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## A CHARACTERIZATION OF $U_4(2)$ BY NSE\*

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**Abstract.** Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $\omega(G)$  be the set of element orders of  $G$ . Let  $k \in \omega(G)$  and  $m_k$  be the number of elements of order  $k$  in  $G$ . Let  $nse(G) = \{m_k | k \in \omega(G)\}$ . The aim of this paper is to prove that, if  $G$  is a finite group such that  $nse(G) = nse(U_4(2))$ , then  $G \cong U_4(2)$ .

**Keywords.** element order; number of elements of the same order; projective special unitary group; simple  $K_n$  - group.

### 1. Introduction

This section contains the relevant definitions, some standard facts on nse, and a brief exposition of nse history. Throughout this paper,  $G$  is a finite group. We denote by  $\pi(G)$  the set of prime divisors of  $|G|$ , and by  $\omega(G)$ , we introduce the set of order of elements from  $G$ . Set  $m_k = m_k(G) = |\{g \in G | o(g) = k\}|$ , and  $nse(G) = \{m_k | k \in \omega(G)\}$ . In fact,  $m_k$  is the number of elements of order  $k$  in  $G$  and  $nse(G)$  is the set of sizes of elements with the same order in  $G$ .

To the world's mathematics and researchers, one of the important problems in group theory is characterization of a group by a given property, that is, to prove there exists only one group with a given property (up to isomorphism). Until now, different characterizations are investigated for finite simple groups. For instance, in [21, 22] motivated by one of the Thompson's problem, the authors introduced a new characterization for the finite simple group  $G$  by  $nse(G)$  and  $|G|$ . In fact, they proved that if  $G$  is a simple  $K_i$ -group ( $i = 3, 4$ ), then  $G$  is characterizable by  $nse(G)$  and  $|G|$  (The simple group  $G$  is called simple  $K_n$ -group if  $|\pi(G)| = n$ ). Following this result, several groups were characterized by nse and order. For example, in [5, 11], it is proved that Suzuki group, and sporadic groups are characterizable by nse and order.

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We remark here that not all groups can be characterized by their group orders and the set  $nse$ . As an illustration, let  $H_1 = C_4 \times C_4$  and  $H_2 = C_2 \times Q_8$ , where  $C_2$  and  $C_4$  are cyclic groups of order 2 and 4 respectively, and  $Q_8$  is a quaternion group of order 8. It is easy to see that  $nse(H_1) = nse(H_2) = \{1, 3, 12\}$  and  $|H_1| = |H_2| = 16$  but  $H_1 \not\cong H_2$ .

However, it is claimed that some simple groups could be characterized by exactly the set  $nse$  without considering the order of group. In fact, a finite non-abelian simple group  $H$  is called characterizable by  $nse$ , if every finite group  $G$  with  $nse(G) = nse(H)$  implies that  $G \cong H$ . In [7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 24] it is proved that the alternating groups  $A_n$ , where  $n \in \{7, 8\}$ , the symmetric groups  $S_n$  where  $n \in \{3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$ ,  $M_{12}$ ,  $L_2(27)$ ,  $L_2(q)$  where  $q \in \{16, 17, 19, 23\}$ ,  $L_2(q)$  where  $q \in \{7, 8, 11, 13\}$ ,  $L_2(q)$  where  $q \in \{17, 27, 29\}$ , are uniquely determined by  $nse(G)$ . Besides, in [1, 14, 15, 16] it is proved that  $U_3(4)$ ,  $L_3(4)$ ,  $U_3(5)$ ,  $L_3(5)$ , are uniquely determined by  $nse(G)$ . Recently, in [3, 6, 18, 19], it is proved that the simple groups  $U_3(3)$ ,  $L_3(3)$ ,  $G_2(4)$ ,  $L_2(3^n)$ , where  $|\pi(L_2(3^n))| = 4$ , and  $L_2(2^m)$ , where  $|\pi(L_2(2^m))| = 4$ , are uniquely determined by  $nse(G)$ . Therefore, it is natural to ask what happens with other kinds of simple groups.

In an effort to fill some of the empty ground about the characterization of simple groups by  $nse$ , in this paper we will prove the following main theorem.

**Main Theorem.** Let  $G$  be a group such that  $nse(G) = nse(U_4(2))$ . Then  $G$  is isomorphic to  $U_4(2)$ .

## 2. Notation and Preliminaries

Before we get started, let us fix some notations that will be used throughout the paper. For a natural number  $n$  by  $\pi(n)$ , we mean the set of all prime divisors of  $n$ , so it is obvious that if  $G$  is a finite group, then  $\pi(G) = \pi(|G|)$ . A Sylow  $r$ -subgroup of  $G$  is denoted by  $P_r$  and by  $n_r(G)$ , we mean the number of Sylow  $r$ -subgroup of  $G$ . Also the largest element order of  $P_r$  is signified by  $exp(P_r)$ . Moreover, we denote by  $\phi$  the Euler function. In the following, we bring some useful lemmas which be used in the proof of the main theorem.

**Lemma 2.1.** [25]. *Let  $G$  be a group containing more than two elements. If the maximal number  $s$  of elements of the same order in  $G$  is finite, then  $G$  is finite and  $|G| \leq s(s^2 - 1)$ .*

**Lemma 2.2.** [24]. *Let  $G$  be a group. If  $1 \neq n \in nse(G)$  and  $2 \nmid n$ , then the following statements hold:*

- (1)  $2 \parallel |G|$ ;
- (2)  $m_2 = n$ ;
- (3) for any  $2 < t \in \omega(G)$ ,  $m_t \neq n$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** [2]. *Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $m$  be a positive integer dividing  $|G|$ . If  $L_m(G) = \{g \in G \mid g^m = 1\}$ , then  $m \parallel |L_m(G)|$ .*

**Lemma 2.4.** [23]. *Let  $G$  be a group and  $P$  be a cyclic Sylow  $p$ -group of  $G$  of order  $p^\alpha$ . If there is a prime  $r$  such that  $p^\alpha r \in \omega(G)$ , then  $m_{p^\alpha r} = m_r(C_G(P))m_{p^\alpha}$ . In particular  $\phi(r)m_{p^\alpha} | m_{p^\alpha r}$ , where  $\phi(r)$  is the Euler function of  $r$ .*

**Lemma 2.5.** [17]. *Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $p \in \pi(G)$  be odd. Suppose that  $P$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  and  $n = p^s m$ , where  $(p, m) = 1$ . If  $P$  is not cyclic group and  $s > 1$ , then the number of elements of order  $n$  is always a multiple of  $p^s$ .*

We say that a group  $G$  acts semi regularly on set  $X$  if  $G$  acts on  $X$  in such a way that  $G_x = 1$  for all  $x \in X$ .

**Lemma 2.6.** [20]. *Let the finite group  $G$  acts on the finite set  $X$ . If the action is semi regular, then  $|G| \mid |X|$ .*

Let us mention the structure of simple  $K_3$ -groups, that will be needed in Section 3.

**Lemma 2.7.** [4]. *If  $G$  is a simple  $K_3$ -group, then  $G$  is isomorphic to one of the following groups:*

$$A_5, A_6, L_2(7), L_2(8), L_2(17), L_3(3), U_3(3), U_4(2).$$

**Lemma 2.8.** [22]. *Let  $G$  be a group and  $M$  a simple  $K_3$ -group. Then  $G \cong M$  if and only if the following hold: (1)  $|G| = |M|$ , (2)  $nse(G) = nse(M)$ .*

### 3. Main Theorem and its Proof

Suppose  $G$  is a group such that  $nse(G) = nse(U_4(2))$ . By Lemma 2.1, we can assume that  $G$  is finite. Let  $m_n$  be the number of elements of order  $n$ . We notice that  $m_n = k\phi(n)$ , where  $k$  is the number of cyclic subgroups of order  $n$  in  $G$ . In addition, we notice that if  $n > 2$ , then  $\phi(n)$  is even. If  $n \in \omega(G)$ , then by Lemma 2.3 and the above argument, we have

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{cases} \phi(n) | m_n \\ n | \sum_{d|n} m_d \end{cases}$$

In the proof of the main theorem, we often apply formula (3.1) and the above comments.

**Proof of the Main Theorem.** Let  $G$  be a group with

$$nse(G) = nse(U_4(2)) = \{1, 315, 800, 3780, 4320, 5184, 5760\}$$

where  $U_4(2)$  is the projective special unitary group of degree 4 over field of order 2. We have divided the proof into a sequence of lemmas.

**Remark 3.1.** Let  $2 \neq p \in \pi(G)$ , by formula (3.1),  $p|(1 + m_p)$  and  $(p - 1)|m_p$ , which implies that  $p \in \{3, 5, 7, 17, 19\}$ .

In the following lemma, we prove some basic properties of group  $G$ :

**Lemma 3.1.** *If  $p \in \pi(G)$  and  $p \in \{2, 3, 5\}$ , then*

- (1)  $2 \in \pi(G)$  and  $m_2 = 315$ ;
- (2)  $m_3 = 800$ ,  $m_5 = 5184$ ;
- (3)  $\{5^2, 3^6, 2^9\} \cap \omega(G) = \emptyset$ ;
- (4)  $|P_2||2^9$ .

*Proof.* The proof is straightforward according to Lemma 2.2, Lemma 2.3, and formula (3.1).  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.**  $\{17, 19\} \cap \pi(G) = \emptyset$ .

*Proof.* We prove that  $17 \notin \pi(G)$ . Conversely, suppose that  $17 \in \pi(G)$ . Then formula (3.1) implies  $m_{17} = 5184$ . On the other hand, by formula (3.1), we conclude that if  $2.17 \in \omega(G)$ , then  $m_{2.17} \in \{800, 4320, 5184, 5760\}$  and  $2.17|1 + m_2 + m_{17} + m_{2.17} (= 6300, 9820, 10684, 11260)$ , which is a contradiction, and hence  $2.17 \notin \omega(G)$ . Since  $2.17 \notin \omega(G)$ , the group  $P_{17}$  acts fixed point freely on the set of elements of order 2 of  $G$  and by Lemma 2.6,  $|P_{17}||m_2$ , which is a contradiction. Hence,  $17 \notin \pi(G)$ . Similarly, we can prove that  $19 \notin \pi(G)$ .  $\square$

To remove the prime 7, let us first show that  $5 \in \pi(G)$ .

**Lemma 3.3.**  $\{5\} \cap \pi(G) = \{5\}$ .

*Proof.* Assume that  $5 \notin \pi(G)$ .

• If  $3, 7 \notin \pi(G)$ , then  $G$  is a 2-group. Since  $2^9 \notin \omega(G)$ , we have  $\omega(G) \subseteq \{1, 2, 2^2, \dots, 2^8\}$ . Hence  $|G| = 2^m = 20160 + 800k_1 + 3780k_2 + 4320k_3 + 5184k_4 + 5760k_5$ , where  $k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4, k_5$  and  $m$  are non-negative integers, and  $0 \leq k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + k_4 + k_5 \leq 2$ . It is obvious that  $20160 \leq |G| \leq 20160 + (k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + k_4 + k_5)5760$  and so  $20160 \leq |G| \leq 20160 + 2.5760$ . Now, it is easily seen that the equation has no solution.

Hence 3 or 7 belongs to  $\pi(G)$ , and the following cases are considered.

• If  $7 \in \pi(G)$ , by formula (3.1)  $m_7 = 5760$ , then as  $\exp(P_7) = 7$ ,  $|P_7||1 + m_7$  and so  $|P_7| = 7$ . Since  $n_7 = \frac{m_7}{\phi(7)} = 2^6.3.5|G|$ , it follows that  $5 \in \pi(G)$ , which is a contradiction.

• If  $3 \in \pi(G)$ , then  $\exp(P_3) = 3, 3^2, 3^3, 3^4, 3^5$ .

★ If  $\exp(P_3) = 3$ , then by Lemma 2.3,  $|P_3||(1 + m_3)$  and so  $|P_3||3^2$ . We will consider two cases for  $|P_3|$ .

*Case 1* If  $|P_3| = 3$ , then since  $n_3 = \frac{m_3}{\phi(3)} = 2^3.5^3|G|$ ,  $5 \in \pi(G)$  which is a contradiction.

*Case 2* If  $|P_3| = 3^2$ , then since  $5, 7 \notin \pi(G)$  and  $\pi(G) \subseteq \{2, 3, 5, 7\}$ , we can assume that  $\{2\} \subseteq \pi(G) \subseteq \{2, 3\}$ , and so we have

$$\omega(G) \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, 2^8\} \cup \{3, 3.2, 3.2^2, 3.2^3, \dots, 3.2^7\}$$

$(2^8.3 \notin \omega(G)$  by formula (3.1)) and  $|\omega(G)| \leq 17$ . Therefore  $20160 + 800k_1 + 3780k_2 + 4320k_3 + 5184k_4 + 5760k_5 = |G| = 2^a.9$  where  $k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4, k_5$ , and  $a$  are non-negative integers and  $0 \leq k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + k_4 + k_5 \leq 10$ . Since  $20160 \leq 2^a.9 \leq 20160 + 10.5760$ , we have  $a = 12$ , or  $a = 13$ . If  $a = 12$ , then since  $|P_2||2^9$ , we have a contradiction. Similarly, we can rule out  $a = 13$ .

★ If  $\exp(P_3) = 3^2$ , then, by Lemma 2.3,  $|P_3|(1 + m_3 + m_{3^2})$  and so  $|P_3||3^8$ . (for example, when  $m_9 = 5760$ ). We will consider seven cases for  $|P_3|$ .

*Case 1.* If  $|P_3| = 3^2$ , then  $n_3 = \frac{m_9}{\phi(9)}$ , since  $m_9 \in \{3780, 4320, 5184, 5760\}$ ,  $n_3 = 3^2.2.5.7$ ,  $n_3 = 2^4.3^2.5$ , or  $n_3 = 2^6.3.5$ , and so  $5 \in \pi(G)$ , which is a contradiction, and if  $n_3 = 2^5.3^3$ , since  $n_3 \not\equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ , we have a contradiction.

*Case 2.* If  $|P_3| = 3^3$ , then since  $5, 7 \notin \pi(G)$ , we can assume that  $\{2\} \subseteq \pi(G) \subseteq \{2, 3\}$  and so we have  $\omega(G) \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, 2^8\} \cup \{3, 3.2, 3.2^2, \dots, 3.2^7\} \cup \{3^2, 3^2.2, 3^2.2^2, \dots, 3^2.2^7\}$  ( $2^8.3 \notin \omega(G)$ ,  $2^8.3^2 \notin \omega(G)$  by formula (3.1)) and  $|\omega(G)| \leq 25$ . Therefore  $20160 + 800k_1 + 3780k_2 + 4320k_3 + 5184k_4 + 5760k_5 = |G| = 2^a.27$ , where  $k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4, k_5$ , and  $a$  are non-negative integers and  $0 \leq k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + k_4 + k_5 \leq 18$ . Since  $20160 \leq 2^a.27 \leq 20160 + 18.5760$ , we have  $a = 10$ ,  $a = 11$ , or  $a = 12$ .

If  $a = 10$ , then since  $|P_2||2^9$ , we have a contradiction. Similarly, we can rule out  $a = 11$  and  $a = 12$ .

*Case 3.* If  $|P_3| = 3^4$ , then since  $\exp(P_3) = 3^2$  and  $2^8.3, 2^8.9 \notin \omega(G)$ ,  $\omega(G) \subseteq \{1, \dots, 2^8\} \cup \{3, \dots, 3.2^7\} \cup \{3^2, \dots, 3^2.2^7\}$ . On the other hand, if  $2^8 \in \omega(G)$  since  $2^8.3 \notin \omega(G)$ , the group  $P_3$  acts fixed point freely on the set of elements of order  $2^8$ . Hence  $|P_3||m_{2^8} = 5760$ , which is a contradiction. Hence  $2^8 \notin \omega(G)$  and  $|\omega(G)| \leq 24$ . Therefore  $20160 + 800k_1 + 3780k_2 + 4320k_3 + 5184k_4 + 5760k_5 = |G| = 2^a.81$ , where  $k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4, k_5$ , and  $a$  are non-negative integers and  $0 \leq k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + k_4 + k_5 \leq 17$ . Since  $20160 \leq 2^a.81 \leq 20160 + 17.5760$ , we have  $a = 8$ ,  $a = 9$ , or  $a = 10$ .

If  $a = 8$ , then  $576 = 800k_1 + 3760k_2 + 4320k_3 + 5184k_4 + 5760k_5$  where  $0 \leq k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + k_4 + k_5 \leq 17$ . By a computer calculation, it is easy to see this equation has no solution.

If  $a = 9$ , then  $21312 = 800k_1 + 3780k_2 + 4320k_3 + 5184k_4 + 5760k_5$  where  $0 \leq k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + k_4 + k_5 \leq 17$ . The only solution of this equation is  $(0, 0, 0, 3, 1)$ . We show this is impossible. Since  $|\omega(G)| = 11$  and  $2^8 \notin \omega(G)$ ,  $\exp(P_2) = 2^i$ , where  $3 \leq i \leq 7$ . Hence, if  $\exp(P_2) = 2^i$  where  $3 \leq i \leq 7$ , then  $|P_2|(1 + m_2 + m_4 + \dots + m_{2^i})$  by Lemma 2.3. In fact  $|P_2|(1 + 315 + 800t_1 + 3780t_2 + 4320t_3 + 5184t_4 + 5760t_5)$  where  $t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5$ , are non-negative integers and  $0 \leq t_1 + t_2 + t_3 + t_4 + t_5 \leq 6$ . Because  $k_1 = 0$  and  $m_3 = 800$ ,  $m_{2^i} \neq 800$  for  $1 \leq i \leq 7$ ,  $t_1 = 0$ . Since  $k_2 = 0$ ,  $0 \leq t_2 \leq 1$ . We claim  $t_2 = 0$ . Suppose, contrary to our claim,  $t_2 = 1$ . If  $m_4 = 3780$ , then since  $m_9 \in \{3780, 4320, 5184, 5760\}$ , we have a contradiction and so  $t_2 = 0$ . If  $m_4 \neq 3780$ , then by a computer calculation  $m_8 = 3780$ , since  $m_9 \in \{3780, 4320, 5184, 5760\}$ , we have a contradiction and so  $t_2 = 0$ . Also  $k_3 = 0, k_4 = 3$ , and  $k_5 = 1$ , thus  $0 \leq t_3 \leq 1, 0 \leq t_4 \leq 4$ , and  $0 \leq t_5 \leq 2$ . By an easy computer calculation, this is impossible.

If  $a = 10$ , then since  $|P_2||2^9$ , we have a contradiction.

Similarly, we can rule out the other cases.

★ If  $\exp(P_3) = 3^3$ , then by Lemma 2.3,  $|P_3|(1 + m_3 + m_{3^2} + m_{3^3})$  and so  $|P_3||3^4$  (for example when  $m_9 = 5184$  and  $m_{27} = 5760$ ). We will consider two cases for  $|P_3|$ .

*Case 1.* If  $|P_3| = 3^3$ , then  $n_3 = \frac{m_{27}}{\phi(27)}$ , since  $m_{27} \in \{3780, 4320, 5184, 5760\}$ ,  $n_3 = 2.3.5.7$ ,  $n_3 = 2^4.3.5$ , or  $n_3 = 2^6.5$ , and so  $5 \in \pi(G)$ , which is a contradiction, and if  $n_3 = 2^5.3^2$ , since  $n_3 \not\equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ , we have a contradiction.

*Case 2.* If  $|P_3| = 3^4$ , then by Lemma 2.5,  $27|m_{27}$ . Since  $(27 \nmid 5760)$ , it is understood that  $m_{27} \in \{3780, 4320, 5184\}$ . Since  $2^8.3 \notin \omega(G)$ ,  $2^8.3^2 \notin \omega(G)$ ,  $2^8.3^3 \notin \omega(G)$ , and  $2^8 \notin \omega(G)$ ,  $|\omega(G)| \leq 32$ . Therefore  $20160 + 800k_1 + 3780k_2 + 4320k_3 + 5184k_4 + 5760k_5 = |G| = 2^a.81$ , where  $k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4, k_5$ , and  $a$  are non-negative integers and  $0 \leq k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + k_4 + k_5 \leq 25$ . Since  $20160 \leq 2^a.81 \leq 20160 + 25.5760$ , we have  $a = 8$ ,  $a = 9$ , or  $a = 10$ .

If  $a = 8$ , then  $576 = 800k_1 + 3780k_2 + 4320k_3 + 5184k_4 + 5760k_5$  where  $0 \leq k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + k_4 + k_5 \leq 25$ . By a computer calculation, it is easily seen that the equation has no solution.

If  $a = 9$ , then  $21312 = 800k_1 + 3780k_2 + 4320k_3 + 5184k_4 + 5760k_5$  where  $0 \leq k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + k_4 + k_5 \leq 25$ . By a computer calculation, the only solution of this equation is  $(0, 0, 0, 3, 1)$ . We show this is impossible. Since  $|\omega(G)| = 11$  and  $2^8 \notin \omega(G)$ ,  $\exp(P_2) = 2^i$ , where  $3 \leq i \leq 7$ . Hence, if  $\exp(P_2) = 2^i$ , where  $3 \leq i \leq 7$  then  $|P_2|(1 + m_2 + m_4 + \dots + m_{2^i})$  by Lemma 2.3. In fact  $|P_2|(1 + 315 + 800t_1 + 3780t_2 + 4320t_3 + 5184t_4 + 5760t_5)$  where  $t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5$ , are non-negative integers and  $0 \leq t_1 + t_2 + t_3 + t_4 + t_5 \leq 6$ . Because  $k_1 = 0$  and  $m_3 = 800$ ,  $m_{2^i} \neq 800$  for  $1 \leq i \leq 7$ ,  $t_1 = 0$ . Since  $k_2 = 0$ ,  $0 \leq t_2 \leq 1$ . We claim  $t_2 = 0$ . Suppose, contrary to our claim,  $t_2 = 1$ . If  $m_4 = 3780$ , then since  $m_{27} \in \{3780, 4320, 5184\}$ , we have a contradiction and so  $t_2 = 0$ . If  $m_4 \neq 3780$ , then by computer calculation  $m_8 = 3780$ , since  $m_{27} \in \{3780, 4320, 5184\}$ , we have a contradiction and so  $t_2 = 0$ . Also  $k_3 = 0, k_4 = 3$ , and  $k_5 = 1$ , thus  $0 \leq t_3 \leq 1$ ,  $0 \leq t_4 \leq 4$ , and  $0 \leq t_5 \leq 2$ . By an easy computer calculation, this is impossible.

If  $a = 10$ , then since  $|P_2||2^9$ , we have a contradiction.

★ If  $\exp(P_3) = 3^4$ , then by Lemma 2.3,  $|P_3|(1 + m_3 + m_{3^2} + m_{3^3} + m_{3^4})$  and so  $|P_3||3^4$  (for example when  $m_9 = 5760$ ,  $m_{27} = 3780$ , and  $m_{81} = 4320$ ).

If  $|P_3| = 3^4$ , then  $n_3 = \frac{m_{81}}{\phi(81)}$ , since  $m_{81} \in \{3780, 4320, 5184\}$ ,  $n_3 = 2^4.5$ , or  $n_3 = 2.5.7$ , and so  $5 \in \pi(G)$ , which is a contradiction, and if  $n_3 = 2^5.3$ , since a cyclic group of order 81 has two elements of order 3,  $m_3 \leq 2^5.3.2 = 192$ , which is a contradiction.

★ If  $\exp(P_3) = 3^5$ , then by Lemma 2.3,  $|P_3|(1 + m_3 + m_{3^2} + m_{3^3} + m_{3^4} + m_{3^5})$  and so  $|P_3||3^5$  (for example when  $m_9 = 5184$ ,  $m_{27} = 5760$ , and  $m_{81} = m_{243} = 5184$ ). In a similar way we have a contradiction. Therefore,  $5 \in \pi(G)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.4.**  $\{7\} \cap \pi(G) = \emptyset$ .

*Proof.* By Lemma 2.3  $|P_5||1 + m_5$  and so  $|P_5| = 5$ . In the following, that the prime 7 do not belong to  $\pi(G)$  is proved. Let  $7 \in \pi(G)$ . Then formula (3.1) implies

$m_{7.5} \in \{4320, 5184, 5760\}$  and  $7.5|1+m_5+m_7+m_{5.7}(= 15256, 16129, 16705)$ , which is a contradiction, and hence  $5.7 \notin \omega(G)$ . It follows that the Sylow 7-subgroup of  $G$  acts fixed point freely on the set of elements of order 5 and so  $|P_7||m_5$ , which is a contradiction. Hence  $7 \notin \pi(G)$ .  $\square$

From what has already been proved, we conclude  $2, 5 \in \pi(G)$ , so the following cases will be considered  $\{2, 5\}, \{2, 3, 5\}$ .

**Lemma 3.5.**  $\pi(G) = \{2, 3, 5\}$ .

*Proof.* If  $\pi(G) = \{2, 5\}$ , since  $\exp(P_5) = 5$ , then by Lemma 2.3,  $|P_5||1+m_5$ , and so  $|P_5| = 5$ . Since  $n_5 = \frac{m_5}{\phi(5)} = 2^4.3^4$ , it follows that 3 belongs to  $\pi(G)$ , which is a contradiction. Hence  $\pi(G) = \{2, 3, 5\}$ . The proof is completed by showing that  $|G| = |U_4(2)|$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.6.**  $G \cong U_4(2)$ .

*Proof.* First, we show that  $|G| = |U_4(2)|$ . From the above arguments, we have  $|P_5| = 5$ . Now, we prove  $10 \notin \omega(G)$ . Conversely, suppose that  $10 \in \omega(G)$ . Then formula (3.1) implies  $m_{10} \in \{800, 3780, 4320, 5760\}$ . On the other hand, if  $2.5 \in \omega(G)$ , then by Lemma 2.4,  $m_{2.5} = m_5.\phi(2).t$  for some integer  $t$ , which is a contradiction and hence  $2.5 \notin \omega(G)$ . Since  $2.5 \notin \omega(G)$ , the group  $P_2$  acts fixed point freely on the set of elements of order 5, and so  $|P_2||m_5$ , hence  $|P_2||3^4.2^6$ . In fact  $|P_2||2^6$ . In the same way, since  $15 \notin \omega(G)$ ,  $|P_3||m_5$  and hence  $|P_3||3^4.2^6$ . In fact  $|P_3||3^4$ . Therefore we have  $|G| = 2^m.3^n.5$ . Since  $20160 = 2^6.3^2.5.7 \leq |G| = 2^m.3^n.5$ ,  $|G| = 2^6.3^4.5$ . Hence  $|G| = 2^6.3^4.5 = |U_4(2)|$  and by assumption  $nse(G) = nse(U_4(2))$ , so by Lemma 2.8,  $G \cong U_4(2)$  and the proof is completed.  $\square$

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