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Novel technique manipulates water waves to precisely control floating objects



A team of international scientists co-led by Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) have discovered a way to manipulate water waves, allowing them to trap and precisely move floating objects—almost as if an invisible force were guiding them.

The method involves generating and merging water waves to create complex surface patterns, such as twisting loops and swirling vortices.

Laboratory experiments showed that these patterns can pull in nearby floating objects, like small foam balls the size of rice grains, and trap them within the patterns.

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