# Generating New Variables

Sometimes you will want to generate a new variable on the basis of data you have. For example, you might want to add a square term to your regression or take the log of a variable.

gen ln\_x = log(x)

gen x\_sq = x^2

You can apply any function to create a new variable.

You can also modify variables after they are created.

gen y = 5

replace y = 10

Remember that you can use the “if” statement to selectively apply your replacement command.

replace ln\_x = 1 if x==0

If you want to get rid of a variable then you can drop it:

drop ln\_x