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Some groups of type VF.

A group H is of type F if there is a finite model for its classifying space $BH = K(H, 1)$. Type F is the strongest of the so-called homological finiteness conditions. For example, groups of type F are necessarily torsion-free. A VF-group is a group G containing a finite-index subgroup of type F. K. S. Brown has shown that a VF-group contains only finitely many conjugacy classes of subgroups of prime-power order. We exhibit VF-groups in which the centralizers of some elements of finite order are not VF-groups, and VF-groups containing infinitely many conjugacy classes of finite subgroups. Some of our examples contain infinitely many conjugacy classes of finite abelian subgroups. (Received September 27, 2000)