

# Leading protons at ZEUS

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The semi-inclusive reaction  $ep \rightarrow eXp$ , with a final-state proton carrying a large fraction of the incoming proton energy,  $x_L > 0.32$ , and transverse-momentum squared  $p_T^2 < 0.5 \text{ GeV}^2$ , was studied with the ZEUS detector at HERA for exchanged photon virtualities  $Q^2 > 3 \text{ GeV}^2$  and mass of the photon-proton system  $45 < W < 225 \text{ GeV}$ , using an integrated luminosity of  $12.8 \text{ pb}^{-1}$ . Leading-proton production cross section and its ratio to the inclusive DIS cross section are presented as a function of  $x_L$ ,  $p_T^2$ ,  $Q^2$  and the Bjorken scaling variable.

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