

A MULTIMODAL INTERACTIONAL APPROACH TO PARTICLES:
VOILÀ IN CLOSINGS IN FRENCH

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ABSTRACT

This paper discusses the French particle *voilà* from the perspective of interactional linguistics and conversation analysis, on the basis of video-recorded naturally occurring social interactions. It shows how this perspective highlights the importance of the sequential position and environment of the particles, crucial for their interpretation and the understanding of their distribution. It also shows how sequential analysis can be further completed by taking into account the multimodality of spoken interaction, integrating body resources in the grammatical description of particles and their uses. Concerning *voilà*, the paper sketches its polyfunctionality in different sequential contexts, and then focuses on sequence closings, where *voilà* accomplishes not only an organizational job but also indexes rights and obligations of the interlocutors.