

1. This was meant to be Ex. XI.6.2 on homework set 6. ☺
  2. (a) (i)  $f(1, S) = 1S1^{-1} = S$   
 (ii)  $f(\sigma, f(\tau, S)) = f(\sigma, \tau S \tau^{-1}) = \sigma \tau S \tau^{-1} \sigma^{-1} = \sigma \tau S (\sigma \tau)^{-1} = f(\sigma \tau, S)$ 
    - (b) Since  $[S_3 : 1] = 6 = 3 \cdot 2$ , the 2-groups of  $S_3$  are Sylow. They are the subgroups  $H, H', H''$  generated by the 3 involutions  $(1, 2), (2, 3), (1, 3)$  respectively. Any conjugate of  $H$  is a 2-group and conversely by the second Sylow theorem all 2-groups are conjugate, so the orbit of  $H$  is  $\{H, H', H''\}$ .  
 Since  $[S_3 : A_3] = 2$ ,  $A_3 \triangleleft S_3$ , so the orbit of  $A_3$  is trivial.
    - (c) By the second Sylow theorem the size of the orbit is the index of the normalizer, so  $[S_3 : N_{S_3}(H)] = 3$ . By Lagrange's theorem  $[N_{S_3}(H) : 1] = 2$ , but  $H < N_{S_3}(H)$ , so  $H = N_{S_3}(H)$ .  
 Since  $A_3 \triangleleft S_3$ ,  $N_{S_3}(A_3) = S_3$ .
3. (a)  $\Delta'_n$  is generated by  $a^2$  (see Ex. XII.3.4 on homework set 8).  
 (b) The subgroup  $(a)$  has size 5 and index 2, so is normal (in fact,  $(a) = \Delta'_5$ ). This gives a composition series  $\Delta_5 \triangleright (a) \triangleright 1$  with corresponding factors  $\mathbf{Z}_2$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_5$ .
  4. (a) By long division  $u^2 - 2u + 3 = (u - 1)^2 + 2$ . Therefore,  $s = \frac{1}{2}u - \frac{1}{2}$ .  
 (b) Let  $w = u - 1$ . Then  $u = w + 1$ , so  $0 = (w + 1)^2 - 2(w + 1) + 3 = w^2 + 2$   
 Dividing by  $w^2$  we get  $0 = 1 + 2w^{-2} = 1 + 2s^2$