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# THE 2-MINIMAL SUBGROUPS OF SYMPLECTIC GROUPS 

CHRIS PARKER AND PETER ROWLEY


#### Abstract

For a finite group $G$, a subgroup $P$ of $G$ is 2 -minimal if $B<P$, where $B=N_{G}(S)$ for some Sylow 2-subgroup $S$ of $G$, and $B$ is contained in a unique maximal subgroup of $P$. Here we give a detailed and explicit description of all the 2-minimal subgroups for finite symplectic groups defined over a field of odd characteristic.


## 1. Introduction

In [10] the 2-minimal subgroups of linear and unitary groups are classified - it is the purpose of this paper to classify such subgroups for the finite symplectic groups. If the symplectic groups are defined in characteristic 2, then their 2-minimal subgroups are the well-known (and well understood) minimal parabolic subgroups. Thus we only consider the odd characteristic case here. We shall continue to use the notation introduced in [10], and also refer the reader to Section 1 of [10] for a wider discussion on $p$-minimal subgroups, $p$ a prime. Before stating our main theorem we give a quick review of some of the frequently used definitions and notation, beginning with the definition of a $p$-minimal subgroup. Suppose that $G$ is a finite group. Let $p$ be a prime, $S$ a Sylow $p$-subgroup of $G$ and $B=N_{G}(S)$. A subgroup $P$ of $G$ which properly contains $B$ is called a p-minimal subgroup of $G$ (with respect to $B$ ) if $B$ is contained in a unique maximal subgroup of $P$. Put

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\{P \mid B<P \leq G \text { and } P \text { is } p \text {-minimal }\} .
$$

It turns out, provided $G \neq B$, that $G$ is generated by its $p$-minimal subgroups. It is the set $\mathcal{M}(G, B)$ that we shall study when $p=2$. As is the case for the linear and unitary groups, here 2 -minimal subgroups of monomial groups in their various guises contribute subgroups to $\mathcal{M}(G, B)$. So we must say a few words about monomial groups and their 2-minimal subgroups. Those of principal interest are wreath products $H=E \ell X$ where $E$ is cyclic of odd order and $X \cong \operatorname{Sym}(n)$, the symmetric group of degree $n$. Let $T \in \operatorname{Syl}_{2}(H)$ and let $F$ denote the base group of $H$. Then $\mathcal{M}\left(H, N_{H}(T)\right)$ comprises of three different types of 2-minimal subgroups, namely the toral, linker and fuser 2-minimal subgroups. These three sets of 2-minimal subgroups are denoted, respectively, by $\mathcal{T}\left(H, N_{H}(T)\right), \mathcal{L}\left(H, N_{H}(T)\right)$ and $\mathcal{F}\left(H, N_{H}(T)\right)$. All of these groups depend on the action of $T$ on $\Omega$ (where $X=\operatorname{Sym}(\Omega)$ ) with the toral 2-minimal subgroups also having in-put data relating to $|E|$ and the action of $T$ on $F$. We also note that the images of the groups in $\mathcal{L}\left(H, N_{H}(T)\right)$, respectively $\mathcal{F}\left(H, N_{H}(T)\right)$, in the symmetric group $H / F$ are just the linkers, respectively, fusers in $\operatorname{Sym}(n)$ (see [7]). On the other hand, the toral 2-minimal subgroups are of the form $T R$ where $R$ is a subgroup of $F$. The definition of these groups may be found in Section 2, and Theorems 4.5 and 2.8 provide the monomial type 2 -minimal subgroups which we require. They are described in Definitions 2.4, 2.7 giving the sets of 2 -minimal subgroups $\mathcal{L}(G, B), \mathcal{F}(G, B)$ and $\mathcal{T}(G, B)$.

As in [10], the fact that $p$-minimal subgroups behave well with respect to direct products and quotients is important here. Indeed, in Lemma 4.10, we see that this controlled behaviour even extends to certain wreath products.

It is well known that $\mathrm{Sp}_{2}(q) \cong \mathrm{SL}_{2}(q)$, and the 2-minimal subgroups of these groups are given in Theorem 4.1. The description of these 2-minimal subgroups fractures into a myriad of subcases
depending on various congruence conditions on $q$. Some of this complexity feeds through to the general $\operatorname{Sp}_{n}(q)$ situation, courtesy of the set $\mathcal{X}_{2}$ which consists of certain 2-minimal subgroups of $\mathrm{Sp}_{2}(q)$. This set and its companion $\mathcal{X}_{4}$, via which $\mathrm{Sp}_{4}(q)$ also leaves its mark, are introduced in Definitions 4.12 and 4.13. These subsets spawn sets of 2-minimal $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{2}}(G, B)$ and $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{4}}(G, B)$ defined in Definitions 4.12 and 4.13.

Our main theorem can now be stated as follows.
Theorem 1.1. Suppose that $q=p^{a}$ is odd, $n \geq 2$ is even and $G=\operatorname{Sp}_{n}(q)$. Let $S \in \operatorname{Syl}_{2}(G)$, $B=N_{G}(S)$. Then

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\mathcal{F}(G, B) \cup \mathcal{L}(G, B) \cup \mathcal{T}(G, B) \cup \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{2}}(G, B) \cup \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{4}}(G, B)
$$

We emphasize that in all cases the structure of $P$ in Theorem 1.1 is known, and in fact explicit matrices can be written down to describe these groups. The use of equal signs in our results is meant to highlight this point via the explicit decomposition of the group action on the natural symplectic space.

We now summarize the contents of this paper. Apart from two general results on $p$-minimal subgroups at the end of the section, Section 2 is primarily concerned with the 2-minimal subgroups of the monomial groups mentioned earlier. Thus we begin with a discussion of Sylow 2-subgroups and 2-minimal subgroups of symmetric groups. This leads to the main result on 2-minimal subgroups of monomial groups, stated as Theorem 2.5. Building on this theorem an analogous result is proved in Theorem 2.8 for wreath products of dihedral groups with symmetric groups. Section 3, distils the results of Kantor [5], Liebeck and Saxl [8] and Maslova [9] so as to list (up to conjugacy) the maximal subgroups of $\operatorname{Sp}_{n}(q)$ of odd index. It is in these subgroups, of course, where the proper 2-minimal subgroups are to be found. Then a subgroup $L_{k}=\operatorname{Sp}_{n / k}(q) \imath \operatorname{Sym}(k)$ for $\operatorname{Sp}_{n}(q)$ is introduced, followed by Lemma 3.2 which gives the structure of the normalizer of a Sylow 2-subgroup of $\operatorname{Sp}_{n}(q)$. Section 4 begins with Theorem 4.1 and then the remainder of the section is devoted to the proof of Theorem 1.1. After examining the case of $\mathrm{Sp}_{4}(q)$ in Lemma 4.2, we define $C$ which, depending on the congruence of $q$, is either a direct product of quaternion groups of order 8 , or is a homocyclic group of odd order. We then see in Lemma 4.7 that, for $P \in \mathcal{M}(G, B)$, where $P$ acts irreducibly on the natural symplectic module, either $P \leq N_{G}(C)$ or $P \leq L_{k}$ for some $k$. We note that $N_{G}(C)$ is a monomial type subgroup of $G$. In fact $\mathcal{M}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right)=\mathcal{F}(G, B) \cup \mathcal{L}(G, B) \cup \mathcal{T}(G, B)$. Employing Lemma 4.10, in Lemma 4.11 the possibilities for $P \in \mathcal{M}(G, B) \backslash \mathcal{M}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right)$ are now laid bare, from which Theorem 1.1 follows. By way of illustrating Theorem 1.1, in Section 5 we display in detail the 2-minimal subgroups for $\mathrm{Sp}_{10}(q)$ for all odd $q$.

Our group theoretic notation is standard as given, for example in [1].

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## 2. Preliminary Results on 2-minimal subgroups

Just as in [10] we shall encounter 2-minimal subgroups contained in monomial groups. The type of monomial groups which appear are not just isomorphic to wreath products $E$ 亿 $\operatorname{Sym}(n)$ where $E$ is a cyclic group of odd order but also groups $D \imath \operatorname{Sym}(n)$ where $D$ is a dihedral group of order
$2|E|$. Setting $X=\operatorname{Sym}(\Omega)$ where $\Omega=\{1, \ldots, n\}$, we first describe a Sylow 2-subgroup $T$ of $X$ following [4, Satz 15.3, p. 378]. Write

$$
n=2^{n_{1}}+2^{n_{2}}+\cdots+2^{n_{r}} \text { where } n_{1}>n_{2}>\cdots>n_{r} \geq 0
$$

and put $I=\{1, \ldots, r\}$. Then $T$ has $r$ orbits on $\Omega, \Omega_{1}, \ldots, \Omega_{r}$ with $\left|\Omega_{i}\right|=2^{n_{i}}, i \in I$. We set notation so that $\Omega_{1}=\left\{1, \ldots, 2^{n_{1}}\right\}$, then $\Omega_{i}=\left\{m_{i}, \ldots, \sum_{j=1}^{i} 2^{n_{j}}\right\}$ where $m_{1}=1$ and, for $i \geq 2$, $m_{i}=1+\sum_{j=1}^{i-1} 2^{n_{j}}$ is the minimal integer in $\Omega_{i}$. Further, we have

$$
T=T_{n_{1}} \times T_{n_{2}} \times \cdots \times T_{n_{r}}
$$

where, for $i \in I, T_{n_{i}} \in \operatorname{Syl}_{2}\left(\operatorname{Sym}\left(\Omega_{i}\right)\right)$ is the iterated wreath product of $n_{i}$ copies of $T_{1}$ the cyclic group of order 2. We next introduce two types of subgroups of $X$. Let $i \in I$. For $j \in\left\{1, \ldots, n_{i}-1\right\}$, let $\Sigma_{n_{i} ; j}$ be the collection of $T$-invariant block systems of $\Omega_{i}$ consisting of sets of size $2^{k}$ where $k \in\left\{0, \ldots, n_{i}\right\} \backslash\{j\}$, and define

$$
X\left(n_{i} ; j\right)=\operatorname{Stab}_{\operatorname{Sym}\left(\Omega_{i}\right)}\left(\Sigma_{n_{i} ; j}\right) \times\left(\prod_{\ell \in I \backslash\{i\}} T_{n_{\ell}}\right)
$$

For $i, j \in I$, with $i<j\left(\right.$ so $\left.n_{j}<n_{i}\right)$ set $\Lambda_{n_{i}+n_{j}}=\Omega_{i} \cup \Omega_{j}$. Let $\Gamma_{i}$ be the collection of all $T$-invariant block systems on $\Omega_{i}$ and $\Gamma_{j}$ the collection of all $T$-invariant block systems on $\Omega_{j}$. We define $\Sigma_{n_{i}+n_{j}}$ to be the collection of $T$-invariant systems of subsets of $\Lambda_{n_{i}+n_{j}}$ which are the union of one block system from $\Gamma_{i}$ and one from $\Gamma_{j}$ with the proviso that the blocks of the two chosen block systems have equal numbers of elements. Then, the second type of subgroup that we require is

$$
X\left(n_{i}+n_{j}\right)=\operatorname{Stab}_{\operatorname{Sym}\left(\Lambda_{n_{i}+n_{j}}\right)}\left(\Sigma_{n_{i}+n_{j}}\right) \times\left(\prod_{k \in I \backslash\{i, j\}} T_{n_{k}}\right) .
$$

Notice that $\operatorname{Stab}_{{\operatorname{Sym}\left(\Lambda_{n_{i}+n_{j}}\right)}\left(\Sigma_{n_{i}+n_{j}}\right) \cong T_{n_{j}} \imath \operatorname{Sym}\left(2^{n_{i}-n_{j}}+1\right) \text {. These subgroups contain } T=N_{X}(T), ~(T)}$ and in [7, Theorem 1.1], it is shown that

Theorem 2.1. Suppose that $X=\operatorname{Sym}(\Omega)$ and $T \in \operatorname{Syl}_{2}(X)$. Then

$$
\mathcal{M}(X, T)=\left\{X\left(n_{i} ; j\right), X\left(n_{k}+n_{\ell}\right) \mid i, k, \ell \in I, k<\ell \text { and } j \in\left\{1, \ldots n_{i}-1\right\}\right\} .
$$

Now we look at $H=E \imath \operatorname{Sym}(n)=E \imath X$, where $E$ is cyclic of odd order. Taking $F$ to be the base group of $H$, we have that $F$ is isomorphic to a direct product of $n$ copies of $E$ and so we write

$$
F=\left\langle e_{1}, \ldots, e_{n}\right\rangle
$$

with $X$ permuting the generators of $F$ naturally. Let $j \in I$. Then we define

$$
\begin{gathered}
D_{n_{j}}=\left\langle e_{i} \mid i \in \Omega_{j}\right\rangle, \\
Z_{n_{j}}=C_{D_{n_{j}}}\left(T_{n_{j}}\right)=\left\langle\prod_{\ell \in \Omega_{j}} e_{\ell}\right\rangle
\end{gathered}
$$

and note that $T$ normalizes $D_{n_{j}}$ and centralizes $Z_{n_{j}}$. We have

$$
C_{F}(T)=\prod_{j \in I} Z_{n_{j}} \text { and } N_{H}(T)=T C_{F}(T)
$$

Definition 2.2. For $i \in I$ and $j \in\left\{1, \ldots, n_{i}-1\right\}$,

$$
P\left(n_{i} ; j\right)=X\left(n_{i} ; j\right) C_{F}(T)
$$

And for $i, k \in I$ with $i<k$,

$$
P\left(n_{i}+n_{k}\right)=X\left(n_{i}+n_{k}\right)\left\langle C_{F}(T)^{X\left(n_{i}+n_{k}\right)}\right\rangle .
$$

Plainly $P\left(n_{i} ; j\right)$ and $P\left(n_{i}+n_{k}\right)$ are subgroups of $H$ which contain $N_{H}(T)$.
Let $\Pi(|E|)$ be the set of all prime powers, excluding 1 , which divide $|E|$. Take $s \in \Pi(|E|)$ a prime, let $s^{b}$ be the largest power of $s$ in $\Pi(|E|)$ and put $\bar{s}=|E| / s^{b}$. Then, for $\alpha \in \Omega$ and $s^{c} \in \Pi(|E|)$, set

$$
u_{\alpha}=e_{\alpha}^{\bar{s}}, \text { and } w_{\alpha}=u_{\alpha}^{s^{b-c}}
$$

and note that $\left\langle u_{\alpha} \mid \alpha \in \Omega\right\rangle \in \operatorname{Syl}_{s}(F)$ and $w_{\alpha}$ has order $s^{c}$.
For $j \in I, s^{c} \in \Pi(|E|), 1 \leq k \leq n_{j}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
U\left(n_{j} ; s^{c} ; k\right) & =\left\langle\left(\sum_{i=m_{j}}^{m_{j}+2^{n_{j}-k}} w_{i}-w_{2^{n_{j}-k}+i}\right)^{t} \mid t \in T_{n_{j}}\right\rangle \\
& =\left\langle\left(\sum_{i=m_{j}}^{m_{j}+2^{n_{j}-k}} w_{i}-w_{2^{n_{j}-k}+i}\right)^{t} \mid t \in T\right\rangle .
\end{aligned}
$$

Notice that $U\left(n_{j} ; s^{c} ; k\right) \leq D_{n_{j}}$ and is normalized by $T$.
Definition 2.3. For $j \in I, s^{c} \in \Pi(|E|)$ and $1 \leq k \leq n_{j}$,

$$
T\left(n_{j} ; s^{c} ; k\right)=U\left(n_{j} ; s^{c} ; k\right) N_{H}(T)
$$

Finally we describe the toral, linker and fuser 2-minimal subgroups of $H$.
Definition 2.4.
(i) $\mathcal{F}\left(H, N_{H}(T)\right)=\left\{P\left(n_{i}+n_{j}\right) \mid i, j \in I, i<j\right\}$;
(ii) $\mathcal{L}\left(H, N_{H}(T)\right)=\left\{P\left(n_{i} ; j\right) \mid i \in I, j \in\left\{1, \ldots, n_{i}-1\right\}\right\}$ and
(iii) $\mathcal{T}\left(H, N_{H}(T)\right)=\left\{T\left(n_{i} ; s^{c} ; j\right) \mid i \in I, s^{c} \in \Pi(|E|)\right.$ and $\left.1 \leq j \leq n_{i}\right\}$.

In [10, Section 4] explicit examples are presented of these subgroups of $H$. See also Section 5 of this paper. One of the main theorems from [10] is as follows.

Theorem 2.5. Suppose that $H=E \imath \operatorname{Sym}(n)$ where $n \geq 2$ and $E$ is a cyclic group of odd order. Then

$$
\mathcal{M}\left(H, N_{H}(T)\right)=\mathcal{F}\left(H, N_{H}(T)\right) \cup \mathcal{L}\left(H, N_{H}(T)\right) \cup \mathcal{T}\left(H, N_{H}(T)\right)
$$

Proof. See [10, Theorem 4.12].
One of our applications of Theorem 2.5 is to wreath products of dihedral groups with a symmetric group. Here to make the notation match up, the symmetric group we need is $\operatorname{Sym}(n / 2)$ for $n$ even. We start with the following technical observation.

Lemma 2.6. Suppose that $D$ is a dihedral group of twice odd order, and let $E$ be the cyclic group of index 2 in $D$. Assume that $n$ is even, $Y=\operatorname{Sym}(n / 2)$ and $T_{1}$ is the cyclic group of order 2. Let $X_{1}=T_{1}$ Y identified as a subgroup of $X=\operatorname{Sym}(n), W=E \imath X_{1} \leq E \imath X, F$ be the base group of $W$ and $J$ be the base group of $X_{1}$. Then $D \imath Y \cong[F, J] X_{1}$.
Proof. Recall, if $H, K$ and $L$ are groups and $\phi: H \rightarrow K$ is a homomorphism, then $\phi$ can be used to define a homomorphism $\hat{\phi}: H \imath L \rightarrow K \imath L$. Hence we first show that $E \imath T_{1}$ maps homomorphically onto $D$. For this we let $e$ be a generator of $E$ and $D=\langle e, s\rangle$ for some involution $s \in D$. A typical element of $E \imath T_{1}$ can be written as $\left(e^{j}, e^{k}\right) t^{\ell}$ where $t \in T_{1}$ and $j, k, \ell$ are integers. We let $\theta$ map $\left(e^{j}, e^{k}\right) t^{\ell}$ to $e^{j-k} s^{\ell}$. Since

$$
\left(e^{j}, e^{k}\right) t^{\ell}\left(e^{p}, e^{q}\right) t^{r}=\left(e^{j}, e^{k}\right)\left(e^{p}, e^{q}\right)^{t^{\ell}} t^{\ell+r}= \begin{cases}\left(e^{j+p}, e^{k+q}\right) t^{\ell+r} & \ell=0 \\ \left(e^{j+q}, e^{k+p}\right) t^{\ell+r} & \ell=1\end{cases}
$$

this map is a homomorphism and it is plainly onto.

From $\theta$ we construct $\hat{\theta}: W \rightarrow D\left\langle Y\right.$. The kernel of $\hat{\theta}=C_{F}(J)$. Moreover, as $W=C_{F}(J)[F, J] X_{1}$ and $C_{F}(J) \cap[F, J] X_{1}=1$, we have $D \imath Y \cong[F, J] X_{1}$. This proves the lemma.

Letting $L=D \imath X$ and identifying $L$ with $[F, J] X_{1}$, we now list a collection of subgroup of $[F, J] X_{1}$ which contain $T \in \operatorname{Syl}_{2}(L)\left(\subseteq \operatorname{Syl}_{2}\left(X_{1}\right)\right)$ where $X_{1}$ is identified as a subgroup of $X$.

## Definition 2.7.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{F}(L, T) & =\left\{X\left(n_{i}+n_{j}\right) \mid i, j \in I, i<j\right\} \\
\mathcal{L}(L, T) & =\left\{X\left(n_{i} ; j\right) \mid i \in I, j \in\left\{2, \ldots, n_{i}-1\right\}\right\} \text { and } \\
\mathcal{T}(L, T) & =\left\{U\left(n_{i} ; s^{c} ; n_{i}\right) T \mid i \in I, \text { and } s^{c} \in \Pi(|E|)\right\}
\end{aligned}
$$

Note that $|\mathcal{T}(L, T)|=r|\Pi(|E|)|$.
Theorem 2.8. Suppose that $D$ is a dihedral group of twice odd order. Let $L=D$ 2 $\operatorname{Sym}(n / 2)$, $T \in \operatorname{Syl}_{2}(L)$ and identify $L$ with $[F, J] X_{1}$. Then $T=N_{L}(T)$ and

$$
\mathcal{M}(L, T)=\mathcal{F}(L, T) \cup \mathcal{L}(L, T) \cup \mathcal{T}(L, T)
$$

Proof. We have $X_{1}=T_{1} 2 \operatorname{Sym}(n / 2) \leq X$ with notation chosen so that $T \leq X_{1}$. We identify $L=[F, J] X_{1} \leq H$ where $H=E \imath X$. Since $C_{F}(T) \leq C_{F}(J)$ and $C_{F}(J) \cap[F, J]=1$, we have

$$
N_{L}(T)=N_{H}(T) \cap L=C_{F}(T) T \cap L=T
$$

Suppose that $P \in \mathcal{M}(L, T)$. Then, by Lemma 2.10, either $P \leq[F, J] T$ or $P F / F \in \mathcal{M}(L F / F, T F / F)$. In the former case, $P$ centralizes $C_{F}(T)$ and $P C_{F}(T) \in \mathcal{M}\left(H, N_{H}(T)\right)$. Thus $P C_{F}(T) \in \mathcal{T}\left(H, N_{H}(T)\right)$ and so $P C_{F}(T)=U\left(n_{i} ; s^{c} ; k\right) C_{F}(T) T$ for some $i \in I, s^{c} \in \Pi(|E|)$ and $1 \leq k \leq n_{i}$ by Theorem 2.5. If $k \neq n_{i}$, then $J$ centralizes $U\left(n_{i} ; s^{c} ; k\right)$ and so $P \leq C_{F}(J) T$ which means that $P \leq C_{F}(J) T \cap L=T$, a contradiction. Hence

$$
P=U\left(n_{i} ; s^{c} ; n_{i}\right) T C_{F}(T) .
$$

Because $T$ acts irreducibly on $U\left(n_{i} ; s^{c} ; n_{i}\right) / \Phi\left(U\left(n_{i} ; s^{c} ; n_{i}\right)\right)$ by [10, Lemma 4.1 (iv)], we have

$$
U\left(n_{i} ; s^{c} ; n_{i}\right) \leq[F, J] \leq L
$$

Using the Dedekind modular law gives

$$
\begin{aligned}
P & =P\left(L \cap C_{F}(T)\right)=L \cap\left(P C_{F}(T)\right) \\
& =L \cap\left(U\left(n_{i} ; s^{c} ; n_{i}\right) T C_{F}(T)\right)=U\left(n_{i} ; s^{c} ; n_{i}\right) T\left(L \cap C_{F}(T)\right) \\
& =U\left(n_{i} ; s^{c} ; n_{i}\right) T
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus $P \in \mathcal{T}(L, T)$.
Assume now that $P F / F \in \mathcal{M}(L F / F, T F / F)$. Then

$$
P F / F \cong P /(P \cap F)=P /(P \cap[F, J]) \cong P[F, J] /[F, J] \leq L /[F, J]
$$

Since $L$ normalizes $[F, J] J$ and $J \leq P, P=N_{P}(J)(P \cap F)$. Because $T(P \cap[F, J])<P$, the fact that $P$ is 2-minimal implies $P=N_{P}(J)$. Now $C_{[F, J]}(J)=1$, so we know $P \leq N_{L}(J)=X_{1}$. Therefore $P \in \mathcal{M}\left(X_{1}, T\right)$ and the result follows from Theorem 2.1 as $P \leq 2 \imath \operatorname{Sym}(n / 2)$.

For the final two lemmas of this section, $G$ is a finite group, $p$ is a prime, $S \in \operatorname{Syl}_{p}(G)$ and $B=N_{G}(S)$.
Lemma 2.9. Suppose $G=K L$ where $K$ and $L$ are normal subgroups of $G$ with $K \cap L=1$ and let $P \in \mathcal{M}(G, B)$. Assume that neither $K$ nor $L$ is $p$-closed. Then either $P \cap K \in \mathcal{M}(K, B \cap K)$ or $P \cap L \in \mathcal{M}(L, B \cap L)$.
Proof. See Lemma 3.13 of [10].
Lemma 2.10. Suppose that $K$ is a normal subgroup of $G$ and $P \in \mathcal{M}(G, B)$. Then either
(i) $P \in \mathcal{M}(B K, B)$; or
(ii) $P K / K \in \mathcal{M}(G / K, B K / K)$ and $P \in \mathcal{M}\left(N_{G}(S \cap K), B\right)$.

In particular, $\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\mathcal{M}(B K, B) \cup \mathcal{M}\left(N_{G}(S \cap K), B\right)$.
Proof. See Lemma 3.8 of [10].

## 3. SyMPLECTIC GROUPS

We begin this section with a description of the maximal subgroups of odd index in symplectic groups.

Theorem 3.1. Suppose that $G=\operatorname{Sp}_{n}(q)$ where $n \geq 4$ and $q=p^{a}$, $p$ a prime, is odd. Let $V$ be the natural symplectic $\mathrm{GF}(q)$-module. If $H$ is a maximal subgroup of $G$ of odd index, then one of the following holds.
(i) $H \cong \operatorname{Sp}_{n}\left(q_{0}\right)$ where $q_{0}^{c}=q$ and $c$ is an odd prime.
(ii) $H$ is the stabilizer of a non-degenerate proper subspace of $V$.
(iii) $H$ is the stabilizer of an orthogonal decomposition of $V=\bigoplus V_{i}$ into an orthogonal sum of isometric non-degenerate subspaces $V_{i}$ of dimension $\ell$ where $\ell=2^{b} \geq 2$.
(iv) $n=4, q=p \equiv 3,5(\bmod 8)$ and $H \sim 2_{-}^{1+4}$. Alt(5).

Furthermore, in cases (i) and (iv) there is a unique conjugacy class of such subgroups.
Proof. See [5], [8] or [9] (note that the possibility $q=p \equiv 5(\bmod 8)$ is missing in (iv) from case (21) of Theorem 1 of [9], see [2]).

For $k \geq 2$ even and dividing $n$ as in case (iii) of Theorem 3.1, we write $m=n / k$ and decompose $V$ into an orthogonal sum of $m$ non-degenerate subspaces each of dimension $k$. Thus

$$
V=V_{1} \perp \cdots \perp V_{m}
$$

with $\operatorname{dim} V_{i}=k$. For $1 \leq i \leq m$, we define $K_{i}=\operatorname{Sp}\left(V_{i}\right)$ and put

$$
F_{k}=K_{1} \times \cdots \times K_{m}
$$

We define $L_{k}$ to be the subgroup of $G$ which preserves the decomposition of $V$ while permuting the factors. This gives

$$
L_{k}=\operatorname{Sp}\left(V_{1}\right) \imath \operatorname{Sym}(m)
$$

and $F_{k}$ is the base group of $L_{k}$. We next examine some properties of the Sylow 2-subgroups of $\operatorname{Sp}_{n}(q)$ that we shall need.
Lemma 3.2. Suppose that $G=\operatorname{Sp}_{n}(q)$ where $q$ is odd and write $n=2^{n_{1}}+2^{n_{2}}+\cdots+2^{n_{r}}$ with $n_{1}>n_{2}>\cdots>n_{r}>0$. Let $S \in \operatorname{Syl}_{2}(G)$ and $B=N_{G}(S)$. Then
(i) when $q \equiv 1,7(\bmod 8), B=S$;
(ii) when $q \equiv 3,5(\bmod 8), B / S$ is elementary abelian of order $3^{r}$; and
(iii) we may choose $S$ so that

$$
S \leq B \leq L_{2}=\mathrm{SL}_{2}(q) \imath \operatorname{Sym}(n / 2)
$$

Proof. For part (i) and (ii) see [6] and for (iii) consult [3].

Because of Lemma 3.2(ii), the case $k=2$ is of special interest. Write $n=2^{n_{1}}+2^{n_{2}}+\cdots+2^{n_{r}}$ with $n_{1}>n_{2}>\cdots>n_{r}>0$, and let $T \in \operatorname{Syl}_{2}(\operatorname{Sym}(n / 2))$, where we take $\operatorname{Sym}(n / 2)$ to be the permutation matrix which permutes the non-degenerate 2 -spaces $V_{1}, \ldots, V_{n / 2}$ used to define $L_{2}$. Then

$$
T=T_{n_{1}-1} \times T_{n_{2}-1} \times \cdots \times T_{n_{r}-1}
$$

where $T_{\ell} \in \operatorname{Syl}_{2}\left(\operatorname{Sym}\left(2^{\ell}\right)\right)$. This leads to a corresponding decomposition $B=B_{n_{1}-1} \times B_{n_{2}-1} \times \cdots \times$ $B_{n_{r}-1}$. (Such decompositions occur in [10]-see Sections 1 and 5 there.)

## 4. The 2-minimal subgroups of Symplectic Groups

Throughout this section we have $G=\operatorname{Sp}_{n}(q)$, where $n$ is even and $q=p^{a}$ is odd. We continue to write the 2-adic decomposition of $n$ as $n=2^{n_{1}}+2^{n_{2}}+\cdots+2^{n_{r}}$. Let $V$ be the natural symplectic module for $G$. Also we fix $S \in \operatorname{Syl}_{2}(G)$ and set $B=N_{G}(S)$.

In Theorem 4.1, the superscript [2] indicates that there are two $G$-conjugacy classes of the given group. Also, if $\ell$ is a positive integer, $\ell_{2}$ will denote the largest 2-power dividing $\ell, \ell_{2^{\prime}}=\ell / \ell_{2}$ and, we recall, $\Pi(\ell)$ is the set of all odd prime powers greater than 1 which divide $\ell$. We remark that in the next theorem all the described extensions have quaternion Sylow 2-subgroups.

Theorem 4.1. Suppose that $G=\operatorname{Sp}_{2}(q)$ with $q=p^{a}$ odd.
(i) If $q \equiv 3,5(\bmod 8)$ and $p \neq 3,5$, then one of the following holds:
(a) $q \equiv \pm 11, \pm 19(\bmod 40)$ and

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\left\{2 \cdot \operatorname{Alt}(5)^{[2]}, \mathrm{Sp}_{2}\left(p^{s^{t}}\right) \mid s^{t} \in \Pi(a)\right\} ; \text { or }
$$

(b) $q \not \equiv \pm 11, \pm 19(\bmod 40)$ and

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\left\{\operatorname{Sp}_{2}\left(p^{s^{t}}\right) \mid s^{t} \in \Pi(a) \cup\{1\}\right\} .
$$

(ii) If $q \equiv 3,5(\bmod 8)$ and $p=3$, then

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\left\{\operatorname{Sp}_{2}\left(3^{s^{t}}\right) \mid s^{t} \in \Pi(a)\right\} .
$$

(iii) If $q \equiv 3,5(\bmod 8)$ and $p=5$, then

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\left\{\operatorname{Sp}_{2}\left(5^{s^{t}}\right) \mid s^{t} \in \Pi(a) \cup\{1\}\right\} .
$$

(iv) If $q \equiv 1(\bmod 8)$, then one of the following holds:
(a) $a_{2}>2$ or $a_{2}=2$ and $q \equiv 1(\bmod 16)$,

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\mathcal{M}(2 \cdot \operatorname{Dih}(q-1), B) \cup\left\{2 \cdot \mathrm{PGL}_{2}\left(p^{a_{2} / 2}\right)^{[2]}\right\} ;
$$

(b) $p=5, a_{2}=2$ and

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\mathcal{M}(2 \cdot \operatorname{Dih}(q-1), B) \cup\left\{2 \cdot \operatorname{Sym}(5)^{[2]}\right\} \cup\left\{2 \cdot \operatorname{Sym}(4)^{[2]}\right\}
$$

(c) $p=3, a_{2}=2$ and

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\left\{2 \cdot \mathrm{PGL}_{2}(3)^{[2]}\right\}
$$

(d) $a_{2}=2$ and $q \equiv 9(\bmod 16)$ with $p>5$,

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\mathcal{M}(2 \cdot \operatorname{Dih}(q-1), B) \cup\left\{2 \cdot \operatorname{Sym}(4)^{[2]}\right\}
$$

(e) $q \equiv 1(\bmod 16), a_{2}=1$,

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\mathcal{M}(2 \cdot \operatorname{Dih}(q-1), B) \cup\left\{\operatorname{Sp}_{2}(p)\right\} ; \text { or }
$$

(f) $q \equiv 9(\bmod 16), a_{2}=1$,

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\mathcal{M}(2 \cdot \operatorname{Dih}(q-1), B) \cup\left\{2 \cdot \operatorname{Sym}(4)^{[2]}\right\}
$$

(v) If $q \equiv 7(\bmod 8)$, then one of the following holds:
(a) $q \equiv 7(\bmod 16)$,

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\mathcal{M}(2 \cdot \operatorname{Dih}(q+1), B) \cup\left\{2 \cdot \operatorname{Sym}(4)^{[2]}\right\} ; \text { or }
$$

(b) $q \equiv 15(\bmod 16)$,

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\mathcal{M}(2 \cdot \operatorname{Dih}(q+1), B) \cup\left\{\mathrm{Sp}_{2}(p)\right\}
$$

In particular, $O^{2^{\prime}}(P)=P$ for all 2-minimal subgroups $P$ of $G$.
Proof. Since $\mathrm{Sp}_{2}(q) \cong \mathrm{SL}_{2}(q)$, this is just [10, Theorem 13.2].
We next consider the 2-minimal subgroups of $\mathrm{Sp}_{4}(q)$ as they appear explicitly in the general picture for all the symplectic groups just as $n=4$ does in the case of $\mathrm{GL}_{n}^{\epsilon}(q)$.
Lemma 4.2. Suppose that $G \cong \operatorname{Sp}_{4}(q)$. If $P \in \mathcal{M}(G, B)$, then either
(i) $P$ is contained in $\mathrm{Sp}_{2}(q) \downarrow 2$ which preserves a decomposition of $V$ into a perpendicular sum of two non-degenerate subspaces; or
(ii) $q \equiv 3,5(\bmod 8)$ and $P$ has shape $2_{-}^{1+4} . \operatorname{Alt}(5)$ and is unique up to conjugacy containing $B$; or
(iii) $q \equiv 1,7(\bmod 8)$ and $P=\operatorname{Sp}_{4}\left(p^{a_{2}}\right)$ and is unique up to conjugacy containing $B$.

In particular, in cases (ii) and (iii), $O^{2^{\prime}}(P)=P$.
Proof. Recall that, if $Y_{1}, Y_{2}$ are subgroups of $G$ which both contain $B$, then either $Y_{1}=Y_{2}$ or $Y_{1}$ and $Y_{2}$ are not $G$-conjugate. By Theorem 3.1, $B$ is contained in a maximal subgroup $M$ of $G$ with $M=\mathrm{Sp}_{2}(q) \downarrow 2$.

Suppose that $G$ is 2 -minimal. Then, as $B \leq M$, Theorem 3.1 (i) forces $G=\operatorname{Sp}_{4}\left(p^{a_{2}}\right)$. Moreover, if $q \equiv 3,5(\bmod 8)$, then $|B|=2^{7} .3$ and $B$ is contained in a subgroup of shape $2_{-}^{1+4}$. Alt $(5)$ by Theorem 3.1 (iv) and this subgroup is not contained in $M$. This contradicts $G \in \mathcal{M}(G, B)$. Therefore, if $P=G$, then $G \cong \operatorname{Sp}_{4}\left(p^{a_{2}}\right)$ and $p \equiv 1,7(\bmod 8)$. Conversely, if these conditions hold, then Theorem 3.1 implies that $M$ is the unique maximal subgroup of $G$ which contains $M$.

Now suppose that $P \in \mathcal{M}(G, B)$ and assume that $a$ is chosen minimally such that the statement of the lemma does not hold. If $P=G$, then case (iii) holds, a contradiction. Hence $P<G$. Let $K$ be a maximal subgroup of $G$ that contains $P$. Then $K \neq \mathrm{Sp}_{2}\left(p^{a / c}\right)$ with $c$ an odd prime and $K \neq M$. Since $S$ acts irreducibly on the natural symplectic space, the only other possibility is that $q=p$ and $K \sim 2_{-}^{1+4}$. $\operatorname{Alt}(5)$, but then $B$ is maximal in $K$ and so $P=K$, a contradiction.

We now define a subgroup of $G$ which will play a similar role to that played by $A$ in the investigation of the linear and unitary groups, see Section 5 of [10]. Recall, from Lemma 3.2 (ii) that $L_{2} \leq G$ and we may assume

$$
S \leq B \leq L_{2}=\mathrm{SL}_{2}(q) \text { 亿 } \operatorname{Sym}(n / 2)
$$

Put $S_{0}=F_{2} \cap S$. Also let $C$ be the Thompson subgroup of $S_{0}$ generated by maximal order abelian subgroups of $S_{0}$. Then either $q \equiv 3,5(\bmod 8)$ and $C=S_{0}$ is a direct product of $n / 2$ quaternion groups $\mathrm{Q}_{8}$ or $q \equiv 1,7(\bmod 8)$ and $C$ is a homocyclic subgroup of $S_{0}$ of exponent $(q \pm 1)_{2} \geq 8$. We write $C=C_{1} \times \cdots \times C_{n / 2}$ where, for $1 \leq i \leq n / 2, C_{i}$ is a cyclic group of order $(q \pm 1)_{2}$ of order at least 8 or is a quaternion group of order 8 with $C_{i}$ contained in the $i$ th factor of the base group of $L_{2}$.

Just as in the proof of Lemma 5.2 in [10] we may prove the following lemma.
Lemma 4.3. The following hold:
(i) if $q \equiv 1(\bmod 8)$, then $N_{G}(C) / C \cong \operatorname{Dih}\left(2(q-1)_{2^{\prime}}\right)$ 2 $\operatorname{Sym}(n / 2)$;
(ii) if $q \equiv 7(\bmod 8)$, then $N_{G}(C) / C \cong \operatorname{Dih}\left(2(q+1)_{2^{\prime}}\right)$ 2 $\operatorname{Sym}(n / 2)$; and
(iii) if $q \equiv 3,5(\bmod 8)$, then $N_{G}(C) / C \cong 3$ 亿 $\operatorname{Sym}(n / 2)$.

Proof. Set $W_{i}=\left[V, C_{i}\right]$ for $1 \leq i \leq n / 2$. Then $\operatorname{dim} W_{i}=2$ and we have an orthogonal decomposition

$$
V=[V, C]=W_{1} \oplus \cdots \oplus W_{n / 2}
$$

These 2-dimensional spaces are permuted naturally by $\operatorname{Sym}(n / 2)$. Since the $C_{i}$ are the maximal subgroups of $C$ with 2-dimensional commutators, we infer that $N_{G}(C)$ is as described.

Lemma 4.4. Suppose that $C \leq R \leq S$. Then $C$ is weakly closed in $S$ and $N_{G}(R) \leq N_{G}(C)$.
Proof. Again set $W_{i}=\left[V, C_{i}\right]$ for $1 \leq i \leq n / 2$. Then, as in Lemma 4.3, $\operatorname{dim} W_{i}=2$ and

$$
V=[V, C]=W_{1} \oplus \cdots \oplus W_{n / 2}
$$

permuted naturally by $\operatorname{Sym}(n / 2)$.
Suppose that $g \in G$ and $C^{g} \leq S$ and $C^{g} \neq C$. Then, without loss, $Y=C_{1}^{g} \not \leq C$. If $Y \cap F_{2} \neq 1$, then, as $\left[V, Y \cap F_{2}\right]=\left[V, C_{i}^{g}\right]$ has dimension 2, we have $Y \cap F_{2} \leq K_{j}=\operatorname{Sp}\left(W_{j}\right)$ for some $1 \leq j \leq n / 2$. Since $W_{k}=\left[V, Y \cap F_{2}\right]=[V, Y]$, we deduce that $Y \leq F_{2}$ and thus $Y \leq K_{j}$. But then $Y \leq C$. Hence $Y \cap F_{2}=1$. Let $y \in Y$ have order 4. Then $y$ transitively permutes four of the subgroups $K_{i}, 1 \leq i \leq n / 2$. This means $\operatorname{dim}[V, y] \geq 6$, which is a contradiction. This proves that $C$ is weakly closed in $S$ and the lemma follows from this.

Our next lemma describes all the 2-minimal subgroups of $N_{G}(C)$. Because of Lemma 4.3, the description of these subgroups fluctuate with the congruence of $q$ modulo 8. From the structure of $N_{G}(C)$ given in Lemma 4.3, we have $N_{G}(C) / C \cong D 2 \operatorname{Sym}(n / 2)$ where $D$ is a dihedral group of order $2(q-1)_{2^{\prime}}$ if $q \equiv 1(\bmod 8), 2(q+1)_{2^{\prime}}$ if $q \equiv 7(\bmod 8)$ and otherwise has order 3 by Lemma 4.3. Using Theorem 2.5 when $q \equiv 3,5(\bmod 8)$ and Theorem 2.8 when $q \equiv \pm 1(\bmod 8)$, we obtain

Theorem 4.5. The 2-minimal subgroups of $N_{G}(C)$ are

$$
\mathcal{M}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right)=\mathcal{T}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right) \cup \mathcal{F}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right) \cup \mathcal{L}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right) .
$$

Observe that when $q \equiv 3,5(\bmod 8)$, the structure of the members of $\mathcal{T}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right)$ is considerably different to the case when $q \equiv \pm 1(\bmod 8)$. Because of Theorem 4.5 the emphasis is now to discover the 2-minimal subgroups which are not contained in $N_{G}(C)$.

For the next two lemmas we assume that $n \geq 6$.
Lemma 4.6. Suppose that $P \in \mathcal{M}(G, B)$. Then one of the following holds.
(i) $P \in \mathcal{M}\left(\operatorname{Sp}(U) \times \operatorname{Sp}\left(U^{\perp}\right), B\right)$ for $U$ a B-invariant non-degenerate subspaces of $V$ such that $V=U \oplus U^{\perp}$.
(ii) $n=2^{b} m$ for some $m \geq 1$ and $P \in \mathcal{M}\left(L_{2^{b}}, B\right)$.

Proof. This follows from Theorem 3.1, as $n \geq 6$ the 2-minimal subgroups contained in a subfield subgroup are already accounted for in (i) and (ii).

Lemma 4.7. Assume that $P \in \mathcal{M}(G, B)$ and $P$ acts irreducibly on $V$. Then either
(i) $P \in \mathcal{M}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right)$; or
(ii) $P \in \mathcal{M}\left(F_{2^{b}} T_{m}, B\right)$ where $n=2^{m+b}$.

Proof. By Lemma 4.6, $P \in \mathcal{M}\left(L_{2^{b}}, B\right)$ for some $b \geq 1$. It follows from Lemma 2.10 that either $P \in \mathcal{M}\left(F_{2^{b}} B, B\right)$ or $P=N_{P}\left(S \cap F_{2^{b}}\right)$. Since $S \cap F_{2^{b}}$ contains $C$, in the latter case (i) holds by Lemma 4.4. Thus we may suppose that $P \leq F_{2^{b}} B$. Now the fact that $P$ operates irreducibly on $V$ and $F_{2^{b}} B=F_{2^{b}} S$ together imply that $n / 2^{b}$ is a power of 2 . Thus (ii) holds.

The next definition and the two following lemmas are needed in Lemma 4.11 to analyse the wreath product subgroup case.

Definition 4.8. Let $r$ be a prime, $A$ be a group which acts on the group $J, R \in \operatorname{Syl}_{r}(J)$ and $P \in \mathcal{M}\left(J, N_{J}(R)\right)$. Then $P$ is $A$-immutable provided that for all $\alpha \in A, P^{\alpha} \in \mathcal{M}\left(J, N_{J}(R)\right)$ implies $P^{\alpha}=P$. We say that $J$ is $A$-immutable provided all the members of $\mathcal{M}\left(J, N_{J}(R)\right)$ are $A$-immutable.

Lemma 4.9. Suppose that $W$ is a non-degenerate subspace of $V$ and assume that $K, L \leq G$ satisfy $W=[V, K]=[V, L]$. Then $L$ and $K$ are $G$-conjugate if and only if they are $\operatorname{Sp}(W)$-conjugate where $\mathrm{Sp}(W)$ is considered as a subgroup of $G$.
Proof. Let $g \in G$ be such that $K^{g}=L$. Then

$$
W=[V, L]=\left[V, K^{g}\right]=[V, K]^{g}=W^{g}
$$

and so $g \in N_{G}(W)$. Since $W$ is non-degenerate, $N_{G}(W)=N_{G}\left(W^{\perp}\right)=\operatorname{Sp}(W) \times \operatorname{Sp}\left(W^{\perp}\right)$. Because $K$ and $L$ centralize $W^{\perp}$, we deduce that $K, L \leq \mathrm{Sp}(W)$ and then that they are conjugate in $\mathrm{Sp}(W)$.
Lemma 4.10. Assume that $\operatorname{dim} V=n=2^{a}$. If $1 \leq b \leq a-1$, and $P \in \mathcal{M}\left(F_{2^{b}} S, B\right)$, then there exists $Q \in \mathcal{M}\left(K_{1}, N_{K_{1}}\left(S \cap K_{1}\right)\right)$ such that $P=\left\langle O^{2^{\prime}}(Q)\right.$, $\left.B\right\rangle$. Furthermore, if $Q \in \mathcal{M}\left(K_{1}, N_{K_{1}}(S \cap\right.$ $\left.K_{1}\right)$ ), then $P=\left\langle O^{2^{\prime}}(Q), B\right\rangle \in \mathcal{M}\left(F_{2^{b}} S, B\right)$.
Proof. Let $m=2^{a-b}$ and, as usual, write

$$
F_{2^{b}}=K_{1} \times \cdots \times K_{m} .
$$

Then $S$ acts transitively on $\left\{K_{1}, \ldots, K_{m}\right\}$. The main step is to show that $K_{1}$ is $N_{B}\left(K_{1}\right)$-immutable. First of all note that, from the decomposition of $V$ which defines $F_{k}, V_{1}=\left[V, K_{1}\right]$ and, as $\operatorname{dim} V_{1}=$ $2^{b}, V_{1}=\left[V, S \cap K_{1}\right]$. Now let $g \in N_{B}\left(K_{1}\right)$ and $Y \in \mathcal{M}\left(K_{1}, N_{K_{1}}\left(S \cap K_{1}\right)\right)$, then

$$
[V, Y]=\left[V, S \cap K_{1}\right]=\left[V, Y^{g}\right]
$$

Since $V_{1}=\left[V, K_{1}\right]=\left[V, S \cap K_{1}\right]$ is a non-degenerate subspace of $V$, applying Lemma 4.9 yields $Y$ and $Y^{g}$ are conjugate in $K_{1}$. Since $Y \in \mathcal{M}\left(K_{1}, N_{K_{1}}\left(S \cap K_{1}\right)\right)$, we have $Y=Y^{g}$. Therefore $K_{1}$ is $N_{B}\left(K_{1}\right)$-immutable. Let $Y \in \mathcal{M}\left(K_{1}, N_{K_{1}}\left(S \cap K_{1}\right)\right)$ and let $\pi_{1}$ be the projection map from $F_{k}$ to $K_{1}$. Since $\pi_{1}\left(B \cap F_{k}\right)=N_{K_{1}}\left(S \cap K_{1}\right)$, the lemma follows from [10, Lemma 3.15].
Lemma 4.11. Suppose that $P \in \mathcal{M}(G, B)$. Then one of the following holds.
(i) $P \in \mathcal{M}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right)$;
(ii) there exists $i \in\{1, \ldots, r\}$ with $n_{i} \geq 1$ such that

$$
P \in \mathcal{M}\left(\operatorname{Sp}_{2}(q) \imath T_{n_{i}-1} \times \prod_{j \neq i} B_{n_{j}-1}, B\right)
$$

and a 2-minimal subgroup $Q$ of $\mathrm{Sp}_{2}(q)$ such that $P=\langle Q, B\rangle \cong Q \imath T_{n_{i}-1} \times \prod_{j \neq i} B_{n_{j}-1}$; or
(iii) there exists $i \in\{1, \ldots, r\}$ with $n_{i} \geq 2$ such that

$$
P \in \mathcal{M}\left(\operatorname{Sp}_{4}(q) \imath T_{n_{i}-2} \times \prod_{j \neq i} B_{n_{j}-1}, B\right)
$$

and a 2-minimal subgroup $Q$ of $\operatorname{Sp}_{4}(q)$ such that $P=\langle Q, B\rangle \cong Q \imath T_{n_{i}-2} \times \prod_{j \neq i} B_{n_{j}-1}$.
Proof. We argue by induction on $\operatorname{dim} V$. The result certainly is true if $n \leq 4$ as then either (ii) or (iii) holds by Lemma 4.2. So we may suppose $n \geq 6$. Assume that $P \notin \mathcal{M}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right)$. Suppose that $P$ does not act irreducibly on $V$. Then $P \in \mathcal{M}\left(\operatorname{Sp}(U) \times \operatorname{Sp}\left(U^{\perp}\right), B\right)$ for some proper $B$ invariant subspace $U$ of $V$. Let $L=\operatorname{Sp}(U)$ and $K=\operatorname{Sp}\left(U^{\perp}\right)$. Then by Lemma 2.9 we may as well suppose that, $P=(P \cap K) \times(B \cap L)$ with $P \cap K \in \mathcal{M}(K, B \cap K)$. The lemma then follows by induction. Hence we may now assume that $P$ acts irreducibly on $V$. Lemma 4.7 implies that either (i) holds or $P$ is contained in $\mathcal{M}\left(\mathrm{Sp}_{2^{b}}(q)\left\langle T_{n / 2^{b}}, B\right)\right.$. Suppose the latter possibility holds and choose $b$ minimal subject to this containment. Applying Lemma 4.10 we get that $P=\left\langle O^{2^{\prime}}(Q), B\right\rangle$ for some 2-minimal subgroup $Q$ in $\operatorname{Sp}_{2^{b}}(q)$. Using the minimality of $b$ and the fact that $P \notin \mathcal{M}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right)$, Lemma 4.6 and then 4.7 indicate that $b \leq 2$. Finally, we note that for 2-minimal subgroups $Q$ of $\mathrm{Sp}_{2}(q)$ and $\mathrm{Sp}_{4}(q)$, Theorem 4.1 and Lemma 4.2, give $Q=O^{2^{\prime}}(Q)$ and so we conclude that $P=\langle Q, B\rangle$. This proves the lemma.

Because of Lemma 4.11, to complete the inventory of 2-minimal subgroups of $G$ we just need to know the candidates for $Q$. These have been presented in Theorem 4.1 and Lemma 4.2 and we list them here again in a more convenient way.

Definition 4.12. The set $\mathcal{X}_{2}$ consists of 2-minimal subgroups of $\mathrm{Sp}_{2}(q)$ which are not toral. Its members are describe in Table 1 and

$$
\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{2}}(G, B)=\left\{Q \imath T_{n_{i}-1} \times \prod_{j \in I \backslash\{i\}} B_{n_{j}-1} \mid i \in I, Q \in \mathcal{X}_{2}\right\} .
$$



Table 1: The description of $\mathcal{X}_{2}$

## Definition 4.13.

$$
\mathcal{X}_{4}=\left\{\begin{array}{lll}
\left\{\operatorname{Sp}_{4}\left(p^{a_{2}}\right)\right\} & q \equiv 1,7 & (\bmod 8) \\
\left\{2_{-}^{1+4} \cdot \operatorname{Alt}(5)\right\} & q \equiv 3,5 & (\bmod 8)
\end{array}\right.
$$

and

$$
\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{4}}(G, B)=\left\{Q \imath T_{n_{i}-2} \times \prod_{j \in I \backslash\{i\}} B_{n_{j}-1} \mid i \in I, n_{i} \geq 2, Q \in \mathcal{X}_{4}\right\}
$$

Finally, we set $\mathcal{F}(G, B)=\mathcal{F}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right), \mathcal{L}(G, B)=\mathcal{L}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right)$ and $\mathcal{T}(G, B)=\mathcal{T}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right)$. Then applying Lemma 4.11 provides a complete description of the 2-minimal subgroups in the symplectic groups, and have now proved Theorem 1.1.

## 5. An Example

In the following example, if $X$ is a group with a given name, we shall use $X^{n}$ to denote the direct product of $n \geq 2$ copies of $X$.
Example 5.1. Suppose that $G \cong \operatorname{Sp}_{10}(q)$ where $q=p^{a}$ is odd.
Case $q \equiv 3,5 \bmod 8$.
In this case we have

$$
B \cong\left(\mathrm{Q}_{8} \times \mathrm{Q}_{8} \times \mathrm{Q}_{8} \times \mathrm{Q}_{8}\right) \cdot\left(3 \times T_{2}\right) \times \mathrm{Q}_{8} \cdot\left(3 \times T_{0}\right)
$$

where we recall that $T_{0}$ is the trivial group (we have included this in the first instance to illustrate the more general situation). In this case $C=\mathrm{Q}_{8}^{5}$ and then, by Theorem 2.5 applied with $N_{G}(C) / C \cong 3$ 2 $\operatorname{Sym}(5)$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right) & =\left\{\mathrm{Q}_{8}^{5}:(3 \times \operatorname{Sym}(4) \times 3)\right\} \\
\mathcal{F}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right) & =\left\{\mathrm{Q}_{8}^{5}: 3^{5}: \operatorname{Sym}(5)\right\} \text { and } \\
\mathcal{T}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right) & =\left\{\mathrm{Q}_{8}^{5}:\left(3 \times 3^{2} \times 3\right)\left(T_{2} \times T_{0}\right), \mathrm{Q}_{8}^{5}:\left(3 \times 3_{-} \times 3\right)\left(T_{2} \times T_{0}\right)\right\}
\end{aligned}
$$

where $3_{\text {_ }}$ indicates a group of order 3 inverted by $T_{2}$. We define $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{2}}(G, B)$ as in Table 2 and

$$
\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{4}}(G, B)=\left\{2_{-}^{1+4} \cdot \operatorname{Alt}(5) \imath T_{1} \times \mathrm{Q}_{8}: 3\right\} .
$$

| Conditions | $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{2}}(G, B)$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $q \equiv \pm 11, \pm 19(\bmod 40)$ | $\left(2 \cdot \operatorname{Alt}(5) \imath T_{2} \times \mathrm{Q}_{8}: 3\right)^{[2]}$ |
| $s^{t} \in \Pi(a)$ | $\mathrm{Sp}_{2}\left(p^{s^{t}}\right) \imath T_{2} \times \mathrm{Q}_{8}: 3$ |
|  | $\left(\mathrm{Q}_{8}^{4}:\left(3 \times T_{2}\right) \times 2 \cdot \mathrm{Alt}(5)\right){ }^{[2]}$ |
|  | $\mathrm{Q}_{8}^{4}:\left(3 \times T_{2}\right) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2}\left(p^{s^{t}}\right)$ |
| $q \pm 3, \pm 5, \pm 13(\bmod 40)$ | $\mathrm{Sp}_{2}\left(p^{s^{t}}\right) \imath T_{2} \times \mathrm{Q}_{8}: 3$ |
| $p \notin\{3,5\}, s^{t} \in \Pi(a) \cup\{1\}$ | $\mathrm{Q}_{8}^{4}:\left(3 \times T_{2}\right) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2}\left(p^{s^{t}}\right)$ |
| $p=3$ and $a_{2}=1$ | $\mathrm{Sp}_{2}\left(3^{s^{t}}\right) \imath T_{2} \times \mathrm{Q}_{8}: 3$ |
| $s^{t} \in \Pi(a)$ | $\mathrm{Q}_{8}^{4}:\left(3 \times T_{2}\right) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2}\left(3^{s^{t}}\right)$ |
| $p=5$ and $a_{2}=1$ | $\mathrm{Sp}_{2}\left(5^{s^{t}}\right) \imath T_{2} \times \mathrm{Q}_{8}: 3$ |
| $s^{t} \in \Pi(a) \cup\{1\}$ | $\mathrm{Q}_{8}^{4}:\left(3 \times T_{2}\right) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2}\left(5^{s^{t}}\right)$ |

Table 2: Definition of $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{2}}(G, B), q \equiv 3,5(\bmod 8)$
Then we have

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\mathcal{L}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right) \cup \mathcal{F}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right) \cup \mathcal{T}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right) \cup \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{2}}(G, B) \cup \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{4}}(G, B)
$$

## Case $q \equiv 1,7 \bmod 8$.

In this situation $C$ is a homocyclic group with $10 / 2=5$ direct factors of order $m$ and $N_{G}(C) / C \cong$ $\operatorname{Dih}(2 \ell)$ 乙 $\operatorname{Sym}(5)$ where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& m=(q-1)_{2}, \ell=(q-1)_{2^{\prime}} \text { if } q \equiv 1 \quad(\bmod 8) ; \text { and } \\
& m=(q+1)_{2}, \ell=(q+1)_{2^{\prime}} \text { if } q \equiv 7 \quad(\bmod 8)
\end{aligned}
$$

The Sylow 2-subgroups of $\operatorname{Sp}_{2}(q)$ are quaternion of order $2 m \geq 16$ and we denote such groups by $\mathrm{Q}_{2 m}$. We have

$$
B=m^{4} \cdot T_{3} \times m \cdot T_{1}=\mathrm{Q}_{2 m} \iota T_{2} \times \mathrm{Q}_{2 m} \iota T_{0}
$$

where $L \cdot M$ denotes a non-split extension of $L$ by $M$. From Theorem 2.8 applied to $\operatorname{Dih}(2 \ell) 2 \operatorname{Sym}(5)$, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right) & =\left\{\left(m^{4} \times m\right) \cdot(2 \imath \operatorname{Sym}(4) \times 2)=\mathrm{Q}_{2 m}^{4} \imath \operatorname{Sym}(4) \times \mathrm{Q}_{2 m}\right\} \\
\mathcal{F}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right) & =\left\{m^{5 \cdot}(2 \imath \operatorname{Sym}(5))=\mathrm{Q}_{2 m}^{5} \imath \operatorname{Sym}(5)\right\} ; \text { and } \\
\mathcal{T}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right) & =\left\{m^{5} \cdot\left(U\left(3, s^{c}, 3\right) T_{3} \times T_{1}\right), m^{5 \cdot} \cdot\left(T_{3} \times\left(U\left(1, s^{c}, 1\right) T_{1}\right)\right) \mid s^{c} \in \Pi(\ell)\right\} .
\end{aligned}
$$

We define $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{2}}(G, B)$ as in Table 3 and

$$
\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{4}}(G, B)=\left\{\left(\operatorname{Sp}_{4}\left(p^{a_{2}}\right) \imath T_{1}\right) \times \mathrm{Q}_{2 m}\right\} .
$$

| Conditions | $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{2}}(G, B)$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $q \equiv 1(\bmod 8)$ <br> $a_{2}>2$ or $a_{2}=2$ and $q \equiv 1(\bmod 16)$ | $\begin{aligned} & \left(2 \cdot \mathrm{PGL}_{2}\left(p^{a_{2} / 2}\right)\left\langle T_{2} \times \mathrm{Q}_{2 m}\right)^{[2]}\right. \\ & \left(\mathrm{Q}_{2 m}^{4}: T_{2} \times 2 \cdot \mathrm{PGL}_{2}\left(p^{a_{2} / 2}\right)\right)^{[2]} \end{aligned}$ |
| $\begin{aligned} q & \equiv 1(\bmod 8) \\ a_{2} & =2 \text { and } p=5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \left(2 \cdot \mathrm{PGL}_{2}(5) \imath T_{2} \times \mathrm{Q}_{16}\right)^{[2]} \\ \left(2 \cdot \operatorname{Sym}(4) \imath T_{2} \times \mathrm{Q}_{16}\right)^{[2]} \\ \left(\mathrm{Q}_{16}^{4}: T_{2} \times 2 \cdot \mathrm{PGL}_{2}(5)\right)^{[2]} \\ \left(\mathrm{Q}_{16}^{4}: T_{2} \times 2 \cdot \operatorname{Sym}(4)\right)^{[2]} \end{gathered}$ |
| $\begin{aligned} q & \equiv 1(\bmod 8) \\ a_{2} & =2 \text { and } p=3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \left(2 \cdot \mathrm{PGL}_{2}(3)<T_{2} \times \mathrm{Q}_{16}\right)^{[2]} \\ & \left(\mathrm{Q}_{16}^{4}: T_{2} \times 2 \cdot \mathrm{PGL}_{2}(3)\right)^{[2]} \end{aligned}$ |
| $q \equiv 1(\bmod 8)$ <br> $a_{2}=2$ and $q \equiv 9(\bmod 16), p>5$; or $a_{2}=1$ and $q \equiv 9(\bmod 16)$ | $\begin{aligned} & \left(2 \cdot \operatorname{Sym}(4) \imath T_{2} \times \mathrm{Q}_{16}\right)^{[2]} \\ & \left(\mathrm{Q}_{16}^{4}: T_{2} \times 2 \cdot \operatorname{Sym}(4)\right)^{[2]} \end{aligned}$ |
| $\begin{gathered} q \equiv 1(\bmod 8) \\ a_{2}=1 \operatorname{and} q \equiv 1(\bmod 16) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{Sp}_{2}(p) \imath T_{2} \times \mathrm{Q}_{2 m} \\ & \mathrm{Q}_{2 m}^{4}: T_{2} \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2}(p) \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| $\begin{gathered} q \equiv 7(\bmod 8) \\ \text { and } q \equiv 7(\bmod 16) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \left(2 \cdot \operatorname{Sym}(4) \imath T_{2} \times \mathrm{Q}_{16}\right)^{[2]} \\ & \left(\mathrm{Q}_{16}^{4}: T_{2} \times 2 \cdot \operatorname{Sym}(4)\right)^{[2]} \end{aligned}$ |
| $\begin{gathered} q \equiv 7(\bmod 8) \\ \text { and } q \equiv 15(\bmod 16) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{Sp}_{2}(p)<T_{2} \times \mathrm{Q}_{2 m} \\ & \mathrm{Q}_{2 m}^{4}: T_{2} \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2}(p) \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |

Table 3: Definition of $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{2}}(G, B), q \equiv 1,7(\bmod 8)$

Then

$$
\mathcal{M}(G, B)=\mathcal{L}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right) \cup \mathcal{F}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right) \cup \mathcal{T}\left(N_{G}(C), B\right) \cup \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{2}}(G, B) \cup \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{X}_{4}}(G, B)
$$

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