



A diagram illustrating the addition of two segments. The top row shows two separate horizontal segments, each with a brown circular endpoint. The first segment is labeled $a + b$ and the second is labeled $k + c$. A green line segment connects the right endpoint of the first segment to the left endpoint of the second segment. Below this, a single horizontal segment with two brown endpoints is labeled $a + b + c - k$, representing the combined length after removing the overlapping distance k .

$$a + b$$

$$k + c$$

$$a + b + c - k$$