

# Big\_match - Testing and Small Demo

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This R markdown document is used for testing and demoing the current functionality of bigmatch. We'll use the sample data from the MatchIt package for basic testing.

```
require(MatchIt)
require(ggplot2)
require(ggpubr)
require(dplyr)
require(optmatch)

data("lalonge")
source('big_match.R')
source('class_functions.R')

# adding a binary outcome
lalonge$outcome <- lalonge$re78 > 15000
lalonge$re78 <- NULL

# changing name of treat column to "treated" to demonstrate that any name will suffice
names(lalonge)[names(lalonge) == "treat"] <- "treated"
```

# Stratify

## Manual Stratify

### Testing errors and warnings

This call should return an error because “educ” is a continuous variable.

```
# manual stratification with a continuous variable
m.strat <- manual_stratify(lalonde, treat = "treated",
                           covariates = c("black", "hispan", "educ", "nodegree"))

# Error in warn_if_continuous(data[, covariates[i]], covariates[i]) :
#   There are 19 distinct values for educ. Is it continuous?

# manual stratification with a continuous variable, force = TRUE
m.strat <- manual_stratify(lalonde, treat = "treated",
                           covariates = c("black", "hispan", "educ", "nodegree"), force = TRUE)

# There are 19 distinct values for educ. Is it continuous?
```

### Testing Functionality with Valid Inputs

This call should return six strata (since black and hispan seem to be mutually exclusive categories in this dataset).

```
# allowable manual stratification
m.strat <- manual_stratify(lalonde, treat = "treated",
                           covariates = c("black", "hispan", "nodegree"))
```

## Auto Stratify

### Testing Errors and Warnings

First, testing error handling. These should fail and/or give warnings.

```
# auto stratification with missing arguments
a.strat <- auto_stratify(lalonde, "treated", "outcome")

# Error in auto_stratify(lalonde, "treat", "outcome") :
#   At least one of covariates and prog_scores should be specified.

# auto stratification with covariates and prog scores specified, and prog_scores invalid
a.strat <- auto_stratify(lalonde, "treated", "outcome", c("age", "educ"), prog_scores = 1:4)

# covariates and prog_scores are both specified. Using prog_scores; ignoring covariates.
# Error in auto_stratify(lalonde, "treat", "outcome", c("age", "educ"), :
#   prog_scores must be the same length as the data
```

### Testing Functionality with Valid Inputs

These should give valid results.

```
# auto stratification with pre-specified prognostic score
myprogscore <- runif(n = dim(lalonde)[1])
a.strat1 <- auto_stratify(data = lalonde, "treated", "outcome",
                          prog_scores = myprogscore, size = 100)

## [1] "Generating strata assignments based on prognostic score."
## [1] "Completing strata diagnostics."

# auto stratification
a.strat2 <- auto_stratify(lalonde, "treated", "outcome",
                          covariates = c("age", "educ", "hispan", "nodegree", "black"),
                          size = 100)

## [1] "Constructing a model set via subsampling."
## [1] "Fitting prognostic model: outcome~age+educ+hispan+nodegree+black"
## [1] "Generating strata assignments based on prognostic score."
## [1] "Completing strata diagnostics."

# auto stratification with a non-continuous prognostic score
a.strat3 <- auto_stratify(lalonde, "treated", "outcome",
                          covariates = c("hispan", "nodegree", "black"), size = 100)

## [1] "Constructing a model set via subsampling."
## [1] "Fitting prognostic model: outcome~hispan+nodegree+black"
## [1] "Generating strata assignments based on prognostic score."
## [1] "Completing strata diagnostics."
```

## Diagnostics

Most of this is implemented with the generic functions `print`, `summary`, and `plot`.

### Print

```
print(m.strat)
```

```
## manual_strata object from package big_match.
##
## Function call:
## manual_stratify(data = lalonde, treat = "treated", covariates = c("black",
##   "hispan", "nodegree"))
##
## Analysis set dimensions: 614 X 11
##
## Number of strata: 6
##
##   Min size: 17   Max size: 169
##
## Strata issue table:
## # A tibble: 6 x 6
##   Stratum Treat Control Total Control_Proporti~ Potential_Issues
##   <dbl> <int>   <dbl> <int>         <dbl> <chr>
## 1     1     9    127   136         0.934 Not enough treated samples
## 2     2     9    154   163         0.945 Not enough treated samples
## 3     3     2     15    17         0.882 Too few samples; Not enou~
## 4     4     9     46    55         0.836 Too few samples; Not enou~
## 5     5    43     31    74         0.419 Too few samples
## 6     6   113     56   169         0.331 none
```

```
print(a.strat1)
```

```
## auto_strata object from package big_match.
##
## Function call:
## auto_stratify(data = lalonde, treat = "treated", outcome = "outcome",
##   prog_scores = myprogscore, size = 100)
##
## Analysis set dimensions: 614 X 11
##
## Prognostic Scores prespecified.
##
## Number of strata: 7
##
##   Min size: 87   Max size: 88
##
## Strata issue table:
## # A tibble: 7 x 6
##   Stratum      Treat Control Total Control_Proportion Potential_Issues
##   <fct>      <int>   <dbl> <int>         <dbl> <chr>
## 1 [0.000445,0.120)    30     58    88         0.659 none
## 2 [0.120113,0.246)    29     59    88         0.670 none
```

```
## 3 [0.245941,0.409)    33    55    88          0.625 none
## 4 [0.408874,0.572)    24    63    87          0.724 none
## 5 [0.571724,0.722)    22    66    88          0.75  none
## 6 [0.722250,0.883)    21    67    88          0.761 none
## 7 [0.883190,1.000]    26    61    87          0.701 none
```

```
print(a.strat2)
```

```
## auto_strata object from package big_match.
##
## Function call:
## auto_stratify(data = lalonde, treat = "treated", outcome = "outcome",
##   covariates = c("age", "educ", "hispan", "nodegree", "black"),
##   size = 100)
##
## Analysis set dimensions: 571 X 11
##
## Model set dimensions: 43 X 10
##
## Prognostic Score Model:
##
## Call: glm(formula = formula(formula_str), family = "binomial", data = model_set)
##
## Coefficients:
## (Intercept)          age          educ          hispan          nodegree
##   -7.84695      0.08617      0.31701      0.11480      0.76028
##      black
##    0.01565
##
## Degrees of Freedom: 42 Total (i.e. Null);  37 Residual
## Null Deviance:      44.12
## Residual Deviance: 37.24    AIC: 49.24
##
## Number of strata: 6
##
## Min size: 90    Max size: 100
##
## Strata issue table:
## # A tibble: 6 x 6
##   Stratum      Treat Control Total Control_Proportion Potential_Issues
##   <fct>      <int>   <dbl> <int>          <dbl> <chr>
## 1 [0.0101,0.0749)    25     71    96          0.740 none
## 2 [0.0749,0.1002)    32     63    95          0.663 none
## 3 [0.1002,0.1347)    33     67   100          0.67  none
## 4 [0.1347,0.1842)    34     56    90          0.622 none
## 5 [0.1842,0.2947)    41     54    95          0.568 none
## 6 [0.2947,0.7234]    20     75    95          0.789 none
```

## Summary

```
# TODO: implement summary methods
```

```
summary(m.strat)
```

```
## $call
## manual_stratify(data = lalonde, treat = "treated", covariates = c("black",
##   "hispan", "nodegree"))
##
## $issue_table
## # A tibble: 6 x 6
##   Stratum Treat Control Total Control_Proporti~ Potential_Issues
##   <dbl> <int>   <dbl> <int>          <dbl> <chr>
## 1     1     9    127   136          0.934 Not enough treated samples
## 2     2     9    154   163          0.945 Not enough treated samples
## 3     3     2     15    17          0.882 Too few samples; Not enou~
## 4     4     9     46    55          0.836 Too few samples; Not enou~
## 5     5    43     31    74          0.419 Too few samples
## 6     6   113     56   169          0.331 none
##
## $sum_before
##           Treat_Mean  Contol_Mean
## treat      0.0000000 1.000000e+00
## age      28.0303030 2.581622e+01
## educ     10.2354312 1.034595e+01
## black      0.2027972 8.432432e-01
## hispan      0.1421911 5.945946e-02
## married      0.5128205 1.891892e-01
## nodegree      0.5967366 7.081081e-01
## re74     5619.2365064 2.095574e+03
## re75     2466.4844431 1.532055e+03
## outcome      0.1678322 9.729730e-02
## stratum      2.6923077 5.200000e+00
##
## attr(,"class")
## [1] "summary.strata"
```

```
summary(a.strat1)
```

```
## Warning in mean.default(stratum): argument is not numeric or logical:
## returning NA
```

```
## Warning in mean.default(stratum): argument is not numeric or logical:
## returning NA
```

```
## $call
## auto_stratify(data = lalonde, treat = "treated", outcome = "outcome",
##   prog_scores = myprogscore, size = 100)
##
## $issue_table
## # A tibble: 7 x 6
##   Stratum           Treat Control Total Control_Proportion Potential_Issues
##   <fct>           <int>   <dbl> <int>          <dbl> <chr>
## 1 [0.000445,0.120)    30     58    88          0.659 none
## 2 [0.120113,0.246)   29     59    88          0.670 none
```

```
## 3 [0.245941,0.409)    33     55     88           0.625 none
## 4 [0.408874,0.572)    24     63     87           0.724 none
## 5 [0.571724,0.722)    22     66     88           0.75  none
## 6 [0.722250,0.883)    21     67     88           0.761 none
## 7 [0.883190,1.000]    26     61     87           0.701 none
##
## $sum_before
##       Treat_Mean  Contol_Mean
## treat      0.0000000 1.000000e+00
## age      28.0303030 2.581622e+01
## educ     10.2354312 1.034595e+01
## black     0.2027972 8.432432e-01
## hispan    0.1421911 5.945946e-02
## married   0.5128205 1.891892e-01
## nodegree  0.5967366 7.081081e-01
## re74     5619.2365064 2.095574e+03
## re75     2466.4844431 1.532055e+03
## outcome   0.1678322 9.729730e-02
## stratum      NA      NA
##
## attr("class")
## [1] "summary.strata"
summary(a.strat2)

## Warning in mean.default(stratum): argument is not numeric or logical:
## returning NA

## Warning in mean.default(stratum): argument is not numeric or logical:
## returning NA

## $call
## auto_stratify(data = lalonde, treat = "treated", outcome = "outcome",
##   covariates = c("age", "educ", "hispan", "nodegree", "black"),
##   size = 100)
##
## $issue_table
## # A tibble: 6 x 6
##   Stratum      Treat Control Total Control_Proportion Potential_Issues
##   <fct>      <int>   <dbl> <int>          <dbl> <chr>
## 1 [0.0101,0.0749)    25     71    96           0.740 none
## 2 [0.0749,0.1002)    32     63    95           0.663 none
## 3 [0.1002,0.1347)    33     67   100           0.67  none
## 4 [0.1347,0.1842)    34     56    90           0.622 none
## 5 [0.1842,0.2947)    41     54    95           0.568 none
## 6 [0.2947,0.7234]    20     75    95           0.789 none
##
## $sum_before
##       Treat_Mean  Contol_Mean
## treat      0.0000000 1.000000e+00
## age      28.0310881 2.581622e+01
## educ     10.1917098 1.034595e+01
## black     0.1994819 8.432432e-01
## hispan    0.1450777 5.945946e-02
## married   0.5155440 1.891892e-01
```

```
## nodegree      0.6010363 7.081081e-01
## re74          5637.9729129 2.095574e+03
## re75          2486.2617969 1.532055e+03
## outcome       0.1632124 9.729730e-02
## stratum              NA              NA
##
## attr("class")
## [1] "summary.strata"
```



## Plot

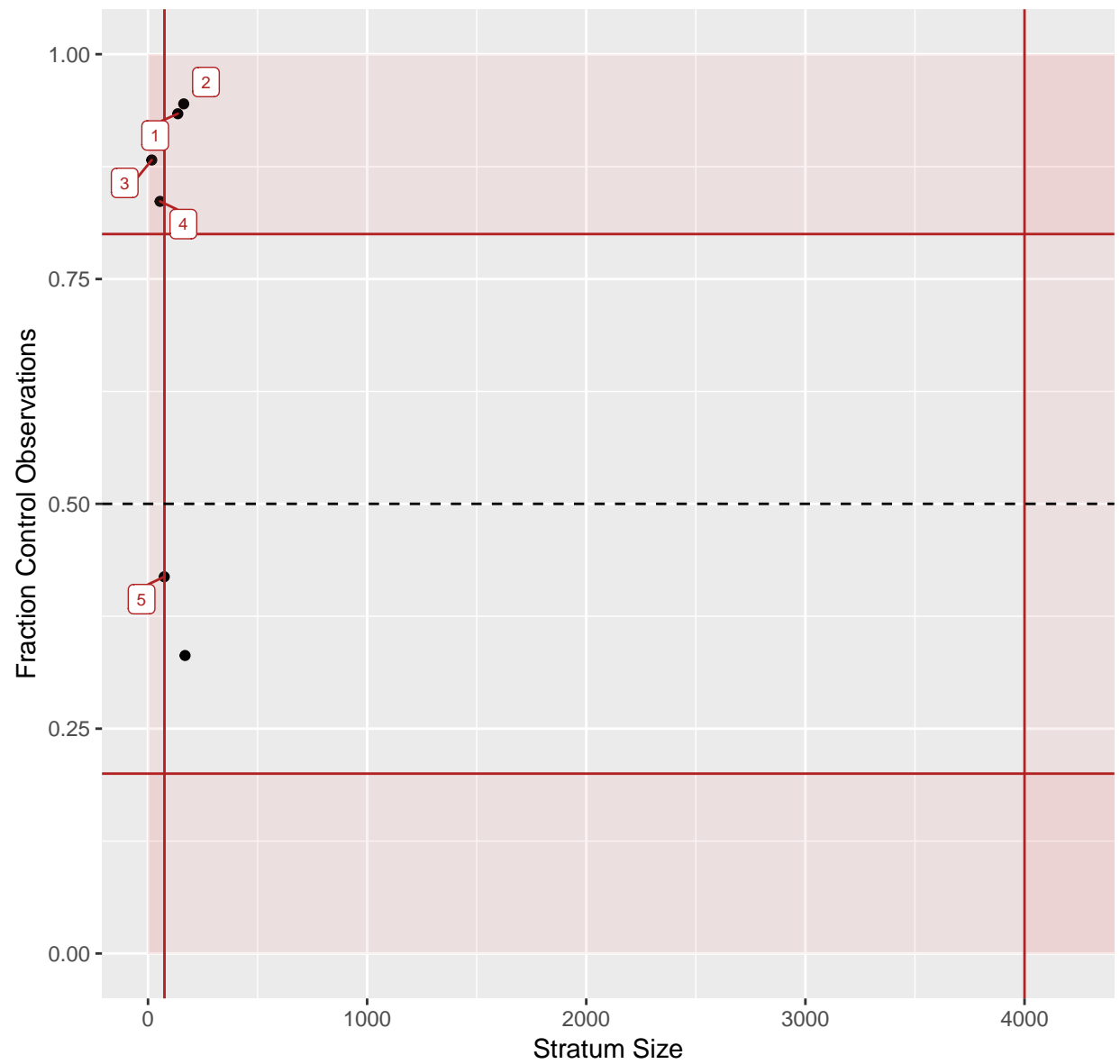
There are three types of plots: "scatter", "residual", and "hist". Any other plot options for a strata object will throw an error.

```
plot(m.strat, type = "QQ")  
# Error in plot.strata(m.strat, type = "QQ") :  
#   Not a recognized plot type.
```

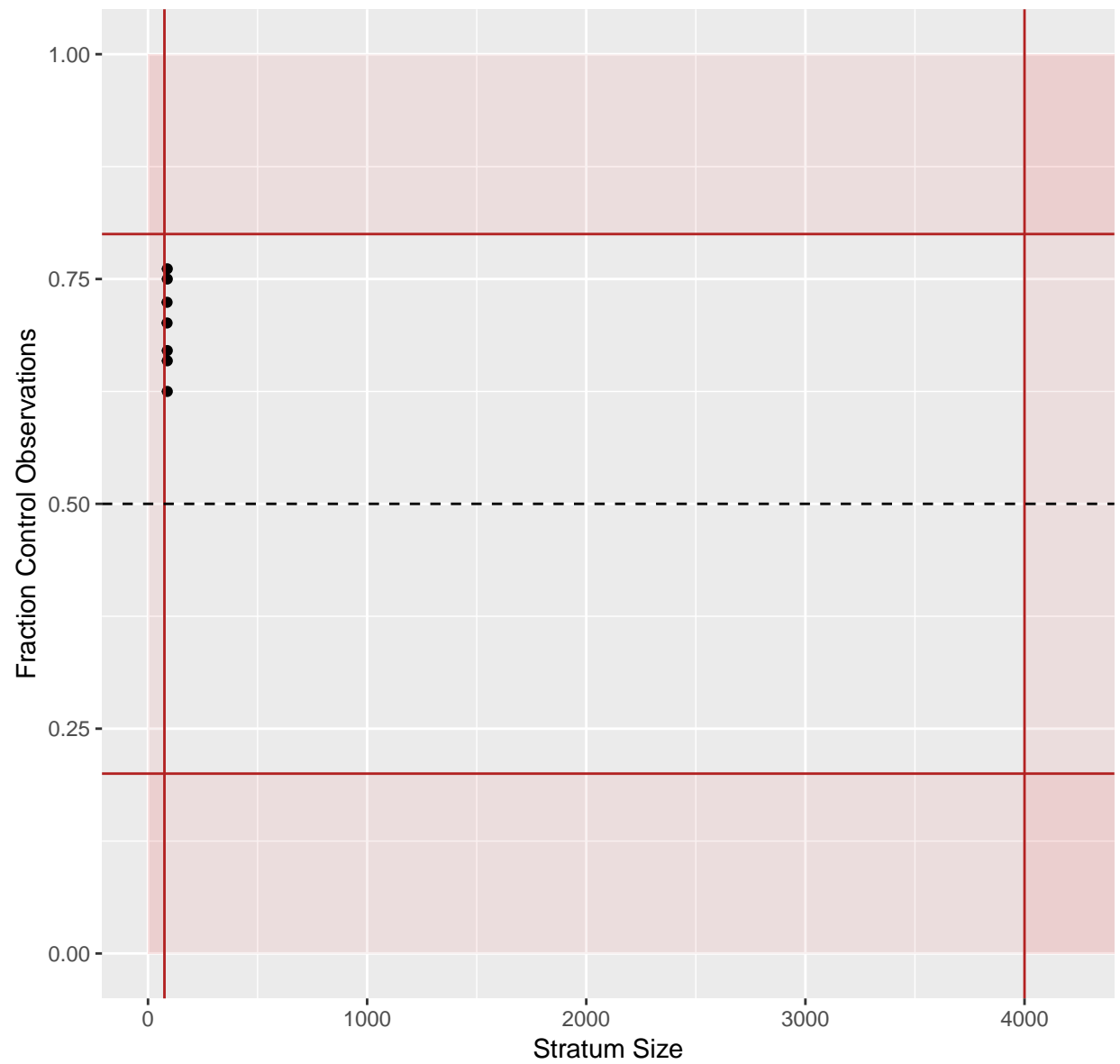
### Auto and Manual Stratify : Size-Balance Scatterplot

Below are the basic size  $\times$  control fraction scatterplots for (A) manual stratification by **black**, **hispan** and **nodegree**, (B) auto-stratification with a uniform random prognostic score, (C) auto-stratification with a prognostic score that is relatively continuous, and (D) auto-stratification with a prognostic score that is discontinuous (built solely from discrete variables with few distinct values). As you can see, this sample data contains a relatively small number of examples to begin with, so most strata are quite small.

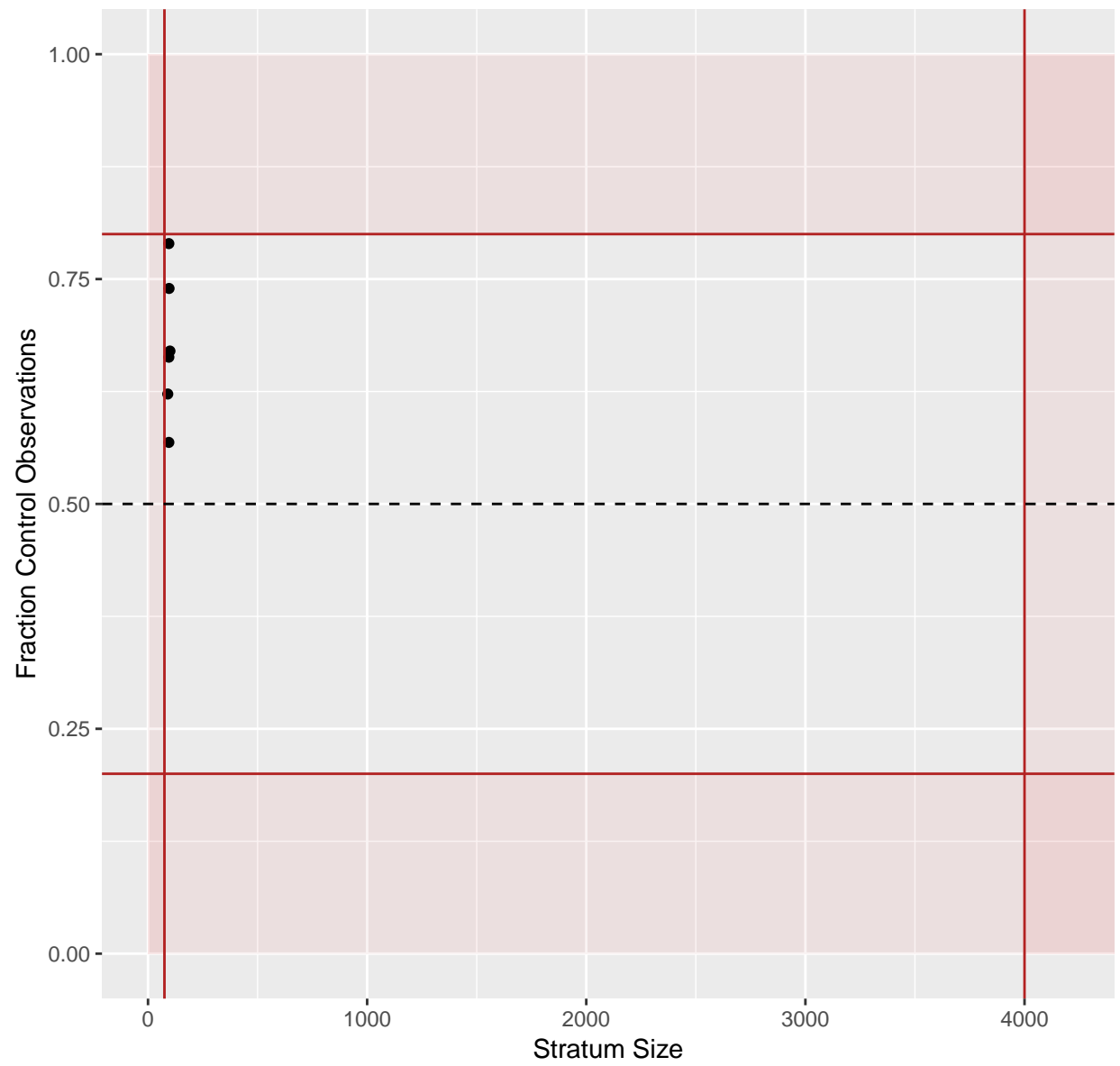
```
a <- plot(m.strat, label = TRUE) # equivalently: plot(m.strat, type = "scatter")
```



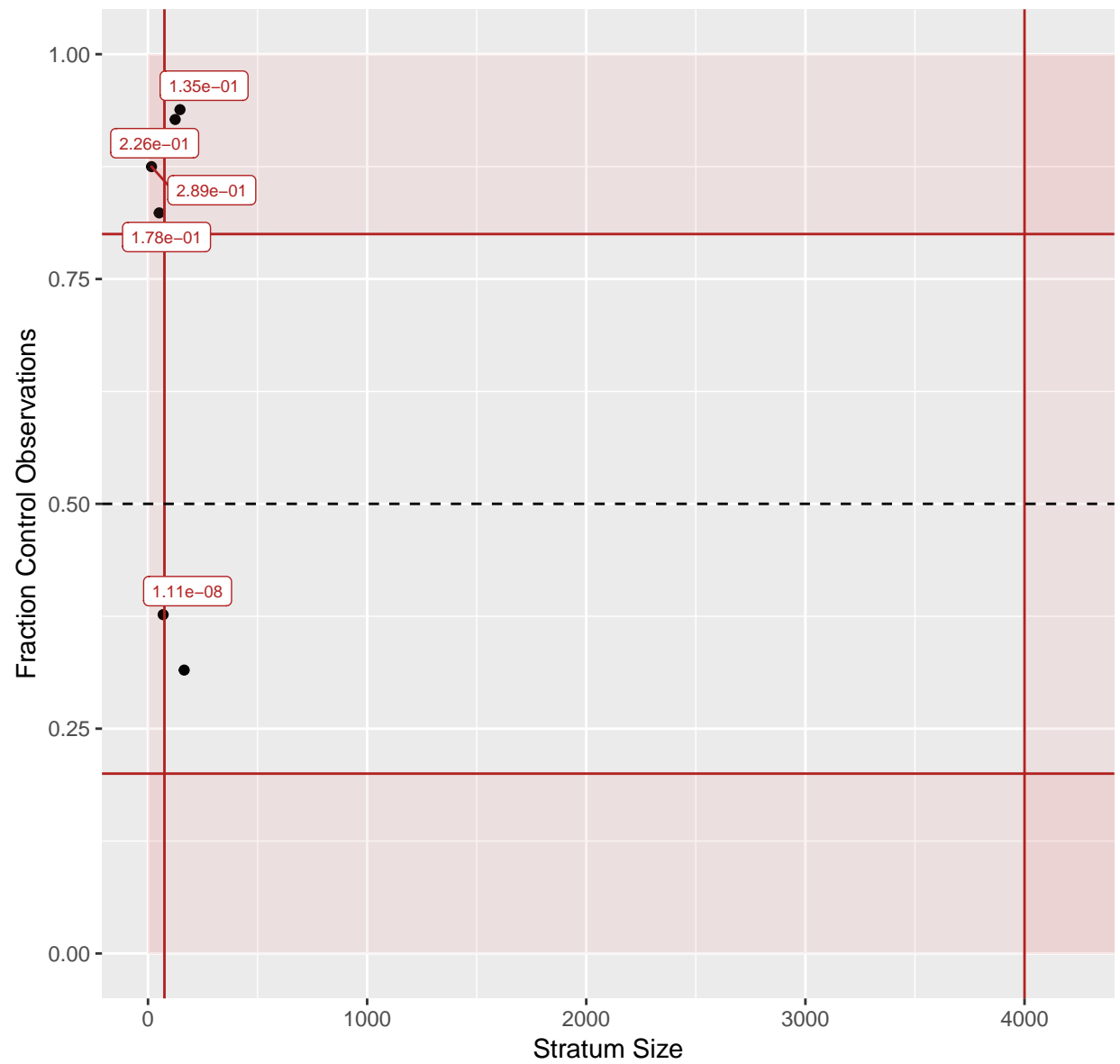
```
b <- plot(a.strat1, label = TRUE)
```



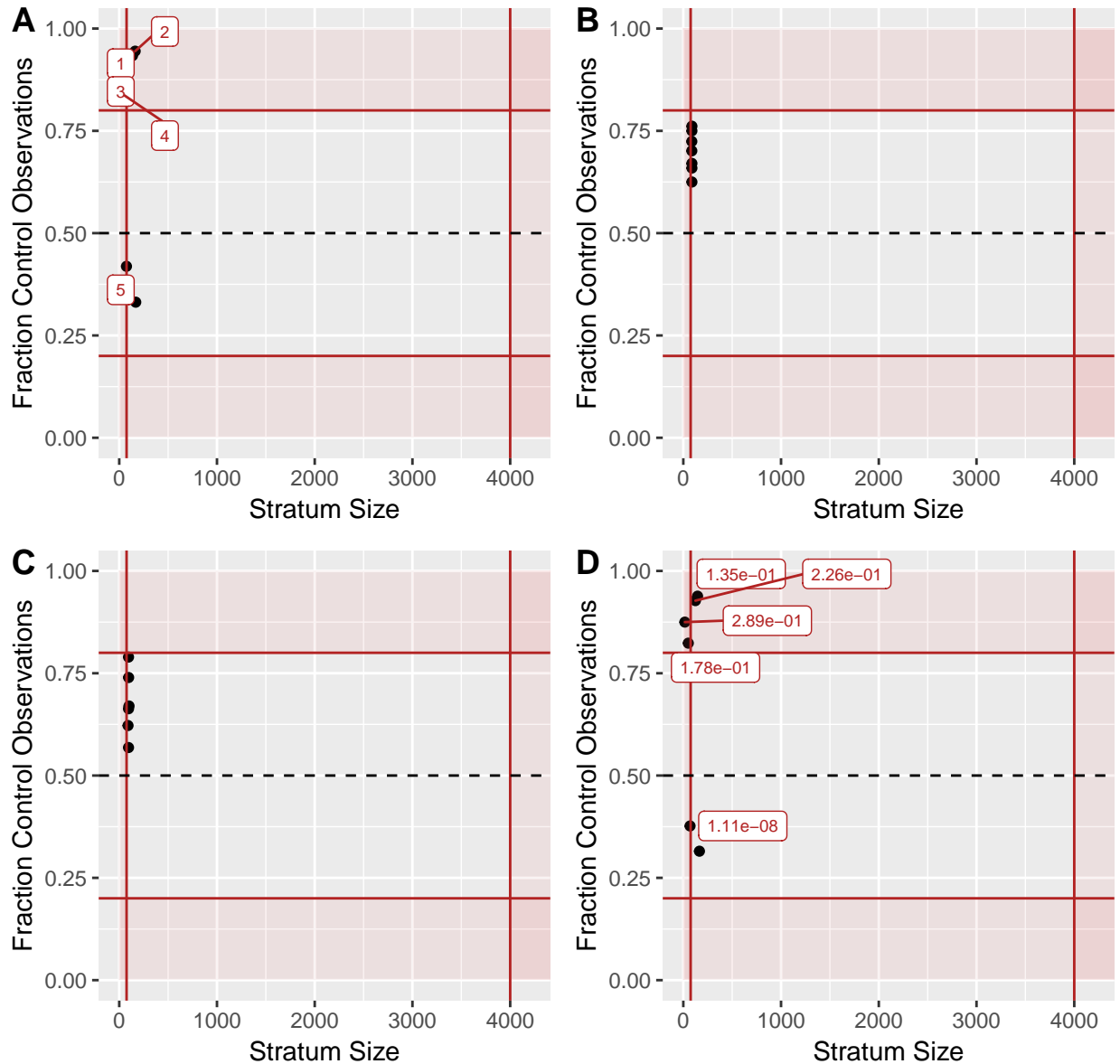
```
c <- plot(a.strat2, label = TRUE)
```



```
d <- plot(a.strat3, label = TRUE)
```



```
ggarrange(a, b, c, d, ncol = 2, nrow = 2,
  labels = "AUTO")
```



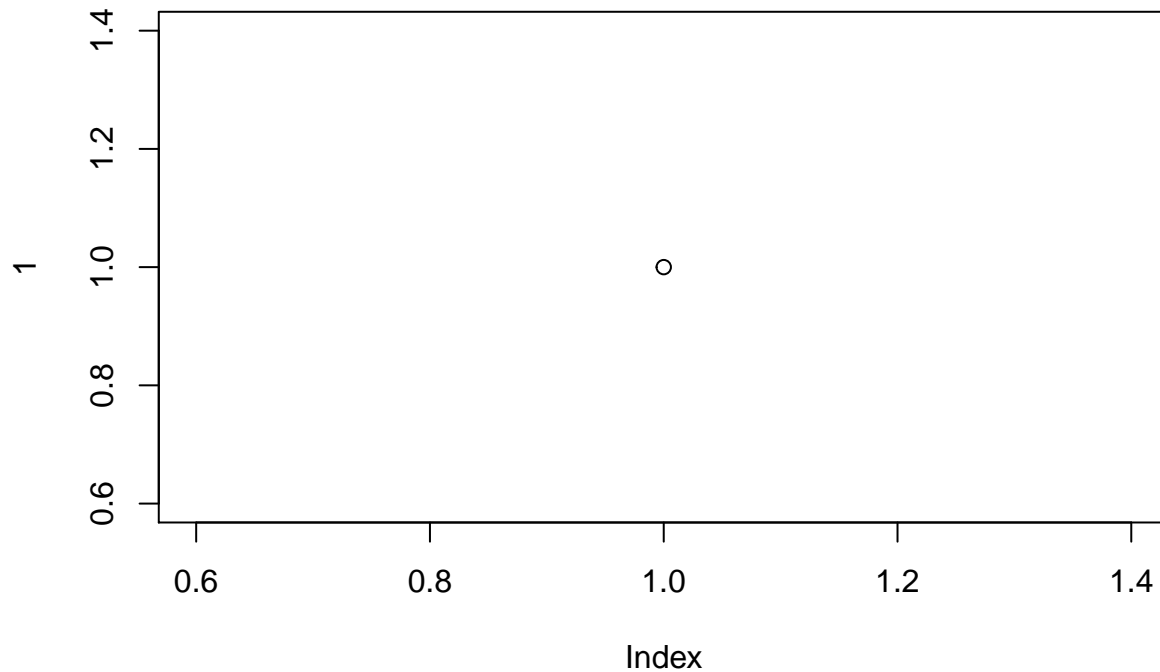
### Auto Stratify: Prognostic Score Residual Plot

This function is only meant for auto-stratified data for which prognostic scores were not prespecified. Running it on a `manual_strata` object or an `auto_strata` object where prognostic scores were prespecified will throw an error.

```
plot(m.strat, type = "residual")
# Error in plot.strata(m.strat, type = "residual") :
#   Prognostic score residual plots are only valid for auto-stratified data.

plot(a.strat1, type = "residual")
# Error in plot.strata(a.strat1, type = "residual"):
#   Cannot make prognostic score residual plots. Prognostic model is unknown.

# TODO: implement this plot
plot(a.strat2, type = "residual")
```



### Auto Stratify: Prognostic Score Histograms

This function is only meant for auto-stratified data. Running it on a `manual_strata` object will throw an error.

```
plot(m.strat, type = "hist")
```

```
# Error in plot.strata(m.strat, type = "hist"):  
# Prognostic score histograms are only valid for auto-stratified data.
```

```
# uniformly generated prognostic score. Nicely continuous from 0 to 1
```

```
a <- plot(a.strat1, type = "hist")
```

```
## `stat_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.
```

```
# prognostic score generated from some continuous and some discrete variables.  
# Fairly continuous
```

```
b <- plot(a.strat2, type = "hist")
```

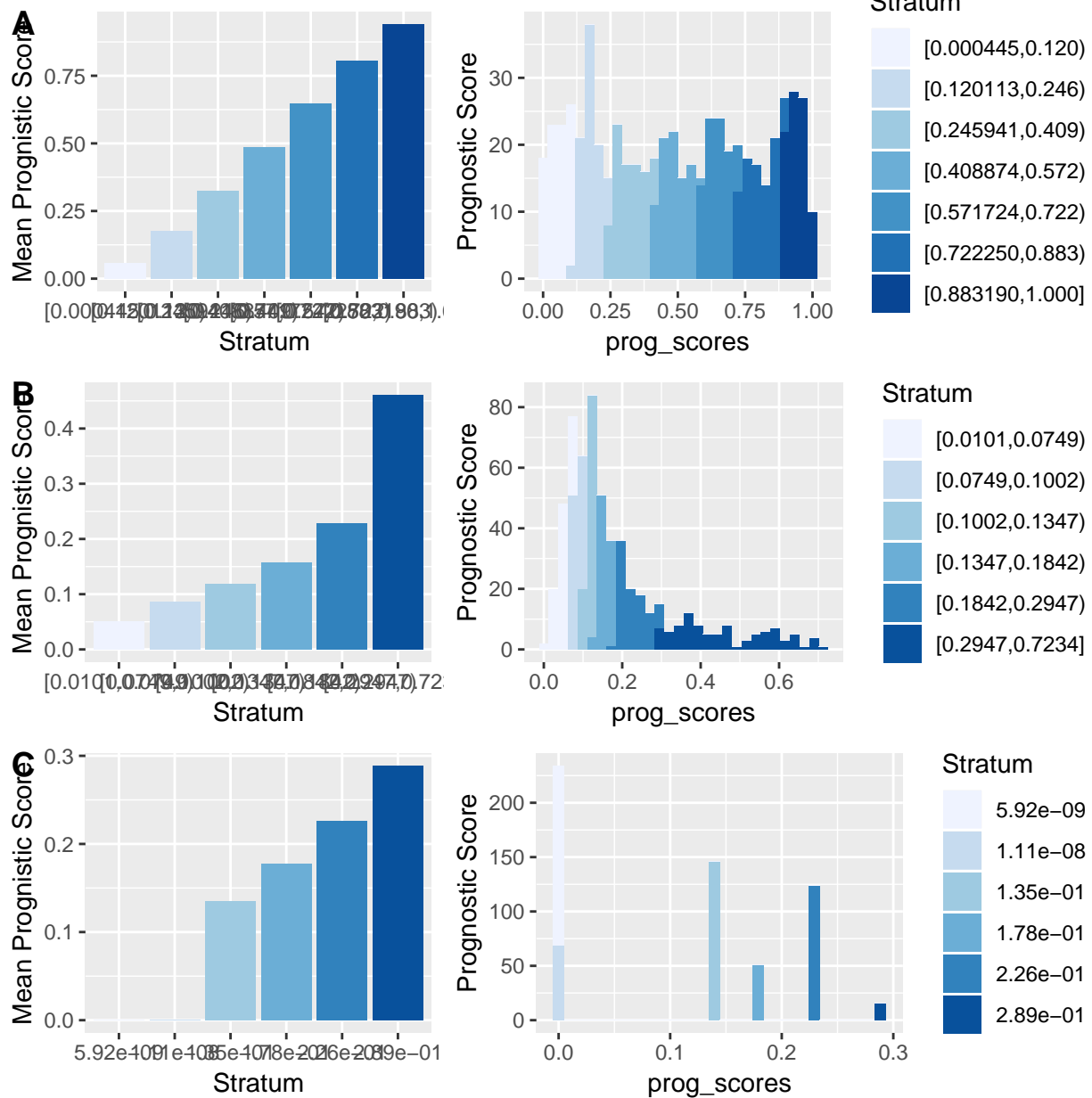
```
## `stat_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.
```

```
# prognostic score generated from only a few discrete variables.  
# Since prog_score only takes on a few different values,  
# strata quantiles are less evenly distributed from 0 to 1
```

```
c <- plot(a.strat3, type = "hist")
```

```
## `stat_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.
```

```
ggarrange(a, b, c, ncol = 1, nrow = 3, labels = "AUTO")
```



## Matching

Below, we run a default big match: the propensity score is built on the analysis set based on all covariates, stratified by stratum assignment. This implementation of `big_match` is essentially a wrapper for `pairmatch` from the `optmatch` package.

```
summary(big_match(a.strat1))
```

```
## treated ~ . - outcome - stratum + strata(stratum)
## <environment: 0x7f95268b7c90>
## Structure of matched sets:
```



```
## 1:1 0:1
## 185 244
## Effective Sample Size: 185
## (equivalent number of matched pairs).
```

```
summary(big_match(a.strat2))
```

```
## treated ~ . - outcome - stratum + strata(stratum)
## <environment: 0x7f9525975188>
```

```
## Structure of matched sets:
## 1:1 0:1
## 185 201
## Effective Sample Size: 185
## (equivalent number of matched pairs).
```

```
summary(big_match(a.strat3)) # throws a warning
```

```
## treated ~ . - outcome - stratum + strata(stratum)
## <environment: 0x7f951fdf1118>
```

```
## Warning in predict.lm(object, newdata, se.fit, scale = 1, type =
## ifelse(type == : prediction from a rank-deficient fit may be misleading
```

```
## Structure of matched sets:
## 1:0 1:1 0:1
## 78 107 279
## Effective Sample Size: 107
## (equivalent number of matched pairs).
```

```
summary(big_match(m.strat)) # throws a warning
```

```
## treated ~ . - -stratum + strata(stratum)
## <environment: 0x7f951e522b00>
```

```
## Warning in predict.lm(object, newdata, se.fit, scale = 1, type =
## ifelse(type == : prediction from a rank-deficient fit may be misleading
```

```
## Structure of matched sets:
## 1:0 1:1 0:1
## 69 116 313
## Effective Sample Size: 116
## (equivalent number of matched pairs).
```

One can also specify the propensity score formula:

```
summary(big_match(a.strat2, propensity_formula = treated ~ educ))
```

```
## treated ~ educ + strata(stratum)
## <environment: 0x7f952557aba0>
```

```
## Structure of matched sets:
## 1:1 0:1
## 185 201
## Effective Sample Size: 185
## (equivalent number of matched pairs).
```