

$\mathbb{F}$   $\tilde{F}$  is a quadric in  $V_{k-1}$  and  $L \cap V_{k-1}$  is a line.  
 $\Rightarrow \#(\tilde{F} \cap L) \geq 2$ , and since  $L \cap \Lambda \neq \emptyset$  and  $\Lambda \cap \tilde{F} = \emptyset$ ,  
 $\#(L \cap F) \geq 3$  ( $\because F \supset \Lambda \cup \tilde{F}$ ).  
 $\Rightarrow$  Since  $F$  is a quadric,  $F \supset L$ .  $\square$

Conversely, if  $p \in F$  is any point lying off  $\Lambda$ , the  
 $(n-k+1)$ -plane spanned by  $p$  and  $\Lambda$  must meet  $V_{k-1}$  in  
 a point  $q$ .

$\mathbb{F}$  It is clear, since  $\langle p, \Lambda \rangle = \mathbb{P}^{n-k+1}$  and  $V_{k-1} \cong$   
 $\mathbb{P}^{k-1}$ . ( $\because n-k+1 + k-1 = n$ )  $\square$

The line  $L = \overline{pq}$  then meets  $F$  at  $p$  and twice  
 again in  $\Lambda$ , and so lies in  $F$ ; in particular  
 $q \in F$ , so  $p$  lies on a line joining  $\Lambda$  and  $F$ .  
 Consequently,

A quadric  $F \subset \mathbb{P}^n$  of rank  $k$  is the cone through  
 an  $(n-k)$ -plane  $\Lambda \subset F \subset \mathbb{P}^n$  over a quadric of  
 rank  $k$  in  $\mathbb{P}^{k-1}$ .

$\mathbb{F}$   $L$  is in  $\langle p, \Lambda \rangle$ , and  $L \cap \Lambda \neq \emptyset$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Let  $p' \in L \cap \Lambda$ .

By changing the coordinates, we may assume  
 that  $L = \{x_2 = x_3 = \dots = 0\}$  and  $p = [0, 1, 0, \dots, 0]$ .  
 $\Rightarrow F|_L = a_0 x_1^2 + a_1 x_1 x_0 + a_2 x_0^2 = 0$ .