Sir Andre Geim is a Russian-born physicist who got his Ph.D. from the Russian Academy of Sciences in 1987. He was professor at the University of Nijmegen in the Netherlands from 1994 to 2001, when he joined the faculty at the University of Manchester, England, where he holds the titles of Langworthy Professor and Royal Society 2010 Anniversary Research Professor.

His most notable scientific achievements include ground breaking experiments in graphene, the development of a biomimetic adhesive which became known as gecko tape, and research into diamagnetic levitation (which resulted in the famous flying frog experiment).

He is recipient of numerous awards including the Mott (2007) and Hughes medals (2010) and was awarded honorary doctorates by Delft University, ETH Zürich and University of Antwerp. In 2010 he received the Nobel Prize in Physics, jointly with Konstantin Novoselov, “for ground breaking experiments regarding the two-dimensional material graphene”.

He also shared the 2000 Ig Nobel Prize with Sir Michael Berry of Bristol University, for levitating frogs, which makes him the first person to win an Ig followed by the real version.