

Session of Monday 29 September at 16-18 in aud A315.

1. Analyze the scattering amplitude  $A = A_a + A_b$  given by eq. (1) in problem 3 of Discussion session 3.
  - (a) Find the leading behavior of the amplitude in the limit  $q_\perp \rightarrow 0$  at fixed  $x$  and  $k_\perp$ . Does this region give a singular contribution to the cross section? If it does, how is the singularity handled in QED?
  - (b) Give a physical interpretation to the singular behavior of the amplitude in the limit  $k_\perp \rightarrow 0$  with  $x$  and  $\mathbf{q}_\perp$  fixed. How is this singularity regularized in the physical QED cross section? What is the interpretation of the  $\mathbf{k}_\perp \rightarrow x\mathbf{q}_\perp$  singularity?
  
2. Verify the “Cutkosky rule” for the discontinuity of a Feynman graph corresponding to a particular cut through the diagram: The denominator of the propagator of each cut line is to be replaced by  $-2\pi i\delta(k^2 - m^2)$ , where  $k$  is the momentum of the line and  $m$  its mass. It suffices that you consider the free electron propagator and the electron propagator with a photon loop correction (as in the *rhs.* diagram below). (Remember that the Feynman rules give the amplitude multiplied by  $i$ ).
  
3. The diagram below illustrates the optical theorem: The cross section is given by the discontinuity of the forward amplitude.  $T$  represent an amplitude which emits an electron with momentum  $k$  ( $k^2 > m_e^2$  and  $k^0 > 0$ ).  $T^\dagger$  is its time-reversed counterpart. The cut on the *rhs.* represents the discontinuity.
  - (a) Use the QED Feynman rules to write the expression for the squared diagram on the *lhs.*
  - (b) Express your result in a form which corresponds to the discontinuity of the forward amplitude on the *rhs.*

