## **Centrality and Specialization**

## **Definition (Incoming branch)**

Given a graph  $G = (V, E, \omega)$ , a set  $B \subset V$  and a strongly connected component Z of  $G|_{\overline{B}}$ , let  $S_1, S_2 \cdots S_k$  be strongly connected components of  $G|_{\overline{B}}$ . Let H represent the subgraph  $G|_B$ .

If there exist edges  $e_0 \cdots e_m$  such that,

- (i)  $e_0$  is an edge from H to  $S_1$
- (ii)  $e_j$  is an edge from  $S_j$  to  $S_{j+1}$  for  $1 \le j \le k-1$
- (iii)  $e_k$  is an edge from  $S_k$  to Z

The we call the ordered set  $\alpha = \{H, e_0, S_1, e_1, S_2, ..., S_k, e_k, Z\}$  an incoming branch from B to Z. We let In(H, Z) denote the set of all incoming branches from H to Z in G.

## **Definition (Outgoing branch)**

Given a graph  $G = (V, E, \omega)$ , a set  $B \subset V$  and a strongly connected component Z of  $G|_B$ , let  $S_1, S_2 \cdots S_k$  are strongly connected components of  $G|_B$ . Let H represent the subgraph  $G|_B$ .

If there exist edges  $e_0 \cdots e_m$  such that,

- (i)  $e_0$  is an edge from Z to  $S_1$
- (ii)  $e_j$  is an edge from  $S_j$  to  $S_{j+1}$  for  $1 \le j \le k-1$
- (iii)  $e_k$  is an edge from  $S_k$  to H

The we call the ordered set  $\gamma = \{Z, e_0, S_1, e_1, S_2, ..., S_k, e_k, H\}$  an outgoing branch from Z to H. We let Out(Z, H) denote the set of all outgoing branches from Z to H.

With these definitions established we can make a few observations.

## Proposition

Let G(V, E) be a strongly connected graph. Let  $B \subset V$  and  $H = G|_B$ . Let Z be a strongly connected component of  $G|_{\overline{B}}$ . By definition of specialization, the subgraph  $H = G|_B$  is also a subgraph of  $\mathcal{S}_B(G)$ . Then,

(1) There is a nonempty set  $C(Z) = \{Z_1,...,Z_k\}$  of copies of Z in the specialized graph  $S_B(G)$ .

(2) For each  $Z_i \in C(Z)$ , the sets  $In(H, Z_i)$  and  $Out(Z_i, H)$  for the graph  $S_B(G)$  contain one element.

### **Proof**

- (1) Since G is strongly connected, there is a path from vertices in B to Z and a path from Z to vertices in B. Then, there must be component branches of G that contain Z. By definition of specialization, there is a copy of Z in  $\mathcal{S}_B(G)$  for each component branch of G containing Z. We let C(Z) be the set of all copies of Z in  $\mathcal{S}_B(G)$ .
- (2) Let  $Z_i \in C(G)$ . Then by definition of specialization,  $Z_i$  corresponds with a unique component branch  $\beta$  in G containing Z and  $Z_i$  is contained in exactly one component branch  $\hat{\beta} = \{v_j, e_0, S_1, e_1, S_2, ..., S_k, e_k, v_p\}$  of  $S_B(G)$ . Therefore,  $Z_i$  must have exactly one incoming branch (the first half of  $\hat{\beta}$ ) and exactly one outgoing branch (the second half of  $\hat{\beta}$ ).

#### **Definition**

Let  $G = (V, E, \omega)$  have a centrality vector  $\mathbf{v}$  and let S be a subgraph of G. We denote the restriction of  $\mathbf{v}$  to nodes in S by  $\mathbf{v}_S$ .

#### **Proposition 1**

Let  $G = (V, E, \omega)$  be strongly connected and let  $B \subset V$  with  $H = G|_B$ . Assume Z is a strongly connected component of  $G|_{\overline{B}}$  and let C(Z) be the set of copies of Z in  $S_B(G)$ . Let  $\mathbf{u}$  be the centrality vector of  $S|_B(G)$ . Then, if  $Z_i, Z_j \in C(Z)$  have the same incoming branch, then  $\mathbf{u}_{Z_i} = \mathbf{u}_{Z_j}$ . That is, the centralities of nodes in  $Z_i$  are the same as the centralities of analogous nodes in  $Z_j$ .

#### **Proof**

For clarity we let the variable denoting We may write the adjacency matrix of  $S_B(G)$  as follows.

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} H & & & & W \\ Y_1 & L & & & \\ & Y_2 & Z_i & & \\ Y_1 & & L & & \\ & & & Y_2 & Z_j & \\ Y & & Y_i & & Y_j & X \end{bmatrix}$$

For clarity, we allow an abuse of notation, and let  $H, Z_i$ , and  $Z_j$  represent the adjacency matrixes of their respective subgraphs in  $\mathcal{S}_B(G)$ . The matrixes

 $Y_1, Y_2, Y_i$ , and  $Y_j$  each contain a single entry. The matrix X is the adjacency matrix for the rest of the graph and Y is the adjacency matrix for all links from nodes in B to nodes in X. W represents links from nodes in X to nodes in B. The matrix E is of the form,

$$L = egin{bmatrix} S_1 & & & & & & \\ Y_{21} & S_2 & & & & & \\ & Y_{32} & \ddots & & & & \\ & & Y_{n(n-1)} & S_n & \end{bmatrix}$$

where each  $S_k$  is an adjacency matrix for a strongly connected component in the in-going path to  $Z_i$ , and each  $Y_{k(k-1)}$  is a matrix with a single entry corresponding to the edge from  $S_{k-1}$  to  $S_k$ .

We can write M in this form for two reasons. First, because  $Z_i$  and  $Z_j$  have the same in-going path. Second, because any non-zero entries above the diagonal must be contained in W. Otherwise, they would violate the strongly connected component structure of  $S_B(G)$ 

To complete the proof, we let  $\mathbf{u}$  represent the leading eigenvector of M with associated eigenvalue  $\rho$ . Such an eigenvector exists by the Perron-Frobenius theorem. Note that  $\rho$  is the spectral radius of M. The vector  $\mathbf{u}$  is the centralities of nodes in  $\mathcal{S}_B(G)$  and we can partition  $\mathbf{u}$  into  $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_B & \mathbf{u}_L & \mathbf{u}_{Z_i} & \mathbf{u}_L & \mathbf{u}_{Z_j} & \mathbf{u}_X \end{bmatrix}^T$ . This produces the eigenvector equation

$$M\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} B & & & & & W \\ Y_1 & L & & & & \\ & Y_2 & Z_i & & & \\ & Y_1 & & L & & \\ & & & Y_2 & Z_j & \\ Y & & Y_i & & Y_j & X \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_B \\ \mathbf{u}_L \\ \mathbf{u}_{Z_i} \\ \mathbf{u}_L \\ \mathbf{u}_{Z_j} \\ \mathbf{u}_X \end{bmatrix} = \rho \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_B \\ \mathbf{u}_L \\ \mathbf{u}_{Z_i} \\ \mathbf{u}_L \\ \mathbf{u}_{Z_j} \\ \mathbf{u}_X \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving for  $\mathbf{u}_{Z_i}$  produces,

$$Y_2 \mathbf{u}_L + Z_i \mathbf{u}_{Z_i} = \rho \mathbf{u}_{Z_i}$$
$$\mathbf{u}_{Z_i} = (\rho I - Z_i)^{-1} Y_2 \mathbf{u}_L$$

We know that rhoI-Z is invertable because if it is not invertible, there exists a nonzero vector  ${\bf e}$  such that  $(rhoI-Z){\bf e}={\bf 0}$ . Then,  $\rho{\bf e}=Z{\bf e}$  and  $\rho$  is an eigenvalue for Z. However, in a strongly connected graph the spectral radius of a subgraph is strictly smaller than the spectral radius of the graph. Since  $\rho$  is the spectral radius of G and G is a subgraph of G, G cannot be an eigenvalue for G. Thus G is invertable.

Solving for  $\mathbf{u}_L$  produces,

$$Y_1 \mathbf{u}_B + L \mathbf{u}_L = \rho \mathbf{u}_L$$

$$\mathbf{u}_L = (\rho I - L)^{-1} Y_1 \mathbf{u}_B$$

Thus,

$$\mathbf{u}_{Z_i} = (\rho I - Z_i)^{-1} Y_2 (\rho I - L)^{-1} Y_1 \mathbf{u}_B$$

Solving for  $\mathbf{u}_{Z_i}$  similarly produces,

$$\mathbf{u}_{Z_j} = (\rho I - Z_j)^{-1} Y_2 (\rho I - L)^{-1} Y_1 \mathbf{u}_B$$

Since  $Z_i = Z_j$ ,  $\mathbf{u}_{Z_i} = \mathbf{u}_{Z_j}$ .

# **Definition (Centrality Transfer Matrix)**

Let  $G = (V, E, \omega)$  with  $B \subset V$  and Z a strongly connected component of  $G|_{\overline{B}}$ . If  $\alpha = \{B, e_0, S_1, e_1, S_2, ..., S_k, e_k, Z\} \in In(B, Z)$ , then the subgraph generated by alpha is the

# **Definition (Centrality Transfer Matrix)**

Let  $G = (V, E, \omega)$  have a centrality vector and associated spectral radius  $\rho$ , let  $B \subset V$  and let Z be a strongly connected component of  $G|_B$ . If  $\alpha = \{B, e_0, S_1, e_1, S_2, ..., S_k, e_k, Z\}$  is an incoming path from B to Z then

$$P(\alpha) = (\rho I - Z)^{-1} Y_k (\rho I - S_k)^{-1} Y_{k-1} \cdots (\rho I - S_1)^{-1} Y_0 (\rho I - B)^{-1}$$

is a centrality transfer matrix of  $\alpha$ , if

is an adjacency matrix for the subgraph generated by  $\alpha$ .

## Lemma

Assume G =  $(V, E, \omega)$  is not strongly connected. Let If  $\rho > \max\{|\lambda| : \lambda \in \sigma(G)\}$  then.

$$(\rho I - A)^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} (\rho I - S_1)^{-1} & & & & & \\ & X_{21} & (\rho I - S_2)^{-1} & & & & \\ & X_{31} & X_{32} & (\rho I - S_3)^{-1} & & & & \\ & \vdots & & \vdots & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & X_{k1} & X_{k2} & & X_{kk-1} & (\rho I - S_k)^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

where A is an adjacency matrix of G,  $S_1$ ,  $S_2$ ,..., $S_k$  are all adjacency matrices of the strongly connected components of G, and each

$$X_{ij} = \sum_{\alpha \in In(S_j, S_i)} P(\alpha).$$

## **Proof**

Since G is not strongly connected, there is a block lower triangular adjacency matrix, A of G such that,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & & & & \\ Y_{21} & S_2 & & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & \\ Y_{k1} & \dots & Y_{kk-1} & S_k \end{bmatrix}$$

Since A is block lower triangular,  $(\rho I - A)$  and  $(\rho I - A)^{-1}$  are also block lower triangular. Since we can write,

$$(\rho I - A) = \begin{bmatrix} (\rho I - S_1) & & & & \\ -Y_{21} & (\rho I - S_2) & & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & \\ -Y_{k1} & \dots & -Y_{kk-1} & (\rho I - S_k) \end{bmatrix}$$

we can write  $(\rho I - A)^{-1}$  as,

$$\begin{bmatrix} C_1 \\ X_{21} & C_2 \\ \vdots & & \ddots \\ X_{k1} & \dots & X_{kk-1} & C_k \end{bmatrix}.$$

where for each  $i, j \in \{1, 2, ..., k\}$  the matrices  $X_{ij}$  and  $C_i$  have the same dimensions as  $Y_{ij}$  and  $(\rho I - S_i)$  respectively. Then it must be the case that,

$$\begin{bmatrix} (\rho I - S_1) & & & & \\ -Y_{21} & (\rho I - S_2) & & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & \\ -Y_{k1} & \dots & -Y_{kk-1} & (\rho I - S_k) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C_1 & & & & \\ X_{21} & C_2 & & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & \\ X_{k1} & \dots & X_{kk-1} & C_k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I_1 & & & & \\ & I_2 & & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & & I_k \end{bmatrix}$$

Where each  $I_i$  is the identity matrix with the same dimensions as  $S_i$ . Let

 $j \in \{1, 2, ..., k\}$ . Then,

$$\begin{bmatrix} (\rho I - S_1) & & & & & \\ -Y_{21} & (\rho I - S_2) & & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & \\ -Y_{k1} & & \dots & -Y_{kk-1} & (\rho I - S_k) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & & \\ \vdots & & & \\ 0 & & & \\ C_j & & & \\ X_{(j+1)j} & & \\ \vdots & & & \\ X_{kj} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & & \\ \vdots & & \\ 0 & & \\ I_j & & \\ 0 & & \\ \vdots & & \\ 0 & & \end{bmatrix}$$

Multiplying the jth row of  $(\rho I - A)$  by the jth column of  $(\rho I - A)^{-1}$  produces

$$(\rho I - S_j)C_r = I_j$$

$$C_j = (\rho I - S_j)^{-1}$$
(1)

We will show by induction that  $X_{ij} = \sum_{\alpha \in In(S_j, S_i)} P(\alpha)$  when i > j. As a base case, consider  $X_{(j+1)j}$ . By multiplying row (j+1) of  $(\rho I - A)$  by the jth column of  $(\rho I - A)^{-1}$ , we obtain the equations:

$$-Y_{(j+1)j}(\rho I - S_j)^{-1} + (\rho I - S_{(j+1)})X_{(j+1)j} = 0$$

$$X_{(j+1)j} = (\rho I - S_{(j+1)})^{-1}Y_{(j+1)j}(\rho I - S_j)^{-1}$$
(2)

Let m be the number of nonzero entries in  $Y_{(j+1)j}$  then we can write,

$$Y_{(j+1)j} = \sum_{k=1}^{m} Y_{(j+1)j}^{(k)}$$

where each  $Y_{(j+1)j}^{(k)}$  has one non zero entry and that entry is equal to a non-zero entry of  $Y_{(j+1)j}$ . Thus,

$$X_{(j+1)j} = (\rho I - S_{j+1})^{-1} \sum_{k=1}^{m} Y_{(j+1)j}^{(k)} (\rho I - S_j)^{-1}$$

$$X_{(j+1)j} = \sum_{k=1}^{m} (\rho I - S_{j+1})^{-1} Y_{(j+1)j}^{(k)} (\rho I - S_j)^{-1}$$

For each k, the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} S_j \\ Y_{(j+1)j}^{(k)} & S_{j+1} \end{bmatrix}$$

is an adjacency matrix for  $\alpha^{(k)} = \{S_j, e^{(k)}, S_{j+1}\}$  where  $e^{(k)}$  is an edge from  $S_j$  to  $S_{j+1}$ . Then  $\alpha^{(k)} \in In(S_j, S_{j+1})$  and

$$X_{(j+1)j} = \sum_{k=1}^{m} P(\alpha^{(k)})$$

We assert that  $\bigcup_{k=1}^n \{\alpha^{(k)}\} = In(S_j, S_{j+1})$ . Let  $\alpha \in In(S_j, S_{j+1})$ . Then  $\alpha = \{S_j, e, S_{j+1}\}$  because if  $\alpha$  contained any other strongly connected component  $S_l$ , it would imply that a path exists from  $S_j$  to  $S_l$  to  $S_{j+1}$  and because of the structure of A, it must be the case that l < j or j + 1 < l. If an edge existed from  $S_j$  to  $S_l$  to  $S_{j+1}$  the matrix A would have an entry above the diagonal this is a contradiction. Thus,

$$X_{(j+1)j} = \sum_{\alpha \in In(S_i, S_{j+1})} P(\alpha)$$

By induction hypothesis assume that when i < n,

$$X_{(j+i)j} = \sum_{\alpha \in In(S_j, S_{j+i})} P(\alpha).$$

Consider  $X_{(j+n)j}$ . By multiplying the j+nth row of  $(\rho I-A)$  by the jth column of  $(\rho I-A)^{-1}$  we obtain the equations,

$$-Y_{(j+n)j}(\rho I - S_j)^{-1} - Y_{(j+n)(j+1)}X_{(j+1)j} \cdots - Y_{(j+n)(j+n-1)}X_{(j+n-1)j} + (\rho I - S_{j+n})X_{(j+n)j} = 0$$

$$X_{(j+n)j} = (\rho I - S_{j+n})^{-1} Y_{(j+n)j} (\rho I - S_j)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (\rho I - S_{j+n})^{-1} Y_{(j+n)(j+i)} X_{(j+i)j}$$
(3)

As shown in the base case, the first term can be broken up into a sum of centrality transfer matrices . Let  $m_0$  be the number of non-zero entries in  $Y_{(j+n)j}$ . If we define  $Y_{(j+n)j}^{(k)}$  so that each  $Y_{(j+1)j}^{(k)}$  has a single nonzero entry that is equal to a distinct non-zero entry of  $Y_{(j+1)j}$  and

$$Y_{(j+n)j} = \sum_{k=1}^{m_0} Y_{(j+n)j}^{(k)}$$

then,

$$(\rho I - S_{j+n})^{-1} Y_{(j+n)j} (\rho I - S_j)^{-1} = \sum_{k=1}^{m_0} (\rho I - S_{j+n})^{-1} Y_{(j+n)j}^{(k)} (\rho I - S_j)^{-1}.$$

For each  $1 \le k \le m_0$ ,  $(\rho I - S_{j+n})^{-1} Y_{(j+n)j}^{(k)} (\rho I - S_j)^{-1}$  is the centrality transfer matrix for a distinct branch  $\alpha$  in  $In(S_{j+n}, S_j)$  that does not contain any strongly

connected components except  $S_j + n$  and  $S_j$ . Let  $D_0$  denote the set of all such branches. By definition of an adjacency matrix,  $D_0$  contains one branch for each non zero entry in  $Y_{(j+n)j}$ . Thus,

$$(\rho I - S_{j+n})^{-1} Y_{(j+n)j} (\rho I - S_j)^{-1} = \sum_{\beta \in D_0} P(\beta)$$
(4)

We consider the other terms in the sum (3). Let  $1 \le i \le n-1$ . By induction hypothesis,

$$(\rho I - S_{j+n})^{-1} Y_{(j+n)(j+i)} X_{(j+i)j} = \sum_{\alpha \in In(S_j, S_{j+i})} (\rho I - S_{j+n})^{-1} Y_{(j+n)(j+i)} P(\alpha)$$

Let  $m_i$  represent the number of nonzero entries in  $Y_{(j+n)j+i}$ . As before we write  $Y_{(j+n)j+i}$  as a sum of  $m_i$  single entry matrices.  $Y_{(j+n)j+i} = \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} Y_{(j+n)(j+i)}^{(k)}$ . Then,

$$(\rho I - S_{j+n})^{-1} Y_{(j+n)(j+i)} X_{(j+i)j} = \sum_{\alpha \in In(S_i, S_{j+1})} \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} (\rho I - S_{j+n})^{-1} Y_{(j+n)(j+i)}^{(k)} P(\alpha)$$

It is clear that for each  $\alpha \in In(S_j, S_{j+i})$  and k, the term

$$(\rho I - S_{j+n})^{-1} Y_{(j+n)(j+i)}^{(k)} P(\alpha)$$

is a centrality transfer matrix for some incoming branch  $\gamma \in In(S_j, S_j + n)$ , because the matrix  $Y_{(j+n)(j+i)}^{(k)}$  is non zero if and only if an edge exists from  $S_{j+i}$  to  $S_{j+n}$ . If  $In(S_j, S_{j+i})$  is non empty, there is a branch from  $S_j$  to  $S_{j+i}$ , implying that there must be a branch from  $S_j$  to  $S_{j+n}$  with centrality transfer matrix  $(\rho I - S_{j+n})^{-1} Y_{(j+n)(j+i)}^{(k)} P(\alpha)$ .

What we see here is that for a given i, the term

$$(\rho I - S_{j+n})^{-1} Y_{(j+n)(j+i)} X_{(j+i)j}$$

is equal to the sum of all centrality transfer matrices for the branches in  $In(S_j, S_{j+n})$  that pass through  $S_{j+i}$  immediately before reaching  $S_{j+n}$ . Let  $D_i$  denote the set of all such branches. Then,

$$(\rho I - S_{j+n})^{-1} Y_{(j+n)(j+i)} X_{(j+i)j} = \sum_{\gamma \in D_i} P(\gamma)$$
 (5)

Putting (3), (4), and (5) together gives,

$$X_{(j+n)j} = \sum_{\beta \in D_0} P(\beta) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{\gamma \in D_i} P(\gamma)$$

Let  $D = \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} D_i$ . Then

$$X_{(j+n)j} = \sum_{\alpha \in D} P(\alpha)$$

We assert that  $D = In(S_j, S_{j+n})$ . Clearly,  $D \subset In(S_j, S_{j+n})$ . Let  $\alpha \in In(S_j, S_{j+n})$ . If  $\alpha$  has only two components, then  $\alpha = \{S_j, e, S_{j+n}\}$  for some edge e and  $\alpha \in D_0 \subset D$  by definition of  $D_0$ . If  $\alpha$  has more then two components, then it has a second to last component,  $S_{j+i}$  where  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ . By definition of  $D_i$ ,  $\alpha \in D_i$ . Thus,

$$X_{j+n,j} = \sum_{\alpha \in In(S_j, S_{j+n})} P(\alpha)$$

This concludes the proof.

## **Proposition 2**

Let  $G = (V, E, \omega)$  be strongly connected and let  $B \subset V$ . Assume Z is a strongly connected component of  $G|_{\overline{B}}$ . If  $C = \{Z_1, Z_2, \cdots Z_k\}$  is the set of all copies of Z in  $S_B(G)$  with the same outgoing branch, then

$$\sum_{Z_i \in C} \mathbf{u}_{Z_i} = \mathbf{v}_Z$$

That is, if we sum together the centralities of each copy of Z with the same outgoing branch, it is equal to the centrality of Z in the original network.

### **Proof**

We write the adjacency matrix for G as follows.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} B & & & W & \\ Y_1 \\ Y_2 \\ Y_4 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} T & & \\ Y_3 & Z & \\ Y_5 & Y_6 & X \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

Where T is of the form,

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & & & & \\ Y_{21} & S_2 & & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & \\ Y_{k1} & \dots & Y_{kk-1} & S_k \end{bmatrix}$$

And each  $S_i$  is the adjacency matrix of a strongly connected component of  $G|_{\overline{B}}$ . We can write A in this form, because there are no edges from Z to components in T, or from the rest of the graph X to Z or T because this would violate the

assumed strongly connected component structure. Let  $\mathbf{v}$  be an eigenvector for  $\rho$ . for Consider the eigenvalue equation,

$$A\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} B & \begin{bmatrix} W & \\ Y_1 \\ Y_2 \\ Y_4 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} T & \\ Y_3 & Z \\ Y_5 & Y_6 & X \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_B \\ \mathbf{v}_T \\ \mathbf{v}_Z \\ \mathbf{v}_X \end{bmatrix} = \rho \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_B \\ \mathbf{v}_T \\ \mathbf{v}_Z \\ \mathbf{v}_X \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving for  $\mathbf{v}_Z$  produces,

$$\mathbf{v}_{Z} = (\rho I - Z)^{-1} Y_{2} \mathbf{v}_{B} + (\rho I - Z)^{-1} Y_{3} (\rho I - T)^{-1} Y_{1} \mathbf{v}_{B}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{Z} = (\rho I - Z)^{-1} \sum_{k=1}^{n_{1}} Y_{2}^{(k)} \mathbf{v}_{B} + (\rho I - Z)^{-1} \sum_{l=1}^{n_{3}} Y_{3}^{(l)} (\rho I - T)^{-1} \sum_{m=1}^{n_{2}} Y_{1}^{(m)} \mathbf{v}_{B}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{Z} = \sum_{k=1}^{n_{1}} (\rho I - Z)^{-1} Y_{2}^{(k)} \mathbf{v}_{B} + \sum_{l=1}^{n_{3}} \sum_{m=1}^{n_{2}} (\rho I - Z)^{-1} Y_{3}^{(l)} (\rho I - T)^{-1} Y_{1}^{(m)} \mathbf{v}_{B}$$

We can show that for each k,

$$(\rho I - Z)^{-1} Y_2^{(k)} \mathbf{v}_B = \mathbf{v}_{Z_i}$$

for some  $Z_i \in C$ , and for fixed l and m, by lemma,

$$(\rho I - Z)^{-1} Y_3^{(l)} (\rho I - T)^{-1} Y_1^{(m)} \mathbf{v}_B = \mathbf{v}_{Z_i}$$

for some  $Z_i \in C$ . Showing that every unique  $\mathbf{v}_{Z_i}$  is accounted for in the sum will conclude the proof.