

# Özlem Salehi Köken

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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**E-mail:** osalehi@iitis.pl

**Web:** <https://cmpe.boun.edu.tr/~ozlem.salehi/>

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Quantum computing, quantum annealing, quantum optimization, automata theory and formal languages, computational complexity, decidability

## EDUCATION

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### **Ph.D. in Computer Engineering**

**Boğaziçi University**, İstanbul, Turkey

September 2013 – June 2019

Thesis: Extended Models of Finite Automata

Advisor: Prof. A. C. Cem Say

GPA: 3.94 / 4

### **M.S. in Computer Engineering**

**Boğaziçi University**, İstanbul, Turkey

September 2011 – August 2013

Thesis: Real-Time Vector Automata

Advisor: Prof. A. C. Cem Say

GPA: 3.94 / 4

### **B.S. in Mathematics**

**Boğaziçi University**, İstanbul, Turkey

September 2007 – June 2011

Senior Thesis: A Survey on Monte Carlo Methods in PageRank Computation

Advisor: Assist. Prof. Serdar Altok

GPA: 3.00 / 4

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### **Postdoctoral Researcher**

Institute of Theoretical and Applied Informatics, Polish Academy of Sciences

February 2021 –

### **Instructor**

Department of Computer Science, Özyeğin University

September 2019 – January 2021

<b>Instructor</b> Department of Computer Engineering, Boğaziçi University	June 2019 – August 2019
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> Department of Computer Engineering, Boğaziçi University	June 2014 – June 2019
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> Department of Mathematics, Boğaziçi University	September 2011 - June 2014
<b>Student Assistant</b> Department of Computer Engineering, Boğaziçi University	February 2010 - June 2011

## **JOURNAL PAPERS**

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- Ö. Salehi, Z. Seskir and İ. Tepe. A computer science-oriented approach to introduce quantum computing to a new audience. *IEEE Transactions on Education*, 2021.
- Ö. Salehi, A. Yakaryılmaz, and A. C. C. Say. New results on vector and homing vector automata. *International Journal of Foundations of Computer Science*, 30(8): 1335-1361, 2019.
- Ö. Salehi, F. D'Alessandro, and A. C. C. Say. Language classes associated with automata over matrix groups. *RAIRO Theoretical Informatics and Applications*, 52(2-3-4): 253-268, 2018.
- Ö. Salehi, A. C. C. Say, and F. D'Alessandro. Homing vector automata. *RAIRO Theoretical Informatics and Applications*, 50(4): 371-386, 2016.

## **CONFERENCE PAPERS**

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- U. Birkan, Ö. Salehi, V. Olejar, C. Nurlu, and A. Yakaryılmaz. Implementing quantum finite automata algorithms on noisy devices. In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Computational Science, ICCS'21*, pages 3-16, Springer, 2021.
- Şekerci and Ö. Salehi. Language inference with multi-head automata through reinforcement learning. In *Proceedings of the International Joint Conference on Neural Networks, IJCNN'20*, pages 1-8, 2020.
- Ö. Salehi and A. C. C. Say. Extended finite automata and decision problems for matrix semigroups. In *Short Paper Proceedings of the Tenth Workshop on Non-Classical Models of Automata and Applications, NCMA'18*, pages 45-52, 2018.
- Ö. Salehi, F. D'Alessandro, and A. C. C. Say. Generalized results on monoids as memory. In *Proceedings of the 15th International Conference on Automata and Formal Languages, AFL'17*, pages 234-247, 2017.
- Ö. Salehi, F. D'Alessandro, and A. C. C. Say. Language classes associated with automata over matrix groups. In *Proceedings of the Eighth Workshop on Non-Classical Models of Automata and Applications, NCMA'16*, pages 287-300, 2016.
- Ö. Salehi and A. C. C. Say. Homing vector automata. In *Proceedings of the Seventh Workshop on Non-Classical Models of Automata and Applications, NCMA'15*, pages 193-205, 2015.
- Ö. Salehi, A. Yakaryılmaz, and A. C. C. Say. Real-time vector automata. In *Proceedings of the 19th International Conference on Fundamentals of Computation Theory, FCT'13*, pages 293-304. Springer-Verlag, 2013.

## PREPRINTS

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- L. Botelho, A. Glos, A. Kundu, J.A. Miszczak, Ö. Salehi, Z. Zimborás. Error mitigation for variational quantum algorithms through mid-circuit measurements. arXiv:2108.10927, 2021.
- Ö. Salehi, A. Yakaryılmaz. State-efficient QFA algorithm for quantum computers. arXiv:2107.02262, 2021.
- K. Domino, A. Kundu, Ö. Salehi, K. Krawiec. Quadratic and higher-order unconstrained binary optimization of railway dispatching problem for quantum computing. arXiv:2107.03234, 2021.
- Ö. Salehi, A. Glos, J.A. Miszczak. Unconstrained binary models of the Travelling Salesman Problem variants for quantum optimization. arXiv:2106.09056, 2021.

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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### Reviewer

- Fundamenta Informaticae (2018)
- 45th International Conference on Current Trends in Theory and Practice of Computer Science (SOFSEM 2019)

### Program Committee

- International Conference On Computational Science - Quantum Computing Workshop Track (QCW 2021)
- KKIO Software Engineering Conference - Software Engineering in Quantum Computing Track (KKIO 2021)
- Workshop on Non-Classical Models of Automata and Applications (NCMA 2018, NCMA 2020)

### Coordinator

- QTurkey - Quantum technologies community in Turkey (Founding member)
- QWorld Education Department - A global network collaborating on education and implementation of quantum technologies and research activities

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Instructor

#### Özyeğin University

- Quantum Computing
- Computer Programming
- Algorithm Analysis

#### Boğaziçi University

- Formal Languages and Automata Theory

### Teaching Assistant

#### Boğaziçi University

- Formal Languages and Automata Theory
- Introduction to Computing
- Discrete Computational Structures
- Algorithm Analysis

- Discrete Mathematics
- Probability Theory
- Matrix Theory
- Statistics
- Calculus II

## **VOLUNTARY EXPERIENCE**

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### **Instructor and organizer**

QTurkey, QWorld

June 2019 –

- QBronze and QSilver (*Organizing and teaching at over 10 introductory and intermediate level quantum programming workshops including an online global summer school with thousand participants*)

### **Instructor**

Nesin Mathematics Village, Şirince, İzmir, Turkey

August 2016

- Formal Languages and Automata Theory (*One-week introductory course for high school students*)

## **AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

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- **Grant**, SIGSOFT - ACM Special Interest Group on Software Engineering (June 2017)  
Travel grant to attend the ACM 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration of the Turing Award in San Francisco, USA
- **Scholarship**, TÜBİTAK (2013 - 2017)  
Given to successful Ph.D. students based on B.S. and M.S. GPAs, YDS and ALES scores
- **Honors Certificate**, Boğaziçi University (June 2011)  
Given to graduates with a GPA of 3.00 or higher
- **Scholarship**, Kredi Yurtlar Kurumu (2007 - 2011)  
For ranking 42<sup>nd</sup> in 2007 Turkish National University Entrance Foreign Language Exam

## **LANGUAGES**

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Turkish (native), English (fluent), French (intermediate)