

Abstract Submitted
for the MAR16 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Are our textbooks too good to be good? Let students own their textbooks to own the skills XIUPING TAO, Winston-Salem State University — The two new yearlong high school courses, AP Physics 1 and 2, are equivalent to the two-semester algebra-based introductory Physics college course. The AP courses have more than 300 instruction hours, while the college course less than 100. This partially explains why college instructors always struggle to cover the important topics to not necessarily prepared students. To make it worse, many college students are not buying or reading textbooks and rely on instructors to get the course content. The fragmented reception is preventing students from getting a complete picture of the course. Not that there is a shortage of textbooks. There are many 1000-page tomes costing \$200 or more, too good to be good. All the struggles contribute to U.S. students' relatively low STEM skills. I propose to let students own their books to own the skills. Students need much shorter (thus manageable) and much more affordable books, and they need to own it for good. Cross-culture comparison reveals that students learn better when they truly own their books (without planning to resell).

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Date submitted: 06 Nov 2015

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