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Single-neutron states and the role of the  $\nu g_{9/2}$  orbital in <sup>71</sup>Zn<sup>1</sup> SIMONE BOTTONI, Physics Division, Argonne National Laboratory, ANL COL-LABORATION, LBLN COLLABORATION, LLNL COLLABORATION, U. OF ROCHESTER COLLABORATION, U. OF MARYLAND COLLABORATION — The high-spin structure of <sup>71</sup>Zn has been investigated at ATLAS by means of the deep inelastic reaction <sup>48</sup>Ca+<sup>70</sup>Zn at 25% above the Coulomb barrier, using GRETINA and CHICO-2. In conjunction with GAMMASPHERE data from a similar reaction with a <sup>70</sup>Zn beam on a thick <sup>197</sup>Au target, a level scheme associated with the 3.96 h, 9/2<sup>+</sup> isomer in <sup>71</sup>Zn was delineated with the aim to achieve a better understanding of the nature of the neutron excitations close to N = 40. The level sequences built on the  $g_{9/2}$  neutron orbital all appear to be of single-particle character. The results will be presented and compared with shell-model calculations using modern effective interactions.

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