

five conics the hypersurfaces  $V_C, \dots, V_{C_5} \subset W$

1. met transversely away from the subvariety of singular conics, and
2. contained no singular conics in common,

the answer to our question would be easy: it would just be the fivefold self-intersection  $(\deg V_C)^5$  of  $V_C$  in  $W \cong \mathbb{P}^5$ .

⌈ Since every smooth conic is projectively isomorphic to each other,  $V_C$  is homologous to  $V_{C'}$ ,  $C, C'$  smooth conics.  $\square$

Unfortunately, matters are not so simple: while assertion 1 above is the case, and half of assertion 2, namely,

- 2'. for  $C_1, \dots, C_5$  generically chosen, no conic consisting of two distinct lines will be tangent to all five

holds, the problem is that all the hypersurface  $V_C \subset W$  will contain the subvariety

$W_2 = \{2L \mid L \subset \mathbb{P}^2\}$   
of double lines.