

# The Classification of Minimal non-core-2 2-groups with Almost Maximal Class

Xuesong Ma

jointed with J.Y. Chen, S.F. Du, J. Xu and M.Y. Xu

School of Mathematical Sciences, Capital Normal University, Beijing, RPC.

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## Definition

Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $H \leq G$ .  $H$  is called a core- $n$  subgroup of  $G$  if  $|H : H_G| \leq n$  where  $H_G = \bigcap_{g \in G} H^g$  is the core of  $H$  in  $G$ .

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## Definition

$G$  is called a core- $n$  group if each subgroup of  $G$  is a core- $n$  subgroup.



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## Definition

*Let  $G$  be a finite group with order  $2^n$ .  $G$  is called a minimal core-2 2-group if  $G$  is not a core-2 group but both of each subgroup of  $G$  and its quotient are the core-2 group.*

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## Definition

*Let  $G$  be a finite  $p$ -group with order  $p^n$ , where  $p$  is a prime.  $G$  is called an almost maximal class if  $c(G) = n - 2$ .*

Remark: In this paper,  $G$  always is not abelian. And the terminology is general.



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# Introduction

For a group  $G$  and its subgroup  $H$ ,

$$1 \leq H_G \leq H \trianglelefteq N_G(H) \leq G.$$

When any subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  such that  $N_G(H) = H$ ,  $G$  is called Dedekind group. Certainly, at the same time,  $H_G = H$ .

So the core-n group can be seen as some generalized Dedekind group.



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## Background

Buckley, Lennox, Neumann, Smith and Wiegold studied  $n$ -core  $p$ -group in 1995[1]. Their paper concerned the maximal abelian normal subgroup index's bounder for the core- $p$   $p$ -group.

After that, J.C. Lennox, H.Smith, J.Wiegold, Y.Berkovich, Z.Janko, M.Y. Xu and some others gave some contributions about core- $p$   $p$ -group in [2, 3, 4, 5, 6].



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Prof. Mingyao Xu give an open problem:

Decide the core-2 2-group.



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Prof. Mingyao Xu give an open problem:

Decide the core-2 2-group.

By the classification maximal class  $p$ -group, one can check they are the core- $p$   $p$ -group.

In this paper, we decide the minimal non-core-2 2-groups with almost maximal class.



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## Theorem

Let  $G$  be a non-core-2 2-group of order  $2^n$  with almost maximal class. Then  $G$  must be one of following groups.

(I)  $\langle a, b, c, d | c^{2^{n-3}} = d^2 = b^2 = [d, c] = [b, d] = 1, c^b = c^{-1}, b^a = bc, d^a = dc^{2^{n-4}}, c^a = c^{-1+2^{n-4}}, a^2 = dc^{2^{n-5}} \rangle, (n \geq 6);$

(II)  $\langle a, b, c, d | c^{2^{n-3}} = d^2 = [d, c] = [b, d] = 1, c^b = c^{-1+2^{n-4}}, b^2 = d, b^a = bc, d^a = dc^{2^{n-4}}, c^a = c, a^2 = c^{2^{n-5}} \rangle, (n \geq 6);$

(III)  $\langle a, b, c, d | c^{2^{n-3}} = d^2 = a^2 = [d, c] = [b, d] = 1, c^b = c^{-1+2^{n-4}}, b^2 = d, b^a = bc, d^a = dc^{2^{n-4}}, c^a = c^{-1} \rangle, (n \geq 5);$

(IV)  $\langle a, b, c, d | c^2 = d^2 = b^2 = a^4 = [d, c] = [b, d] = [b, c] = [d, a] = 1, [b, a] = c, [c, a] = d \rangle (n = 5);$

(V)  $\langle a, b, c, d | c^2 = d^2 = b^2 = [d, c] = [b, d] = [b, c] = [d, a] = 1, a^4 = d, [b, a] = c, [c, a] = d \rangle (n = 5);$

(VI)  $\langle c, b, a | c^{2^{n-2}} = b^2 = a^2 = 1, c^b = c^{-1}, c^a = c^{-1+2^{n-3}}, [b, a] = 1 \rangle, (n \geq 5).$

## Remark

1. I, II and III:  $d(G) = 2$  and  $G'$  is cyclic where  $n \geq 5$ ;
2. IV and V:  $d(G) = 2$  and  $G'$  is not cyclic where  $n=5$ ;
3. VI:  $d(G) = 3$  where  $n \geq 5$ .

## Lemma

*Let  $G$  be a groups of order  $2^n$  where  $n \leq 4$  or  $c(G) = n - 1$  . Then  $G$  is core-2 2-group.*

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This lemma means both of small order and the maximal class 2-group are the core-2 2-group. So we only consider  $n \geq 5$  in the following lemma.



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## Lemma

Let  $G$  be a minimal non-core- $p$   $p$ -groups of order  $p^n$  where  $n \geq 4$ , then  $d(G) \leq 4$ .

Outline of the Proof.

Let  $K < G$  such that  $|K : K_G| \geq p^2$ . Since  $G$  is minimal,  $K_G = 1$ .

We can choose a subgroup  $H \leq K$  with order  $p^2$  such that  $H_G = 1$ ,  $H \cap Z(G) = 1$  and  $H\Phi(G) < G$ .

Case 1. If  $|G : H\Phi(G)| = p$ , then  $|G : \Phi(G)| \leq p^3$ ;

Case 2. Otherwise  $|G : H\Phi(G)| \geq p^2$ , then can get  $|G : \Phi(G)| \leq p^4$ .  $\square$



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## Lemma

*Let  $G$  be a minimal non-core-2 2-groups of order  $2^n$  with almost maximal class where  $n > 4$ , then  $d(G) \leq 3$ .*

Proof.

Since  $G$  is almost maximal class,  $|G/G'| = 2^3$  and  $G' \leq \Phi(G)$ . Then  $|G : \Phi(G)| \leq 2^3$ . So  $d(G) = 2$  or  $3$ .  $\square$



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## Remark

*We classify the group according to  $d(G) = 2$  or  $3$ .*



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V OBLASTI IZOBRAŽEVANJA

## Lemma

*Let  $G$  be a minimal non-core-2 2-groups of order  $2^n$  with almost maximal class where  $n \geq 7$ ,  $d(G) = 2$ . Then  $G'$  is cyclic.*

Outline of the proof.

Firstly, we claim that

when  $n = 6$ , if  $d(G') \geq 2$  (it means that  $G'$  is not cyclic) and  $d(G) \geq 2$ , then  $G$  is not a core-2 2-group.

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Secondly, assume  $G'$  is not cyclic. Since  $G$  is a minimal non-core-2 2-group, then  $\bar{G} = G/G_5$  is core-2 2-group with order  $2^6$  such that  $d(\bar{G}') \geq 2$ ,  $|\bar{G}/\Phi(\bar{G})| = 4$ .

This is a contradiction with above claiming result.



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So  $G'$  is cyclic. □



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## Lemma

Let  $G$  be a minimal non-core-2 2-groups of order  $2^n$  where  $n \geq 5$ ,  $d(G) = 2$  and  $G'$  is cyclic. Then  $G$  must be one of following groups.

(I)  $\langle a, b, c, d \mid c^{2^{n-3}} = d^2 = b^2 = [d, c] = [b, d] = 1, c^b = c^{-1}, b^a = bc, d^a = dc^{2^{n-4}}, c^a = c^{-1+2^{n-4}}, a^2 = dc^{2^{n-5}} \rangle, (n \geq 6);$

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## Outline of the Proof.

Since  $G$  is a minimal non-core-2 2-group, we can take subgroup  $H$  of order 4 and  $H_G = 1$ .



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### Outline of the Proof.

Since  $G$  is a minimal non-core-2 2-group, we can take subgroup  $H$  of order 4 and  $H_G = 1$ .

Set  $G' = \langle c_0 \rangle$  and  $O(c_0) = 2^{n-3}$ . Thus  $H \cap G' = 1$ ,  $M = G' \rtimes H \triangleleft G$ .

For  $M$  is a core-2 2-group, take  $L = \{1, d\} \triangleleft M$  and  $L \leq H$ .

Then  $\langle c_0 \rangle \times L \triangleleft M$ .

Thus  $H = \langle L, b \rangle$ ,  $G = \langle M, a \rangle$  where  $b^2 \in L$ .



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$\forall x \in G$ , since  $[d, x] \equiv 1 \pmod{G'}$ , then  $d^x = d \cdot c_0^j, 0 \leq j < 2^{n-3}$ .  
 For  $O(d) = O(d^x) = O(dc_0^j) = 2$  and  $n \geq 5$ , then

$$2^{n-4} | j \text{ and } [d, x] \equiv 1 \pmod{G_3 = \langle c_0^2 \rangle}.$$

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Thus  $d \in \Phi(G)$ ,  $\Phi(G) = \langle c_0, d \rangle$ , and  $G = \langle a, b \rangle$ .



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Thus  $d \in \Phi(G)$ ,  $\Phi(G) = \langle c_0, d \rangle$ , and  $G = \langle a, b \rangle$ .

Then

$$G' = \langle c_0 \rangle = \langle [b, a], G_3 \rangle, [b, a] = c_0^{\delta_0}, (\delta_0, 2) = 1.$$

Since  $H_G = 1$ ,  $\{1, d\} \neq \{1, d\}^a \subset \Omega_1(\Phi(G)) = \{1, d, dc_0^{2^{n-4}}, c_0^{2^{n-4}}\}$ .  
 But  $d^a \equiv d \pmod{G' = \langle c_0 \rangle}$ ,  $d^a = dc_0^{2^{n-4}}$  and  $a^2 \in \Phi(G)$ .

Since  $H_G = 1$ ,  $\{1, d\} \neq \{1, d\}^a \subset \Omega_1(\Phi(G)) = \{1, d, dc_0^{2^{n-4}}, c_0^{2^{n-4}}\}$ .  
 But  $d^a \equiv d \pmod{G' = \langle c_0 \rangle}$ ,  $d^a = dc_0^{2^{n-4}}$  and  $a^2 \in \Phi(G)$ .

Thus

$$c_0^a = c_0^{\delta_3}, a^2 = d^{\delta_4} c_0^{\delta_5}, \delta_3 \in \{\pm 1 + 2^{n-4}, \pm 1\}, \delta_4 \in \{0, 1\}, 0 \leq \delta_5 < 2^{n-4}.$$

Case 1.  $n \geq 6$ .

If  $H \triangleleft M$ , then  $M = \langle c_0 \rangle \times H$ , and

$$O(b) = O(b^a) = O(bc_0^{\delta_0}) = o(c_0^{\delta_0}) = o(c_0) \geq 8 \neq o(b) \leq 4.$$

A contradiction.

Thus  $[c_0, b] = c_0^{\delta_1 - 1} \neq 1$ .

Since  $b^2 \in L$ ,  $\delta_1 \in \{\pm 1 + 2^{n-4}, -1\}$ .  $b^2 = d^{\delta_2}$ ,  $\delta_2 \in \{0, 1\}$ .

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Case 1.  $n \geq 6$ .

If  $H \triangleleft M$ , then  $M = \langle c_0 \rangle \times H$ , and

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Taking  $c = c_0^{\delta_0}$ , then

$$G = \langle a, b, c, d \mid c^{2^{n-3}} = d^2 = [d, c] = [b, d] = 1, c^b = c^{\delta_1}, b^2 = d^{\delta_2}, \\ b^a = bc, d^a = dc^{2^{n-4}}, c^a = c^{\delta_3}, a^2 = d^{\delta_4} c^{\delta_5} \rangle.$$

Since  $G/G' \cong \mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ ,

$$\delta_2^2 + \delta_4^2 \neq 0. \quad (1)$$

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Since

$$\begin{aligned} (a^2)^a &= (d^{\delta_4} c^{\delta_5})^a = (dc^{2^{n-4}})^{\delta_4} c^{\delta_3 \cdot \delta_5} = d^{\delta_4} c^{2^{n-4} \cdot \delta_4 + \delta_3 \cdot \delta_5} \\ &= a^2 = d^{\delta_4} c^{\delta_5} \end{aligned}$$

$$2^{n-4} \delta_4 + (\delta_3 - 1) \delta_5 \equiv 0 \pmod{2^{n-3}}. \quad (2)$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} b^{a^2} &= b^{(d^{\delta_4} c^{\delta_5})} = b^{c^{\delta_5}} = b[b, c^{\delta_5}] = bc^{(1-\delta_1)\delta_5} \\ &= (b^a)^a = (bc)^a = bc^{\delta_3+1}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\delta_3 + 1 \equiv (1 - \delta_1)\delta_5 \pmod{2^{n-3}}. \quad (3)$$

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Since

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$$2^{n-4}\delta_2 \equiv \delta_1 + 1 \pmod{2^{n-3}} \quad (4)$$



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By solving equations,

$\delta_3 = -1 + 2^{n-4}$ ,  $\delta_5 = 2^{n-5} + 2^{n-4}\delta'_5$ . Replacing  $ad^{\delta'_5}$  with  $a$ , we can get  $\delta_5 = 2^{n-5}$  and  $G$  is type(I).



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$\delta_3 = 1, \delta_5 = 1 + 2^{n-5} + 2^{n-4}\delta'_5$ . Replacing  $ad^{\delta'_5}$  with  $a$ , we can get  $\delta_5 = 2^{n-5}$  and  $G$  is type (II).



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By solving equations,

$\delta_3 = -1 + 2^{n-4}$ ,  $\delta_5 = 2^{n-5} + 2^{n-4}\delta'_5$ . Replacing  $ad^{\delta'_5}$  with  $a$ , we can get  $\delta_5 = 2^{n-5}$  and  $G$  is type(I).

$\delta_3 = 1, \delta_5 = 1 + 2^{n-5} + 2^{n-4}\delta'_5$ . Replacing  $ad^{\delta'_5}$  with  $a$ , we can get  $\delta_5 = 2^{n-5}$  and  $G$  is type (II).

$\delta_3 = -1 + 2^{n-4}$  or  $-1$ ,  $\delta_5 = 2^{n-4}\delta'_5$ ,  $\delta_3 = -1$ . 用  $ad^{\delta'_5}$ . Replacing  $a$  with  $\delta'_5$ , we can get  $\delta_5 = 0$  and  $G$  is type (III).

Other cases do not occur or same as above type.



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Case 2.  $n=5$ .

$$G = \langle a, b, c, d \mid c^4 = d^2 = [d, c] = [b, d] = 1, c^b = c^{\delta_1}, b^2 = d^{\delta_2}, b^a = bc, d^a = d, c^a = c^{\delta_3}, a^2 = d^{\delta_4} c^{\delta_5} \rangle, \quad \delta_1, \delta_3 \in \{\pm 1\}, \delta_2, \delta_4 \in \{0, 1\}, \delta_5 \in \{0, \pm 1, 2\}.$$

As above discussion, we can get a type (III) group.



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Case 2.  $n=5$ .

$$G = \langle a, b, c, d \mid c^4 = d^2 = [d, c] = [b, d] = 1, c^b = c^{\delta_1}, b^2 = d^{\delta_2}, b^a = bc, d^a = d$$

$$c^a = c^{\delta_3}, a^2 = d^{\delta_4} c^{\delta_5} \rangle, \quad \delta_1, \delta_3 \in \{\pm 1\}, \delta_2, \delta_4 \in \{0, 1\}, \delta_5 \in \{0, \pm 1, 2\}.$$

As above discussion, we can get a type (III) group.

We can check the three type group are not isomorphic and minimal non-core-2 2-group with almost maximal class.

□

## Lemma

Let  $G$  be a minimal non-core-2 2-groups of order  $2^n$  where  $n \geq 5$ ,  $d(G) = 2$  and  $G'$  is not cyclic. Then  $G$  must be one of following groups.

(IV)  $\langle a, b, c, d \mid c^2 = d^2 = b^2 = a^4 = [d, c] = [b, d] = [b, c] = [d, a] = 1, [b, a] = c, [c, a] = d \rangle (n = 5)$ ; or

(V)  $\langle a, b, c, d \mid c^2 = d^2 = b^2 = [d, c] = [b, d] = [b, c] = [d, a] = 1, a^4 = d, [b, a] = c, [c, a] = d \rangle (n = 5)$ ;

Proof. By above lemma, since  $G'$  is not cyclic, then  $4 < n \leq 6$ .

Case 1.  $n=5$ .

Since  $G'$  is not cyclic,  $G' \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2, G/G' \cong \mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ .

Without loss generality, we can assume  $G = \langle a, b \rangle$ , and  $a^4, b^2 \in G', [a, b] = c \in G' - G_3, G_3 = \langle d \rangle$ .



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Then

$$G = \langle a, b, c, d \mid c^2 = d^2 = [d, c] = [b, d] = [d, a] = 1, [b, a] = c, \\ [c, a] = d^{\delta_1}, [c, b] = d^{\delta_2}, a^4 = c^{\delta_3} d^{\delta_4}, b^2 = c^{\delta_5} d^{\delta_6} \rangle$$

where  $\delta_1, \delta_2, \delta_3, \delta_4, \delta_5, \delta_6 \in \{0, 1\}$ .

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where  $\delta_1, \delta_2, \delta_3, \delta_4, \delta_5, \delta_6 \in \{0, 1\}$ .

Since  $G$  is almost maximal class,

$$\begin{aligned} [G_2, G] = \langle [c, a], [c, b], G_3 \rangle &\Rightarrow \delta_1 + \delta_2 \geq 1 \\ (b^2)^a = (b^a)^2 &\Rightarrow d^{\delta_1 \delta_5} = d^{\delta_2} \\ (a^4)^a = a^4 &\Rightarrow d^{\delta_1 \delta_3} = 1 \\ (b^2)^b = b^2 &\Rightarrow d^{\delta_2 \delta_5} = 1 \\ (a^4)^b = (a^b)^4 &\Rightarrow d^{\delta_2 \delta_3} = 1. \end{aligned}$$



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Then

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Then  $\delta_1 = 1, \delta_2 = \delta_3 = \delta_5 = 0, \delta_4, \delta_6 \in \{0, 1\}$ .

- (i) If  $\delta_4 = 0, \delta_6 = 0$ , then  $G$  is type (V);
- (ii) If  $\delta_4 = 0, \delta_6 = 1$ , replacing  $ba^2$  with  $b$ , then  $G$  is type (V);
- (iii) If  $\delta_4 = 1, \delta_6 = 0$ , then  $G$  is type (IV);
- (iv) If  $\delta_4 = 1$  and  $\delta_6 = 1$ , this case  $G$  is core-2 2-group.

Case 2.  $n=6$ . It is similar to  $n = 5$ .





## Lemma

Let  $G$  be a minimal non-core-2 2-groups of order  $2^n$  where  $n \geq 5$ ,  $d(G) = 3$ . Then  $G$  must be  $\langle c, b, a | c^{2^{n-2}} = b^2 = a^2 = 1, c^b = c^{-1}, c^a = c^{-1+2^{n-3}}, [b, a] = 1 \rangle, (n \geq 5)$ .

Proof.

Since  $n \geq 5$  and  $d(G) = 3$ , by [7],  $\exists K \triangleleft G$  such that  $K_i = G_i$ , where  $i = 2, 3, \dots, n-2$ .

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It means  $G = \langle H, L \rangle = L \rtimes H$ .

By  $G/L \cong H, \Phi(G) < L, H \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ . If  $|C_G(L)L| = 2$ , then  $1 < C_G(L) \cap H < Z(G)$ . This is contradict to  $H_G = 1$ .



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Let  $G$  be a minimal non-core-2 2-groups of order  $2^n$  where  $n \geq 5$ ,  $d(G) = 3$ . Then  $G$  must be  $\langle c, b, a | c^{2^{n-2}} = b^2 = a^2 = 1, c^b = c^{-1}, c^a = c^{-1+2^{n-3}}, [b, a] = 1 \rangle, (n \geq 5)$ .

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Without loss generality, we can assume  $H = \langle b, a \rangle$

$$G = \langle a, b, c \mid c^{2^{n-2}} = b^2 = a^2 = 1, c^b = c^{-1}, c^a = c^{-1+2^{n-3}}, [b, a] = 1 \rangle.$$

We can check  $G$  is an inner core-2 2-group and  $G/N$  is a core-2 2-group where  $N \leq Z(G)$  and  $|N| = 2$ .

Then  $G$  is a minimal non-core-2 2-group. □

By above lemma, we can get the main result. □

Furthermore, we can also get all the inner core-2 2-groups.



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