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CSC373H1 Summer 2014 Assignment 4

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**Acknowledgements:**

"We declare that we have not used any outside help in completing this assignment."

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Date: July 27, 2014

**Q1. The Mute Prison**

**Claim:** The mute prison problem is NP-complete.

**Proof:**

1. Show the mute prison problem is NP.
2. Show the mute prison problem is NP-hard.

1. Suppose we are given a certificate  $S$  and have access to value  $k$  and matrix  $T$ . We can verify that the certificate is satisfiable in the following way. Suppose each element in  $S$  represents an inmate. Verification would involve iterating on each inmate in the following way:

```

for inmate in  $S$  do
     $j = 0$ ;
    while  $j \leq m$  do
        if  $T[inmate, j]$  then
            for ( $otherinmate \neq inmate$ ) in  $S$  do
                if  $T[otherinmate, j] = 0$  then
                     $S$  is not a subset of inmates who do don't speak the same language;
                end
            end
        end
         $j++$ ;
    end
end

```

Clearly, the verification that  $S$  is a subset where no two inmates speak the same language can run in polynomial time  $O(mn^2)$ . Once this verification is complete all that is left to do is to verify that  $|S| \geq k$ , which is  $O(1)$ . Therefore the mute prison problem is NP.

2.

## Q2. The Nonsense Prerequisites

**Q3. T-rex Christmas**

#### Q4. Vertex Cover