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I investigate null-homologous transverse knots in contact 3-manifolds through an invariant called the self linking number. By using Giroux, Bennequin and Pevelescu's works, we can view them as null-homologous braids in open book decompositions. I will present a formula of the self linking number. The main tool is the characteristic foliation on a Seifert surface. (Received February 10, 2011)