Faculty of Engineering  
Summer Research Program 2022-2023  

Project Title: Self-healing smart skin using graphene enhanced vitrimer nanocomposites  

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Objective  
The aim of this study is to develop and characterize the repeatable low temperature self-healing nanovitrimer for electronic skin applications based on vitrimer with dynamic covalent bonds.  

Project Details  
Recent developments in the field of soft robotics and wearable electronics have stimulated the efforts towards the research of a new class of electronic skins with sensing elements to be integrated into soft polymeric platforms. Pressure sensitivity and mechanical self-healing are two salient functions of the human skin, which allow it to sense the external mechanical forces even being subjected to constant damage. However, combining repeatable self-healing and high pressure-sensitivity together simultaneously remains a challenging task. The incorporation of graphene nanoparticles to vitrimers makes it possible for the design and fabrication of flexible self-healing nanocomposite for pressure sensing.  

Prerequisites  
Polymers, mechanical behaviour of materials.  

Additional Information  
Applicants may be required to attend an interview