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## Macroeconomics, Winterterm 2012/2013

### Task Assignment Group 2

This assignment requires you to (i) hand in an Excel file to the teaching assistant in which you provide all numerical results and graphs on separate spreadsheets *before* the presentation in class (dates noted on course schedule provided on the syllabus on the website [www.marcelbluhm.com](http://www.marcelbluhm.com)), and, (ii), to set up a presentation (preferably in .ppt format) for class. The International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook Database (see <http://www.imf.org>) as well as the Penn World Tables (<http://pwt.econ.upenn.edu/>) are valuable data sources.

1. Outline Okun's law
2. Collect data on unemployment rates and real GDP for the U.S., China, and Turkey over the period from 1980-2011.
3. Compute for the data of each country the first difference of the unemployment rate and the percentage growth rate of real GDP.
4. Set up a scatterplot for each country and add a linear trendline for the data relation to the graph.
5. In your empirical investigation, does Okun's law hold? Give reasons as to why Okun's law might fit for some countries and others not.
6. Prepare presentation slides for class (for a presentation of 10 minutes) in which you outline your assignment, the concepts you use as well as your interpretation results from exercises 1-5 above. Make sure to also give the data sources you use.