

classical Plücker formula on  $P^2$ .  $\Rightarrow$  The # of branch points of  $r \circ f$  is  $2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 1 - 2 = 4$  by the formula on P255. Clearly,  $r(p_i)$  is the branch point of  $r$ , but it is not a branch point of  $r \circ f$ . Thus the branch locus on  $\tilde{C}_h$  descends on  $\tilde{C}_h$  of  $r \circ f$ .

Thus  $r$  can be branched at at most four points other than  $r(p_i)$ .

$\Rightarrow$

The generic line  $L \subset P^2$  through  $r(p_i)$  thus meets  $F$  at most four times away from  $r(p_i)$ , and so we see that the images  $\bar{p}_i = r(p_i)$  of the double points of  $S$  are double points of  $F$ .

$\square$   $L = h \cap P^2$ , where  $h$  is a generic hyperplane passing through  $p_0$  and  $p_i$ .  $\Rightarrow$  By the argument above,  $\#(L \cap F - r(p_i)) \leq 4$ .

$\Rightarrow$

Now, suppose the curve  $F$  has irreducible components  $F_i$  of degree  $d_i$ . Singular points of  $F$  then arise in two ways: either as points of intersection of components  $F_i, F_j$  or as singular points of a component  $F_i$ .

There are, of course, at most  $\sum_{i \neq j} d_i d_j$  singular points of  $F$  of the former kind and, by the result of