Unit Survey - Feedback on comments – Semester 1 – 2014/15

20101 – Walkden

1. The lecture notes should be available online.

The notes are available online. There is a link to them on the course webpage on Blackboard. There is a link from the School's website (go to 'Study', 'Undergraduate', 'Information for current students', 'Course units offered', 'Level 2'). They are also linked to from my own webpage. They are also the first hit if you google for 'Manchester Complex Analysis'.

2. Can I upload the slides from the visualiser?

This won't work. There is only one data projector in Crawford and so I have to swap between the visualiser and the whiteboard; this is to give people enough time to copy down what I write on the visualiser before switching to a new piece of paper. If I put online the sheets of paper I write on when using the visualiser then you will be missing anything I write on the whiteboards. I don't turn lecture capture off, so you can always review the lecture via the University's podcasting system.

3. Can I upload my own written notes?

The written notes I bring with me to the lectures are written as an aide-memoire to myself and in handwriting that is not decipherable to anyone else!

3. Can I split the lecture notes into separate files for each section?

This is technically possible (in fact, you can do it yourself via Adobe Acrobat Reader), but it makes uploading minor corrections a rather lengthy process (due to the way that LaTeX works). In fact, I used to do this, but I had feedback in previous years asking me to make the notes available as one file.

4. Can I provide solutions to the exercises in the lecture notes?

The solutions to all the exercise are already in the notes (look towards the end of the lecture notes file on the course webpage).

5. Can the worksheets for the tutorials contain material that isn't already in the exercise?

I don't want to do this as it would disadvantage those people who missed a support class.

6. Can you upload the tutorial worksheets and solutions?

There is nothing in the worksheets that isn't available elsewhere either in the exercises (solutions are in the lecture notes), bookwork (given in the lectures and in the lecture notes), or past exams (detailed feedback for which is given on the website).

7. The material on the worksheets is too easy!

Some people say that they find the material in the support classes too easy. If you're one of them then - great! - it means that you're progressing well with the course. I try to pitch the material so that the average student can at least get started and feel like they have accomplished something
(rather than sitting there waiting for me to do stuff on the board). If you're bored, then there are plenty of other exercises in the notes to do.

8. *In the tutorials can we ask about material that isn't on the worksheets?*

Given the number of people in each tutorial, it's difficult to give 1-to-1 tuition to everyone, but I (and the other academic staff and the postgraduate demonstrators) are more than happy to talk about the other exercises during the classes when time allows. Alternatively come and see me during my office hour or email me to arrange a mutually convenient time.

9. *Is there a cheaper recommended textbook?*

I don't know of any good books on complex analysis that are cheaper than Stewart and Tall (and I would be surprised if they exist). At the time of writing, there are copies of Stewart and Tall for £28 (+ £2.80 p&p) on Amazon.

10. *Can the online videos be downloaded rather than streamed?*

It appears to be University policy to only stream such videos. (Although I write the slides and, obviously, do the voice-over, I don't edit the videos myself: the University's elearning team do this for me and so they have control over where it is uploaded.)

11. *Can the timing of the lectures be changed?*

Sorry, no. This is beyond my (and the School's) control.