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[Scientists take the effort out of moving objects](#)



submitted by [Albertpacino](#) 14 days ago (via <http://www.theherald.co.uk/new...>)

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A team led by scientists from Edinburgh University has succeeded in objects move remotely and with no direct physical effort.

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This is freaking incredible. I can foresee so many wonderful uses for this plus it's so cool.

posted by [leitjaxon \(0\)](#) at 02:21 PM 8/30/05 score: -- Rate Comment



"IT was like pushing water uphill, but easier."

Pushing water uphill would be a royal pain in the ass. Not to mention imposable :)

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posted by [generalleoff \(0\)](#) at 02:24 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#) 

This really is incredible. I'm looking forward to all the problems nanotechnology will solve. But we should be aware that we're creating life and understand that it could have serious repercussions.

posted by [infra172 \(0\)](#) at 02:27 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#) 

This will be so crazy if it become the norm for moving things.

posted by [Firesoulkeeper \(0\)](#) at 02:27 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#) 

Really really cool, amazing story Dugg

posted by [vincent13 \(0\)](#) at 02:32 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#) 

I can't stop thinking about the Replicators from Stargate SG-1.

posted by [dean \(0\)](#) at 02:32 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#) 

Telekinesis?

posted by [diggthiscrap \(1\)](#) at 02:34 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#) 

It utilizes light energy to oscillate the surface tension of an inclined surface. It's not 'creating life'. It is, however, very cool.

posted by [Drum \(0\)](#) at 02:35 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#) 

"Life is defined as an energy expending process that can decrease entropy locally, in a sustainable manner."

posted by [infra172 \(0\)](#) at 02:38 PM 8/30/05 score: -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#) 

That's really cool.

Next time I want to move a tiny drop of an oily substance, I'll call these guys.

posted by [Mikezila \(3\)](#) at 02:40 PM 8/30/05 score: -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#) 

It's consuming light energy and turning it into mechanical energy and heat. This will increase entropy. If you propose that it doesn't, please post your data that shows this, or better yet, please publish it in a peer-reviewed journal. I'm sure the investigators from Edinburgh would love to collaborate with you.

posted by [Drum \(0\)](#) at 02:42 PM 8/30/05 score: -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#) 

Drum, you are a dumbass. Life increases entropy EXTERNALLY in order to decrease it LOCALLY. Self-replicating nanobots do that.

posted by [infra172 \(0\)](#) at 02:48 PM 8/30/05 score: -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#) 

Amazing
Dugg+

posted by [Mr.Germain \(0\)](#) at 02:48 PM 8/30/05 score: -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#) 

If it replaced gas.. so i didn't have to be raped for so much a gallon every week, i'd be happy.

posted by [craterburnsu \(1\)](#) at 02:49 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#) [X](#) 

The nanoparticles described in this article are not self-replicating, so I don't see what your original comment has to do with this technological application. I understand that you're concerned about self-replicating nanobots - perfectly reasonable. But the stuff described here isn't alive.

posted by [Drum \(0\)](#) at 02:55 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#) [X](#) 

This is kind of lame, like when they announce that "Physicists make teleportation possible" and they teleported "the signature of a light beam" or something like that. I mean, it's cool but the way they word it is hyperbolic. Call me back when the new invention can move my fridge into the u-Haul truck when I point a laser to it.

posted by [SandFlyer \(0\)](#) at 03:00 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#) [X](#) 

Won't this make things esier to steal things aswell?

posted by [BlackPhantom \(1\)](#) at 03:02 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#) [X](#) 

"Pushing water uphill would be a royal pain in the ass. Not to mention imposable :)"

You can if you freeze it, general.

posted by [browwiw \(0\)](#) at 03:02 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#) [X](#) 

baby steps. The modern computer started with just one transistor, modern microscopes began as beads of glass, and humanity started with some crazy

monkey wielding a thigh bone.

posted by [epeters \(0\)](#) at 03:06 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate Comment](#)  [X](#)



the question is ... will it move yo momma?

posted by [hoowahman \(0\)](#) at 03:07 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate Comment](#)  [X](#)



I move many objects without any effort. Thats what slaves are for.

posted by [doofus \(0\)](#) at 03:10 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate Comment](#)  [X](#)



Agreed, baby steps. They used a small drop of liquid...I'm guessing so that they could actually shine light through the drop and get the surface to oscillate under the liquid itself. I wonder if it moves opaque objects. I also wonder how far it actually moved and how long it took.

posted by [Drum \(0\)](#) at 03:11 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate Comment](#)  [X](#)



I also wonder how they controlled the direction of movement...but all of this is probably pretty boring for Digg so I'll stop my questions now. -Cheers!

posted by [Drum \(0\)](#) at 03:13 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate Comment](#)  [X](#)



What about speed? Could the techonology have uses for transportation?

posted by [nukethewhales \(0\)](#) at 03:34 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate Comment](#)  [X](#)



"I can't stop thinking about the Replicators from Stargate SG-1."

^^

posted by [Smarterdanu \(3\)](#) at 04:22 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#)



Damn. I was hoping for a tractor beam ... :)

posted by [kaemaryl \(0\)](#) at 04:26 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#)



THEY SHOULD CALL IT THE GRAVITY GUN!
Just like in HL2

posted by [petard \(0\)](#) at 06:25 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#)



Gordon Freeman will be pleased.

posted by [drderail \(5\)](#) at 06:26 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#)



god i love science.

posted by [adjacentidea \(0\)](#) at 08:02 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#)



Sounds like the "Gravity Gun" from HL2 is on its way.

posted by [green1152 \(0\)](#) at 08:24 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#)



so they were able to move mass with photons? but this is probably not able to hold up objects other than its own weight though, and in very slim proportions id imagine...

posted by [theratdotus \(3\)](#) at 10:37 PM 8/30/05 **score:** -- [Rate](#) [Comment](#)  [X](#)



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