

Re: obtaining notes on classic textbooks

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- *From:* matthias@xxxxxxxxxxx
 - *Date:* 14 Feb 2006 09:37:27 -0800
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Dani wrote:

For me, the solutions are used to check my own solutions.

Suppose that you write a proof for some problem, and then you open the solutions manual and find a completely different proof. How does that help you tell whether your proof is correct?

The problems in advanced math textbooks aren't algebra problems where the answer is a number; they are problems where a single answer, fully written out, might be three pages once typeset. So to write down answers to all the problems, you essentially have to write a book worth of advanced mathematics, but the book is not original research because the problems have already been solved by someone else. Few people who are able to solve all the problems feel that writing such a book is a valuable way to spend their time.

I'm sorry to be the one to tell you, but there really just aren't long documents with all the answers to classic textbooks. The best you could hope for is to get (handwritten) notes from a very careful former student who has worked through the problems.

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