Abstract

Despite decades of research assuming that pollen is unchangeable, we have recently demonstrated that pollen is in fact one of the most exciting and innovative materials in the world. In particular, we have recently developed simple and highly versatile methods to convert hard pollen into soft building blocks that can form plastic-type materials among various possibilities. This materials innovation is leading to breakthrough capabilities to use natural pollen as a high-performing replacement for synthetic materials while opening the door to many more cutting-edge applications.

Biography

Dr Nam-Joon Cho is Professor in the School of Materials Science and Engineering and Materials Research Society of Singapore Chair Professor at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. He is a graduate of Stanford University and the University of California, Berkeley.

His group’s research focuses on engineering approaches to solve important biomedical problems and to translate these capabilities into practical applications for global health. Dr Cho’s scientific work has been highlighted by international media organizations such as Reuters, CNBC, and Businessweek, and is leading to major breakthroughs for the treatment of deadly pathogens. He has identified novel classes of bio-inspired materials innovation based on plant pollen. Dr Cho’s team is now actively working to examine the causes and consequences of bio-inspired materials innovation to provide materials that can replace plastics. Dr Cho also leads a multi-institution bio-inspired materials innovation platform for bio-inspired material innovations including antiviral therapy as well.

Seminar Topic: Tough Pollen to Soft Matter

Professor Cho Nam-Joon

Wednesday, 7 October 2020 || Time: 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm ||
Live Streaming Link (Zoom Meeting): https://ntu-sq.zoom.us/j/96911725743
Meeting ID: 969 1172 5743  Passcode: 2b009k
Hosted by: Professor Alex Yan Qingyu