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“Other things” that response particles do and how they can be studied

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Response particles occurring after requests for confirmation constitute a promising field for research that uses a conversation analytic approach. The reason for this is that the sequential environment (question-answer sequences), the main actions (requesting confirmation and providing it or not), and the basic orientations (action, format and epistemic orientations) are well described and understood. This presentation will focus on what is less well understood: the stances and larger action implications that response particles also embody, but which are often hard to analyze by means of “next turn proof procedure” (Sacks et al. 1974), and my point of departure is that “asking a question is not an innocent thing to do” (Steensig & Drew 2008:7, 12). I take what I believe to be the same line on this as the “Response particles” work group in the scientific network on Interactional Linguistics at IDGS, that the exact prosody and form of the response particles need to be examined, and that their interactional functions must be understood within the larger context in which the question-answer sequence occurs (Betz & Deppermann 2018; Pfeiffer & König 2016), but I try to broaden the perspective by suggesting a more systematic investigation of the interpretation framework informing the request for confirmation (Schegloff 1984) and by including embodied aspects of the sequences (Kärkkäinen & Thompson 2018).

Betz, Emma & Arnulf Deppermann (2018) Indexing Priority of Position: Eben as Response Particle in German, *Research on Language and Social Interaction*, 51:2, 171-193.

Kärkkäinen, Elise & Sandra A. Thompson (2018) Language and bodily resources: ‘Response packages’ in response to polar questions in English, *Journal of Pragmatics* 123, 220-238.

Pfeiffer, Martin & Katharina König (2016) Project description – Scientific networks: Interactional linguistics – Discourse particles from a cross-linguistic perspective. Unpublished proposal for Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft.

Sacks, Harvey, Emanuel A. Schegloff & Gail Jefferson (1974) A simplest systematics for the organisation of turn-taking in conversation. *Language* 50 (4), 696-735.

Schegloff, Emanuel A. (1984) On some questions and ambiguities in conversation. In: J. M. Atkinson and J. Heritage (eds.), *Structures of Social Action*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 266-298.

Steensig, Jakob & Paul Drew (2008) Introduction: questioning and affiliation/disaffiliation in interaction, *Discourse Studies*, 10:1, 5-15.