

$L \cap V_C - C'$  is smooth, i.e.  $L \cap V_C - C'$  is a set of distinct points, by Bertini's theorem.  
 $\Rightarrow$  The branched cover has branch points less than  $5+1$ , since it has one simple branch point at  $C'$  and has simple branch points (other than  $C'$ ) of less than 5.  $\Rightarrow$  It contradicts to the result that the 4-sheeted cover of  $\mathbb{P}^1$  has 6 branch points by Riemann-Hurwitz formula.

□

Next, we compute the multiplicity of the locus  $W_2$  of double lines in the generic divisor  $V_C$ . This is not hard: for  $C$  a conic,  $2L$  a generic double line, and  $\{C_\lambda\}$  a generic pencil of conics containing the double line  $2L$  as an element,  $\{C_\lambda\}$  again cuts out on  $C$  a pencil of degree 4, without base points. The corresponding map then has six branch points as before — but two of these are just the points of intersection of  $L$  with  $C$ .

¶ Counting multiplicity, we have six branch points.  $\#(2L \cap C) = 4$ , counting multiplicity.

$L \cap C$  is a set of two distinct points, since  $L$  is a generic line.  $\Rightarrow$  Two of six branch points are  $L \cap C$ .

□