Presupposition triggers jointly convey two pieces of information, a main content and a backgrounded content, the so-called presupposition. For instance, the factive verb *Paul knows that Mary throws the ball* communicates the main content that Paul knows X and presupposes X. Previous theoretical research has suggested that presuppositions are peripheral, secondary or given information (van der Sandt, 1992) in the flow of discourse or presented as such (Saussure, 2013). Due to their backgrounded character, presuppositions are not at stake in discourse linking (Ducrot, 1972, Jayez, 2010). The current study investigates whether the backgrounded criteria of presuppositions makes the information conveyed less salient. Using the grip force sensor technique - hand-related pressure variations of action verbs are measured (e.g. Fak et al., 2010) - four conditions were compared:

1. Paul knows that Marie throws the ball. (Assertion)
2. In the park, Marie throws the ball. (Factive)
3. Paul thinks that Marie throws the ball. (Non-factive)
4. For her lunch, Marie prefers Chinese food. (Non-motion)

The results indicate that the hand-related action verb of the presupposition of a factive verb construction triggers a significantly lower grip force compared to an assertion, but activates a significant higher grip-force than the non-motion condition, whereas the non-factive condition elicits no grip force activation - similar to non-motion condition. This suggests that (i) backgrounded content elicits different activations than asserted content and (ii) the information conveyed by a presupposition is included in the situation model, consequently triggering some motor reaction, which is not the case of a non-factive construction.

**Keywords**: experimental pragmatics, grip force sensor, presupposition.