1046-22-1233   **Benjamin F Jones*** (`bjones@math.uga.edu`), 434 Meigs St, Athens, GA 30601. *Normality of Enhanced Nilpotent Orbit Closures.* Preliminary report.

We discuss preliminary results of joint work with Achar and Henderson on the normality of $GL(V)$ orbit closures in $N \times V$, where N is the variety of nilpotent endomorphisms of V. These "Enhanced Nilpotent Orbits" have been studied previously by Achar and Henderson. Their geometry is closely related to the geometry of the "Exotic Nilpotent Orbits" defined by S. Kato and studied in connection with the representation theory of affine Hecke algebras with unequal parameters in types B and C. (Received September 15, 2008)