

## Vector Meson Couplings to Nucleons and Backward $\rho$ and $\omega$ Production

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**Abstract:** Data on the production of vector mesons  $\rho$  and  $\omega$  in the backward direction via nucleon exchange are investigated. A better understanding of these data is achieved than hitherto, albeit at a semi-quantitative level. This is achieved partly by using more up-to-date values for the vector couplings and partly by using more precise theoretical formalism. In view of this we conclude that the data do provide a useful constraint on the couplings.

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Key words: backward reaction, baryon exchange, u-channel dominance

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