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SINGAPORE - Singapore's first 3D-printed concept car that runs on solar electricity has been built by students from Nanyang Technological University (NTU).

Mounted on a carbon fibre single shell chassis, the NTU Venture (NV) 8 comprises of 150 parts, and will race in the Urban Concept category at this year's Shell Eco-marathon Asia.

NTU said in a statement on Monday that the NV 8, together with another variant, the NV 9, were designed from scratch by two teams of NTU undergraduates and built over a year.

The NV 9 is a three-wheeled racer which can take sharp corners with little loss in speed due to its tilting ability inspired by motorcycle racing.

Associate Professor Ng Heong Wah, who mentored the two teams, said: "We are extremely proud to have designed and assembled a 3D printed body shell for the electric car, which is Singapore's first and probably Asia's first 3D-printed concept car."

The Shell Eco-marathon Asia is an annual competition that challenges students to design, build and drive a vehicle that can travel the furthest distance using the least amount of energy.

Another Singapore team, from ITE College West, will also be taking part in the competition, the Straits Times reported.

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