

Let  $K = U \cap W$

Put  $\dim U = m$ ,  $\dim W = n$ ,  $\dim K = k$

We exclude the obvious cases when  $U \subseteq W$  or  $W \subseteq U$  or  
 $U = \{0\}$  or  $W = \{0\}$

So let  $B_U = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  be a basis for  $K$ .

In case  $k=0$ , we let  $B_U = \emptyset$

So we extend  $B_U$  to a basis of  $U$  by adjoining the vectors  
 $\bar{u}_1, \dots, \bar{u}_{m-k}$ , and  $\bar{w}$

And, we extend  $B_W$  to a basis of  $W$  by adjoining the  
vectors  $\bar{w}_1, \dots, \bar{w}_{n-k}$

Here we have used Proposition 15.

Consider the set  $B = \{v_1, \dots, v_k, \bar{u}_1, \dots, \bar{u}_{m-k}, \bar{w}_1, \dots, \bar{w}_{n-k}\}$

We claim  $B$  is a basis for  $U + W$ .

Clearly,  $\text{Span } B = U + W$

So we only need to show  $B$  is linearly independent.

let  $\bar{u} \in U$

$$\bar{u} = c_1\bar{v}_1 + c_2\bar{v}_2 + \dots + c_k\bar{v}_k + d_1\bar{u}_1 + \dots + d_{m-k}\bar{u}_{m-k}$$

$\vdash \bar{w} \in W$

$$\bar{w} = g_1\bar{v}_1 + \dots + g_k\bar{v}_k + h_1\bar{w}_1 + \dots + h_{n-k}\bar{w}_{n-k}$$

$$\text{so } \bar{u} + \bar{w} = (\dots) + (\dots)$$
$$\bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{v}_k \quad \bar{u}_1, \dots, \bar{u}_{m-k} \quad \bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{v}_k \quad \bar{w}_1, \dots, \bar{w}_{n-k}$$

is a linear comb of

$$\bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{v}_k, \bar{u}_1, \dots, \bar{u}_{m-k}, w_1, \dots, w_{n-k}$$

Q.E.D.

Now

$$a_1\bar{v}_1 + \dots + a_k\bar{v}_k + b_1\bar{u}_1 + \dots + b_{m-k}\bar{u}_{m-k} + c_1\bar{w}_1 + \dots + c_{n-k}\bar{w}_{n-k} = 0 @$$

$$\Rightarrow c_1\bar{w}_1 + \dots + c_{n-k}\bar{w}_{n-k} = -a_1\bar{v}_1 - \dots - a_k\bar{v}_k - b_1\bar{u}_1 - \dots - b_{m-k}\bar{u}_{m-k}$$

$$c_1\bar{w}_1 + \dots + c_{n-k}\bar{w}_{n-k} \in K$$

$$\Rightarrow c_1\bar{w}_1 + \dots + c_{n-k}\bar{w}_{n-k} = d_1\bar{v}_1 + \dots + d_k\bar{v}_k \quad \text{for some } d_i \in K \quad ③$$

Substitute ③ in ①

$$(a_1+d_1)\bar{v}_1 + \dots + (a_k+d_k)\bar{v}_k + b_1\bar{u}_1 + \dots + b_{m-k}\bar{u}_{m-k} = 0 \quad ④$$

$\Rightarrow$  it becomes a basis for  $U$

$$\Rightarrow d_1 = d_2 = \dots = d_{m-k} = 0 \quad \text{---} ⑤$$

$\Rightarrow$  (a) becomes

$$a_1\bar{v}_1 + \dots + a_k\bar{v}_k + c_1\bar{w}_1 + \dots + c_m\bar{w}_m = \overset{\circ}{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1 = \dots = a_k = c_1 = \dots = c_m = 0 \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

$\Rightarrow$  B is di, using (4) & (5).

$$\begin{aligned} \dim(U+W) &= k+m-k+n-k \\ &= m+n-k \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore = \dim U + \dim W - \dim(U \cap W) \text{ as req.}$$