Patsy: Using Regression Equations

Why Use Patsy?

- We could just select our variables manually, and creating a column of ones is trivial
- Patsy allows us to separate our endogenous and exogenous variables AND to
 - "Dummy out" categorical variables
 - Easily transform variables (square, or log transforms, etc.)
 - Use identical transformations on future data

Getting Started

```
import patsy as pt
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
data = pd.read_csv("wagePanelData.csv")
# To create y AND x matrices
y, x = pt.dmatrices("LWAGE ~ TIME + EXP + UNION + ED",
                data = data)
 To create ONLY an x matrix
x = pt.dmatrix("~ TIME + EXP + UNION + ED",
                data = data)
```

These regression equations automatically include an intercept term.

Categorical Variables

```
# To create y AND x matrices
eqn = "LWAGE \sim C(ID) + TIME + EXP + UNION + ED + C(OCC)"
y, x = pt.dmatrices(eqn, data = data)
```

Categorical variables can be broken out into binary variables using the **c()** syntax inside of the regression equation.

In this case, there would be binary variables for each unique value of ID and OCC.

Transforming Variables

```
# To create y AND x matrices
eqn = "I(np.log(LWAGE)) ~ C(ID) + TIME + EXP + I(EXP**2)"
y, x = pt.dmatrices(eqn, data = data)
```

We can transform variables using the **I()** syntax inside of the regression equation. We then use any numeric transformation that we choose to impose on our data.

In this case, we logged our dependent variable, LWAGE, and squared the EXP term.

Same Transformation on New Data!

```
# To create a new x matrix based on our previous version

xNew = pt.build_design_matrices([x.design_info], dataNew)
```

We can create a new matrix in the SAME SHAPE as our original x matrix by using the build_design_matrices() function in patsy.

We pass a list containing the old design matrix information, as well as the new data from which to construct our new matrix.

Why does Design Info Matter?

- Ensures that we always have the same number of categories
- Maintains consistency in our model
- Makes our work replicable

Using this method to create new datasets from which to generate predictions is extremely valuable