H) = \langle x^p \rangle$  and  $Z(H) = 1$ . Further observe that  $H$  is a solvable  $T_0$ -group and a  $T_2$ -group but not a  $T_1$ -group.

Let  $G = H \times C_p$  where  $C_p$  is a cyclic group of order  $p$ . Note that  $\Phi(G) = \langle x^p \rangle$  and  $Z(G) = C_p$  is the hypercenter of  $G$ .  $G$  is neither a  $T_0$ -group nor a  $T_1$ -group. Now  $\Delta(G)/\Phi(G) = Z(G/\Phi(G)) \simeq C_p$  and so  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group.

**Example 4.5.** Let  $C = \langle x \rangle$  be a cyclic group of order 9 and  $D = \langle y, z \rangle = \langle y \rangle \times \langle z \rangle$  be a cyclic group of order 6 with  $|y| = 3$  and  $|z| = 2$  where  $D$  is viewed as the automorphism group of  $C$ . Put  $G = C \rtimes D$ . Then  $\Phi(G) = \Phi(C) = \langle x^3 \rangle$ ,

$Z_*(G) = 1$  and  $G/\Phi(G)$  is not a  $T$ -group. Note that  $\Delta(G) = \langle x^3 \rangle \times \langle y \rangle$  and  $G/\Delta(G)$  is a  $T$ -group. Hence  $G$  is a  $T_2$ -group but not a  $T_0$ -group.

**Example 4.6.** Let  $G = P \rtimes \langle a \rangle$  be the group in Example 4.3 and let  $X = G \times \langle t \rangle$  where  $\langle t \rangle$  is a cyclic group of order 5. Then  $X$  is a solvable  $T_2$ -group which is neither a  $T_0$ -group nor a  $T_1$ -group.

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Received May 22, 2013.

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