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J. L. Alperin* (alperin@math.uchicago.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Chicago, 5734 University Avenue, Chicago, IL 60637. *Endo-trivial modules and finite p -groups*. Preliminary report.

Jon Carlson has conjectured that the rank of $T(P)$, the group of endo-trivial modules in characteristic p for a finite p -group P , is bounded by a function of p . He has demonstrated that this is true for $p = 2$ with a bound of five. The existence of a bound is now established for odd primes but precise information is missing. The question quickly becomes one of studying maximal elementary abelian subgroups of order p^2 of P . (Received May 24, 2006)