Physics 412—Practice S-3 (Due Feb. 3, 4 pm) Name:

S–3: I can determine whether two operators are compatible; if they are not compatible I can use the uncertainty principle to set the appropriate limits on measurements of the corresponding physical observables.

Unsatisfactory Progressing Acceptable Polished

(1) Given the two Hermitian operators

$$A \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 & a \\ 0 & 2a & 0 \\ a & 0 & 3a \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} b & 0 & -\mathrm{i}b \\ 0 & -b & 0 \\ \mathrm{i}b & 0 & b \end{bmatrix}.$$

- (a) Show that *A* and *B* are not compatible.
- (b) Assume that you have an ensemble of systems in the state

$$|\Psi\rangle \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ i \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Calculate ΔA and ΔB for measurements on this ensemble and show that these measurements would satisfy the uncertainty principle.