

Solution to Exercise 4.5.8

Note first that $V = e_H V \oplus (1 - e_H)V$ is a decomposition of V as an $e_H F G e_H$ -module. Moreover, since $e_H F G e_H$ annihilates $(1 - e_H)V$ we conclude that $\text{trace}_V(e_H g e_H) = \text{trace}_{e_H V}(e_H g e_H)$. On the other hand, since $\text{trace}(ab) = \text{trace}(ba)$ for $a, b \in FG$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \text{trace}_{e_H V}(e_H g e_H) &= \text{trace}_V(e_H g e_H) = \text{trace}_V(e_H^2 g) \\ &= \text{trace}_V(e_H g) = \text{trace}_V\left(\frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{h \in H} h g\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{h \in H} \text{trace}(gh) \end{aligned} .$$