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The quest for function in systems with two dynamic covalent bonds

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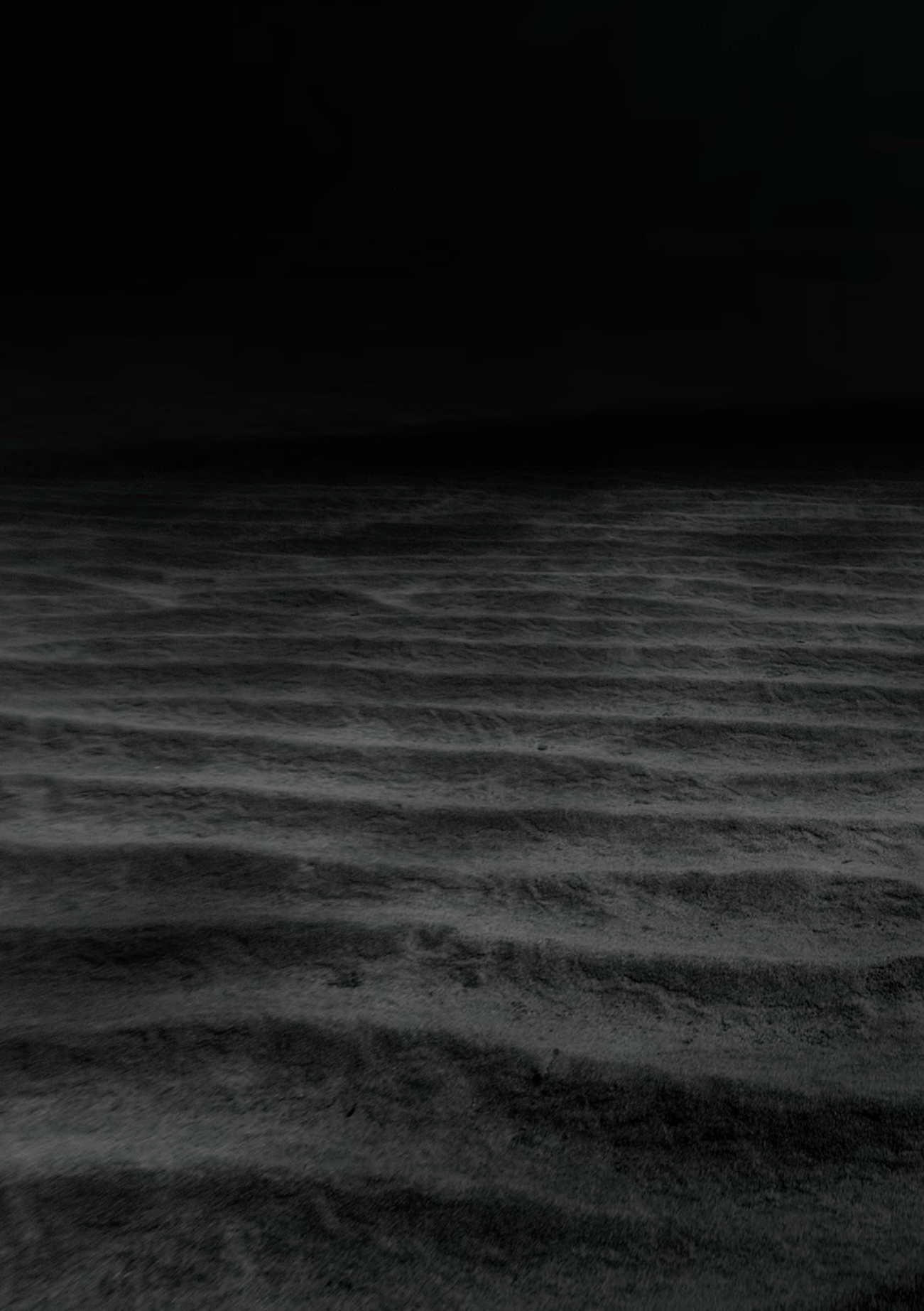
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The background is a dark, almost black, textured surface that resembles a close-up of a rough material or a dark, rippled liquid. A thin, vertical red bar is positioned on the left side of the page, partially overlapping the text.

| Appendices

Acknowledgments / Zahvalnica

It was not a smooth sail, but the ship still stands. And, here we are, at the end of this book, PhD trajectory, an exciting period of my life, and we made it. Yes, I emphasize, we made it. Completing a PhD is not one's sole success, but it also belongs to the supervisors and collaborators, family, and friends of the future doctor. That is why I would like to spend these final pages acknowledging and thanking those who generously contributed to completing this journey.

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I do not believe that happiness is a permanent state, but rather a moment that remains engraved in our memory and we fondly remember. Dear members of the **Otto group**, I owe a lot of gratitude to you for many of the memories that I will cherish. Thank you: **Jim**, for the midnight drive through Boston and changing the offices on time – we would not survive another Werkbesrepping preparation together; **Andreas**, for telling me that I am beautiful when I was about to cry because I am 26 years old and I just put on braces, also for entertaining me with pictures of your lovely daughter; **Guille**, for running the Amsterdam half-marathon together (we did it!) and going on that fantastic trip to Wageningen with me; **Bin**, for being adventurous and taking a later flight, just so we can have a walk through Vienna, but also for having the trust in my navigation skills; **Boris**, for making me pancakes at the time when I did not know how to do it, to remind me of home, and for throwing all those splendid parties, to make me feel at home; **David**, for giving great research updates, it was a

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Ivana

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- 2 F. Battiato “La cura”

About the Author

Ivana Marić was born in 1991 in Belgrade, Serbia. She pursued her undergraduate studies at the University of Belgrade, where she received a bachelor's degree in Chemistry (2015), working on synthesis and investigation of protolytic equilibria of potential inhibitors of human carbonic anhydrases IX and XII (under the supervision of Prof. Tatjana Verbić). In 2016, she received her M.Sc. in Chemistry at the same university, working with Prof. Radomir N. Saičić on developing cyclization reactions catalysed by gold and palladium complexes. During her studies, she performed two internships at Universidad Nacional del Sur (Argentina, with Prof. Veronica Doderó) and Friedrich Schiller University Jena (Germany, with Prof. Ivan Vilotijević). She moved to Groningen in 2016 to pursue a Ph.D. in the group of Prof. Sijbren Otto in the field of Systems Chemistry. Her research focused on the incorporation of orthogonal dynamic covalent bonds into peptide-based functional systems, ranging from self-replication to the design of supramolecular materials for biomedical applications. She was a co-chair and in the Gordon Research Seminar's organizing committee in Systems Chemistry 2020, which was postponed until 2022 due to the COVID-19 crisis.

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- 1 I. Marić, L. Yang, X. Li, G. M. Santiago, X. Qiu, C. G. Pappas, J. Dijkstra, P. van Rijn, S. Otto. Tailorable Supramolecular-Based Hydrogels That Use Two Reversible Chemistries. *Manuscript in preparation.*
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- 3 C. G. Pappas, B. Liu, I. Marić, J. Ottel , A. Kiani, M. L. van der Kloek, P. R. Onck, S. Otto. Two Sides of the Same Coin: Emergence of Foldamers and Self-Replicators from Dynamic Combinatorial Libraries. *Submitted.*
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