

Abstract

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2018 were awarded to Arthur Ashkin (American), Gerard Mourou (France), and Donna Strickland (Canada) for their work in Laser Physics. Arthur Ashkin was awarded half the prize for his contribution in inventing optical tweezers, a tractor beam like device that allows one to move small particles such as a cell around in a contact-less manner. While Mourou and Strickland won a quarter of the prize for their work on paving the way for the shortest and most intense laser beam ever made.

This talk is about Arthur Ashkin and his optical Tweezers. I will talk about the science and history of optical tweezers. From its conception, to realization, as well as future development.