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Electron-Positron Elastic Scattering at High Energies.

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Summary. — In an experiment performed at Adone, the Frascati 2×1.5 GeV electron-positron storage ring, the e^+e^- wide-angle elastic-scattering process was investigated. In this paper we present the analysis of approximately 1700 e^+e^- Bhabha scattering events collected at several energies of the incident electron and positron beams between 0.8 and 1.0 GeV; this corresponds in our experimental apparatus to an averaged momentum transfer to the virtual spacelike photon ranging within $\sim (1.0 \div 1.7) (\text{GeV}/c)^2$. In the energy range explored the experimental data show a slope and an absolute value in agreement with the predictions of quantum electrodynamics to within the experimental errors of $\sim 10\%$.

In an experiment to search for the possible production of new $J^{PC}=1^{--}$ neutral bosons in e^+e^- interactions at Adone, the Frascati 2×1.5 GeV e^+e^-

storage ring ⁽¹⁾, approximately 1700 e⁺e⁻ wide-angle elastic-scattering events were collected in addition to the hadronic events discussed in another paper ⁽²⁾. In the runs performed up to now the energy of the incident electrons and positrons was fixed at several different values between 0.8 and 1.0 GeV.

By comparing the observed wide-angle e⁺e⁻ elastic-scattering rate with the « monitor », *i.e.* the rate of e⁺e⁻ small-angle scattering events measured in a separate apparatus ⁽³⁾, a test of the validity of quantum electrodynamics (QED) is obtained with squared spacelike momentum transfers to the virtual photon up to ~ 1.7 (GeV/c)². The experimental results are in agreement with the theory.

Schematic views of the experimental apparatus are shown in Fig. 1. Four identical telescopes (T_1, \dots, T_4), surrounding one of the experimental straight sections of Adone, cover about 0.35 of the total solid angle. Each telescope, T_i , consists of

four counters A_i, B_i, C_i, D_i (plastic scintillators);

two magnetostrictive monogap wire spark chambers α_i and β_i , in which the azimuthal direction (z -axis along the beam direction) of the emitted particles is measured;

the following absorber: 1 cm Al between counters A_i and B_i , and 0.7 cm Pb between B_i and C_i and between C_i and D_i .

A thick absorber (22 cm Fe) and a roof of veto counters, CR_1 and CR_2 , above the apparatus give a reduction of a factor ~ 100 in the counting rate due to cosmic rays, while particles coming from reactions which are the object of our study have only a small probability of emerging from the Fe absorber.

A charged particle in the telescope T_i is defined by the coincidence

$$T_i \equiv A_i B_i (C_i + D_i),$$

⁽¹⁾ F. AMMAN *et al.*: *Proceedings of the International Conference on High-Energy Accelerators* (Dubna, 1963), p. 249; F. AMMAN *et al.*: *Proceedings of the V International Conference on High-Energy Accelerators* (Frascati, 1965), p. 703; F. AMMAN *et al.*: *Proceedings of the Symposium International sur les Anneaux de Collisions* (Saclay, 1966), III-2-1; F. AMMAN, R. ANDREANI, M. BASSETTI, M. BERNARDINI, A. CATTONI, V. CHIMENTI, G. F. CORAZZA, D. FABIANI, E. FERLENGHI, A. MASSAROTTI, C. PELLEGRINI, M. PLACIDI, M. PUGLISI, F. SOSO, S. TAZZARI, F. TAZZIOLI and G. VIGNOLA: *Lett. Nuovo Cimento*, **1**, 729 (1969).

⁽²⁾ B. BARTOLI, B. COLUZZI, F. FELICETTI, V. SILVESTRINI, G. GOGGI, D. SCANNICCHIO, G. MARINI, F. MASSA and F. VANOLI: *Nuovo Cimento*, **70 A**, 615 (1970).

⁽³⁾ G. BARBIELLINI, B. BORGIA, M. CONVERSI and R. SANTONICO: *Rendiconti della Classe di Scienze Mat. Fis. e Nat. dell'Acc. Naz. dei Lincei*, **44**, 233 (1968).

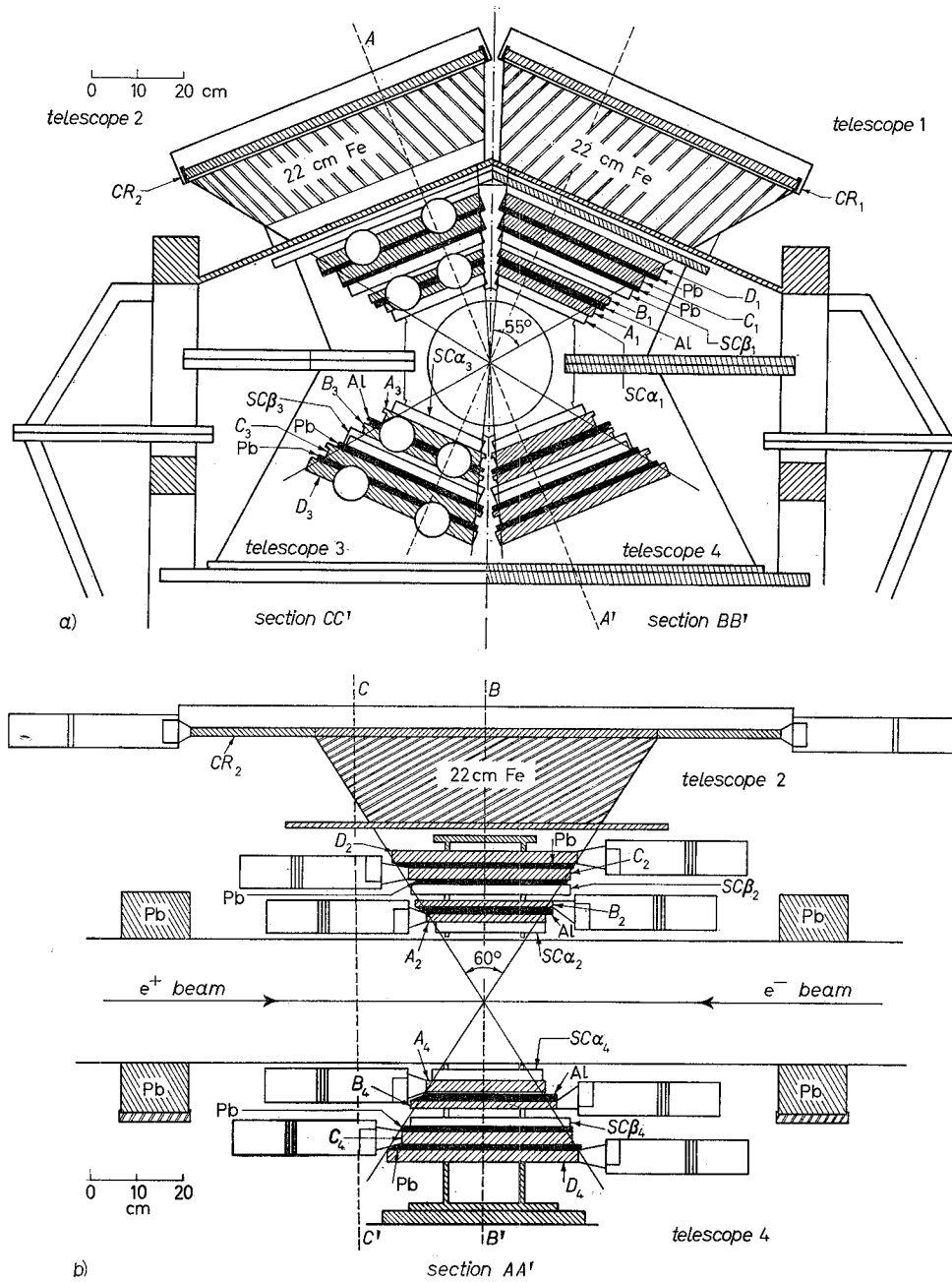


Fig. 1. - The experimental apparatus: a) Section orthogonal to the beam axis; A_i, B_i, C_i, D_i are plastic scintillator counters; $SC\alpha_i$ and $SC\beta_i$, magnetostrictive monogap wire chambers; CR_1 and CR_2 , the veto counters for cosmic rays. b) Section in a plane through the beam direction and orthogonal to a pair of opposite telescopes.

while a neutral particle N_i is defined as $N_i \equiv (\bar{A}_i + \bar{B}_i)(C_i + D_i)$. The master coincidence M is defined by any coincidence of order ≥ 2 among the T_i 's, with $CR \equiv (CR_1 + CR_2)$ in anticoincidence.

When a master M occurs, the spark chambers are triggered, and the following information is recorded with a small on-line PDP-8 computer:

- i) the coincidences T_i 's involved in the master;
- ii) the time separation Δt between the occurrence of the event and a reference time fixed with respect to the phase of the radio-frequency (R.F.) accelerating voltage of the storage ring ⁽⁴⁾;
- iii) four pulse heights H_i , each H_i being the sum of the pulse heights in counters C_i and D_i ;
- iv) the transverse co-ordinate (orthogonal to the beam) of any event in each of the spark chambers α_i , β_i , with the restriction, however, that if there is more than one track in the same chamber, we read only the co-ordinate of the track closest to the magnetostrictive pick-up.

This information is recorded, event by event, on magnetic tape for later analysis on the 1108 Univac computer of the University of Rome. During each run histograms of uncorrelated spectra for each telescope are accumulated in a live display for monitoring purposes.

In the analysis we first classify the events as «in phase» and «out of phase» with the beam-beam impact. The distribution of the number of events as a function of Δt shows a peak superimposed on a flat background due to cosmic rays; the peak corresponds to the time distribution of the overlap of the colliding bunches folded with our experimental time resolution. This allows us to define the time distance $\Delta\tau$ between the occurrence of each event and the centre of the collision distribution. We define as «in phase» events (p.e.) the ones which occur within the collision time interval, as «out of phase» events (o.p.e.) the outside ones.

The $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ elastic-scattering events are to be selected among the p.e., in the coincidences between two opposite telescopes (T_1T_3 or T_2T_4). The selection is based on the analysis of the pulse heights H_i 's in the telescopes involved, since the electrons have a high probability ($\geq 90\%$) of producing a detectable shower in the lead-scintillator sandwiches C_i , D_i . Typical plots of H_1 vs. H_3 are shown in Fig. 2a), b). In Fig. 2a), only «in phase» events (p.e. for which

⁽⁴⁾ Adone works with a 3rd harmonic R.F. system, so there are three bunches of e^+ and three bunches of e^- each between 1 and 2 ns (f.w.h.m.) long; they cross the R.F. cavity when the R.F. phase equals the synchronous phase $\bar{\varphi}$, which is slightly dependent on the machine energy, and collide with each other in the experimental sections every ~ 100 ns.

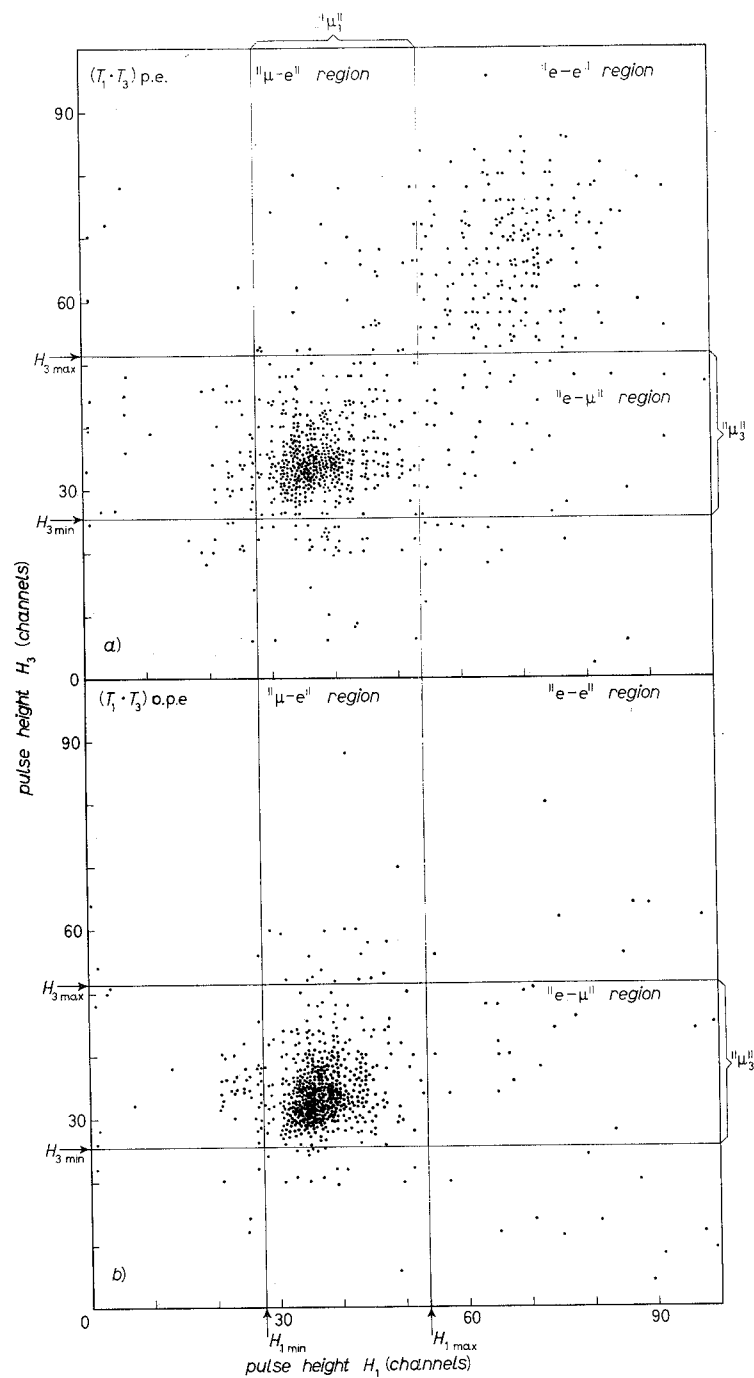


Fig. 2. - Pulse height analysis of $(T_1 \cdot T_3)$ events: *a)* Plot of H_3 vs. H_1 pulse heights, for $(T_1 \cdot T_3)$ events which are « in phase » with the bunches (p.e., $|\Delta\tau| \leq 4$ ns). The « e-e », « μ -e », « e- μ » regions contain candidates for $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ events (see text). From now on events in both « μ -e » and « e- μ » regions will be called « μ -e » events. *b)* The same as *a)*, but referred to « out of phase » events (o.p.e., $|\Delta\tau| > 4$ ns).

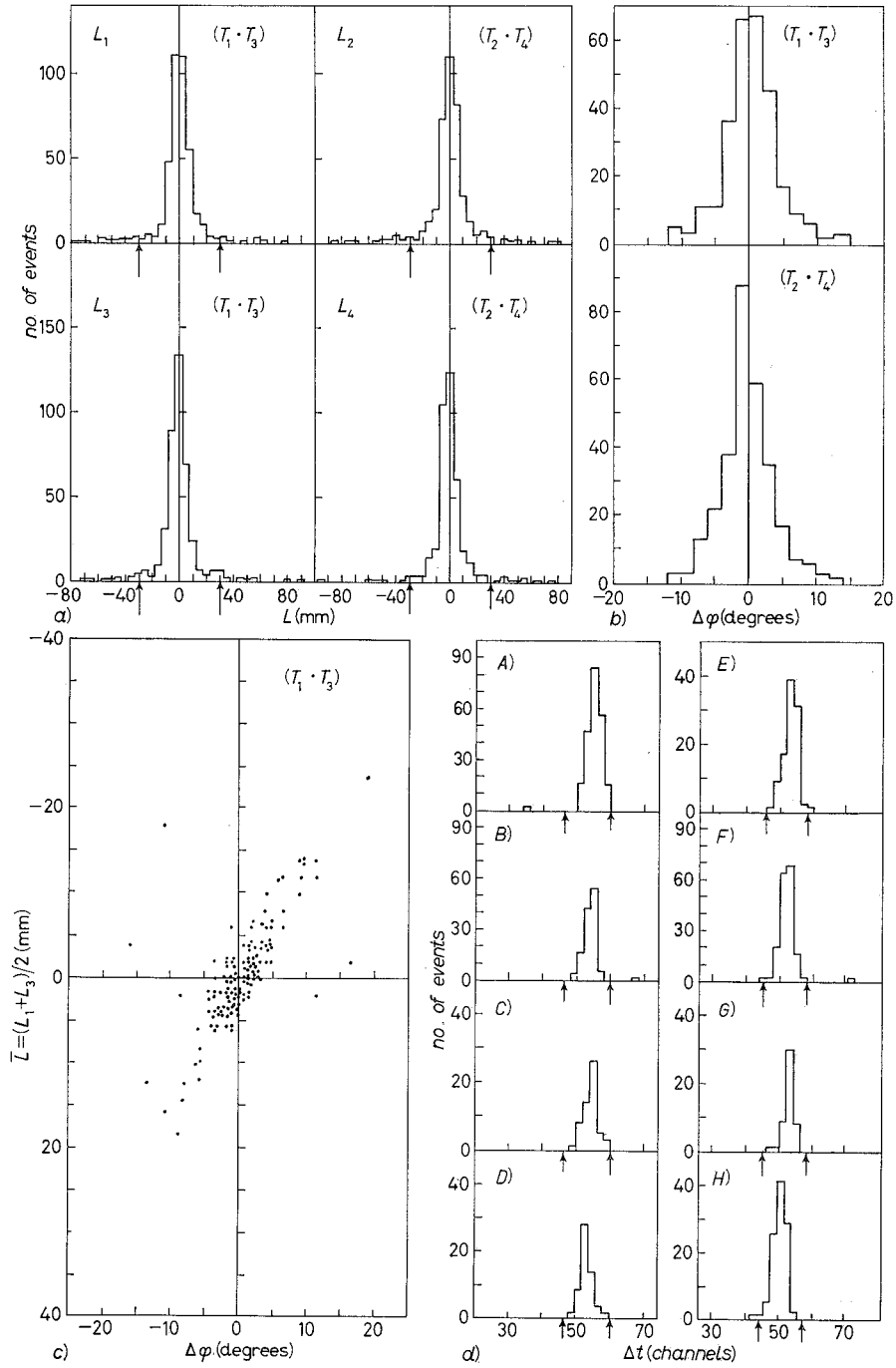


Fig. 3.

$|\Delta\tau| \leq 4$ ns) are plotted; Fig. 2*b*) shows the plot of the o.p.e. ($|\Delta\tau| > 4$ ns). If we set arbitrary upper and lower boundaries $H_{i,\max}$ and $H_{i,\min}$ for minimum ionizing particles (« μ ») crossing the telescope T_i , we can divide the plane of Fig. 2 into four different regions above $H_{i,\min}$ and $H_{i,\max}$. (The boundaries are selected so that $\sim 99\%$ of the minimum ionizing particles occur between $H_{i,\min}$ and $H_{i,\max}$.) It can be seen that the large-pulse-height region («e-e»), which is practically empty in Fig. 2*b*), is fairly heavily populated in Fig. 2*a*). Those events in which both particles give rise to a shower («e-e» events), are good candidates as e^+e^- events.

Actually, the additional information available allows one to conclude that the «e-e» events are, almost without exception, elastic-scattering events.

Figure 3*a*) shows the distributions of the distance L_i between the track in telescope T_i and the axis of the beam, for «e-e» events. L_i is positive or negative according to the relative position of the particle trajectory with respect to the beam line. From Fig. 3*a*) it appears that all the events originate in the beam region within ± 7.5 mm. The actual transverse dimensions of the beam are $\sim (1 \times 1)$ mm², but multiple scattering in the vacuum chamber walls and in the absorbers of the telescopes accounts for the observed width.

Figure 3*b*) shows the distribution of the angle $\Delta\varphi$ between the two planes parallel to the beam axis and containing the two tracks of the «e-e» events: the events appear to be coplanar within $\pm 3^\circ$ (h.w.h.m.). Such a spread is expected from multiple scattering in the telescopes and this interpretation is confirmed by the results shown in Fig. 3*c*). In this Figure we have plotted the angle $\Delta\varphi$ for each event against \bar{L} , the mean of L_1 and L_3 or L_2 and L_4 . The correlation between $\Delta\varphi$ and \bar{L} is clearly seen.

The Δt distribution for «e-e» events (Fig. 3*d*)) confirms that the contamination from the o.p.e. is very small.

Fig. 3. — Track analysis and time distribution of the «e-e» events. *a*) The number of the «e-e» events as a function of the distance L_i between the line of flight of the particle in the telescope T_i and the axis of the beam (positive L_i particles come from one side of the beam, negative ones from the other side). *b*) «e-e» event distribution as a function of $\Delta\varphi$, the angle between the two planes parallel to the beam axis and containing the two different tracks associated with each «e-e» event. *c*) \bar{L} vs. $\Delta\varphi$ plot for ($T_1 \cdot T_3$) «e-e» events. *d*) Time distributions of «e-e» events for several different values of the c.m. total energy $2E = E_+ + E_-$: *A*) $2E = 2000$ MeV; *B*) $2E = 1900$ MeV; *C*) $2E = 1850$ MeV; *D*) $2E = 1800$ MeV; *E*) $2E = 1750$ MeV; *F*) $2E = 1700$ MeV; *G*) $2E = 1650$ MeV; *H*) $2E = 1600$ MeV. Δt is the time separation between the occurrence of the event and a reference time fixed with respect to the phase of the radio-frequency (R.F.) accelerating voltage of the storage ring (1 channel $\simeq 0.7$ ns). The arrows define the beam-beam collision intervals, slightly different at different energies $2E$.

Finally, background measurements performed with only a single beam (e^-) in the machine allow us to evaluate the contamination from interactions of electrons with the residual gas as $(2.1 \pm 0.7)\%$ ⁽⁵⁾.

We thus conclude that the «e-e» events, after the small background subtraction are two-body events with charged light electromagnetic particles from e^+e^- collisions, and are, therefore, $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ elastic-scattering events.

The track analysis made above required that all of the four spark chambers involved in each event showed a track. However, since the efficiency of each chamber has been measured to be 0.85 to 0.90, we would lose in this way a large number of $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ events. As the track analysis demonstrates all the «e-e» events to be $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$, we use, for the evaluation of the cross-section, all the events satisfying the pulse height requirements, avoiding in this way problems connected with spark chamber efficiency.

Since the probability that an electron will initiate a shower, before getting through the counters $C_i + D_i$, is less than 100%, we expect that a fraction of the events $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ will appear in the form of events marked as « μ -e» in Fig. 2a). To evaluate this correction, the « μ -e» events have also been analysed in the same manner as the «e-e» events.

The $|\Delta\varphi|$ distribution for the p.e. « μ -e» events ($|\Delta\tau| \leq 4$ ns) is shown in Fig. 4a). There is a substantial peak of coplanar events. The \bar{L} distribution for these coplanar events ($|\Delta\varphi| \leq 10^\circ$) is shown in Fig. 4b); again we see that the majority of them comes from the source. By appropriately subtracting the background events (o.p.e.), we are thus able to evaluate the probability ε for an electron to appear in a « μ -e» region of Fig. 2a), which turns out to be $\varepsilon = (7.2 \pm 0.8)\%$. The total correction to be applied to the «e-e» events is therefore $(1 - \varepsilon)^{-2} = (1.16 \pm 0.02)$.

The total number of the «e-e» events collected is given (after the cosmic-ray background subtraction has been performed) in the fourth column of Table I for different values of the c.m. total energy $2E = E_+ + E_-$; the corresponding numbers of $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ events, corrected for shower inefficiency and e-gas background, are given in the sixth column (e^+e^-).

The corrected number of $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ events is compared with the «monitor» events m , collected at the same time (7th column of Table I), namely with small-angle $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ elastic-scattering events ⁽³⁾ ($3.5^\circ \leq \theta < 6^\circ$)

⁽⁵⁾ This correction has been discussed at greater length in our paper ⁽²⁾ on multiple particle production from e^+e^- interactions, where this kind of contamination is more severe. The actual value of the normalization factor (to be applied, for appropriate subtraction, to the e-gas interaction events detected in the one-beam background runs) has been obtained by comparing, after subtracting cosmic-rays events, the counting rates of the T_i 's telescopes. Indeed these rates are directly associated with the interactions of the beam with the residual gas in the machine.

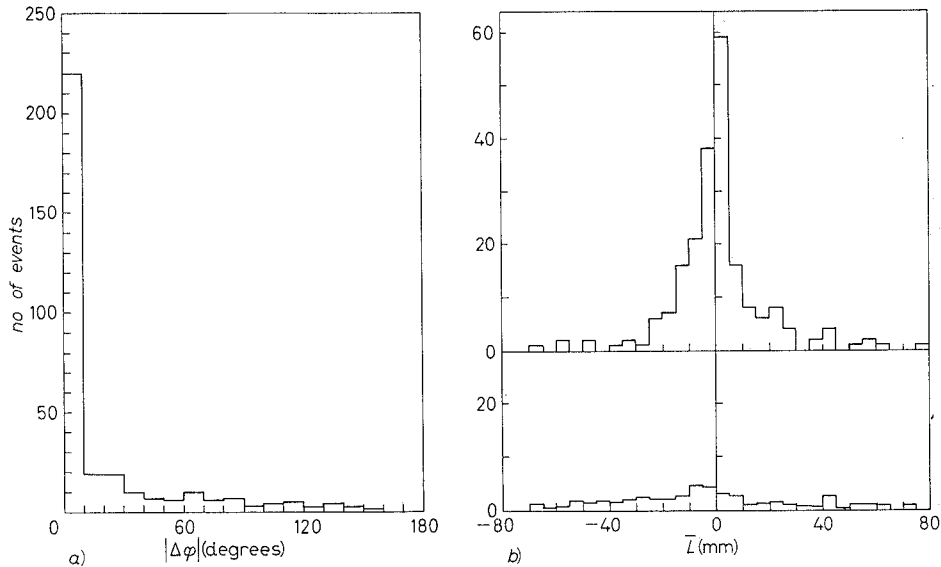


Fig. 4. — Track analysis of the « μ - e » events. *a*) $|\Delta\varphi|$ distribution of the « μ - e » events which are «in phase» with the bunches (p.e., $|\Delta\tau| \leq 4$ ns). *b*) Number of coplanar ($|\Delta\varphi| \leq 10^\circ$) « μ - e » events as a function of \bar{L} (see caption of Fig. 3). The upper spectrum is obtained from «in phase» events ($|\Delta\tau| \leq 4$ ns), $\bar{L} = (L_1 + L_3)/2$ or $(L_2 + L_4)/2$. The lower spectrum is obtained from o.p.e. ($|\Delta\tau| > 4$ ns) and it is normalized for appropriate cosmic-ray background subtraction.

TABLE I.

$2E = E_+ + E_-$ (MeV)	Total running time (min)	Integrated luminosity (cm^{-2})	« e - e » events detected (*)	Normalized e-gas interaction background	e^+e^- wide-angle scattering events corrected for e-gas background and shower inefficiency	m small-angle scattering monitor events	$R = e^+e^-/m$ (statistical errors) $\cdot 10^3$	$\langle q^2 \rangle$ (GeV/c) ²
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2000	6 833	$271 \cdot 10^{32}$	331	13.5 ± 4.0	368.3 ± 22.4	$125.9 \cdot 10^3$	2.92 ± 0.18	1.680
1900	3 587	$131 \cdot 10^{32}$	183	4.0 ± 1.2	207.6 ± 16.1	$70.4 \cdot 10^3$	2.95 ± 0.23	1.516
1850	2 725	$129 \cdot 10^{32}$	168	2.1 ± 0.6	192.5 ± 15.4	$75.6 \cdot 10^3$	2.54 ± 0.20	1.437
1800	4 373	$133 \cdot 10^{32}$	226	5.5 ± 1.7	255.8 ± 18.1	$84.1 \cdot 10^3$	3.04 ± 0.21	1.361
1750	5 466	$130 \cdot 10^{32}$	182	4.2 ± 1.3	206.2 ± 16.1	$88.3 \cdot 10^3$	2.34 ± 0.18	1.286
1700	4 873	$122 \cdot 10^{32}$	251	3.2 ± 1.0	287.4 ± 19.0	$90.5 \cdot 10^3$	3.17 ± 0.21	1.214
1650	4 023	$98 \cdot 10^{32}$	187	2.4 ± 0.7	214.1 ± 16.3	$80.3 \cdot 10^3$	2.67 ± 0.20	1.143
1600	3 653	$73 \cdot 10^{32}$	171	1.1 ± 0.3	197.2 ± 15.5	$64.4 \cdot 10^3$	3.06 ± 0.24	1.075
Total	35 533	$1087 \cdot 10^{32}$	1699	36.0 ± 10.8	1929.1 ± 59.0	$679.5 \cdot 10^3$	2.83 ± 0.09	

(*) Cosmic-ray background subtracted.

measured with a separate experimental apparatus, on a contiguous straight section of Adone⁽⁶⁾. The ratios R of the wide-angle scattering to the monitor events are given, with their statistical errors, in the 8th column of Table I.

From QED we can predict the ratio R_{th} of e^+e^-/m , by integrating the Bhabha cross-section⁽⁷⁾ over the experimental apparatus in which the large-angle and small-angle e^+e^- scattering events are collected.

However some problems arise from the fact that the source (product of the densities of e^+ and e^- in the bunches) has a finite longitudinal dimension. The expected distribution is

$$N(l) = N_0 \exp[-l^2/2\bar{l}^2],$$

where \bar{l} is comparable with the linear dimensions of our apparatus.

Theoretically⁽⁸⁾, \bar{l} is expected to be $\bar{l}(\text{cm}) = 20 E_{\pm}^{\frac{3}{2}}$ (E_{\pm} in GeV), and experimentally⁽⁸⁾ has been determined as $\bar{l} = (22 \pm 2) E_{\pm}^{\frac{3}{2}}$. This $\pm 10\%$ error in \bar{l} corresponds to an error $\Delta R_{th}/R_{th}$ as small as $\pm 2\%$ since the efficiencies of the large-angle and the small-angle apparatus have approximately the same dependence on \bar{l} .

In evaluating R_{th} , we have applied the following systematic corrections: losses due to the probability of an electron to be vetoed by the CR counters $(8 \pm 4)\%$ ^(*); multiple-scattering losses $(2.5 \pm 2)\%$; geometrical misalignment of the experimental apparatus with respect to the beam $(3 \pm 3)\%$. Taking also into account a systematic uncertainty in the absolute normalization of the « monitor » ($\pm 5\%$ as a conservative evaluation), we conclude that the calculated R_{th} is affected by an overall systematic error of $\pm 7.5\%$. Calculated radiative corrections turn out to be negligible ($\leq 1\%$).

To compare the experimental results with the calculated R_{th} , an error of $\pm 5\%$ has to be added to the statistical one associated with each experimental point. This 5% error is ascribed to some erratic changes in the position of the beam with respect to the « monitor » apparatus, essentially due to variations in the working conditions of the machine in this first period of operation. (This evaluation is based on the comparison between the counting rates of two symmetrical telescopes of the monitor apparatus.)

⁽⁶⁾ The symmetry of the machine and the fact that the data were collected during a long period of time, averaging over possible slight changes of the working conditions of the machine, make it reasonable to assume the overall results to be unaffected by the fact that small- and large-angle elastic scatterings were measured in different straight sections of Adone.

⁽⁷⁾ See, for instance, A. I. AKHIEZER and V. BERESTESKII: *Quantum Electrodynamics* (New York, 1965), p. 502.

⁽⁸⁾ Private communications from Adone machine staff.

^(*) Preliminary evaluation.

The experimental results and the corresponding theoretical predictions for R_{th} are shown in Fig. 5a). The slight dependence of R_{th} on the total energy $2E$ is a consequence of the dependence of \bar{l} on E . We conclude that in the energy range explored the experimental data show a slope and an absolute value in agreement with the predictions of QED to within the experimental error of $\sim 10\%$.

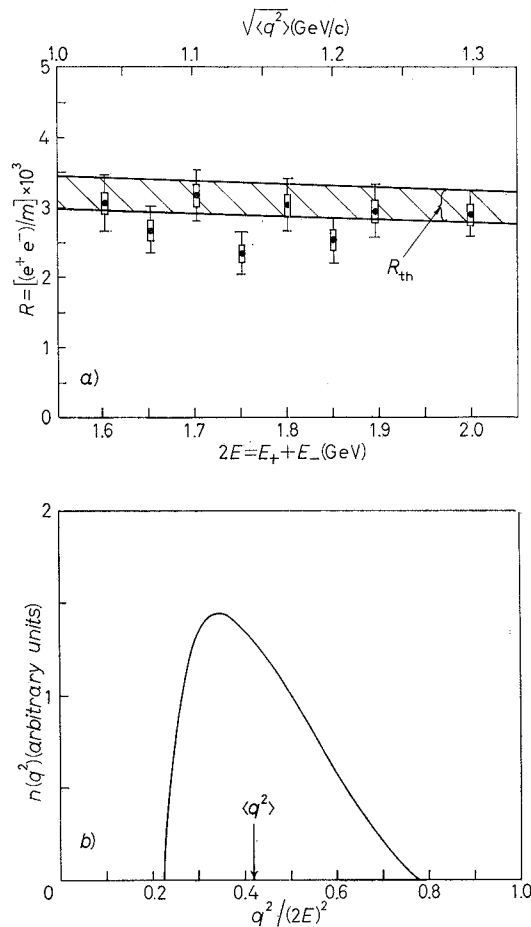


Fig. 5. - a) The ratio R of the $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ wide-angle scattering events detected by our apparatus (e^+e^-) to the «monitor» small-angle scattering events (m), as a function of the c.m. total energy $2E = E_+ + E_-$; experimental results are compared with the theoretical predictions (R_{th} , see text). In each experimental point, rectangles correspond to the 5% error due to the changes in the beam-«monitor» relative position; thin lines are the statistical errors. b) q^2 acceptance of the experimental apparatus weighted over the Bhabha cross-section, as a function of $q^2/(2E)^2$. q is the momentum transfer to the virtual spacelike photon in the first-order scattering diagram, $\langle q^2 \rangle$ the average value of the accepted q^2 .

To specify the interval of q^2 we are integrating over, we have plotted in Fig. 5b) the spectrum, weighted over the Bhabha cross-section, of the spacelike momentum transfer q , accepted by our apparatus. The average values $\langle q^2 \rangle$ are also given in the 9th column of Table I, for each c.m. energy $2E$, and range between ~ 1 and 1.7 $(\text{GeV}/c)^2$.

* * *

We would like to thank Prof. C. BERNARDINI, who participated during the first stage of the experiment, the machine staff for continuous collaboration and discussion, the authors of ref. (3) for having made available to us the «monitor» data and the luminosity information. We are particularly indebted to our technician G. SCHINA for his invaluable work on the setting up and maintenance of the apparatus.

RIASSUNTO

In un esperimento eseguito con Adone, l'anello di accumulazione per elettroni e positroni da 2×1.5 GeV dei Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, è stato studiato il processo di diffusione elastica di elettroni e positroni a grande angolo. In questo lavoro presentiamo l'analisi di circa 1700 eventi di diffusione Bhabha raccolti a varie energie dei fasci incidenti fra 0.8 e 1.0 GeV; corrispondenti, nel nostro apparato sperimentale, a momenti trasferiti medi al fotone virtuale di tipo spazio di $\sim (1.0 \div 1.7) (\text{GeV}/c)^2$. I risultati sperimentali sono in accordo, sia come dipendenza dall'energia che in valore assoluto, con le previsioni date dalla elettrodinamica quantistica entro gli errori sperimentali di $\sim 10\%$.

Резюме не получено.

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