

## A NEW CHARACTERIZATION OF SPORADIC SIMPLE GROUPS<sup>1</sup>

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**Abstract.** Let  $G$  be a finite group,  $k_1(G)$  denote the largest element order of  $G$ , and  $k_2(G)$ , the second largest element order. In this paper, we show that each sporadic simple group  $G$  can be uniquely determined by the order of  $G$  and  $k_i(G)$ , where  $i \leq 2$ .

**Key words:** finite group, the largest element order, the second largest element order, sporadic simple group, characterization.

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### 1. Introduction

It is a well-known topic to characterize a finite simple group by using two quantities, the order of  $G$  and  $\pi_e(G)$  in the past 30 years, where  $\pi_e(G)$  denotes the set of orders of elements in  $G$ . W.J. Shi characterized some finite simple groups by using  $\pi_e(G)$  and  $|G|$ , for example, see [1]-[6]. Recently, this topic has been finished by V.D. Mazurov, et al. (See [7]). Now the authors will try to characterize some finite simple groups by using less quantities and have successfully characterized simple  $K_3$ -groups, some  $K_4$ -groups by using three numbers: the order of a group, the largest and the second largest element orders. In this paper, we characterize sporadic simple groups via the order of a group and the largest and the second largest element orders.

**Notations.** The groups mentioned are all finite groups, the number in bracket “( )” behind a group is the order of the group, e.g.,  $L_2(7)(2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 7)$  means that

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$L_2(7)$  is of order  $2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 7$ . Let  $\pi_e(G)$  denote the set of orders of elements in  $G$ ,  $\pi(G)$  denote the set of all prime divisors of  $|G|$ ,  $k_1(G)$ , the largest element order of  $G$ , and  $k_2(G)$ , the second largest element order.  $S_p$ -subgroup is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ . We denote by  $\Gamma(G)$  the prime graph of  $G$  and  $t(G)$  is the number of connected components of  $\Gamma(G)$ . And we also denote the sets of vertex of the connected components of the prime graph by  $\{\pi_i, i = 1, \dots, t(G)\}$ , for convenience we call  $Pi_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq t(G)$ ) the connected components and if the order of  $G$  is even, denote the component containing 2 by  $\pi_1$  (see [8]).

In this paper, we come to the following theorems:

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $G$  be a group and  $A$  be one of the following sporadic simple groups:  $M_{11}, M_{12}, J_1, M_{22}, M_{23}, HS, J_3, M_{24}, He, Ru, Suz, O'N, Co_3, Co_2, Ly, Th, J_4, B, M$ . Then  $G \cong A$  if and only if*

- (i)  $k_1(G) = k_1(A)$ ;
- (ii)  $|G| = |A|$ .

For other sporadic simple groups, we have

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $G$  be a group and  $A$  be one of the following sporadic simple groups:  $J_2, McL, Fi_{22}, HN, Fi_{23}, Co_1, Fi_{24}$ . Then  $G \cong A$  if and only if*

- (i)  $k_i(G) = k_i(A)$ , where  $i = 1, 2$ ;
- (ii)  $|G| = |A|$ .

## 2. Preliminary results

**Lemma 1.** *Suppose that  $G$  has more than one prime graph component. Then one of the following holds:*

- (1)  $G$  is a Frobenius group or a 2 – Frobenius group;
- (2)  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |\text{Out}(K/H)|$ .

**Proof.** The lemma follows from theorem A and Lemma 3 in [8].

**Remark.** A group  $G$  will be called a 2 – Frobenius group provided  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $G/H$  and  $K$  are Frobenius groups with  $K/H$  and  $H$  as their Frobenius kernels respectively.

**Lemma 2.** *If  $G$  is a Frobenius group of even order with  $K$  the Frobenius kernel and  $H$  the Frobenius complement, then  $t(G) = 2$  and  $\Gamma(G) = \{\pi(H), \pi(K)\}$  (see [9]).*

**Lemma 3.** *If  $G$  is a 2-Frobenius group of even order, then  $t(G) = 2$  and  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $\pi(K/H) = \pi_2$ , and  $\pi(G/K) \cup \pi(H) = \pi_1$ . Moreover,  $G/K$  and  $K/H$  are cyclic groups satisfying that  $|G/K| \mid |Aut(K/H)|$ ,  $(|G/K|, |K/H|) = 1$ , and  $|G/K| < |K/H|$ . Particularly,  $G$  is solvable (see [9]).*

**Lemma 4.** *Let  $A$  be a  $\pi'$ -group of automorphisms of the  $\pi$ -group  $G$ , and suppose  $G$  or  $A$  is solvable. Then for each prime  $p$  in  $\pi$ ,  $A$  leaves invariant some  $S_p$ -subgroup of  $G$  (See [10], Theorem 6.22).*

**Lemma 5.** *Let  $k$  be a positive integer, and  $\pi(k)$  denote the set of prime divisors of  $k$ . Suppose that  $t$  is a positive integer satisfying that  $22 \leq t \leq 46$ . Then  $\pi(2^{2t} - 1) \not\subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29, 31, 41, 47, 59, 71\}$ .*

**Lemma 6.** *Let  $G$  be a sporadic simple group. Then  $|G|$ ,  $k_1(G)$  and  $k_2(G)$  are as in Table 1:*

**Table 1**

$G$	$ G $	$k_1(G)$	$k_2(G)$
$M_{11}$	$2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$	11	8
$M_{12}$	$2^6 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$	11	10
$M_{22}$	$2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$	11	8
$M_{23}$	$2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$	23	15
$M_{24}$	$2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$	23	21
$J_2$	$2^7 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7$	15	12
$Suz$	$2^{13} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13$	24	21
$HS$	$2^9 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$	20	15
$McL$	$2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$	30	15
$Co_3$	$2^{10} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$	30	24
$Co_2$	$2^{18} \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$	30	28
$Co_1$	$2^{21} \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5^4 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 23$	60	42
$He$	$2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 17$	28	21
$Fi_{22}$	$2^{17} \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13$	30	24
$Fi_{23}$	$2^{18} \cdot 3^{13} \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 23$	60	42
$Fi_{24}$	$2^{21} \cdot 3^{16} \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 23 \cdot 29$	60	45
$HN$	$2^{14} \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 19$	40	35
$Th$	$2^{15} \cdot 3^{10} \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 31$	39	36
$B$	$2^{41} \cdot 3^{13} \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 \cdot 23 \cdot 31 \cdot 47$	70	66
$M$	$2^{46} \cdot 3^{20} \cdot 5^9 \cdot 7^6 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 13^3 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 \cdot 23 \cdot 29 \cdot 31 \cdot 41 \cdot 47 \cdot 59 \cdot 71$	119	110
$J_1$	$2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 19$	19	15
$O'N$	$2^9 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11 \cdot 19 \cdot 31$	31	28
$J_3$	$2^7 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 19$	19	17
$Ly$	$2^8 \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 31 \cdot 37 \cdot 67$	67	42
$Ru$	$2^{14} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 29$	29	26
$J_4$	$2^{21} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11^3 \cdot 23 \cdot 29 \cdot 31 \cdot 37 \cdot 43$	66	44

**Proof.** The lemma follows from [11].

**Lemma 7.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $A$  be one of the following sporadic simple groups:  $M_{11}$ ,  $M_{12}$ ,  $J_1$ ,  $M_{22}$ ,  $M_{23}$ ,  $HS$ ,  $J_3$ ,  $M_{24}$ ,  $He$ ,  $Ru$ ,  $Suz$ ,  $O'N$ ,  $Co_3$ ,  $Co_2$ ,  $Ly$ ,  $Th$ ,  $J_4$ ,  $B$ ,  $M$ . Suppose that*

$$(i) \quad k_1(G) = k_1(A);$$

$$(ii) \quad |G| = |A|.$$

*Then  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$  such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ .*

**Proof.** We only need to prove the cases  $A = M_{11}$ ,  $M_{12}$ . For the other cases, we can prove them similarly.

**1.** Assume that  $A = M_{11}$  ( $2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$ ). In such case,  $|G| = 2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$  and  $k_1(G) = 11$ . Because  $k_1(G) = 11$ , it follows that 11 is an isolated point of  $\Gamma(G)$ , and therefore  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 1, we know that  $G$  is either a Frobenius group or a 2-Frobenius group, or has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  is a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . Therefore, we only need to prove that  $G$  is neither a Frobenius group nor a 2-Frobenius group.

First, we suppose that  $G$  is a Frobenius group. Then by Lemma 2 we get that  $t(G) = 2$  and  $\Gamma(G) = \{ \pi(H), \pi(K) \}$ , where  $K$  is the Frobenius kernel and  $H$  the Frobenius complement. Since  $k_1(G) = 11$ ,  $K$  is either a  $\{2, 3, 5\}$ -Hall subgroup or a Sylow 11-subgroup of  $G$ . Since  $K$  is nilpotent, let  $S$  be a Sylow subgroup of  $K$ , one has that  $|H| \mid (|S| - 1)$ . We can find a suitable Sylow subgroup of  $K$  such that  $|H| \nmid (|S| - 1)$ , then we get a contradiction. For this reason,  $K$  can't be a Sylow 11-subgroup of  $G$ . Hence  $K$  is a  $\{2, 3, 5\}$ -Hall subgroup. Consider the Sylow 5-subgroup of  $K$ , we get  $11 \mid 4$ , a contradiction. Therefore,  $G$  is not a Frobenius group.

Second, we suppose that  $G$  is a 2-Frobenius group. By Lemma 3, we know that  $t(G) = 2$  and  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$  such that  $\pi(K/H) = \pi_2$  and  $\pi(G/K) \cup \pi(H) = \pi_1$ . Moreover,  $G/K$  and  $K/H$  are cyclic groups satisfying  $|G/K| \mid |Aut(K/H)|$ , and  $|G/K| < |K/H|$ . As 11 is an isolated point of  $\Gamma(G)$ ,  $\pi_2(G) = \{11\}$ . Therefore,  $\pi(G/K) \cup \pi(H) = \{2, 3, 5\}$  and  $|K/H| = 11$ . Since  $|G/K| \mid |Aut(K/H)| = 10$ , we know that  $3 \mid |H|$ . Consider the action on  $H$  by the element of order 11. By Lemma 4, there exists a Sylow 3-subgroup  $L$  of  $H$  fixed by this action. Since  $|L| = 3^2$ , we have  $11 \nmid |Aut(L)|$ , which means that such action on  $L$  is trivial. Therefore,  $G$  has an element of order 33, a contradiction. So  $G$  is not a 2-Frobenius group.

**Remark.** This approach can be used to prove that  $G$  is not 2-Frobenius group for the most of other cases. For a few exceptions, we only need to consider  $\Omega_1(Z(L))$  of some special Sylow subgroup  $L$  to lead to a contradiction. The process can be seen in the case  $A = M_{12}$ .

**2.** Assume that  $A = M_{12} (2^6 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$ . In such case,  $|G| = 2^6 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$  and  $k_1(G) = 11$ . Because  $k_1(G) = 11$ , it follows that 11 is an isolated point of  $\Gamma(G)$ , and therefore  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 1, we only need to prove that  $G$  is neither a Frobenius group nor a 2-Frobenius group.

Using the similar arguments in case  $A = M_{11}$ , we can easily show that  $G$  is not a Frobenius group. Now we assert that  $G$  is not a 2-Frobenius group. Assume the contrary. Let  $G$  be a 2-Frobenius group. By Lemma 3,  $t(G) = 2$  and  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$  such that  $\pi(K/H) = \pi_2$  and  $\pi(G/K) \cup \pi(H) = \pi_1$ . Moreover,  $G/K$  and  $K/H$  are cyclic groups satisfying  $|G/K| \mid |Aut(K/H)|$ , and  $|G/K| < |K/H|$ . As 11 is an isolated point of  $\Gamma(G)$ ,  $\pi_2(G) = \{11\}$ . Therefore,  $\pi(G/K) \cup \pi(H) = \{2, 3, 5\}$  and  $|K/H| = 11$ . Since  $|G/K| \mid |Aut(K/H)| = 10$ , we know that  $3 \mid |H|$ . Consider the action on  $H$  by the element  $y$  of order 11. Again by Lemma 4, there exists a Sylow 3-subgroup  $L$  of  $H$  fixed by this action. Obviously,  $|L| = 3^3$ . Clearly,  $\Omega_1(Z(L))$  is an elementary abelian 3-group, and  $|\Omega_1(Z(L))| \mid 3^3$ . Because  $\Omega_1(Z(L))$  is characteristic in  $L$ ,  $y$  fixes  $\Omega_1(Z(L))$  too. As  $11 \nmid |Aut(\Omega_1(Z(L)))|$ , the action on  $\Omega_1(Z(L))$  by  $y$  is trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 33, a contradiction. So  $G$  is not a 2-Frobenius group.

**Lemma 8.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $A$  be one of the following sporadic simple groups:  $J_2, McL, Fi_{22}, HN, Fi_{23}, Co_1, Fi_{24}$ . Suppose that*

- (i)  $k_i(G) = k_i(A)$ , where  $i = 1, 2$ ;
- (ii)  $|G| = |A|$ .

*Then  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$  such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ .*

**Proof.** We only need to prove the case  $A = J_2$ , and for the other cases, they can be proved similarly.

Assume that  $A = J_2 (2^7 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7)$ . In such case,  $|G| = 2^7 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7$ ,  $k_1(G) = 15$  and  $k_2(G) = 12$ . Because  $k_1(G) = 15$ ,  $k_2(G) = 12$ , we have 7 is an isolated point of  $\Gamma(G)$ , and therefore  $t(G) \geq 2$ . Using the similar arguments in Lemma 7, we can prove that  $G$  is neither a Frobenius group nor a 2-Frobenius group. Therefore, the lemma follows from part 2 of Lemma 1.

From [11], we know all the simple groups of order less than  $10^{25}$ , except that the  $L_2(q), L_3(q), U_3(q), L_4(q), U_4(q), S_4(q), G_2(q)$  are stopped at orders  $10^6$  ( $q \leq 125$ ),  $10^{12}$  ( $q \leq 31$ ),  $10^{12}$  ( $q \leq 32$ ),  $10^{16}$  ( $q \leq 11$ ),  $10^{16}$  ( $q \leq 11$ ),  $10^{16}$  ( $q \leq 41$ ),  $10^{20}$  ( $q \leq 25$ ) respectively.

Let  $B(q)$  be one of the following Lie-type simple groups:  $L_2(q), L_3(q), U_3(q), L_4(q), U_4(q), S_4(q), G_2(q)$ . For the need of discussion, we list the orders of  $B(q)$  in Table 2.

**Table 2**

$B(q)$	$L_2(q)$	$L_3(q)$
$ B(q) $	$q(q^2 - 1)/(q - 1, 2)$	$q^3(q^3 - 1)(q^2 - 1)/(q - 1, 3)$
$B(q)$	$L_4(q)$	$U_4(q)$
$ B(q) $	$q^6(q^4 - 1)(q^3 - 1)(q^2 - 1)/(q - 1, 4)$	$q^6(q^4 - 1)(q^3 + 1)(q^2 - 1)/(q + 1, 4)$
$B(q)$	$G_2(q)$	$U_3(q)$
$ B(q) $	$q^6(q^6 - 1)(q^2 - 1)$	$q^3(q^3 + 1)(q^2 - 1)/(q + 1, 3)$
$B(q)$	$S_4(q)$	
$ B(q) $	$q^4(q^4 - 1)(q^2 - 1)/(q - 1, 2)$	

And for convenient discussion, we list the orders of some  $L_2(q)$  in Table 3.

**Table 3**

$L_2(q)$	$ L_2(q) $	$q^2 - 1$
$L_2(2^5)$	$2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 31$	$3 \cdot 11 \cdot 31$
$L_2(2^6)$	$2^6 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$	$3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$
$L_2(2^7)$	$2^7 \cdot 3 \cdot 43 \cdot 127$	$3 \cdot 43 \cdot 127$
$L_2(2^8)$	$2^8 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 257$	$3 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 257$
$L_2(2^9)$	$2^9 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 19 \cdot 73$	$3^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 19 \cdot 73$
$L_2(2^{10})$	$2^{10} \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 31 \cdot 41$	$3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 31 \cdot 41$
$L_2(2^{11})$	$2^{11} \cdot 3 \cdot 23 \cdot 89 \cdot 683$	$3 \cdot 23 \cdot 89 \cdot 683$
$L_2(2^{12})$	$2^{12} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 241$	$3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 241$
$L_2(2^{13})$	$2^{13} \cdot 3 \cdot 2731 \cdot 8191$	$3 \cdot 2731 \cdot 8191$
$L_2(2^{14})$	$2^{14} \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 29 \cdot 43 \cdot 113 \cdot 127$	$3 \cdot 5 \cdot 29 \cdot 43 \cdot 113 \cdot 127$
$L_2(2^{15})$	$2^{15} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 31 \cdot 151 \cdot 331$	$3^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 31 \cdot 151 \cdot 331$
$L_2(2^{16})$	$2^{16} \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 257 \cdot 65537$	$3 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 257 \cdot 65537$
$L_2(2^{17})$	$2^{17} \cdot 3 \cdot 43691 \cdot 131071$	$3 \cdot 43691 \cdot 131071$
$L_2(2^{18})$	$2^{18} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 37 \cdot 73 \cdot 109$	$3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 37 \cdot 73 \cdot 109$
$L_2(2^{19})$	$2^{19} \cdot 3 \cdot 174763 \cdot 524287$	$3 \cdot 174763 \cdot 524287$
$L_2(2^{20})$	$2^{20} \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 17 \cdot 31 \cdot 41 \cdot 61681$	$3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 17 \cdot 31 \cdot 41 \cdot 61681$
$L_2(2^{21})$	$2^{21} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 43 \cdot 127 \cdot 337 \cdot 5419$	$3^2 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 43 \cdot 127 \cdot 337 \cdot 5419$
$L_2(3^5)$	$2^2 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 61$	$2^3 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 61$
$L_2(3^6)$	$2^3 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 73$	$2^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 73$
$L_2(3^7)$	$2^2 \cdot 3^7 \cdot 547 \cdot 1093$	$2^3 \cdot 547 \cdot 1093$
$L_2(3^8)$	$2^5 \cdot 3^8 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 41 \cdot 193$	$2^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 41 \cdot 193$
$L_2(3^9)$	$2^2 \cdot 3^9 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 37 \cdot 757$	$2^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 37 \cdot 757$
$L_2(3^{10})$	$3^{10} \cdot 2^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 61 \cdot 1181$	$2^4 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 61 \cdot 1181$
$L_2(3^{11})$	$3^{11} \cdot 2^2 \cdot 23 \cdot 67 \cdot 661 \cdot 3851$	$2^3 \cdot 23 \cdot 67 \cdot 661 \cdot 3851$
$L_2(3^{12})$	$3^{12} \cdot 2^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 41 \cdot 73 \cdot 6481$	$2^5 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 41 \cdot 73 \cdot 6481$
$L_2(3^{13})$	$3^{13} \cdot 2^2 \cdot 398581 \cdot 797261$	$2^3 \cdot 398581 \cdot 797261$
$L_2(3^{14})$	$3^{14} \cdot 2^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 29 \cdot 547 \cdot 1093 \cdot 16493$	$2^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 29 \cdot 547 \cdot 1093 \cdot 16493$
$L_2(3^{15})$	$3^{15} \cdot 2^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 13 \cdot 31 \cdot 61 \cdot 271 \cdot 4561$	$2^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 13 \cdot 31 \cdot 61 \cdot 271 \cdot 4561$
$L_2(3^{16})$	$3^{16} \cdot 2^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 41 \cdot 193 \cdot 21523361$	$2^7 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 41 \cdot 193 \cdot 21523361$

Table 3

$L_2(q)$	$ L_2(q) $	$q^2 - 1$
$L_2(3^{17})$	$3^{17} \cdot 2^2 \cdot 32285041 \cdot 64570081$	$2^3 \cdot 32285041 \cdot 64570081$
$L_2(3^{18})$	$3^{18} \cdot 2^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 37 \cdot 73 \cdot 757 \cdot 530713$	$2^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 37 \cdot 73 \cdot 757 \cdot 530713$
$L_2(3^{19})$	$3^{19} \cdot 2^2 \cdot 290565367 \cdot 581130733$	$2^3 \cdot 290565367 \cdot 581130733$
$L_2(3^{20})$	$3^{20} \cdot 2^4 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 41 \cdot 61 \cdot 1182 \cdot 42521761$	$2^5 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 41 \cdot 61 \cdot 1182 \cdot 42521761$
$L_2(5^4)$	$5^4 \cdot 2^4 \cdot 3 \cdot 13 \cdot 313$	$2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot 13 \cdot 313$
$L_2(5^5)$	$5^5 \cdot 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 71 \cdot 521$	$2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 71 \cdot 521$
$L_2(5^6)$	$5^6 \cdot 2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 31 \cdot 601$	$2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 31 \cdot 601$
$L_2(5^7)$	$5^7 \cdot 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 29 \cdot 449 \cdot 19531$	$2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 29 \cdot 449 \cdot 19531$
$L_2(5^8)$	$5^8 \cdot 2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 313 \cdot 11489$	$2^6 \cdot 3 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 313 \cdot 11489$
$L_2(5^9)$	$5^9 \cdot 2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 5176 \cdot 488281$	$2^3 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 5176 \cdot 488281$
$L_2(7^3)$	$7^3 \cdot 2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 19 \cdot 43$	$2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 19 \cdot 43$
$L_2(7^4)$	$7^4 \cdot 2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 1201$	$2^6 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 1201$
$L_2(7^5)$	$7^5 \cdot 2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 191 \cdot 2801$	$2^4 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 191 \cdot 2801$
$L_2(7^6)$	$7^6 \cdot 2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 43 \cdot 181$	$2^5 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 43 \cdot 181$
$L_2(11^3)$	$11^3 \cdot 2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 19 \cdot 37$	$2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 19 \cdot 37$
$L_2(13^2)$	$13^2 \cdot 2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 17$	$2^4 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 17$
$L_2(13^3)$	$13^3 \cdot 2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 61 \cdot 157$	$2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 61 \cdot 157$

### 3. Proofs of theorems

**Proof of Theorem 1.** We only need to prove the sufficiency. And the proof will be made through a case by case analysis.

**Case 1.1.** Assume that  $A = M_{11} (2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$ . In this case,  $|G| = 2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$ , and  $k_1(G) = 11$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 11$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 7,  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5\}$  and  $11 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] we can suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(11) (2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$  or  $M_{11} (2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$ .

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(11) (2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$ . From [11] we know that  $|Out(L_2(11))| = 2$ , so we can get that  $3 \mid |H|$  by comparing the order of  $G$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $|L| = 3$ . As  $H$  is a nilpotent group, we have  $L$  is characteristic in  $H$ , and thus  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 11. Clearly, this action is trivial. It implies that  $G$  has an element of order 33, a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong M_{11} (2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$ . So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong M_{11}$ .

**Case 1.2.** Assume that  $A = M_{12} (2^6 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$ . In this case,  $|G| = 2^6 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$ , and  $k_1(G) = 11$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 11$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 7,

$G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . Therefore, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5\}$  and  $11 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] we can suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(11) (2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$ ,  $M_{11} (2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$  or  $M_{12} (2^6 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$ .

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(11) (2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$  or  $M_{11} (2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$ . From [11] we get that  $3 \nmid |Out(K/H)| = 2$ , and thus  $3 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $|L| \mid 3^2$ . As  $H$  is a nilpotent group, we have  $L$  is characteristic in  $H$ , and thus  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 11. Clearly, this action is trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 33, a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong M_{12} (2^6 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$ . So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong M_{12}$ .

**Case 1.3.** Assume that  $A = J_1 (2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 19)$ . In this case,  $|G| = 2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 19$ , and  $k_1(G) = 19$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 19$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 3$ . By Lemma 2 and Lemma 3, we know that  $G$  is neither a Frobenius group, nor a 2-Frobenius group. So by Lemma 1,  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11\}$  and  $19 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] we can know that  $K/H$  is isomorphic only to  $J_1 (2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 19)$ . So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong J_1$ .

**Case 1.4.** Assume that  $A = M_{22} (2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11)$ . In this case,  $|G| = 2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ , and  $k_1(G) = 11$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 11$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 3$ . By Lemma 2 and Lemma 3, we know that  $G$  is neither a Frobenius group, nor a 2-Frobenius group. So by Lemma 1,  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . Therefore, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7\}$  and  $11 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(11) (2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$ ,  $M_{11} (2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$  and  $M_{22} (2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11)$ .

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(11) (2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$  or  $M_{11} (2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$ . From [11] we have  $7 \nmid |Out(K/H)| = 2$ , and thus  $7 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 7-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 5. Clearly, this action is also trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 35, a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong M_{22} (2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11)$ . So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong M_{22}$ .

**Case 1.5.** Assume that  $A = M_{23} (2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$ . In this case,  $|G| = 2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ , and  $k_1(G) = 23$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 23$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 7, we know that  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11\}$  and  $23 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11]



we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(23)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ),  $L_2(2^7)$  and  $M_{23}$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ).

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(23)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ). Then  $7 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $7 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 7-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 11. Clearly, this action is trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 77, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(2^7)$ . From Table 3 we can get that  $|K/H| \nmid |G|$ , also a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong M_{22}$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ). So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong M_{23}$ .

**Case 1.6.** Assume that  $A = HS$  ( $2^9 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ ). In this case,  $|G| = 2^9 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ , and  $k_1(G) = 20$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 20$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 7, we know that  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . Therefore, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7\}$  and  $11 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(11)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$ ),  $M_{11}$  ( $2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$ ),  $M_{22}$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ ),  $L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 9$ ) and  $HS$  ( $2^9 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ ).

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(11)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$ ),  $M_{11}$  ( $2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ ) or  $M_{22}$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ ). Then  $5 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $5 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 5-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$  and  $|L| \mid 5^2$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 11. Clearly, this action is trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 55, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 9$ ). From Table 3 we can get that  $|K/H| \nmid |G|$ , also a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong HS$  ( $2^9 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ ). So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong HS$ .

**Case 1.7.** Assume that  $A = J_3$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 19$ ). In this case,  $|G| = 2^7 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 19$ , and  $k_1(G) = 19$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 19$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 3$ . By Lemma 2 and Lemma 3, we know that  $G$  is neither a Frobenius group, nor a 2-Frobenius group. Therefore, by Lemma 1,  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 17\}$  and  $19 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(19)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 19$ ),  $L_2(2^7)$ ,  $L_2(3^5)$  and  $J_3$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 19$ ).

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(19)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 19$ ). Then  $17 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $17 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 17-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 3. Clearly, this action is trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 51, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(2^7)$  or  $L_2(3^5)$ . From Table 3 we can get that  $|K/H| \nmid |G|$ , still a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong J_3$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 19$ ). So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong J_3$ .

**Case 1.8.** Assume that  $A = M_{24}$  ( $2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ). In this case,  $|G| = 2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ , and  $k_1(G) = 23$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 23$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 7, we know that  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11\}$  and  $23 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(23)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ),  $M_{23}$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ),  $L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 10$ ) and  $M_{24}$  ( $2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ).

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(23)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ) or  $M_{23}$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ). Then  $3 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $3 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$  and  $|L| \mid 3^2$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 11. Clearly, this action is trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 33, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 10$ ). From Table 3 we can get that  $|K/H| \nmid |G|$ , also a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong M_{24}$  ( $2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ). So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong M_{24}$ .

**Case 1.9.** Assume that  $A = He$  ( $2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 17$ ). In this case,  $|G| = 2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 17$ , and  $k_1(G) = 28$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 28$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 7, we know that  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7\}$  and  $17 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(17)$  ( $2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 17$ ),  $L_2(16)$  ( $2^4 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 17$ ),  $S_4(4)$  ( $2^8 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 17$ ),  $L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 10$ ),  $L_2(7^3)$  and  $He$  ( $2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 17$ ).

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(17)$  ( $2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 17$ ) or  $L_2(16)$  ( $2^4 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 17$ ). Then  $5 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $5 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 5-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$  and  $|L| \mid 5^2$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 17. Clearly, this action is trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 85, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong S_4(4)$  ( $2^8 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 17$ ). Then  $3 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $3 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$  and  $|L| = 3$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 17. Clearly, this action is also trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 51, a contradiction too.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 10$ ) or  $L_2(7^3)$ . From Table 3 we can know that  $|K/H| \nmid |G|$ , still a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong He$  ( $2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 17$ ). So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong He$ .

**Case 1.10.** Assume that  $A = Ru$  ( $2^{14} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 29$ ). In this case,  $|G| = 2^{14} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 29$ , and  $k_1(G) = 29$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 29$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By

Lemma 7, we know that  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 13\}$  and  $29 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(29)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 29$ ),  $L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 14$ ) and  $Ru$  ( $2^{14} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 29$ ).

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(29)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 29$ ). From [11] we know that  $13 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $13 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 13-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 5. Clearly, this action is trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 65, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 14$ ). From Table 3 we can know that  $|K/H| \nmid |G|$ , also a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong Ru$  ( $2^{14} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 29$ ). So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong Ru$ .

**Case 1.11.** Assume that  $A = Suz$  ( $2^{13} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13$ ). In this case,  $|G| = 2^{13} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13$ , and  $k_1(G) = 24$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 24$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 7, we know that  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11\}$  and  $13 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(13)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_3(3)$  ( $2^4 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_2(25)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_2(27)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),  $Sz(8)$  ( $2^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),  $U_3(4)$  ( $2^6 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_2(64)$  ( $2^6 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),  $G_2(3)$  ( $2^6 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_4(3)$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 13$ ),  ${}^2F_4(2)'$  ( $2^{11} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_3(9)$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),  $G_2(4)$  ( $2^{12} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),  $A_{13}$  ( $2^9 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 13$ ),  $L_2(3^s)$  ( $5 \leq s \leq 7$ ) and  $Suz$  ( $2^{13} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13$ ).

Suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(13)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_3(3)$  ( $2^4 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_2(25)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_2(27)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),  $Sz(8)$  ( $2^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),  $U_3(4)$  ( $2^6 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_2(64)$  ( $2^6 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),  $G_2(3)$  ( $2^6 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_4(3)$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 13$ ),  ${}^2F_4(2)'$  ( $2^{11} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_3(9)$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ) and  $G_2(4)$  ( $2^{12} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ). From [11] we get that  $11 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $11 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 11-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 3. Clearly, this action is trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 33, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong A_{13}$  ( $2^9 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13$ ). In such case,  $|Out(K/H)| = 2$ . So  $|G/K| \mid 2$  and thus  $3 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$  and  $|L| = 3^2$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 11. Clearly, this action is also trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 33, a contradiction too.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 13$ ) or  $L_2(3^s)$  ( $5 \leq s \leq 7$ ). From Table 3 we can know that  $|K/H| \nmid |G|$ , also a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong Suz$  ( $2^{13} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13$ ). So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong Suz$ .

**Case 1.12.** Assume that  $A = O'N$  ( $2^9 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11 \cdot 19 \cdot 31$ ). In this case,

$|G| = 2^9 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11 \cdot 19 \cdot 31$ , and  $k_1(G) = 31$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 31$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 3$ . By Lemma 7, we know that  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 19\}$  and  $31 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(31)$  ( $2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 31$ ),  $L_2(32)$  ( $2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 31$ ),  $L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 9$ ),  $L_2(7^3)$  and  $O'N(2^9 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11 \cdot 19 \cdot 31)$ .

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(31)$  ( $2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 31$ ) or  $L_2(32)$  ( $2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 31$ ). Then  $19 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $19 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 19-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 5. Clearly, this action is trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 95, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 9$ ) or  $L_2(7^3)$ . From Table 3 we can know that  $|K/H| \nmid |G|$ , also a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong O'N(2^9 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11 \cdot 19 \cdot 31)$ . So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong O'N$ .

**Case 1.13.** Assume that  $A = Co_3(2^{10} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$ . In this case,  $|G| = 2^{10} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ , and  $k_1(G) = 30$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 30$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 7, we know that  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11\}$  and  $23 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(23)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ),  $M_{23}(2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$ ,  $M_{24}(2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$ ,  $L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 10$ ),  $L_2(3^s)$  ( $5 \leq s \leq 7$ ) and  $Co_3(2^{10} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$ .

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(23)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ). Then  $7 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $7 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 7-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 5. Clearly, this action is trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 35, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong M_{23}(2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$  or  $M_{24}(2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$ . In such case,  $5 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$  and therefore  $5 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 5-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$  and  $|L| = 5^2$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 11. Clearly, this action is also trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 55, a contradiction too.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 10$ ) or  $L_2(3^s)$  ( $5 \leq s \leq 7$ ). From Table 3 we can know that  $|K/H| \nmid |G|$ , also a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong Co_3(2^{10} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$ . So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong Co_3$ .

**Case 1.14.** Assume that  $A = Co_2(2^{18} \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$ . In this case,  $|G| = 2^{18} \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ , and  $k_1(G) = 30$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 30$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 7, we know that  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ .

So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, \}$  and  $23 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] and Table 2, we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(23) (2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$ ,  $M_{23} (2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$ ,  $M_{24} (2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$ ,  $Co_2 (2^{18} \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$  and  $B(q)$ , where  $B(q)$  is one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(2^t) (7 \leq t \leq 18)$ ,  $L_2(3^s) (5 \leq s \leq 6)$ ,  $L_3(2^t) (5 \leq t \leq 6)$  and  $U_3(2^s) (5 \leq s \leq 6)$ .

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(23) (2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$ . Then  $7 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $7 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 7-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 5. Clearly, this action is also trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 35, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong M_{23} (2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$  or  $M_{24} (2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$ . In such case,  $5 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and therefore  $5 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 5-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$  and  $|L| = 5^2$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 11. Clearly, this action is also trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 55, a contradiction too.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong B(q)$ . From Table 2 we know that  $(q^2 - 1) \mid |B(q)|$ , which implies  $(q^2 - 1) \mid |G|$ . We can see it is impossible from Table 3.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong Co_2 (2^{18} \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$ . So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong Co_2$ .

**Case 1.15.** Assume that  $A = Ly (2^8 \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 31 \cdot 37 \cdot 67)$ . In this case,  $|G| = 2^8 \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 31 \cdot 37 \cdot 67$ , and  $k_1(G) = 67$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 67$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 3$ . By Lemma 7, we know that  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 31, 37\}$  and  $67 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] and Table 2, we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to  $Ly (2^8 \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 31 \cdot 37 \cdot 67)$  or  $B(q)$ , where  $B(q)$  is one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(2^t) (7 \leq t \leq 8)$ ,  $L_2(3^s) (5 \leq s \leq 7)$  and  $L_2(5^r) (4 \leq r \leq 6)$ .

Suppose that  $K/H \cong B(q)$ . From Table 2 we know that  $(q^2 - 1) \mid |B(q)|$ , which means  $(q^2 - 1) \mid |G|$ . From Table 3, we can see it is impossible.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong Ly (2^8 \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 31 \cdot 37 \cdot 67)$ . So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong Ly$ .

**Case 1.16.** Assume that  $A = Th (2^{15} \cdot 3^{10} \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 31)$ . In this case,  $|G| = 2^{15} \cdot 3^{10} \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 31$ , and  $k_1(G) = 39$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 39$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 7, we know that  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 13, 19\}$  and  $31 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] and Table 2, we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(31) (2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 31)$ ,  $L_2(32) (2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 31)$ ,  $L_3(5) (2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 31)$ ,  $L_2(125) (2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 31)$ ,  $L_5(2) (2^{10} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 31)$ ,  $L_6(2) (2^{15} \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 31)$ ,  $Th (2^{15} \cdot 3^{10} \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 31)$

and  $B(q)$ , where  $B(q)$  is one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 15$ ),  $L_2(3^s)$  ( $5 \leq s \leq 10$ ),  $L_3(2^5)$  and  $U_3(2^5)$ .

Suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(31)$  ( $2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 31$ ),  $L_2(32)$  ( $2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 31$ ),  $L_3(5)$  ( $2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 31$ ),  $L_2(125)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 31$ ),  $L_5(2)$  ( $2^{10} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 31$ ),  $L_6(2)$  ( $2^{15} \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 31$ ). Then  $19 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $19 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 19-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 5. Clearly, this action is also trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 95, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong B(q)$ . From Table 2 we know that  $(q^2 - 1) \mid |B(q)|$ , which means  $(q^2 - 1) \mid |G|$ . We can see it is impossible from Table 3.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong Th$  ( $2^{15} \cdot 3^{10} \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 31$ ). So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong Th$ .

**Case 1.17.** Assume that  $A = J_4$  ( $2^{21} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11^3 \cdot 23 \cdot 29 \cdot 31 \cdot 37 \cdot 43$ ). In this case,  $|G| = 2^{21} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11^3 \cdot 23 \cdot 29 \cdot 31 \cdot 37 \cdot 43$ , and  $k_1(G) = 66$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 66$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 3$ . By Lemma 7, we know that  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 23, 29, 31, 37\}$  and  $43 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] and Table 2, we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(43)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 43$ ),  $J_4$  ( $2^{21} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11^3 \cdot 23 \cdot 29 \cdot 31 \cdot 37 \cdot 43$ ) and  $B(q)$ , where  $B(q)$  is one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 21$ ),  $L_2(11^3)$ ,  $L_3(2^s)$  ( $5 \leq s \leq 7$ ) and  $U_3(2^r)$  ( $5 \leq r \leq 7$ ).

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(43)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 43$ ). Then  $37 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $37 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 37-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 5. Clearly, this action is trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 185, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong B(q)$ . From Table 2 we know that  $(q^2 - 1) \mid |B(q)|$ , which means  $(q^2 - 1) \mid |G|$ . If  $B(q)$  is  $L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 21$ ),  $L_2(11^3)$ ,  $L_3(2^s)$  ( $6 \leq s \leq 7$ ) or  $U_3(2^r)$  ( $6 \leq r \leq 7$ ), then  $(q^2 - 1) \nmid |G|$  by Table 3, which is a contradiction. If  $B(q)$  is  $L_3(2^5)$  or  $U_3(2^5)$ , we can easily know that  $|B(q)| \nmid |G|$ , also a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong J_4$  ( $2^{21} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11^3 \cdot 23 \cdot 29 \cdot 31 \cdot 37 \cdot 43$ ). So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong J_4$ .

**Case 1.18.** Assume that  $A = B$  ( $2^{41} \cdot 3^{13} \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 \cdot 23 \cdot 31 \cdot 47$ ). In this case,  $|G| = 2^{41} \cdot 3^{13} \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 \cdot 23 \cdot 31 \cdot 47$ , and  $k_1(G) = 70$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 70$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 7, we know that  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 31\}$  and  $47 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] and Table 2, we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(47)$  ( $2^4 \cdot 3 \cdot 23 \cdot 47$ ),  $B$  ( $2^{41} \cdot 3^{13} \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 \cdot 23 \cdot 31 \cdot 47$ ) and  $B(q)$ , where  $B(q)$  is one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 41$ ),  $L_2(3^s)$  ( $5 \leq s \leq 13$ ),  $L_2(5^r)$  ( $4 \leq r \leq 6$ ),  $L_3(2^t)$  ( $5 \leq t \leq 13$ ),  $L_3(3^4)$ ,  $U_3(2^t)$  ( $5 \leq t \leq 13$ ),  $U_3(3^4)$ ,  $L_4(2^t)$  ( $4 \leq t \leq 6$ ),  $U_4(2^t)$  ( $4 \leq t \leq 6$ ),  $S_4(2^t)$  ( $6 \leq t \leq 10$ ) and  $G_4(2^t)$  ( $5 \leq t \leq 6$ ).

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(47)$  ( $2^4 \cdot 3 \cdot 23 \cdot 47$ ). Then  $31 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $31 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 31-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 7. Clearly, this action is also trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 217, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong B(q)$ . From Table 2 we know that  $(q^2 - 1) \mid |B(q)|$ , which means  $(q^2 - 1) \mid |G|$ . We can easily know that  $|B(q)| \nmid |G|$  by Lemma 5, Table 2 and Table 3, also a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong B$  ( $2^{41} \cdot 3^{13} \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 \cdot 23 \cdot 31 \cdot 47$ ). So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong B$ .

**Case 1.19.** Assume that  $A = M$  ( $2^{46} \cdot 3^{20} \cdot 5^9 \cdot 7^6 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 13^3 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 \cdot 23 \cdot 29 \cdot 31 \cdot 41 \cdot 47 \cdot 59 \cdot 71$ ). In this case,  $|G| = 2^{46} \cdot 3^{20} \cdot 5^9 \cdot 7^6 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 13^3 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 \cdot 23 \cdot 29 \cdot 31 \cdot 41 \cdot 47 \cdot 59 \cdot 71$ , and  $k_1(G) = 119$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 119$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 7, we know that  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29, 31, 41, 47, 59\}$  and  $71 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] and Table 2, we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(71)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 71$ ),  $M(2^{46} \cdot 3^{20} \cdot 5^9 \cdot 7^6 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 13^3 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 \cdot 23 \cdot 29 \cdot 31 \cdot 41 \cdot 47 \cdot 59 \cdot 71)$  and  $B(q)$ , where  $B(q)$  is one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 46$ ),  $L_2(3^s)$  ( $5 \leq s \leq 20$ ),  $L_2(5^r)$  ( $4 \leq r \leq 9$ ),  $L_2(7^x)$  ( $3 \leq x \leq 6$ ),  $L_2(13^y)$  ( $2 \leq y \leq 3$ ),  $L_3(2^t)$  ( $5 \leq t \leq 15$ ),  $L_3(3^s)$  ( $4 \leq s \leq 6$ ),  $L_3(5^3)$ ,  $L_3(7^2)$ ,  $U_3(2^t)$  ( $5 \leq t \leq 15$ ),  $U_3(3^s)$  ( $4 \leq t \leq 6$ ),  $U_3(5^3)$ ,  $U_3(7^2)$ ,  $L_4(2^t)$  ( $4 \leq t \leq 7$ ),  $L_4(3^3)$ ,  $U_4(2^t)$  ( $4 \leq t \leq 7$ ),  $U_4(3^3)$ ,  $S_4(2^t)$  ( $6 \leq t \leq 11$ ),  $S_4(3^s)$  ( $4 \leq s \leq 5$ ),  $G_4(2^t)$  ( $5 \leq t \leq 7$ ) and  $G_2(3^3)$ .

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(71)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 71$ ). Then  $31 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $31 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 31-subgroup of  $H$ . Then  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 7. Clearly, this action is also trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 217, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong B(q)$ . From Table 2 we know that  $(q^2 - 1) \mid |B(q)|$ , and therefore  $(q^2 - 1) \mid |G|$ . If  $B(q)$  is not  $L_2(2^{10})$  and  $L_2(13^2)$ , then we can easily know that  $|B(q)| \nmid |G|$  by Lemma 5, Table 2 and Table 3, a contradiction. We now assume that  $B(q)$  is  $L_2(2^{10})$  or  $L_2(13^2)$ . From Table 3, we have  $71 \nmid |B(q)|$ , also a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong M$  ( $2^{46} \cdot 3^{20} \cdot 5^9 \cdot 7^6 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 13^3 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 \cdot 23 \cdot 29 \cdot 31 \cdot 41 \cdot 47 \cdot 59 \cdot 71$ ). So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong M$ .

Now Theorem 1 follows from Case 1.1 to Case 1.19.

**Proof of Theorem 2.** It is enough to prove the sufficiency.

**Case 2.1.** Assume that  $A = J_2$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7$ ). In this case,  $|G| = 2^7 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7$ ,  $k_1(G) = 15$  and  $k_2(G) = 12$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 15$ ,  $k_2(G) = 12$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ .

By Lemma 8,  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, \}$  and  $7 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(7)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 7$ ),  $L_2(8)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7$ ),  $A_7$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$ ),  $U_3(3)$  ( $2^5 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7$ ),  $L_4(2)$  ( $2^6 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$ ),  $L_3(4)$  ( $2^6 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$ ) and  $J_2(2^7 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7)$ .

Suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(7)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 7$ ),  $L_2(8)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7$ ),  $A_7$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$ ),  $U_3(3)$  ( $2^5 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7$ ),  $L_4(2)$  ( $2^6 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$ ) and  $L_3(4)$  ( $2^6 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$ ). By [11] we know that  $5 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $5 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 5-subgroup of  $H$ . We know that  $L \trianglelefteq G$ , and  $|L| \mid 5^2$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 7. Clearly, this action is trivial. It implies that  $G$  has an element of order 35, a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong J_2(2^7 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7)$ . So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong J_2$ .

**Case 2.2.** Assume that  $A = McL$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ ). In this case,  $|G| = 2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ ,  $k_1(G) = 30$  and  $k_2(G) = 15$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 30$  and  $k_2(G) = 15$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 8,  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7\}$  and  $11 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(11)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$ ),  $M_{11}$  ( $2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$ ),  $M_{12}$  ( $2^6 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$ ),  $M_{22}$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ ),  $A_{11}$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ ),  $McL$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ ),  $L_2(2^7)$  and  $L_2(3^s)$  ( $5 \leq s \leq 6$ ).

Suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(11)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$ ),  $M_{11}$  ( $2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$ ),  $M_{12}$  ( $2^6 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$ ),  $M_{22}$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ ) and  $A_{11}$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ ). By [11] we know that  $5 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $5 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 5-subgroup of  $H$ . We know that  $L \trianglelefteq G$ , and  $|L| \mid 5^2$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 11. Clearly, this action is trivial. It implies that  $G$  has an element of order 55, which is a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(2^7)$  or  $L_2(3^s)$  ( $5 \leq s \leq 6$ ). From Table 3, we have  $|K/H| \nmid |G|$ , still a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong McL$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ ). So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong McL$ .

**Case 2.3.** Assume that  $A = Fi_{22}$  ( $2^{17} \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13$ ). In this case,  $|G| = 2^{17} \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13$ ,  $k_1(G) = 30$  and  $k_2(G) = 24$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 30$  and  $k_2(G) = 24$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 8,  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11\}$  and  $13 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] and Table 2 we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(13)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_3(3)$  ( $2^4 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_2(25)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_2(27)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),  $Sz(8)$  ( $2^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),  $U_3(4)$  ( $2^6 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13$ ),  $L_2(64)$  ( $2^6 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ ),



$G_2(3) (2^6 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 13)$ ,  $L_4(3) (2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 13)$ ,  ${}^2F_4(2)' (2^{11} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13)$ ,  $L_3(9) (2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13)$ ,  $G_2(4) (2^{12} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 13)$ ,  $A_{13} (2^9 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13)$ ,  $S_6(3) (2^9 \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13)$ ,  $O_7(3) (2^9 \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13)$ ,  $Suz (2^{13} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13)$ ,  $Fi_{22} (2^{17} \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13)$  and  $B(q)$ , where  $B(q)$  is one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(2^t) (7 \leq t \leq 17)$ ,  $L_2(3^s) (5 \leq s \leq 9)$ ,  $L_3(2^t) (5 \leq t \leq 6)$  and  $U_3(2^5)$ .

Suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(13) (2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13)$ ,  $L_3(3) (2^4 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 13)$ ,  $L_2(25) (2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13)$ ,  $L_2(27) (2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13)$ ,  $Sz(8) (2^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13)$ ,  $U_3(4) (2^6 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13)$ ,  $L_2(64) (2^6 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13)$ ,  $G_2(3) (2^6 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 13)$ ,  $L_4(3) (2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 13)$ ,  ${}^2F_4(2)' (2^{11} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13)$ ,  $L_3(9) (2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13)$ ,  $G_2(4) (2^{12} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 13)$ ,  $S_6(3) (2^9 \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13)$  and  $O_7(3) (2^9 \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13)$ . By [11] we know that  $11 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $11 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 11-subgroup of  $H$ . We know that  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 7. Clearly, this action is trivial. It implies that  $G$  has an element of order 77, which is a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong A_{13} (2^9 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13)$ . By [11] we know that  $|Out(K/H)| = 2$ , and thus  $3 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $H$ . We know that  $L \trianglelefteq G$  and  $|L| \mid 3^4$ . Clearly,  $\Omega_1(Z(L))$  is an elementary abelian 3-group, and  $|\Omega_1(Z(L))| \mid 3^4$ . Since  $\Omega_1(Z(L))$  is characteristic in  $L$ , we have  $\Omega_1(Z(L)) \trianglelefteq G$  for  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $\Omega_1(Z(L))$  by the element of order 11. Since  $11 \nmid |Aut(\Omega_1(Z(L)))|$ , this action is trivial. It implies that  $G$  has an element of order 33, also a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong Suz (2^{13} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13)$ . By [11] we know that  $|Out(K/H)| = 2$ , and therefore  $3 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $H$ . We know that  $L \trianglelefteq G$ , and  $|L| \mid 3^2$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 13. Clearly, this action is trivial, which implies that  $G$  has an element of order 39, a contradiction too.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong B(q)$ . From Table 2, we know that  $(q^2 - 1) \mid |B(q)|$  and therefore  $(q^2 - 1) \mid |G|$ . But Table 2 and Table 3 show that  $|B(q)| \nmid |G|$ , still a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong Fi_{22} (2^{17} \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13)$ . So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong Fi_{22}$ .

**Case 2.4.** Assume that  $A = HN (2^{14} \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 19)$ . In this case,  $|G| = 2^{14} \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 19$ ,  $k_1(G) = 40$  and  $k_2(G) = 35$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 40$  and  $k_2(G) = 35$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 8,  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11\}$  and  $19 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] and Table 2 we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(19) (2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 19)$ ,  $J_1 (2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 19)$ ,  $U_3(8) (2^9 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 7 \cdot 19)$ ,  $HN (2^{14} \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 19)$  and  $B(q)$ , where  $B(q)$  is one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(2^t) (7 \leq t \leq 14)$ ,  $L_2(3^s) (5 \leq s \leq 6)$ ,  $L_2(5^r) (4 \leq r \leq 6)$  and  $U_3(2^5)$ .

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(19) (2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 19)$  or  $U_3(8) (2^9 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 7 \cdot 19)$ . By [11] we know that  $11 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $11 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 11-subgroup

of  $H$ . We know that  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 7. Clearly, this action is trivial. It implies that  $G$  has an element of order 77, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong J_1 (2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 19)$ . By [11] we know that  $|Out(K/H)| = 1$ , and  $3 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $H$ . We know that  $L \trianglelefteq G$  and  $|L| \mid 3^5$ . Consider  $\Omega_1(Z(L))$ . Clearly,  $\Omega_1(Z(L))$  is an elementary abelian 3-group and  $\Omega_1(Z(L)) \trianglelefteq G$ . Because  $|\Omega_1(Z(L))| \mid 3^5$ , we have  $19 \nmid |Aut(\Omega_1(Z(L)))|$ . Consider the action on  $\Omega_1(Z(L))$  by the element of order 19. One can see that this action is trivial. It implies that  $G$  has an element of order 57, also a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong B(q)$ . From Table 2 and Table 3, we can know that  $|B(q)| \nmid |G|$ , which is a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong HN (2^{14} \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 19)$ . So  $H = 1, K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong HN$ .

**Case 2.5.** Assume that  $A = Fi_{23} (2^{18} \cdot 3^{13} \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 23)$ . In this case,  $|G| = 2^{18} \cdot 3^{13} \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 23, k_1(G) = 60$  and  $k_2(G) = 42$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 60$  and  $k_2(G) = 42$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 8,  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17\}$  and  $23 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] and Table 2 we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(23) (2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 23), M_{23} (2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23), M_{24} (2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23), Co_3 (2^{10} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23), Fi_{23} (2^{18} \cdot 3^{13} \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 23)$  and  $B(q)$ , where  $B(q)$  is one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(2^t) (7 \leq t \leq 18), L_2(3^s) (5 \leq s \leq 13), L_3(2^t) (5 \leq t \leq 6), L_3(3^4), U_3(2^t) (5 \leq t \leq 6)$  and  $U_3(3^4)$ .

Suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(23) (2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 23), M_{23} (2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23), M_{24} (2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$  and  $Co_3 (2^{10} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23)$ , By [11] we know that  $17 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $17 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 17-subgroup of  $H$ . We know that  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 5. Clearly, this action is trivial. It implies that  $G$  has an element of order 85, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong B(q)$ . From Table 2 and Table 3, we know that  $|B(q)| \nmid |G|$ , also a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong Fi_{23} (2^{18} \cdot 3^{13} \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 23)$ . So  $H = 1, K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong Fi_{23}$ .

**Case 2.6.** Assume that  $A = Co_1 (2^{21} \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5^4 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 23)$ . In this case,  $|G| = 2^{21} \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5^4 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 23, k_1(G) = 60$  and  $k_2(G) = 42$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 60$  and  $k_2(G) = 42$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 8,  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13\}$  and  $23 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] and Table 2 we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(23)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ),  $M_{23}$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ),  $M_{24}$  ( $2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ),  $Co_3$  ( $2^{10} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ),  $Co_2$  ( $2^{18} \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ),  $Co_1$  ( $2^{21} \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5^4 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 23$ ) and  $B(q)$ , where  $B(q)$  is one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 21$ ),  $L_2(3^s)$  ( $5 \leq s \leq 9$ ),  $L_2(5^4)$ ,  $L_3(2^t)$  ( $5 \leq t \leq 7$ ) and  $U_3(2^t)$  ( $5 \leq t \leq 7$ ).

Suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(23)$  ( $2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ),  $M_{23}$  ( $2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ),  $M_{24}$  ( $2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ),  $Co_3$  ( $2^{10} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ) and  $Co_2$  ( $2^{18} \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$ ). By [11] we know that  $13 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $13 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 13-subgroup of  $H$ . We know that  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 5. Clearly, this action is trivial. It implies that  $G$  has an element of order 65, which is a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong B(q)$ . From Table 2 and Table 3, we know that  $|B(q)| \nmid |G|$ , also a contradiction.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong Co_1$  ( $2^{21} \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5^4 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 23$ ). So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong Co_1$ .

**Case 2.7.** Assume that  $A = Fi_{24}$  ( $2^{21} \cdot 3^{16} \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 23 \cdot 29$ ). In this case,  $|G| = 2^{21} \cdot 3^{16} \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 23 \cdot 29$ ,  $k_1(G) = 60$  and  $k_2(G) = 45$ . Since  $k_1(G) = 60$  and  $k_2(G) = 45$ , we have  $t(G) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 8,  $G$  has a normal series  $1 \trianglelefteq H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $H$  and  $G/K$  are  $\pi_1$ -groups and  $K/H$  a non-abelian simple group, where  $\pi_1$  is the prime graph component containing 2,  $H$  is a nilpotent group, and  $|G/K| \mid |Out(K/H)|$ . So, we have  $\pi(H) \cup \pi(G/K) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 23\}$  and  $29 \in \pi(K/H)$ . From [11] and Table 2 we can suppose that  $K/H$  is isomorphic to one of the following simple groups:

$L_2(29)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 29$ ),  $Fi_{24}$  ( $2^{21} \cdot 3^{16} \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 23 \cdot 29$ ) and  $B(q)$ , where  $B(q)$  is one of the following simple groups:  $L_2(2^t)$  ( $7 \leq t \leq 21$ ),  $L_2(3^s)$  ( $5 \leq s \leq 16$ ),  $L_2(7^3)$ ,  $L_3(2^t)$  ( $5 \leq t \leq 7$ ),  $L_3(3^s)$  ( $4 \leq s \leq 5$ ),  $U_3(2^t)$  ( $5 \leq t \leq 7$ ) and  $U_3(3^s)$  ( $4 \leq s \leq 5$ ).

Suppose that  $K/H \cong L_2(29)$  ( $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 29$ ). By [11] we know that  $23 \nmid |Out(K/H)|$ , and thus  $23 \mid |H|$ . Let  $L$  be a Sylow 23-subgroup of  $H$ . We know that  $L \trianglelefteq G$ . Consider the action on  $L$  by the element of order 3. Clearly, this action is trivial. It implies that  $G$  has an element of order 69, a contradiction.

Suppose that  $K/H \cong B(q)$ . From Table 2 and Table 3, we know that  $|B(q)| \nmid |G|$ , a contradiction too.

Therefore, we have  $K/H \cong Fi_{24}$  ( $2^{21} \cdot 3^{16} \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 23 \cdot 29$ ). So  $H = 1$ ,  $K = G$ , and therefore  $G \cong Fi_{24}$ .

Now Theorem 2 follows from Case2.1 to Case 2.7.

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