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V. Silvestrini : A REVIEW OF HIGH ENERGY WORK IN QUAN  
TUM ELECTRODYNAMICS. -

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V. Silvestrini: "A REVIEW OF HIGH ENERGY WORK IN QUANTUM ELECTRODYNAMICS".

(Invited talk at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Rencontre de Moriond sur les interaction electro magnetic, Lac de Tigres, 9-19 Mars 1968).

INTRODUCTION -

Considerable work has been done during last years in order to test the validity of quantum electrodynamics (QED) at high energy: we know that up to now there is no serious indication of a possible breakdown, although very high momentum transfers have been reached in some experiments.

At present we have in Frascati an experiment running at the synchrotron, and many in preparation with Adone, whose aim is to further test the validity of QED.

It is important to understand, in this respect, in which directions and to what extent we can still expect a breakdown of QED, consistent with the available experimental and theoretical information.

The present review is intended as a contribution to this understanding. The theoretical part is extremely simplified, and of course is not addressed to theoreticians.

2.

## I - VALIDITY OF QED -

We say that a given set of spin 1/2 fermions ( $\mu$ , e) is correctly described by QED if:

- 1) For the free particles the Dirac equation holds

$$(1) \quad (\not{p} + m_0) \psi = 0$$

( $m_0$  is a c number).

- 2) The interaction with an electromagnetic field can be introduced - as in the classical case - through the substitution

$$(2) \quad p \rightarrow p - eA$$

(minimal interaction) into equation (1).

It is well known that if we want  $A$  to represent the external field (and not to include the interaction of each particle with its own field) the first effect of the interaction is to turn the constant  $m_0$  into the physical mass  $m$  of the particle (mass renormalization).

Equation (1) then turns into:

$$(3) \quad (\not{p} + m - e\not{A}) \psi = 0$$

or

$$(\not{p} + m) \psi = e \gamma_\mu A^\mu \psi$$

In the absence of an external field, this equation becomes

$$(4) \quad (\not{p} + m) \psi = 0$$

( $m$  = physical mass).

We will hereafter refer to this equation, rather than to (1), as to the free equation.

Equation (3) can be derived from the Lagrangian density

$$(5) \quad L = \bar{\psi} (\not{p} + m) \psi + e \bar{\psi} \gamma_\mu \psi A^\mu + F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$$

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\partial A_\mu}{\partial x^\nu} - \frac{\partial A_\nu}{\partial x^\mu}$$

or

$$(6) \quad L = L_1 + J_\mu A^\mu + L_{\text{em}}$$

In analogy with the classical case, the quantity  $J_\mu = \bar{\psi} \gamma_\mu \psi$  is interpreted as the current generated by the particles. It is easily verified that  $J_\mu$  is conserved

$$(7) \quad \frac{\partial J_\mu}{\partial x_\mu} = 0$$

$L$  is in addition gauge invariant: it is a question of simple algebra to verify that the substitution

$$\begin{aligned} A_\mu &\rightarrow A_\mu - \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x^\mu} \\ \psi &\rightarrow \psi_e^{-ie\phi} \end{aligned}$$

( $\phi$  is a function whatever of the coordinates  $x, y, z$ ) does not affect (5). Gauge invariance corresponds to the classical fact that the physical meaning is attached to the fields  $\vec{E}, \vec{H}$ , and not to the potential  $A$ .

The solution of equation (3) is usually performed through perturbation, making profit of the fact that the coupling constant  $e$  is of the order of  $10^{-2}$ .

In terms of Feynman graphs equation (3) implies that:

a) each fermion propagator  $S_F$  is given by

$$(8) \quad S_F = \frac{p - m}{p^2 + m^2}$$

b) each vertex function  $\Gamma_\mu$  is given by

$$(9) \quad \Gamma_\mu = \gamma_\mu$$

We recall also that in the pure electromagnetic scheme (absence of strong interactions) a photon propagator is given by  $S_\gamma = 1/q^2$  ( $q$  four-momentum of the photon).

## 2 - MODIFIED QED THEORIES -

We call breakdown of QED any modification of the Lagrangian density (6)

4.

$$(10) \quad L \rightarrow L'$$

$L'$  must of course satisfy some general requirement: it must be Lorentz invariant, gauge invariant, C-invariant, and the most trivial limit cases must be preserved.

The requirement that  $L'$  be gauge invariant implies that the vector

$$(11) \quad K_\mu = \frac{\partial L'}{\partial A^\mu}$$

is conserved

$$\frac{\partial K_\mu}{\partial x^\mu} = 0 \quad (\text{Noether's theorem}^{(1)}).$$

As a consequence of this we can write, in analogy with (6):

$$(12) \quad L' = L'_1 + J'_\mu A^\mu + L'_{em}$$

with  $L'_1$  free lagrangian,  $L'_{em}$  Lagrangian of the electromagnetic field (also not dependent explicitly on  $A_\mu$ ) and  $J'_\mu$  (satisfying the equation

$$J'_\mu = K_\mu - A^\nu \frac{\partial J'_\nu}{\partial A^\mu},$$

as one easily checks by deriving (12) with respect to  $A^\mu$ ) a conserved vector.

The fact that  $J'_\mu$  is conserved ( $\partial J'_\mu / \partial x_\mu = 0$ ) can be easily shown if  $J'_\mu$  contains only a linear dependence (or no dependence) on  $A_\mu$ , making use of (11) and of the Lorentz condition  $\partial A_\mu / \partial x_\mu = 0$ . In the general case, the demonstration requires some more mathematics.  $J'_\mu$  is of course interpreted as the current generated by the particle.

The general requirements imply severe restrictions on the form of  $L'_1$ ,  $J'_\mu$ ,  $L'_{em}$ .

Since the calculations of ED processes are performed using the Feynman graphs method, a closer connection with the expected experimental results is obtained if one thinks in terms of vertexes and propagators rather than of Lagrangian. For this reason models of modified QED theories are usually built in terms of modifications of vertexes and/or propagators. In this case it is not easy in general to verify to all orders if the parent Lagrangian satisfies to the general requirements (in particular, gauge invariance and conservation of current). Note that the propagator is strictly related with  $L'_1$ , and the vertex

function with the current  $J'_\mu$ : if  $J'_\mu = \bar{\psi} 0_\mu \psi$ , the vertex function  $\Gamma_\mu$  is given by  $\Gamma_\mu = 0_\mu (A_\mu = 0)$ . A very important identity, connecting propagators and vertex functions, has been established by Ward and Takahashi(2): This identity must be satisfied in order that the current be conserved, and reads:

$$(13) \quad q_\mu \Gamma^\mu = S_F^{-1}(p') - S_F^{-1}(p)$$

where:  $\Gamma_\mu(p, p', q)$  = vertex function;  
 $S_F$  = fermion propagator;  
 $p$  = initial momentum of the fermion;  
 $p'$  = final momentum of the fermion;  
 $q$  =  $p' - p$ .

We see that a propagator modification always requires a modification of the vertex function, in order that current be conserved. However, (13) does not require the vice-versa: a vertex modification  $\gamma_\mu \rightarrow \Gamma_\mu$  not affecting the product  $q_\mu \Gamma^\mu (q_\mu \Gamma^\mu = q_\mu \gamma^\mu)$  does not modify the propagator. A modification of this kind is called an intrinsic vertex modification, in contrast with the modifications induced by propagator modifications.

The validity of (13) is a condition which is necessary, but not sufficient for the conservation of current: this is easily understood considering that  $\Gamma_\mu$  does not take into account a possible part of  $J'_\mu$  depending on  $A_\mu$ , and giving rise to terms described by multiphoton vertexes. To guaranty the conservation of current in the general case also the more complicated Chang-Mani(3) identities must be satisfied: they administrate in fact the multiphoton vertexes. The importance of the multiphoton vertexes is in the fact that they are induced (in order that current be conserved) by propagator modifications.

The restrictions imposed by the Ward-Takahashi and Chang-Mani identities to possible modified QED theories have been systematically treated by N. Kroll(4).

Here we will give some simple examples, in order to introduce the general Kroll's conclusions.

### 3 - PROPAGATOR MODIFICATIONS -

A modification  $L_1 \rightarrow L'_1$  involves a propagator modification, and vice-versa. The most general form of  $L_1$  consistent with Lorentz invariance originates the propagator(5)

$$S_F^{-1}(\not{p}, p^2) = A(p^2)\not{p} + B(p^2)m.$$

We require that  $S_F^{-1}(\not{p}, m^2)\psi = 0$  represents the equation for the free particle. In order that this reduces to the Dirac equation it is neces-

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sary that:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} A(p^2) \rightarrow 1 \\ B(p^2) \rightarrow 1 \end{array} \right\} \text{as } p^2 \rightarrow m^2$$

Example: There exist two electrons, with masses  $m$  and  $M$ .

We can give to the propagators  $S_F$  the form<sup>(x)</sup>

$$(15) \quad S_F^{-1} = \frac{(\not{p} + M)(\not{p} + m)}{M + m}$$

working out the product:

$$(16) \quad S_F^{-1} = (\not{p} + \frac{\not{p}^2 + Mm}{M + m})$$

so

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} A(p^2) = 1 \\ B(p^2) = \frac{1}{m} \frac{\not{p}^2 + Mm}{M + m} \rightarrow 1 \end{array} \right\} \text{as } p^2 \rightarrow m^2$$

Now suppose we introduce the EM interaction through the substitution  
(which authomatically guarantees gauge invariance)

$$(2) \quad \not{p} \rightarrow \not{p} - eA$$

into the Lagrangian density

$$L_1' = \bar{\psi} \frac{(\not{p} + m)(\not{p} + M)}{m + M} \psi .$$

It is easily seen that the equation of the motion comes out to be:

$$(\not{p} + \frac{\not{p}^2 + Mm}{M+m}) \psi = eA^\mu (\gamma_\mu + \frac{2p_\mu}{m+M} - e \frac{A_\mu}{m+M}) \psi + \frac{e}{4} \epsilon_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \psi$$

The conserved current is:

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(x) - This form for the propagator is not consistent with the positive definitions of the metric. This difficulty can be overcome, within the two masses model by giving to  $S_F^{-1}$  a some what more complicated form. For demonstration purpose, we preferre here to deal with a simple formula like (15), forgetting the above difficulty.

$$(17) \quad J' = e \bar{\psi} \left[ \gamma_\mu + \frac{p_\mu + p'_\mu}{m+M} - e \frac{A_\mu}{m+M} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{\epsilon_{\mu\nu} q^\nu}{m+M} \right] \psi$$

So we see that a propagator modification has induced a modification of the current: the vertex function is now:

$$\Gamma_\mu = \gamma_\mu + \frac{1}{(m+M)4} \epsilon_{\mu\nu} q^\nu + \frac{p_\mu + p'_\mu}{m+M}$$

and in addition a two-photon interaction  $[e^2(A_\mu A^\mu)/(M+m)]$  has been introduced. The general statement is that when the inverse propagator  $S_F^{-1}$  contains  $p^n$ , an n-photon vertex is required to restore current conservation<sup>(4)</sup>. Note that  $\epsilon_{\mu\nu} q^\nu$  is an intrinsic part since  $q^\mu \epsilon_{\mu\nu} q^\nu$  is identically zero. Remembering our comments on (13), this means that we could cancel the magnetic-moment part  $(e/M+m)\epsilon_{\mu\nu} q^\nu$  just by the ad-hoc introduction of a term  $(-e/M+m)\epsilon_{\mu\nu} q^\nu$  in the vertex function, since this term can be introduced without destroying the self-consistency of the Lagrangian density. This sounds like a combersonne procedure. However, it has been shown by N. Kroll that we can define a new kind of minimality (in place of (2)), such that the modifications induced by the propagator into the current do not contain any intrinsic part. The striking result obtained by Kroll is that the effect of a propagator modification cancels with the effect of the induced multiphoton vertexes + induced vertex modifications (not with possible intrinsic vertex modifications) apart from corrections which are outside the possibility of present experimental checking.

So that from the point of view of experimentalists only vertex modifications are effective.

#### 4 - VERTEX MODIFICATIONS -

Let us now see which is the most general form for the vertex function  $\Gamma_\mu$ .

The vectors we can use to build up  $\Gamma_\mu$  are<sup>(6, 7)</sup>

$$(18) \quad \gamma_\mu \quad \epsilon_{\mu\nu} q^\nu \quad q_\mu$$

multiplied in all possible combinations by  $\not{p}^i \not{p}'^K$ . The coefficients will be functions of  $p^2$ ,  $p'^2$ . Since  $\not{p}^2 = \not{p}^0 p^2$ , we can restrict to  $i, K = 0, 1$ . Actually it is more convenient to multiply by  $(\not{p} + m)^i (\not{p}' + m)^K$  (instead of  $\not{p}^i \not{p}'^K$ ): in this way the conditions imposed by the free Dirac equation are self evident.

So we can write:

$$(19) \quad \Gamma_\mu = \sum_{i,K}^{0,1} (\not{p}' + m)^i \left[ G_1^{iK} \gamma_\mu + G_2^{iK} \epsilon_{\mu\nu} q^\nu + G_3^{iK} q_\mu \right] (\not{p} + m)^K$$

The  $G$ 's are functions of  $\not{p}'^2$ ,  $\not{p}'^2$  and  $q^2$ . Invariance under charge conjugation requires

$$G_{1,2}^{iK} = G_{1,2}^{Ki}; \quad G_3^{iK} = -G_3^{Ki} \quad \text{so}$$

that (19) involves nine form factors. Note that  $q^\mu \Gamma_\mu \neq q^\mu \gamma_\mu$  unless the form factors  $G_3^{iK}$  are identically zero. According to (13),  $G_3^{iK} \neq 0$  require a modification of the propagator, and multiphoton vertexes must be introduced. However, it is still true that the overall effect is negligible from an experimental point of view.

We can thus put  $G_3^{iK} = 0$ , and remain with the six form factors which describe all possible intrinsic vertex modifications. Note that if the final (initial) fermion is on the mass-shell, then we can exclude the case  $i = 1$  ( $K = 1$ ), because  $(\not{p}' + m) \Psi = 0$  [ $(\not{p} + m) \Psi = 0$ ]: so that we have only 4 form factors. Finally, if both fermions are on the mass-shell, only the form factors  $G_1^{OO}$  and  $G_2^{OO}$  appear in  $\Gamma_\mu$ , and  $\Gamma_\mu$  assumes the form which we all know from the example of the proton in e-p scattering<sup>(8)</sup>:

$$(20) \quad \Gamma_\mu = \left[ G_1^{OO}(q^2) \gamma_\mu + G_2^{OO}(q^2) \epsilon_{\mu\nu} q^\nu \right]$$

$$G_1^{OO} = e F_1(q^2) \quad G_2^{OO} = e \frac{K}{m} F_2(q^2)$$

The only possible static properties of spin 1/2 particles are thus charge and magnetic moment (K anomalous magnetic moment).

We will now review the experimental results concerning checks of the validity of QED for electrons and muons.

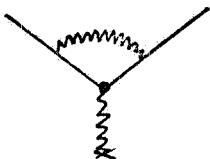
We will separate the following classes of experiments:

- Experiments concerning the static properties;
- High energy experiments;
- Tests of particular models.

## 5 - MEASUREMENTS OF STATIC PROPERTIES. (Magnetic moment) -

In the case of exact validity of QED, although no magnetic moment term appears in the current ( $\Gamma_\mu = \gamma_\mu$ ), the giromagnetic factor  $g$

of electrons and muons is not expected to be exactly  $2: g - 2 \neq 0$ . This is due to higher order corrections, from graphs like:



However, the value of  $g$  has been computed<sup>(9)</sup> with a precision of the order of  $10^{-8}$ . Precision experiments of  $(g-2)$  have also been performed, providing  $g$  with an accuracy  $10^{-8}$  for electrons, and  $10^{-6}$  for muons.

Experiments<sup>(10)</sup> and theory give results in good agreement.

$\frac{(g-2)}{2}$ exp	$\frac{(g-2)}{2}$ th
$e^- (11596.22 \pm .27) \times 10^{-7}$	$(11596.40 \pm .04) \times 10^{-7}$
$\mu^- (1165 \pm 3) \times 10^{-6}$	$11655.2 \times 10^{-7}$
$\mu^+ (1162 \pm 5) \times 10^{-6}$	$11655.2 \times 10^{-7}$

This means that  $(K/M)F_2(0) \approx 10^{-6}$  ( $\approx 10^{-8}$  for electrons). Remembering the physical interpretation of the form factors,  $F_2(0) = 1$  is generally assumed. This corresponds to the fact that every particle is point-like, when we look at it from very far.

The  $g-2$  experiments then tell us that  $(K/M)$  is consistent with zero within the above very good accuracy: within the same limits, we can set  $G_2^{00} = 0$  in (19), so that (19) involves five form factors (remember that we have already put  $G_3^{iK} = 0$ ).

When both fermions are on the mass shell [ $(p' + m)\gamma = 0$ ;  $(p + m)\gamma = 0$ ],  $G_1^{01}$  and  $G_1^{11}$  disappear, and only  $G_1^{00}$  is present in  $\Gamma_\mu$ ; when one (or both) is off the mass-shell,  $G_1^{01}$  and  $G_2^{01}$  ( $G_1^{01}$ ,  $G_1^{11}$ ,  $G_2^{01}$  and  $G_2^{11}$ ) appear. In principle, there could be cancellations, at least in some kinematical regions, among the different  $G$ 's. In addition the effect of multiphoton vertexes should be kept into account.

Leaving open the possibility of more sophisticated analyses for when (and if) a discrepancy between experiment and QED will be found, we will analyze the experiments from here on in terms of a vertex function  $\Gamma_\mu = \gamma_\mu F(q^2, p^2, p'^2)$  involving only one form factor: we will see which are the limits on the quantity  $\Sigma$  defined as

$$(21) \quad \Sigma(q^2, p^2, p'^2) = 1 - F^2(q^2, p'^2, p^2)$$

One can now try to use further the results of the  $(g-2)$  experiments: Since the (perturbative) calculation of  $(g-2)$  involves propagators and vertex functions, one asks to what extent the agreement with experiment can be used to set a limit on  $\Sigma$ . An answer to this question, however, is extremely model dependent<sup>(11)</sup>, since  $g-2$  involves only integrals over the momentum transfers, and very different functions may have the

same integral.

To make an analysis of this kind, it is in general assumed without any justification,  $F^2(q^2, p^2, p'^2) = [1 + (q^2/\Lambda^2)]^{-2}$ . The presence of the term  $q^2/\Lambda^2$  modifies the value of  $(g-2)/2$   $\text{th}$  of an amount<sup>(11)</sup>:

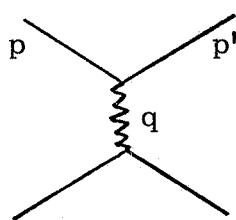
$$(22) \quad \Delta \left(\frac{g-2}{2}\right)_{\text{th}} = -1.6 \times 10^{-3} \left(\frac{m}{\Lambda}\right)^2$$

The experiment on the  $(g-2)$  of the muon then sets a limit  $\Lambda \gtrsim 1.5 \text{ GeV}$  (two standard deviations).

## 6 - HIGH ENERGY DYNAMICAL TESTS -

We will classify the dynamical tests according to which graph is relevant in the first order description of the phenomenon.

Both fermions on the mass shell:  $p^2 = p'^2 = m^2; q^2 \neq 0$

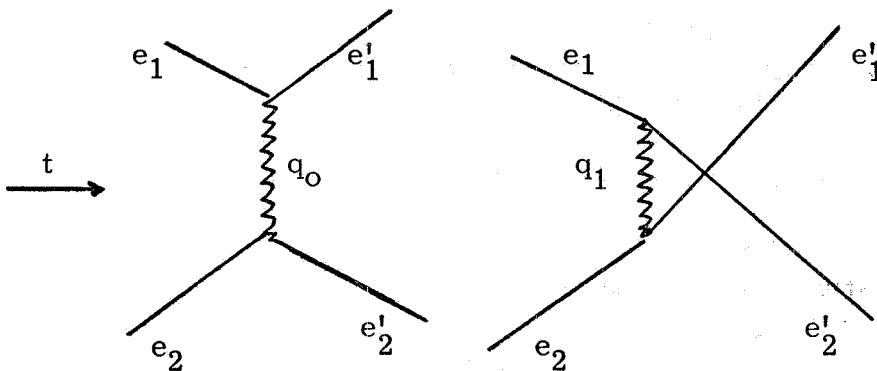


(e. g. scattering of electrons or muons;  $e^+ + e^-$  ( $\mu^+ + \mu^-$ ) annihilation).

Let us first consider electrons: The experiments performed up to now are  $e - e$  scattering ( $q^2 < 0$ , space like photons) and fine structure of positronium ( $q^2 > 0$ ). The scattering of electrons on nucleons is of course not useful to test QED, since we already know that there are form factors to describe the nucleon-photon vertex.

The  $e - e$  scattering experiment<sup>(12)</sup> has been performed at Stanford by a Princeton-Stanford group, using a colliding beam machine. The energy of the electrons was 300 MeV. An angular distribution has been measured (not the absolute cross section).

The results are shown in fig. 1, and compared with theory. Since the process is described at lowest order by the two graphs



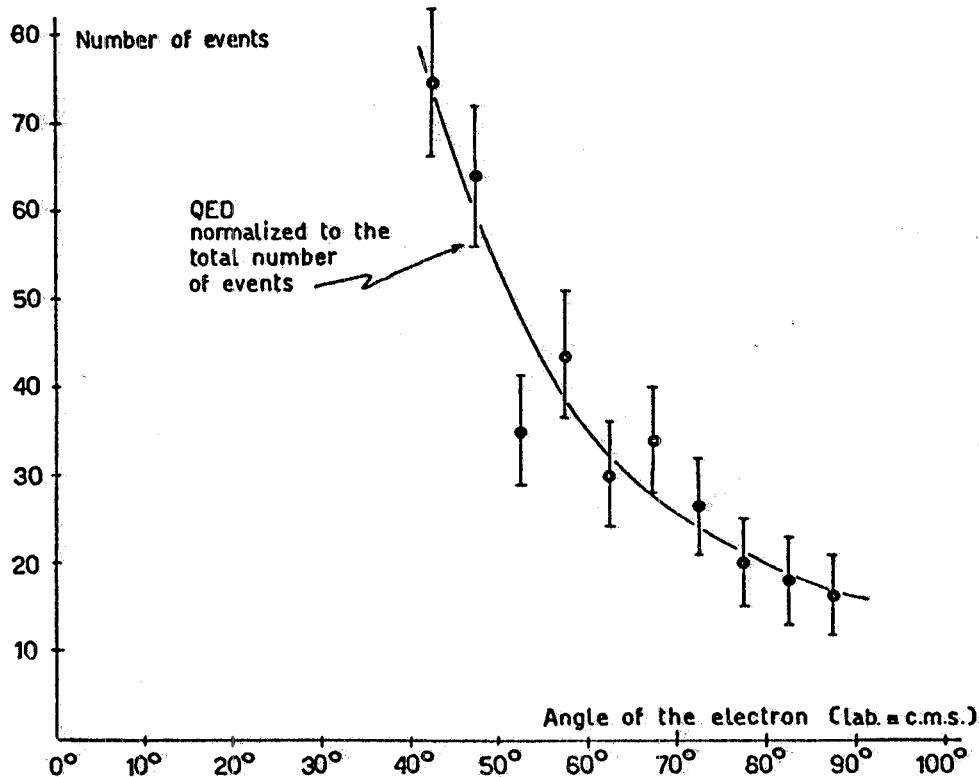


FIG. 1

the angle  $\theta$  of emission of the electron does not determine uniquely the four-momentum square  $q^2$  of the photon. In the two graphs,  $q^2$  is given respectively by

$$(23) \quad q_0^2 = -4 E^2 \sin^2 \theta / 2 \quad q_1^2 = -4 E^2 \cos^2 \theta / 2$$

E: energy of the incident electrons.

According to QED, the cross section for the process is in first order approximation<sup>(13)</sup> (radiative corrections are kept into account separately):

$$(24) \quad \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{r_0^2}{8} \left( \frac{m}{E} \right)^2 \left[ \frac{S^4 + q_0^4}{q_1^4} + \frac{2S^4}{q_1^2 q_0^2} + \frac{S^4 + q_1^4}{q_0^4} \right]$$

$$S^2 = 4 E^2$$

Now we could have a vertex modification ( $\gamma_\mu \rightarrow \gamma_\mu F(q^2)$ ), and a modification of the photon propagator<sup>(x)</sup>.

(x) - Also the function  $M(q^2)$  must satisfy general requirements in order that fundamental laws of physics hold (see ref. 4). These requirements or in general not satisfied by simple models currently used in the analysis of experiments.

$$\left( \frac{1}{2} \rightarrow \frac{M(q^2)}{q^2} \right).$$

In this case the cross section would become:

$$(25) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} &= \frac{r_o^2}{8} \left( \frac{m}{E} \right)^2 \left[ \frac{s^4 + q_o^2}{q_1^4} G^2(q_1^2) + \frac{2s^4}{q_1^2 q_o^2} G(q_1^2)G(q_o^2) + \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{s^4 + q_1^2}{q_o^4} G^2(q_o^2) \right] \\ G(q^2) &= F^2(q^2)M(q^2) \end{aligned}$$

(the square of  $F(q^2)$  appears, since the photon attaches to an electron on both sides).

The first point to be noted is that the effect of a form factor of the electron is not distinguishable from a modification of the photon propagator. By the way, we recall that modifications of the photon propagator are expected, due to the coupling of the photon with the vector bosons ( $\rho, \omega, \varphi$ ): these modifications are particularly important in the time-like region, as  $q^2$  approaches the masses of the bosons.

The second point is that we cannot put a limit on  $1 - G(q^2)$  unless we make a specific model.

The authors put  $G(q^2) = (1 - q^2/K^2)^{-1}$  and then the experimental results say that  $K > .76$  GeV with 95% confidence level.

One could have put equally well  $G(q^2) = (1 - q^2/K^2)^{-2}$  [for instance  $M(q^2) = 1; F(q^2) = (1 - q^2/K^2)^{-1}$ ], giving then the limit  $K > 1.5$  GeV. Personally, we would prefer to say, as a comment to Fig. 1: the slope of the cross section  $d\sigma/d\Omega(q_o^2 q_1^2)$  has been measured; the values of  $q^2$  involved are between  $(\sim .2$  GeV) $^2$  and  $(\sim .5$  GeV) $^2$ ; the agreement with QED is good enough to exclude (95% confidence level) a smooth variation of  $G(q^2)$ , from one edge to the other of the above region, of a factor bigger than  $\sim 2$ .

In conclusion, for  $q^2 < 0$ , only one relative measurement is available, exploring the region between  $\sim .2$  GeV  $< |q| < \sim .5$  GeV.

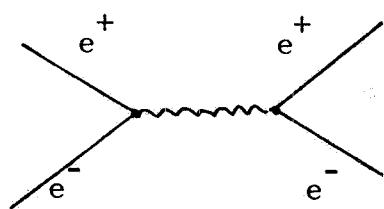
As far as we know,  $F^2(q^2)$  could go for instance from 1 to .5 when  $|q|$  goes from 0 to 200 MeV, and then remain fairly constant up to 500 MeV, without contradicting any experiment.

An absolute measurement of the cross section, involving momentum transfers in whatever region, would thus provide very interesting information.

Also new measurements at different energies would complete the available information, allowing to extract  $G(q^2)$  from (26) in a model independent way.

A new measurement, with  $E \approx 550$  MeV, is being performed by the same Princeton-Stanford Group.

Let us now consider the time-like region ( $q^2 > 0$ ): there is only one though very precise-measurement, coming from the fine structure of positronium. In the fundamental S state of positronium, the spins of the particles can be parallel (3S state) or antiparallel (1S state). There are many reasons<sup>(14, 15)</sup> why the two states have a different binding energy: one of the most important, contributing for  $\sim 3/7$  of the total energy splitting, is that the 3S state lives part of the time as a photon



A form factor  $F(q^2)$  in the vertex function ( $q^2 = (1 \text{ MeV})^2$ ), and a photon propagator modification

$$\frac{1}{q^2} \rightarrow \frac{M(q^2)}{q^2}.$$

would affect the energy splitting due to this phenomenon of a factor  $F^2(q^2)M(q^2)$ .

Experimentally, the frequency of the line is

$$\Delta W = 203.389 \pm 27 \text{ mc} \quad \text{Ref. (16)}$$

$$\Delta W = 203.403 \pm 12 \text{ mc} \quad \text{Ref. (17)}$$

The theoretical value is<sup>(15)</sup>

$$\Delta W_{th} = 203.373 \text{ mc} \quad \text{using } \alpha_{DL}$$

$$\Delta W_{th} = 203.381 \text{ mc} \quad \text{using } \alpha_j$$

according to which value for  $\alpha$  is used<sup>(18)</sup> ( $\alpha_{DL}$  is obtained from the deuteron fine structure and the Lamb shift;  $\alpha_j$  from the Josephson effect).

This results in a value of  $F^2(q^2)M(q^2)$ :

$$M(q^2)F^2(q^2) = (1 + 2.5 \times 10^{-4}) \pm 1.2 \times 10^{-4} \quad \text{at } q^2 = 1 \text{ MeV}$$

In conclusion, all what we know about the electron-photon vertex

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(the electron being an the mass shell) is:

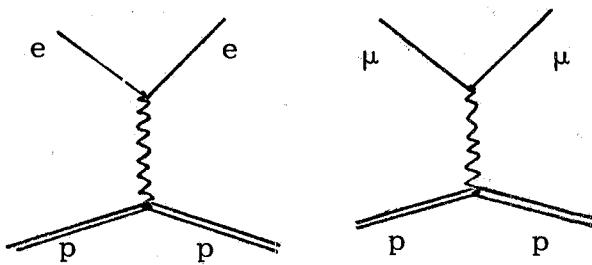
$$M(q^2)F^2(q^2) = 1 + (2.5) \times 10^{-4} \pm (1.2) \times 10^{-4} \quad |q| = (1 \text{ MeV}) \quad (q^2 > 0)$$

$M(q^2)F^2(q^2)$  varies of less than a factor  $\sim 2$  for  $|q|$  between .2 and .5 GeV ( $q^2 < 0$ ).

Now we consider muons. -

Here we have no measurement of a possible form factor in the muon-photon vertex, but only a comparison between muons and electrons.

For  $q^2 < 0$  (space-like photons), the scattering of muons on protons is compared with the scattering of electrons.



If the muon and/or the electron have a structure, the ratio of the cross sections would be given by

$$(26) \quad \frac{d\sigma_\mu}{d\sigma_e} = \frac{F_\mu^2(q^2)}{F_e^2(q^2)}$$

the effect of the proton structure and of a possible photon propagator modification being cancelled in the ratio.

There is one experiment<sup>(19)</sup> covering a range of  $q^2$

$$.62 \text{ BeV} < |q| < 1.1 \text{ BeV.}$$

The results for the ratio (26) are shown in fig. 2 (Black points).

A second experiment<sup>(20)</sup> covers the region  $.45 \text{ GeV} < |q| < .85 \text{ GeV}$  with larger errors (open points o, in fig. 2).

Note that:

1) The cross section  $d\sigma_\mu/d\Omega$  varies of  $\sim 2$  orders of magnitude in the range of  $|q|$  involved in fig. 2.

2) The data on electron scattering necessary for the comparison come from different experiments.

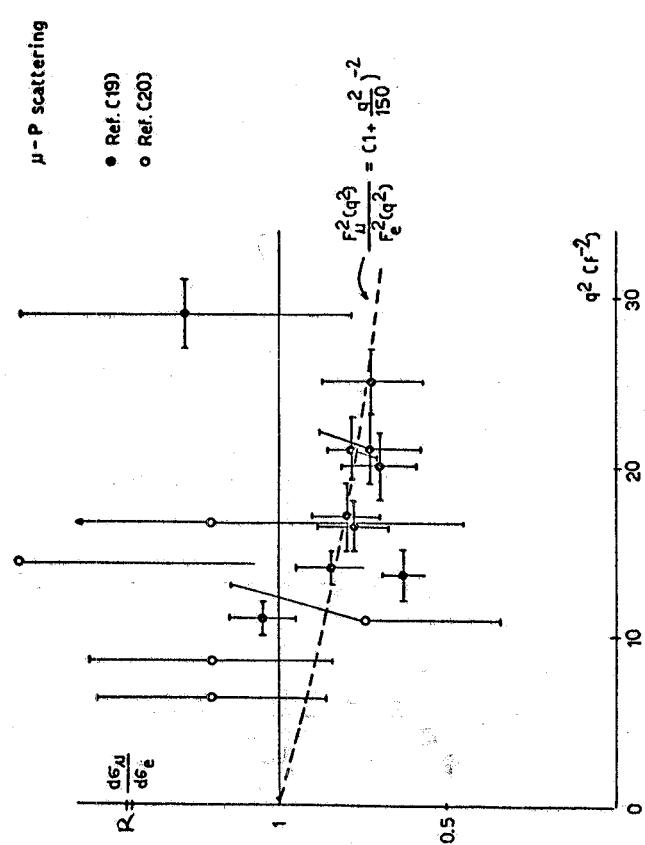


FIG. 2

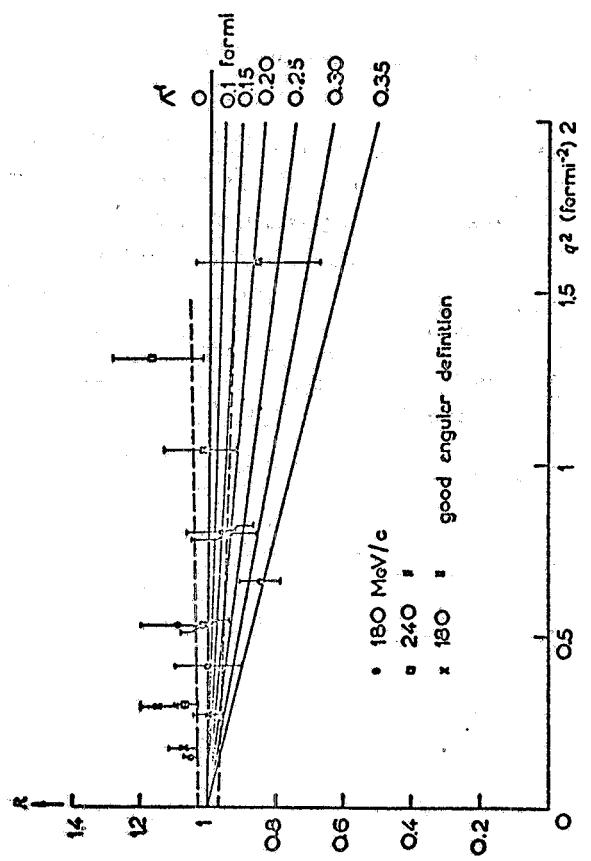
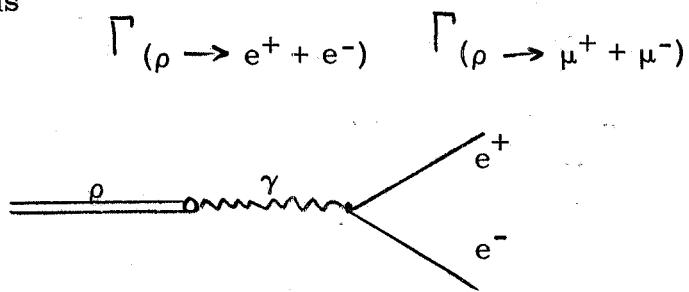


FIG. 3 - Ratio  $R$  of observed to calculated scattering rates as a function of the square of momentum transfer. The dashed lines on either side of the axis  $R = 1$  correspond to the estimated standard systematic error. The error bars represent statistical errors. Lines labelled with values of  $\lambda$  replace the line  $R = 1$  if the calculated rates are based on a structure of the  $\mu$  vertex described by this cut-off.

3) An estimated normalization uncertainty (4-10%) is included in the error bars of ref. (19).

In addition to the above  $\mu$ -p scattering experiments, there are experiments of  $\mu$ -scattering on nuclei. These results are summarized in Fig. 3<sup>(21)</sup> and 4<sup>(22)</sup> (scattering on carbon) and Fig. 5 (scattering on nuclear emulsions)<sup>(23, 24, 25)</sup>. Taking into account the possibility of systematic effects, all the above results are usually considered consistent with 1, allowing to conclude that for  $0 < -q^2 < (1.1 \text{ GeV})^2$  a possible form factor squared in the muon vertex does not differ of more than  $\sim 20\%$  from the form factor squared of the electron.

For  $q^2 > 0$ , the available information comes from a comparison of the decay widths



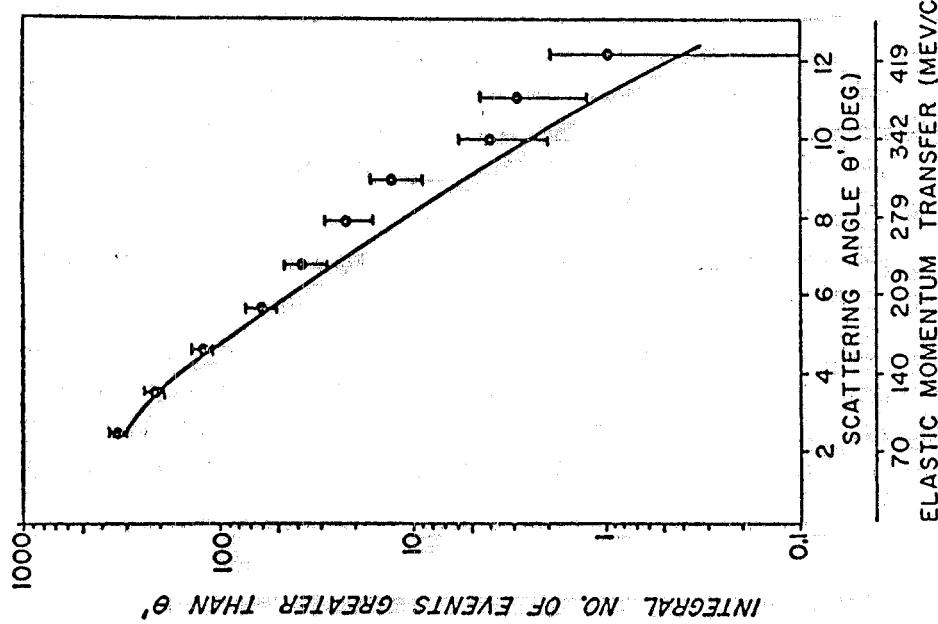
The available data are:

$$A = \frac{\Gamma(\rho \rightarrow \mu^+ + \mu^-)}{\Gamma(\rho \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^-)} = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} (3.3^{+1.6}_{-0.7}) \times 10^{-5} & \text{ref. (26)} \\ (9.7^{+3.2}_{-3.2}) \times 10^{-5} & \text{ref. (27)} \\ (5.1^{+1.2}_{-1.2}) \times 10^{-5} & \text{ref. (28)} \\ (7.4^{+2.0}_{-2.0}) \times 10^{-5} & \text{ref. (29)} \end{array} \right.$$

$$B = \frac{\Gamma(\rho \rightarrow e^+ + e^-)}{\Gamma(\rho \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^-)} = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} (6.5^{+1.4}_{-1.4}) \times 10^{-5} & \text{ref. (30)} \\ (6.5^{+1.1}_{-0.5}) \times 10^{-5} & \text{ref. (31)} \\ (3.9^{+1.2}_{-1.2}) \times 10^{-5} & \text{ref. (32)} \\ (4.9^{+0.8}_{-0.8}) \times 10^{-5} & \text{ref. (33)} \\ (6.2^{+1.1}_{-1.1}) \times 10^{-5} & \text{ref. (34)} \end{array} \right.$$

The average value of A is  $\bar{A} = 5.75 \pm .90$ ; the average value of B is  $\bar{B} = 5.60 \pm .45$ . So that

$$R = \frac{\Gamma(\rho \rightarrow e^+ + e^-)}{\Gamma(\rho \rightarrow \mu^+ + \mu^-)} = \frac{\bar{B}}{\bar{A}} = .97 \pm .17$$

 $\mu$  scattering in nuclear emulsion

- Ref.(23)  $\mu^+$
- Ref.(24)  $\mu^-$
- × Ref.(25)

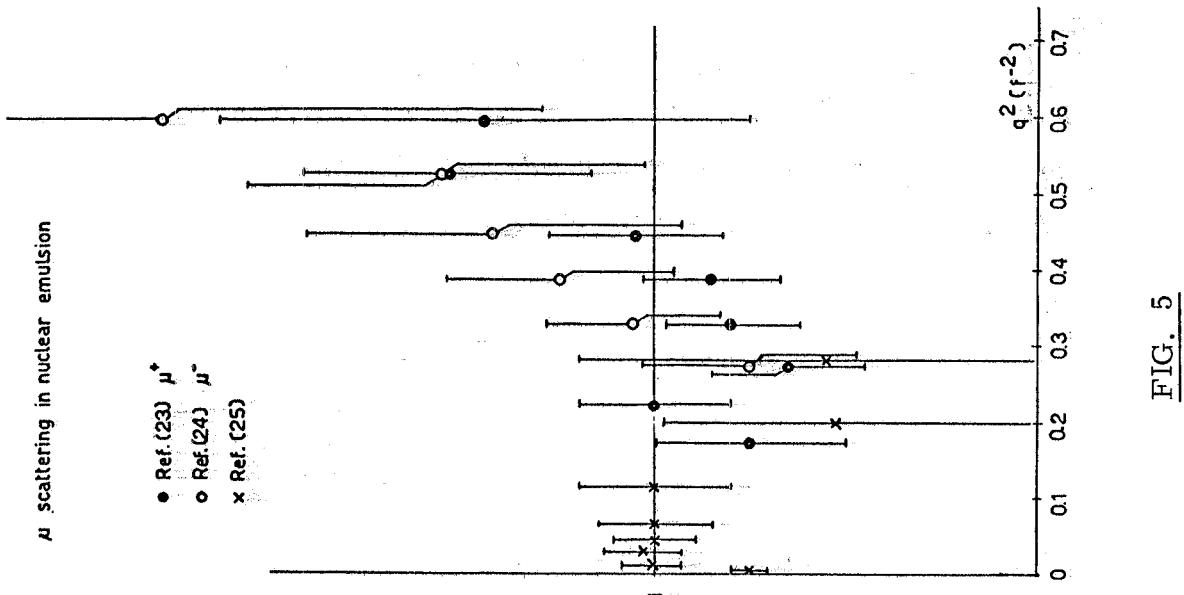


FIG. 4 - Curves showing the theoretical and experimental integral angular distributions of 2 BeV/c muons scattered in 27.0 g/cm<sup>2</sup> of carbon. Target-out subtractions have been made to the experimental points. The errors shown are statistical only. The theoretical curve was obtained by integrating the cross-section over all angle greater than  $\theta'$ .

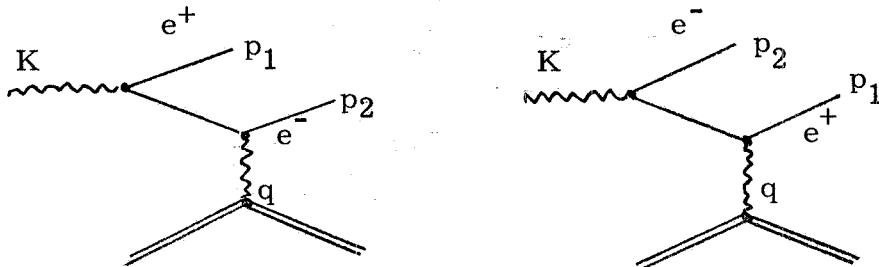
FIG. 5

QED foresees  $R \approx 1$  (the phase space correction is of the order of the per cent).

So that for  $q^2 \approx (0.75 \text{ GeV})^2$ ,  $F_\mu^2(q^2)$  differs for less than 17% (1 Standard deviation) from  $F_e^2(q^2)$ .

One fermion off the mass-shell; photon off the mass-shell.

We first consider lepton pair production



The important parameters in the description are:

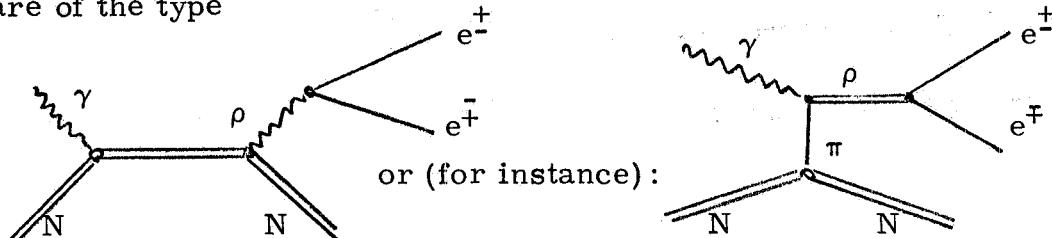
$p'$  : four-momentum of the virtual lepton. One in fact looks for the possible presence of an off-mass-shell form factor in the vertex. In the above graphs  $p'^2 < 0$  (space-like leptons).

$p'^2 = (K - p_{1,2})^2 \approx -2|K| \cdot |p_{1,2}|(1 - \cos\theta_{1,2})$ . So that  $p'^2$  is uniquely determined by the apparatus only for symmetric pairs. In this case  $p'^2 \approx -K^2\theta^2/2$ .

$q^2$  : four momentum of the virtual photon. For symmetric pairs  $q^2 \approx -K^2\theta^4/4(35)$ . Note that the photon attaches on the nuclear target so that the knowledge of the form factor of the target nucleus is important to calibrate-out the E. M. part. All the experiments have been performed up to now on nuclei (C, Al). One usually tries to keep  $q^2$  as low as possible, in order to avoid the possible contribution of inelastic processes (with excitation of the nucleus) which are very little known<sup>(36)</sup>, and whose integral contribution is likely to increase rather drastically with  $q^2$ .

$M^2 = (p_1 + p_2)^2$ , invariant mass of the two-leptons system; for symmetric pairs  $M^2 \approx K^2\theta^2 \approx 2p'^2$ .

The cross section coming from the shown graphs is usually referred to as to the Bethe-Heitler cross section ( $\sigma_{BH}$ ). However, there are other graphs contributing to lepton pair production and involving strong interactions. These graphs (usually referred to as to the Compton graphs) are of the type



Another advantage of the symmetric situation is that the interference term of the Bethe-Heitler and Compton graphs cancels, so that the Compton contribution reduces to of the order of the per cent;

This is not true as  $M$  approaches the mass of a vector boson: in this cases the Compton contribution can even dominate over the B. H. process<sup>(18, 30, 35)</sup>.

The available results are summarized in Table I. Only published results are quoted: a summary including also unpublished results can be found for instance in ref. (18). The results of ref. (35) are also not included, since it has been recognized that they are affected by large systematic errors.

Under columns 6, 7, 8, 9 corrections are quoted, as evaluated by each author: correction in parentheses means evaluated but not applied to the results. If no figure is quoted, then the corresponding correction has not been evaluated by the authors (or it has been implicitly considered as negligible). Apart from the measurement of ref. (37), all the experiments have been performed in a symmetric (or nearly symmetric) situation, so that if a form factor  $F(p'^2, q^2)$  affects the lepton-photon vertex,  $F^2$  can be factorized from the cross section,  $R$  can thus be considered as a measurement of  $F^2$  at the corresponding values of  $p'^2$  and  $q^2$ .

The results on electron pairs are plotted against  $|p'|$  in Fig. 6, those on muon pairs in Fig. 7.

The electron results are well consistent with no slope as a function of  $|p'|$ , although the average normalization is  $\sim .95$ . As for the muons, the Frascati point agrees with QED; while the results of the CEA experiments are not consistent with zero slope [apart from an overall normalization effect of (10 - 15)%]: the contribution of the  $\rho$  diagrams has been evaluated by the authors<sup>(42)</sup> using the results of measurements performed in different kinematical situations<sup>(26)</sup>. It is seen what these contributions are important only for  $|p'| \gtrsim 400$  MeV (dashed line). Below this energy, the data are well fitted by a curve of the type (full-line):

$$R = A \left[ 1 - \frac{p'^2}{2} \right]$$

$$A = 1.34 \pm .14$$

$$\Lambda^2 = .8 \pm .24 \text{ GeV}^2$$

The errors are essentially an estimate of systematic effect (statistical errors would be much smaller).

Recently, the hypothesis has been made by one of the authors<sup>(18)</sup> that the overall effect may be instrumental.

TABLE I

Experiment	Lepton	$ p $ (MeV)	$ q $ (MeV)	$ M $ (MeV)	Inelastic	Radiative	Compton	Systematic errors	Target	$R = \frac{G_{\text{exp}}}{G_{\text{B. H.}}}$
Richter '58 (Ref. 37)	e	$\sim 115$							$H_2$	$.96 \pm .14$
Frascati '62 (Ref. 38)	$\mu$	135-185	$\sim 20$	240-290	3%	( $< 1.5\%$ )		( $< 2\%$ )	C	$1.00 \pm .05$
CEA '64 (Ref. 39)	$\mu$	230	$\sim 20$	320	$\sim 0$			1%	C	$1.09 \pm .13$
		275		385						$1.22 \pm .07$
		315		445						$1.20 \pm .06$
		355		500						$1.14 \pm .06$
		395		550						$.96 \pm .08$
		435		610						$1.23 \pm .12$
		475		665						$1.07 \pm .15$
		520		725						$2.33 \pm .60$
		560	$\sim 120$	785	8%					$1.60 \pm .52$
								10%		
Cornell '67 (Ref. 40)	e	33	$\sim 5$	47		3-4%	$\sim 0$	$(\pm 5\%)$ absolute $\pm 1.4\%$ for com- parison among the points	C	$.87 \pm .03$
		43		61						$.94 \pm .03$
		50		72						$.94 \pm .05$
		63		90						$.98 \pm .04$
		89		126						$.96 \pm .03$
		100		142						$.96 \pm .04$
		109		154						$1.00 \pm .04$
		128		182						$1.01 \pm .05$
		142		202						$1.10 \pm .06$
		170		241						$.99 \pm .03$
		180	$\sim 25$	254						$1.00 \pm .08$
DESY- Columbia '67 (Ref. 41)	e	114	$\sim 6$	162		$3 \pm 1\%$		negligible for com- parison among different points	C	$.91 \pm .04$
		144	$\sim 9$	204						$1.01 \pm .05$
		155	$\sim 8$	220						$.98 \pm .03$
		172	$\sim 13$	244						$.96 \pm .03$
		179	$\sim 9$	254						$.92 \pm .03$
		195	$\sim 12$	276						$.95 \pm .05$
		200	$\sim 17$	284						$.89 \pm .06$
		221	$\sim 11$	313						$.93 \pm .02$
		226	$\sim 14$	320						$.92 \pm .045$
		234	$\sim 17$	331						$.85 \pm .06$
		271	$\sim 20$	384						$.92 \pm .045$
		272	$\sim 23$	385						$.97 \pm .055$
		278	$\sim 17$	394						$1.04 \pm .045$
		314	$\sim 27$	445						$.85 \pm .045$
		333	$\sim 25$	472						$.97 \pm .045$
		388	$\sim 33$	548						$.92 \pm .05$
CEA '66 (Ref. 42)	$\mu$	248	0	350	0	( $< 1\%$ )	0	$(\sim 9\%)$ normali- zation	C	$1.195 \pm .057$
		268		378						$1.222 \pm .038$
		298		420						$1.165 \pm .029$
		327		461						$1.137 \pm .033$
		353		498						$1.108 \pm .027$
		380		535						$1.092 \pm .038$
		406		572			0			$1.065 \pm .060$
		435		613			5%			$1.074 \pm .089$
		465		655			15%			$1.089 \pm .137$
		491		691			25%			$1.207 \pm .169$
		524	80	740	$\sim 8\%$		40%			$1.394 \pm .336$

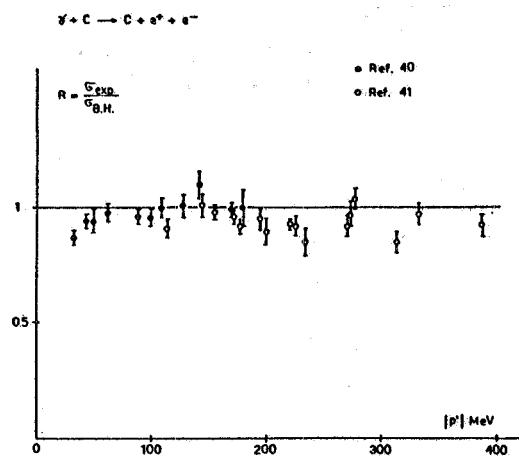


FIG. 6

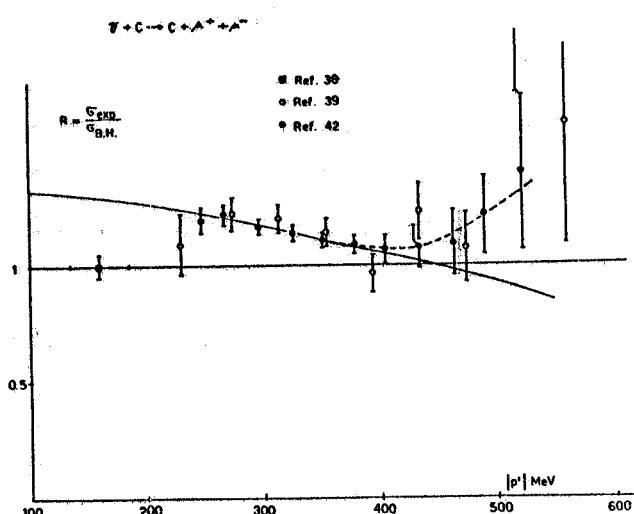


FIG. 7

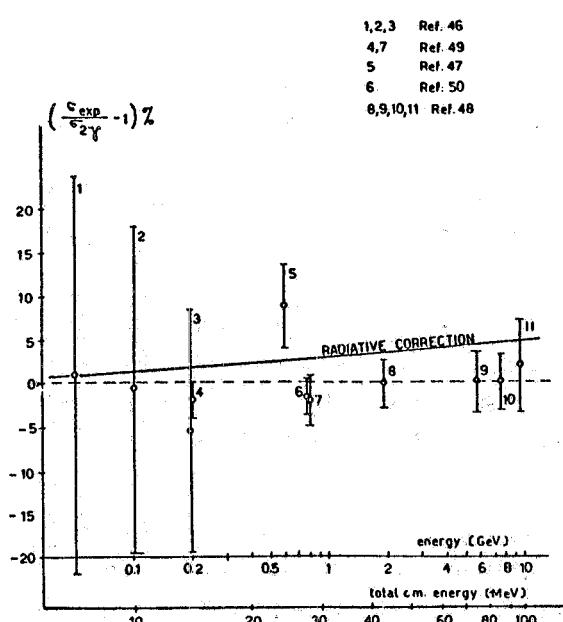
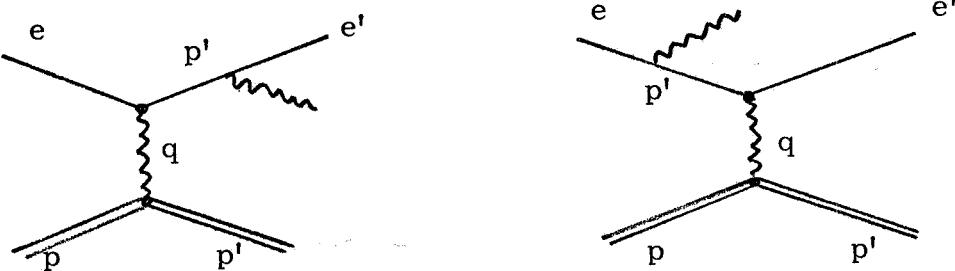


FIG. 8 - Results on positron annihilation in flight.

The lepton pair production has thus been in last years a very important tool to probe QED for space-like momentum transfers to the virtual fermion.

An experiment is in progress in Frascati to explore regions of time-like momentum transfers to the electron. It is an experiment of wide angle bremsstrahlung of electrons on hydrogen. The useful graphs are:



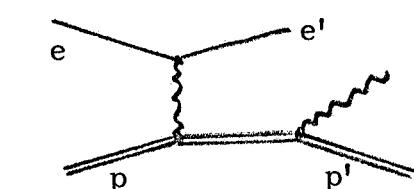
In the first graph the virtual electron is time-like ( $t^2 = p'^2 > 0$ ), in the second one space-like ( $S^2 = p'^2 < 0$ ).

The three kinematical situations explored in the experiment are such that

	I situation	II situation	III situation
q   (MeV)	~ 380	~ 380	~ 380
S   (MeV)	~ 260	~ 260	~ 260
t   (MeV)	~ 70	~ 100	~ 140

The use of an  $H_2$  target allows to reach values of  $|q|$  as high as  $\sim 400$  MeV, without the danger of introducing large systematic effects due to inelastic contributions.

On the contrary, the interference term with the Compton graphs does not vanish. In our kinematical situations, however, this contribution (evaluated according to ref. (43)) does not exceed a few percent.

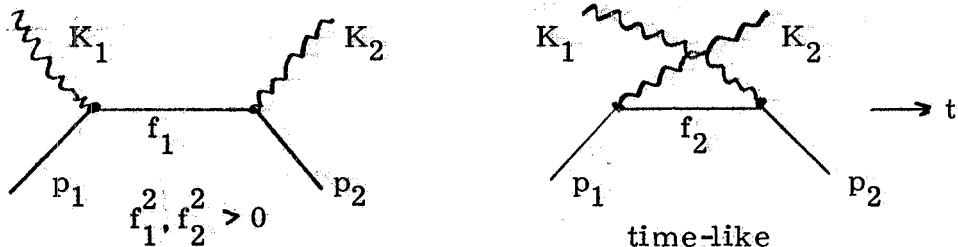


At the moment, data have been collected at  $t = 70$  and  $100$  MeV.

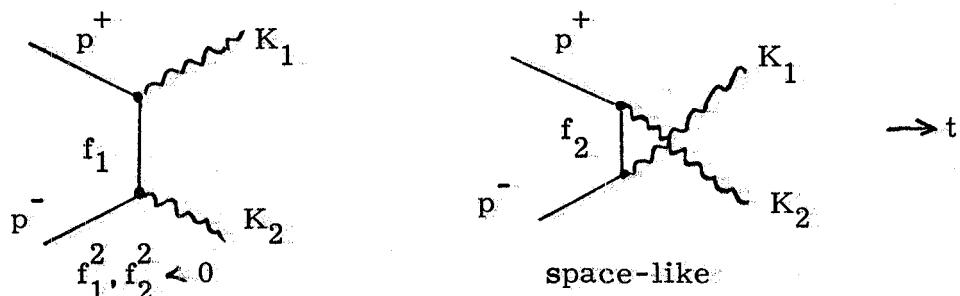
The point at  $70$  MeV has been completely analyzed (apart from radiative corrections) and the result is consistent with QED within the  $6\%$  error. The complete set of data is expected to be available within a few months.

One fermion off the mass-shell; photon on the mass-shell.

Experiments of this kind are Compton scattering



and two photon annihilation



Note that this is the only case in which we have not to do with photon propagators, nor with any kind of strong-interaction contamination.

We will consider the annihilation process, which has been experimentally investigated at high energy, and will be the object of further investigation using colliding beam machines<sup>(44)</sup>.

The differential cross section for two-photon annihilation can be written in the c. m. s.<sup>(45)</sup>, as a function of invariants:

$$d\sigma = - \frac{r_o^2 m^2}{8p_o \epsilon_o} \left\{ 4\left(\frac{1}{x_1} + \frac{1}{x_2}\right)^2 - 4\left(\frac{1}{x_1} + \frac{1}{x_2}\right) - \left(\frac{x_1}{x_2} + \frac{x_2}{x_1}\right) \right\} d\Omega$$

where  $r_o$  classical radius of the electron

$m$  mass of the electron

$p = (\epsilon_o, \vec{p}_o) = p_+ = -p_-$  four momentum of the incident positron

$p_o = |\vec{p}_o|$ .

$$m^2 x_{1,2} = 2 \epsilon_o (\epsilon_o + p_o \cos\theta) = f_{1,2}^2 + m^2$$

$\theta$  angle of emission of  $K_1$ .

or, as a function of the angle  $\theta$ :

$$d\sigma = \frac{1}{4} \frac{r_o^2 m^2}{p_o \epsilon_o} \frac{\epsilon_o^2 + p_o^2 + p_o^2 \sin^2 \theta}{\epsilon_o^2 - p_o^2 \cos^2 \theta} - \frac{2p_o^4 \sin^4 \theta}{(\epsilon_o^2 - p_o^2 \cos^2 \theta)^2} \sin \theta d\theta d\varphi$$

Only total cross section measurements have been performed up to now.

Once  $\Sigma$  is fixed, the momentum transfers  $f^2$  range from  $2\Sigma_0(\Sigma_0 - p_0) \approx 0$  to  $2\Sigma_0(\Sigma_0 + p_0) \approx 4\Sigma_0^2$  as  $\theta$  goes from  $0^\circ$  to  $180^\circ$ . However, the differential cross section weights heavily the low values of the momentum transfers. The average value of the momentum transfer can be evaluated

$$\bar{f}_1^2 = \bar{f}_2^2 = \frac{\int (M^2 x_1 - m^2) d\sigma}{\int d\sigma} = 2\Sigma_0^2 - 2\Sigma_0 p_0 \frac{\int \cos\theta d\sigma}{\int d\sigma}$$

and even at 10 GeV incident positrons turns out to be of the order of  $(30 \text{ MeV})^2$ .

The available experimental results are shown in Table II and Fig. 8.

We see that the agreement with QED would be perfect if one neglects radiative corrections. However, taking into account radiative corrections there is a discrepancy of the order of  $3 \pm 5\%$  ( $= 1 \pm 1.5$  standard deviation on each of the 6 points). We are now waiting for the colliding beam experiments. It is worth noticing that the momentum transfers  $f^2$  involved in experiments of this kind<sup>(44)</sup> will be of the order of some  $(\text{GeV})^2$ .

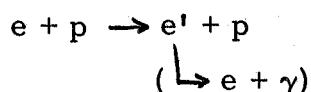
## 7 - TESTS OF A PARTICULAR MODEL -

We have seen a naive example of a modified QED involving an excited electron. A specific model of QED breakdown in terms of an heavy electron has actually been proposed by F. Low<sup>(51)</sup>. The excited electron  $e'$  of mass  $m^*$  could couple with electron in the form

$$\frac{\lambda_e}{m^*} \bar{\psi}_{e'} \gamma_\mu \psi_e F_{\mu\nu} + \text{h. c.}$$

$\lambda$  was proposed to be of the order of 1.

Two experiments<sup>(52, 53)</sup> have been performed searching for the heavy electron in reaction



The range of mass explored is  $\sim 100 \text{ MeV} < m^* < 1 \text{ GeV}$ . No evidence for the presence of this reaction was found. The results are expressed in terms of upper limits on  $\lambda$ , and are summarized in Table III.

I thank prof. C. Bernardini for a number of clarifying discussions.

TABLE II

Experiment	Positron energy MeV	$2E_0$ c. m. total energy MeV	Average momentum transfer MeV	$(\frac{\sigma_{\text{exp}}}{\sigma_{\text{2y}}} - 1) \%$	Radiative corrections %
Berkeley (Ref. 46)	50	7	~ 3	+1.8 ± 23	+ few percent
	100	10	~ 4	- .8 ± 19	
	200	14	~ 6	-6.4 ± 15	
Lausanne (Ref. 47)	600	24	~ 9	+7.5 ± 5	+2.2
CERN (Ref. 48)	1940	45	~ 15	- .6 ± 2.7	+3.3
	5800	77	~ 22	- .5 ± 3.5	+4.1
	7710	89	~ 25	0 ± 3.2	+4.35
	9640	100	~ 27	1.5 ± 5.5	+4.55
Stanford (Ref. 49)	200	14	~ 6	-2.1 ± 2.1	+1.8
	811	28	~ 10	-2.1 ± 2.9	+2.5
Pisa (Ref. 50)	790	28	~ 10	-1.9 ± 2.1	+2.5

TABLE III

$m^x$ (MeV)	$\lambda_{\text{max}} \times 10^2$	
120	4.1	Ref. 52
150	3.4	
180	3.9	
210	4.1	
240	4.25	
240	1.4	
255	2	
278	2.8	
304	3.8	
330	5	
359	6.9	
391	9.5	
424	11.2	
456	13.5	
493	15	
533	15	
571	15	
500	1.4	Ref. 53
600	1.4	
700	1.5	
800	1.7	
900	1.7	
1000	2.5	

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