# SHIMURA CURVES IN THE PRYM LOCUS 

ELISABETTA COLOMBO, PAOLA FREDIANI, ALESSANDRO GHIGI, AND MATTEO PENEGINI


#### Abstract

We study Shimura curves of PEL type in $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ generically contained in the Prym locus. We study both the unramified Prym locus, obtained using étale double covers, and the ramified Prym locus, corresponding to double covers ramified at two points. In both cases we consider the family of all double covers compatible with a fixed group action on the base curve. We restrict to the case where the family is 1-dimensional and the quotient of the base curve by the group is $\mathbb{P}^{1}$. We give a simple criterion for the image of these families under the Prym map to be a Shimura curve. Using computer algebra we check all the examples gotten in this way up to genus 28 . We obtain 44 Shimura curves generically contained in the unramified Prym locus and 9 families generically contained in the ramified Prym locus. Most of these curves are not generically contained in the Jacobian locus.


## 1. Introduction

Denote by $\mathrm{R}_{g}$ the scheme of isomorphism classes $[C, \eta]$, where $C$ is a smooth projective curve of genus $g$ and $\eta \in \operatorname{Pic}^{0}(C)$ is such that $\eta^{2}=\mathcal{O}_{C}$ and $\eta \neq \mathcal{O}_{C}$. A point $[C, \eta]$ corresponds to an étale double cover $h: \tilde{C} \longrightarrow C$. The norm map $\mathrm{Nm}: \operatorname{Pic}^{0}(\tilde{C}) \longrightarrow \operatorname{Pic}^{0}(C)$ is defined by $\operatorname{Nm}\left(\sum_{i} a_{i} p_{i}\right)=\sum_{i} a_{i} h\left(p_{i}\right)$. The Prym variety associated to $[C, \eta]$ is the connected component containing 0 of ker Nm. It is a principally polarized abelian variety of dimension $g-1$, denoted by $P(C, \eta)$ or equivalently $P(C, C)$. This defines the Prym map

$$
\mathscr{P}: \mathrm{R}_{g} \longrightarrow \mathrm{~A}_{g-1}, \quad \mathscr{P}([C, \eta]):=[P(C, \eta)] .
$$

where $\mathrm{A}_{g-1}$ is the moduli space of principally polarized abelian varieties of dimension $g-1$. We recall that the Prym map is generically an embedding for $g \geq 7$ [24], [30] and it is generically finite for $g \geq 6$. The Prym map is never injective and it has positive dimensional fibres [18], [40], 42].

Analogously one can consider the moduli space parametrising ramified double coverings and the corresponding Prym varieties. We will only consider the case in which the Prym variety is principally polarised, that is when the map is ramified at two distinct points.

So let $\mathrm{R}_{g,[2]}$ denote the scheme parametrizing triples $[C, \eta, B]$ up to isomorphism, where $C$ is a genus $g$ curve, $\eta$ a line bundle on $C$ of degree 1 , and $B$ a reduced divisor in the linear system $\left|\eta^{2}\right|$ corresponding to a $2: 1$ covering $\pi: \tilde{C} \rightarrow C$ ramified over $B$. The Prym map is the morphism

$$
\mathscr{P}: \mathrm{R}_{g,[2]} \rightarrow \mathrm{A}_{g}
$$

which associates to $[C, \eta, B]$ the $\operatorname{Prym}$ variety $P(\tilde{C}, C)$ of $\pi$. It is generically finite for $g \geq 5$ and generically injective for $g \geq 6$ (see [35]).

Denote by

$$
j: \mathrm{M}_{g} \longrightarrow \mathrm{~A}_{g}, \quad j([C]):=[J(C)] .
$$

[^0]the Torelli map and by $\overline{j\left(\mathrm{M}_{g}\right)}$ the Torelli locus. The work of Beauville [4] on admissible covers shows that one has the following inclusions
\[

$$
\begin{equation*}
\overline{j\left(\mathrm{M}_{g}\right)} \subset \overline{\mathscr{P}\left(\mathrm{R}_{g,[2]}\right)} \subset \overline{\mathscr{P}\left(\mathrm{R}_{g+1}\right)} . \tag{1.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

\]

(See also [21] and in the ramified case [35] and also sections 3 and 4 below).
On $\mathrm{A}_{g}$, viewed as orbifold there is a natural variation of Hodge structure whose fiber at a point $A$ is $H^{1}(A, \mathbb{Q})$. The Hodge loci for this variation of Hodge structure are called special or Shimura subvarieties of $\mathrm{A}_{g}$. A conjecture by Coleman and Oort 43] says that for large genus there should not exist special or Shimura subvarieties of $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ generically contained in the Torelli locus, i.e. contained in $\overline{j\left(\mathrm{M}_{g}\right)}$ and intersecting $j\left(\mathrm{M}_{g}\right)$. See 38 for more information, [29, 17, 14, 32, 33] for some results towards the conjecture and [16, 37, 22, 23, 27, 28] for counterexamples to the conjecture in low genera.

Recall that Shimura subvarieties of $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ are totally geodesic with respect to the orbifold metric induced on $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ from the symmetric metric on the Siegel space $\mathfrak{H}_{g}$. The conjecture is coherent with the fact that the Torelli locus is very curved, and a possible approach to the conjecture is via the study of the second fundamental form of the Torelli map ([15], [14]). The geometry of $\mathrm{R}_{g}$ has many analogies with the geometry of $\mathrm{M}_{g}$ and it has been extensively investigated (see [20] for a nice survey). Moreover, the second fundamental form of the Prym map $\mathscr{P}: \mathrm{R}_{g} \longrightarrow \mathrm{~A}_{g-1}$ has a very similar structure and similar properties as the one of the Torelli map [13].

In view of these similarities and of the inclusions (1.1) it is natural to ask a question analogous to the one of Coleman and Oort for the Prym loci $\overline{\mathscr{P}\left(\mathrm{R}_{g+1}\right)}$ and $\overline{\mathscr{P}\left(\mathrm{R}_{g,[2]}\right)}$, namely the following:
Question. Do there exist special subvarieties of $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ that are generically contained in the Prym loci $\mathscr{P}\left(\mathrm{R}_{g+1}\right)$ and $\mathscr{P}\left(\mathrm{R}_{g,[2]}\right)$ for $g$ sufficiently high?

For low genera $(g \leq 7)$ there do exist Shimura subvarieties of $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ contained in the Torelli locus. These have all been constructed as families of Jacobians of Galois coverings of $\mathbb{P}^{1}$ and of genus one curves ([16], [47], [37], [38], [22], [23]) [27], [28]). All these families of curves $C$ satisfy the sufficient condition that $\operatorname{dim}\left(S^{2} H^{0}\left(K_{C}\right)\right)^{G}=\operatorname{dim} H^{0}\left(2 K_{C}\right)^{G}$, where $G$ is the Galois group of the covering (see [22] Theorem 3.9). This condition ensures that the multiplication map $m:\left(S^{2} H^{0}\left(K_{C}\right)\right)^{G} \rightarrow H^{0}\left(2 K_{C}\right)^{G}$ is an isomorphism. Notice that the multiplication map is the codifferential of the Torelli map. As a first attempt to see the similarity between the Torelli and Prym loci from this point of view, in this paper we construct Shimura curves contained in the Prym loci that satisfy an analogous sufficient condition.

We consider a one-dimensional family of curves $\left\{\tilde{C}_{t}\right\}_{t \in \mathbb{C}-\{0,1\}}$ admitting an action of a group of automorphisms $\tilde{G}$ containing a central involution $\sigma$ and such that the quotient $\tilde{C}_{t} / \tilde{G} \cong \mathbb{P}^{1}$, the covering $\psi_{t}: \tilde{C}_{t} \rightarrow \tilde{C}_{t} / \tilde{G}$ is branched at 4 points and the double covering $\tilde{C}_{t} \rightarrow \tilde{C}_{t} /\langle\sigma\rangle=: C_{t}$ is either étale or ramified at two distinct points. We give a condition which ensures that the family of the Prym varieties $P\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, C_{t}\right)$ of the $2: 1$ coverings yields a Shimura curve. The condition is that the multiplication map $m:\left(S^{2} H^{0}\left(K_{C_{t}} \otimes \eta\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}} \rightarrow H^{0}\left(2 K_{C_{t}} \otimes 2 \eta\right)^{\tilde{G}}$ is an isomorphism. The multiplication map is the codifferential of the Prym map.

Since the covering $\psi_{t}$ is branched at 4 points, $\operatorname{dim}\left(H^{0}\left(2 K_{C_{t}} \otimes 2 \eta\right)^{\tilde{G}}\right)=1$, so our first requirement is that $\operatorname{dim}\left(\left(S^{2} H^{0}\left(K_{C_{t}} \otimes \eta\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}}\right)=1$ (condition (X) of section 3 and section 4 ).

Unlike the Torelli map, the Prym map has positive dimensional fibers, therefore condition (A) is not enough to ensure that multiplication map $m$ is an isomorphism, or equivalently that $m$ is not zero (condition (B) of section 3 and section 4).

We notice that if $\left(S^{2} H^{0}\left(K_{C_{t}} \otimes \eta\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}}$ is generated by a decomposable tensor (condition (B1) of sections 3 and 4) the multiplication map cannot be zero, hence condition (B) is satisfied.

This happens in particular when the group $\tilde{G}$ is abelian, hence in this case it is enough to verify condition (A) to have a Shimura curve. When $\tilde{G}$ is not abelian we study the geometry of some of these families satisfying condition (A) and we prove that the families of Pryms are not constant, hence condition (B) is satisfied.

As in the Torelli case, all the examples we found up to now are in low dimension, namely in $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ with $g \leq 12$. All the examples where the group is abelian are in $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ with $g \leq 10$. In the ramified case they are all in dimension $g \leq 8$. We also notice that the last example we find satisfying conditions ( (A) and (B1) are in dimension $g=10$. To prove that the remaining examples satisfying (A) yield Shimura curves we need ad hoc arguments. On the whole, the number of examples satisfying condition (A) decreases as the dimension grows. This suggests that, as in the Torelli case, one could expect that for high dimension there should not exist Shimura curves contained in the Prym locus constructed in this way.

Let us explain explicitly how we construct these families in the case of unramified double coverings.

A Galois covering $\tilde{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}$ is determined by the Galois group $\tilde{G}$, an epimorphism $\tilde{\theta}: \Gamma_{r} \rightarrow \tilde{G}$ and the branch points $t_{1}, \ldots, t_{r} \in \mathbb{P}^{1}$ (see section 3 for the notation). We will choose $r=4$. We also fix a central involution $\sigma \in \tilde{G}$ that does not lie in $\bigcup_{i=1}^{r}\left\langle\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{i}\right)\right\rangle$. Denote by $G=\tilde{G} /\langle\sigma\rangle$. Fixing the $\operatorname{Prym}$ datum $(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta}, \sigma)$, setting $\left\{t_{1}, t_{2}, t_{3}\right\}=\{0,1, \infty\}$ and letting the point $t_{4}=t$ vary we get a one dimensional family of curves and coverings

and correspondingly a family $\mathrm{R}(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta}, \sigma) \subset \mathrm{R}_{g}$.
Let $\pi: \tilde{C} \rightarrow C$ be an element of the family and let $\eta \in \operatorname{Pic}^{0}(C)$ be the 2 -torsion element yielding the étale double covering $\pi$. Set $V=H^{0}\left(\tilde{C}, K_{\tilde{C}}\right)$, and let $V=V_{+} \oplus V_{-}$be the eigenspace decomposition for the action of $\sigma$. The summand $V_{+}$is isomorphic as a $G$-representation to $H^{0}\left(C, K_{C}\right)$, while $V_{-}$is isomorphic to $H^{0}\left(C, K_{C} \otimes \eta\right)$. Set $W=H^{0}\left(\tilde{C}, 2 K_{\tilde{C}}\right)$ and let $W=W_{+} \oplus W_{-}$be the eigenspace decomposition for the action of $\sigma$. We have $W_{+} \cong H^{0}\left(C, 2 K_{C}\right)$ and $W_{-} \cong H^{0}\left(C, 2 K_{C} \otimes \eta\right)$. Consider the multiplication map $m: S^{2} V \longrightarrow W$. It is the codifferential of the Torelli map $\widetilde{j}: \mathrm{M}_{\tilde{g}} \rightarrow \mathrm{~A}_{\tilde{g}}$ at $[\tilde{C}] \in \mathrm{M}_{\tilde{g}}$. The multiplication map is $\tilde{G}$-equivariant and we have the following isomorphisms

$$
\left(S^{2} V\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(S^{2} V_{+}\right)^{G} \oplus\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{G}, W^{\tilde{G}}=W_{+}^{G}
$$

Therefore $m$ maps $\left(S^{2} V\right)^{\tilde{G}}$ to $W_{+}^{G}$. We are interested in the restriction:

$$
\begin{equation*}
m:\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{G} \longrightarrow W_{+}^{G} \tag{1.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

By the above discussion this is just the multiplication map $\left(S^{2} H^{0}\left(C, K_{C} \otimes \eta\right)\right)^{G} \longrightarrow H^{0}\left(C, 2 K_{C}\right)^{G}$.
Theorem 1.1. (see Theorem (3.2) Let $(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta}, \sigma)$ be a Prym datum. If the map $m$ in (1.2) is an isomorphism, then the closure of $\mathscr{P}(\mathrm{R}(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta}, \sigma))$ in $\mathrm{A}_{g-1}$ is a special subvariety generically contained in the Prym locus.

In a similar way one can construct families of Pryms in the ramified case and the analogous sufficient condition to ensure that the family yields a Shimura subvariety of $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ (see Theorem 4.2). To produce sistematically these Shimura families we used MAGMA [34]. Our script is available at: http://www.dima.unige.it/~penegini/publications. Using this script one can in principle determine all the families satisfying condition (A) and (B1) both in the unramified and in the ramified case for every $\tilde{g}=g(\tilde{C})$.

Notice that in the unramified case $\tilde{g}=2 g-1$, while in the ramified case $\tilde{g}=2 g$, where $g=$ $g(C)=g(\tilde{C} /\langle\sigma\rangle)$. As we have already observed, if $\tilde{G}$ is abelian, condition (B) is automatically satisfied, hence we get a Shimura curve. In the non abelian case we analysed some of the families satisfying condition (A) and we proved that they also yield a Shimura curve. Summarising we have the following theorem.

Theorem 1.2. In the unramified case, for $\tilde{g}=2 g-1 \leq 27$ we obtain 41 families satisfying condition (B1) (28 are abelian, 13 non-abelian). We obtain three more non-abelian families
satisfying condition (B), namely families 40, 43, 44 of Table 1. So in the unramified case we have found 44 families of Pryms yielding Shimura curves of $\mathrm{A}_{g-1}$ for $g \leq 13$.

In the ramified case, for $\tilde{g}=2 g \leq 28$, we found 9 Shimura families all with $\tilde{g} \leq 16$. Of these 9 families 6 satisfy condition (B1). Two other families do not satisfy condition (B1), but they satisfy condition (B). So in the ramified case we found 8 families of Pryms yielding Shimura curves of $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ with $g \leq 8$. See Table 1 .

The plan of the paper is the following:
In section 2 we recall the definition of special or Shimura subvarieties of $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ and we briefly summarise some of the results of section 3 of [22].

In section 3 we explain the construction of the families of Pryms in the unramified case and we prove Theorem 1.1.

In section 4 we do the analogous construction in the ramified case and we prove the analogous result (Theorem 4.2).

Next we describe a sample of the examples.
All the unramified abelian examples are in $\mathrm{A}_{k}$ with $k \leq 10$. In section 5 we describe the only 7 unramified abelian examples yielding a Shimura curve generically contained in the Prym locus for $k \geq 6$, hence for which the closure of the Prym locus is not all $\mathrm{A}_{k}$. There are two examples also for $k=8$, and one example for $k=10$. Up to now there are no known examples of Shimura varieties generically contained in the Torelli locus in $\mathrm{A}_{k}$ for $k \geq 8$. We also show that the familes in $\mathrm{A}_{8}$ are not families of Jacobians. Next we describe three unramified nonabelian examples that don't satisfy condition (B1). Hence we prove by ad hoc methods that they do indeed produce Shimura curves generically contained in the Prym locus in $\mathrm{A}_{9}$ and $\mathrm{A}_{12}$ and and we describe their geometry.

In section 6 we describe the examples found in the ramified case. One of the non-abelian examples gives a Shimura curve generically contained in the ramified Prym locus in $\mathrm{A}_{8}$ and we show that it is not in the Torelli locus.

In the appendix we describe the script and we give the table of the examples.

## 2. Special subvarieties of $\mathrm{A}_{g}$

2.1. Let $E: \mathbb{Z}^{2 g} \times \mathbb{Z}^{2 g} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ be the alternating form of type $(1, \ldots, 1)$ corresponding to the matrix

$$
\left(\begin{array}{cc}
0 & I_{g} \\
-I_{g} & 0
\end{array}\right) .
$$

The Siegel upper half-space is defined as follows

$$
\mathfrak{H}_{g}:=\left\{J \in \mathrm{GL}\left(\mathbb{R}^{2 g}\right): J^{2}=-I, J^{*} E=E, E(x, J x)>0, \forall x \neq 0\right\} .
$$

The group $\operatorname{Sp}(2 g, \mathbb{Z})$ acts on $\mathfrak{H}_{g}$ by conjugation and this action is properly discontinuous. Set $\mathrm{A}_{g}:=\operatorname{Sp}(2 g, \mathbb{Z}) \backslash \mathfrak{H}_{g}$. This space has the both the structure of a complex analytic orbifold and the structure of a smooth algebraic stack. Throughout the paper we will work with $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ with the orbifold structure. Denote by $A_{J}$ the real torus $\Lambda_{\mathbb{R}} / \Lambda$ provided with the complex structure $J \in \mathfrak{H}_{g}$ and the polarization $E$. It is a principally polarized abelian variety. On $\mathfrak{H}_{g}$ there is a natural variation of rational Hodge structure, with local system $\mathfrak{H}_{g} \times \mathbb{Q}^{2 g}$ and corresponding to the Hodge decomposition of $\mathbb{C}^{2 g}$ in $\pm i$ eigenspaces for $J$. This descends to a variation of Hodge structure on $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ in the orbifold or stack sense.
2.2. We refer to $\S 2.3$ in [38] for the definition of Hodge loci for a variation of Hodge structure. A special subvariety $\mathrm{Z} \subseteq \mathrm{A}_{g}$ is by definition a Hodge locus of the natural variation of Hodge structure on $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ described above. Special subvarieties contain a dense set of CM points and they are totally geodesic [38, $\S 3.4(\mathrm{~b})$ ]. Conversely an algebraic totally geodesic subvariety that contains a CM point is a special subvariety [39] (see [36, Thm. 4.3] for a more general result).

The simplest special subvarieties are the special subvarieties of PEL type, whose definition is as follows (see [38, §3.9] for more details). Given $J \in \mathfrak{H}_{g}$, set

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{Q}}\left(A_{J}\right):=\left\{f \in \operatorname{End}\left(\mathbb{Q}^{2 g}\right): J f=f J\right\} . \tag{2.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

Fix a point $J_{0} \in \mathfrak{H}_{g}$ and set $D:=\operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{Q}}\left(A_{J_{0}}\right)$. The $P E L$ type special subvariety $\mathrm{Z}(D)$ is defined as the image in $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ of the connected component of the set $\left\{J \in \mathfrak{H}_{g}: D \subseteq \operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{Q}}\left(A_{J}\right)\right\}$ that contains $J_{0}$. By definition $\mathrm{Z}(D)$ is irreducible.

If $G \subseteq \operatorname{Sp}(2 g, \mathbb{Z})$ is a finite subgroup, denote by $\mathfrak{H}_{g}^{G}$ the set of points of $\mathfrak{H}_{g}$ that are fixed by G. Set

$$
\begin{equation*}
D_{G}:=\left\{f \in \operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{Q}}\left(\mathbb{Q}^{2 g}\right): J f=f J, \forall J \in \mathfrak{H}_{g}^{G}\right\} . \tag{2.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

In the following statement we summarize what is needed in the rest of the paper regarding special subvarieties. See [22, §3] for the proofs.
Theorem 2.3. The subset $\mathfrak{H}_{g}^{G}$ is a connected complex submanifold of $\mathfrak{H}_{g}$. The image of $\mathfrak{H}_{g}^{G}$ in $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ coincides with the PEL subvariety $\mathrm{Z}\left(D_{G}\right)$. If $J \in \mathfrak{H}_{g}^{G}$, then $\operatorname{dim} \mathrm{Z}\left(D_{G}\right)=\operatorname{dim}\left(S^{2} \mathbb{R}^{2 g}\right)^{G}$ where $\mathbb{R}^{2 g}$ is endowed with the complex structure $J$.

## Acknowledgements

It is a pleasure to thank Jennifer Paulhus for sharing with us the list of generating vectors for group actions on Riemann surfaces. These data proved very helpful in double-checking our computations.

## 3. Special subvarieties in the unramified Prym locus

In this section we explain how to construct Shimura subvarieties generically contained in the Prym locus, that is contained in $\overline{\mathscr{P}\left(\mathrm{R}_{g}\right)}$ and intersecting $\mathscr{P}\left(\mathrm{R}_{g}\right)$. Recall that one has $\overline{j\left(\mathrm{M}_{g-1}\right)} \subset \overline{\mathscr{P}\left(\mathrm{R}_{g}\right)}$. In fact it is known already from the work of Wirtinger 49] (see [4] for a modern proof) that Jacobians appear as limits of Pryms. The fiber of the extended Prym map over a generic Jacobian has been studied in detail in [19] and [30. It is therefore natural to extend the search for Shimura subvarieties contained in the Torelli locus to the case of the Prym locus and to ask whether such Shimura subvarieties exist in high dimension.

For any integer $r \geq 3$ let $\Gamma_{r}$ denote the group with presentation $\Gamma_{r}=\left\langle\gamma_{1}, \ldots, \gamma_{r}\right| \gamma_{1} \cdots \gamma_{r}=$ $1\rangle$. A datum is a pair $(G, \theta)$ where $G$ is a finite group and $\theta: \Gamma_{r} \longrightarrow G$ is an epimorphism. We will only be concerned with the case $r=4$. If a datum $(G, \theta)$ is fixed, we set $\mathbf{m}:=$ $\left(m_{1}, \ldots, m_{r}\right)$ where $m_{i}$ is the order of $\left(\theta\left(\gamma_{i}\right)\right)$. We sometimes stress the importance of the vector $\mathbf{m}$ denoting a datum by $(\mathbf{m}, G, \theta)$. (In fact this is important in the MAGMA script, which starts out by computing the possible vectors $\mathbf{m}$ that satisfy the Riemann-Hurwitz formula. So in the computation the vector $\mathbf{m}$ really comes before ( $G, \theta$ ).)

Denote by $\mathrm{T}_{0, r}$ the Teichmüller space in genus 0 and with $r \geq 4$ marked points. The definition of $\mathrm{T}_{0, r}$ is as follows. Fix $r+1$ distinct points $p_{0}, \ldots, p_{r}$ on $S^{2}$. For simplicity set $P=\left(p_{1}, \ldots, p_{r}\right)$. Consider triples of the form $(C, x,[f])$ where $C$ is a curve of genus 0 , $x=\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right)$ is an $r$-tuple of distinct points in $C$ and $[f]$ is an isotopy class of orientation preserving homeomorphisms $f:(C, x) \rightarrow\left(S^{2}, P\right)$. Two such triples $(C, x,[f])$ and $\left(C^{\prime}, x^{\prime},\left[f^{\prime}\right]\right)$ are equivalent if there is a biholomorphism $\varphi: C \rightarrow C^{\prime}$ such that $\varphi\left(x_{i}\right)=x_{i}^{\prime}$ for any $i$ and $[f]=\left[f^{\prime} \circ \varphi\right]$. The Teichmüller space $\mathrm{T}_{0, r}$ is the set of all equivalence classes, see e.g. [2, Chap. 15] for more details. Since $C$ has genus 0 we can assume that $C=\mathbb{P}^{1}$. Using the point $p_{0} \in S^{2}-P$ as base point we can fix an isomorphism $\Gamma_{r} \cong \pi_{1}\left(S^{2}-P, p_{0}\right)$.

If a datum $(G, \theta)$ and a point $t=\left[\mathbb{P}^{1}, x,[f]\right] \in \mathrm{T}_{0, r}$ are fixed, we get an epimorphism $\pi_{1}\left(\mathbb{P}^{1}-x, f^{-1}\left(p_{0}\right)\right) \cong \Gamma_{r} \rightarrow G$ and thus a covering $C_{t} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}=C_{t} / G$ branched over $x$ with monodromy given by this epimorphism. The curve $C_{t}$ is equipped with an isotopy class of homeomorphisms to a fixed branched cover $\Sigma$ of $S^{2}$. Thus we have a map $\mathrm{T}_{0, r} \rightarrow \mathrm{~T}_{g} \cong \mathrm{~T}(\Sigma)$ to the Teichmüller space of $\Sigma$. The group $G$ embeds in the mapping class group of $\Sigma$, denoted $\operatorname{Mod}_{g}$. This embedding depends on $\theta$ and we denote by $G_{\theta} \subset \operatorname{Mod}_{g}$ its image. It turns out that
the image of $\mathrm{T}_{0, r}$ in $\mathrm{T}_{g}$ is exactly the set of fixed points $\mathrm{T}_{g}^{G_{\theta}}$ of the group $G_{\theta}$. We denote this set by $\mathrm{T}(G, \theta)$. It is a complex submanifold of $\mathrm{T}_{g}$. The image of $\mathrm{T}(G, \theta)$ in the moduli space $\mathrm{M}_{g}$ is a $(r-3)$-dimensional algebraic subvariety that we denote by $\mathrm{M}(G, \theta)$. See e.g. [26, 8 , 9 ] and [7, Thm. 2.1] for more details.

In the discussion above the choice of the base point $p_{0}$ is irrelevant. On the other hand the choice of the isomorphism $\Gamma_{r} \cong \pi_{1}\left(S^{2}-P, p_{0}\right)$ does matter. To describe this we introduce the braid group:

$$
\left.\mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{r}}:=\left\langle\tau_{1}, \ldots, \tau_{r}\right| \tau_{i} \tau_{j}=\tau_{j} \tau_{i} \text { for }|i-j| \geq 2, \tau_{i+1} \tau_{i} \tau_{i+1}=\tau_{i} \tau_{i+1} \tau_{i}\right\rangle
$$

There is a morphism $\varphi: \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{r}} \rightarrow \operatorname{Aut}\left(\Gamma_{r}\right)$ defined as follows:

$$
\begin{gathered}
\varphi\left(\tau_{i}\right)\left(\gamma_{i}\right)=\gamma_{i+1}, \quad \varphi\left(\tau_{i}\right)\left(\gamma_{i+1}\right)=\gamma_{i+1}^{-1} \gamma_{i} \gamma_{i+1} \\
\varphi\left(\tau_{i}\right)\left(\gamma_{j}\right)=\gamma_{j} \quad \text { for } j \neq i, i+1
\end{gathered}
$$

From this we get an action of $\mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{r}}$ on the set of data: $\tau \cdot(\mathbf{m}, G, \theta):=\left(\tau(\mathbf{m}), G, \theta \circ \varphi\left(\tau^{-1}\right)\right)$, where $\tau(\mathbf{m})$ is the permutation of $\mathbf{m}$ induced by $\tau$. Also the group $\operatorname{Aut}(G)$ acts on the set of data by $\alpha \cdot(\mathbf{m}, G, \theta):=(\mathbf{m}, G, \alpha \circ \theta)$. The orbits of the $\mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{r}} \times \operatorname{Aut}(G)$-action are called Hurwitz equivalence classes and elements in the same orbit are said to be related by a Hurwitz move. Data in the same orbit give rise to distinct submanifolds of $\mathrm{T}_{g}$ which project to the same subvariety of $\mathrm{M}_{g}$. So the submanifold $\mathrm{T}(G, \theta)$ is not well-defined, but the subvariety $\mathrm{M}(G, \theta)$ is well-defined. For more details see [46, 8, 6].
Definition 3.1. A Prym datum is triple $\Xi=(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta}, \sigma)$, where $\tilde{G}$ is a finite group, $\tilde{\theta}: \Gamma_{r} \rightarrow \tilde{G}$ is an epimorphism and $\sigma \in Z(\tilde{G})$ is an element of order 2, that does not lie in $\bigcup_{i=1}^{r}\left\langle\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{i}\right)\right\rangle$. (Here $Z(\tilde{G})$ denotes the centre of $\tilde{G}$.)

Set $G:=\tilde{G} /\langle\sigma\rangle$ and denote by $\theta: \Gamma_{r} \rightarrow G$ the composition of $\tilde{\theta}$ with the projection $\tilde{G} \rightarrow G$. A Prym datum gives rise to two submanifolds of Teichmüller spaces, namely $\mathrm{T}(G, \theta) \subset \mathrm{T}_{g}$ and $\mathrm{T}(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta}) \subset \mathrm{T}_{\tilde{g}}$. Both are isomorphic to $\mathrm{T}_{0, r}$ as explained above. For any $t \in \mathrm{~T}_{0, r}$ we have a diagram


Here $\tilde{C}_{t} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}$ is the $\tilde{G}$-covering corresponding to $t \in \mathrm{~T}_{0, r}$ and to the datum $(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta})$. The quotient $\operatorname{map} \pi_{t}: \tilde{C}_{t} \rightarrow \tilde{C}_{t} /\langle\sigma\rangle$ is an étale double cover. In fact the elements of $\tilde{G}$ that have fixed points belong to some conjugate of some $\left\langle\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{i}\right)\right\rangle$. Since $\sigma$ is central the definition ensures that it acts freely on $\tilde{C}_{t}$. Finally it is easy to check that $C_{t} \longrightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}$ is the $G$-covering corresponding to $t \in \mathrm{~T}_{0, r}$ and to the datum $(G, \theta)$. Denote by $\eta_{t}$ the element of $\operatorname{Pic}^{0}\left(C_{t}\right)$, corresponding to the covering $\pi_{t}$, i.e. such that $\left(\pi_{t}\right)_{*}\left(\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{C}_{t}}\right)=\mathcal{O}_{C_{t}} \oplus \eta_{t}$. Associating to $t \in \mathrm{~T}_{0, r}$ the class of the pair $\left(C_{t}, \eta_{t}\right)$ we get a map $\mathrm{T}_{0, r} \longrightarrow \mathrm{R}_{g}$. This map has discrete fibres. We denote by $\mathrm{R}(\Xi)$ its image. Hence $\operatorname{dim} \mathrm{R}(\Xi)=r-3$. The following diagram (where $\widetilde{j}$ and $j$ denote the Torelli morphisms) summarizes the construction.


Given a $\operatorname{Prym}$ datum $\Xi=(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta}, \sigma)$ fix an element $\tilde{C}_{t}$ of the family $\mathrm{T}(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta})$ with corresponding étale covering $\pi_{t}: \tilde{C}_{t} \longrightarrow C_{t}$. For simplicty we drop the index $t$. Set

$$
V:=H^{0}\left(\tilde{C}, K_{\tilde{C}}\right),
$$

and let $V=V_{+} \oplus V_{-}$be the eigenspace decomposition for the action of $\sigma$. The factor $V_{+}$is isomorphic as a $G$-representation to $H^{0}\left(C, K_{C}\right)$, while $V_{-}$is isomorphic to $H^{0}\left(C, K_{C} \otimes \eta\right)$. Set

$$
W:=H^{0}\left(\tilde{C}, 2 K_{\tilde{C}}\right),
$$

and let $W=W_{+} \oplus W_{-}$be the eigenspace decomposition for the action of $\sigma$. We have $W_{+} \cong$ $H^{0}\left(C, 2 K_{C}\right)$ and $W_{-} \cong H^{0}\left(C, 2 K_{C} \otimes \eta\right)$ as $G$-representations. The multiplication map

$$
m: S^{2} V \longrightarrow W
$$

is $\tilde{G}$-equivariant and is the codifferential of the Torelli map $\tilde{j}: \mathrm{M}_{\tilde{g}} \rightarrow \mathrm{~A}_{\tilde{g}}$ at $[\tilde{C}] \in \mathrm{M}_{\tilde{g}}$. We have the following isomorphisms

$$
\left(S^{2} V\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(S^{2} V_{+}\right)^{G} \oplus\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{G}, \quad W^{\tilde{G}}=W_{+}^{G}
$$

Therefore $m$ maps $\left(S^{2} V\right)^{\tilde{G}}$ to $W_{+}^{G}$. We are interested in the restriction of $m$ to $\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{G}$ that for simplicity we denote by the same symbol:

$$
\begin{equation*}
m:\left(S^{2} V_{-, t}\right)^{G} \longrightarrow W_{+, t}^{G} . \tag{3.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

By the above discussion this is just the multiplication map

$$
\left(S^{2} H^{0}\left(C, K_{C} \otimes \eta\right)\right)^{G} \longrightarrow H^{0}\left(C, 2 K_{C}\right)^{G} .
$$

Theorem 3.2. Let $\Xi=(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta}, \sigma)$ be a Prym datum. If there is $t \in \mathrm{~T}_{0, r}$ such that the map $m$ in (3.2) is an isomorphism, then the closure of $\mathscr{P}(\mathrm{R}(\Xi))$ in $\mathrm{A}_{g-1}$ is a special subvariety of dimension $r-3$.

Proof. Over $\mathrm{T}_{0, r}$ we have the families $\tilde{C}_{t}, C_{t}, \pi_{t}: \tilde{C}_{t} \rightarrow C_{t}$ and $\left(C_{t}, \eta_{t}\right)$ as in diagram (3.1). The lattice $H_{1}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, \mathbb{Z}\right)$ is independent of $t \in \mathrm{~T}_{0, r}$. Set $\Lambda:=H_{1}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, \mathbb{Z}\right)_{-}$. Call $Q$ the intersection form on $H_{1}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, \mathbb{Z}\right)$, i.e. the principal polarization on the Jacobian of $\tilde{C}$. Also $Q$ is independent of $t$. Set

$$
E:=\left.(1 / 2) \cdot Q\right|_{\Lambda} .
$$

$E$ is an integral symplectic form on $\Lambda$. Let $\mathfrak{H}_{g-1}$ be the Siegel upper half-space that parametrizes complex structures on $\Lambda \otimes \mathbb{R}=H_{1}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, \mathbb{R}\right)_{\text {_ }}$ that are compatible with $E$. For $t \in \mathrm{~T}_{0, r}$ we have $H^{1}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, \mathbb{C}\right)=V_{t} \oplus \overline{V_{t}}$ with $V_{t}=H^{0}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, K_{\tilde{C}_{t}}\right)$ and also $H^{1}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, \mathbb{C}\right)_{-}=V_{-, t} \oplus \overline{V_{-, t}}$. Dualizing we get the decomposition

$$
H_{1}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, \mathbb{C}\right)_{-}=V_{-, t}^{*} \oplus \overline{V_{-, t}^{*}} .
$$

This decomposition corresponds to a complex structure $J_{t}$ on $H_{1}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, \mathbb{R}\right)_{-}$, that is compatible with $E$ and therefore represents a point of $\mathfrak{H}_{g-1}$, that we denote by $f(t)$. We have thus defined a map $f: \mathrm{T}_{0, r} \rightarrow \mathfrak{H}_{g-1}$. The point is that the following diagram commutes:


To check this it is enough to recall that

$$
P\left(C_{t}, \eta_{t}\right)=V_{-, t}^{*} / \Lambda,
$$

(see e.g. [1, p. 295ff] or [5, p. 374ff]). Since $\tilde{G}$ preserves $Q, G$ preserves $E$, so $G$ maps into $\mathrm{Sp}(\Lambda, E)$. Denote by $G^{\prime}$ the image of $G$ in $\operatorname{Sp}(\Lambda, E)$. The complex structure $J_{t}$ is $G$-invariant, i.e. $f(t)=J_{t} \in \mathfrak{H}_{g-1}^{G^{\prime}}$. Hence by Theorem $2.3 P\left(C_{t}, \eta_{t}\right)$ lies in the PEL special subvariety
$\mathrm{Z}\left(D_{G^{\prime}}\right)$. Therefore $\mathscr{P}(\mathrm{R}(\Xi)) \subset \mathrm{Z}\left(D_{G^{\prime}}\right)$. Since $f\left(\mathrm{~T}_{0, r}\right) \subset \mathfrak{H}_{g-1}^{G^{\prime}}$ we can consider $f$ as a map $f: \mathrm{T}_{0, r} \rightarrow \mathfrak{H}_{g-1}^{G^{\prime}}$. Recall that

$$
\begin{gathered}
\Omega_{f(t)}^{1} \mathfrak{H}_{g-1}^{G^{\prime}} \cong\left(S^{2} H^{0}\left(C_{t}, K_{C_{t}} \otimes \eta_{t}\right)\right)^{G}=S^{2} V_{-, t} \\
\Omega_{t}^{1} \mathbf{T}_{0, r} \cong \Omega_{\left[C_{t}\right]}^{1} \mathbf{T}(G, \theta) \cong H^{0}\left(C_{t}, 2 K_{C_{t}}\right)^{G}=W_{t,+}^{G} .
\end{gathered}
$$

The codifferential is simply the multiplication map (see [3] Prop. 7.5)

$$
m=\left(d f_{t}\right)^{*}:\left(S^{2} V_{-, t}\right)^{G} \longrightarrow W_{t,+}^{G} .
$$

This follows from the fact that the codifferential of the Torelli map restricted to $\mathrm{T}_{0, r}$ is the full multiplication map $S^{2} V \rightarrow W$. By assumption there is a point $t \in \mathrm{~T}_{0, r}$ such that the map $m$ is an isomorphism at $t$. This implies first of all that $\operatorname{dim}\left(S^{2} V_{-, t}\right)^{G}=\operatorname{dim} W_{t,+}^{G}=r-3$. Moreover $f$ is an immersion at point $t$, hence its image has dimension $r-3$. As the vertical arrows in (3.1) are discrete maps, both $\mathscr{P}(\mathrm{R}(\Xi))$ and $\mathrm{Z}\left(D_{G^{\prime}}\right)$ have dimension $r-3$. Since $\mathrm{R}(\Xi) \subset \mathrm{Z}\left(D_{G^{\prime}}\right)$ and $\mathrm{Z}\left(D_{G^{\prime}}\right)$ is irreducible we conclude that $\overline{\mathrm{R}(\Xi)}=\mathrm{Z}\left(D_{G^{\prime}}\right)$ as desired.

The Shimura subvarieties constructed using Theorem 3.2 are generically contained in the Prym locus, i.e. they intersect the Prym locus and are contained in its closure.

We wish to apply Theorem 3.2 to construct examples of 1-dimensional special subvarieties (i.e. Shimura curves) in $\mathrm{A}_{g-1}$. So from now on we assume $r=4$.

In the case $r=4$ the sufficient condition in Theorem 3.2 (namely that $m$ be an isomorphism) can be split in two parts:

$$
\begin{gather*}
\operatorname{dim}\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=1 .  \tag{A}\\
m:\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \longrightarrow W_{+}^{G} \text { is not identically } 0 . \tag{B}
\end{gather*}
$$

Once (A) is known, a sufficient condition ensuring (B) is the following

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \text { is generated by a decomposable tensor. } \tag{B1}
\end{equation*}
$$

In fact if $\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}}$ is generated by $s_{1} \otimes s_{2}$ with $s_{i} \in V_{-}$, then $m\left(s_{1} \otimes s_{2}\right)=s_{1} \cdot s_{2}$ which cannot vanish identically.
Remark 3.3. We claim if (A) holds, then (B1) is equivalent to the fact that $\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=$ $W_{1} \otimes W_{2}$ with $W_{i}$ 1-dimensional representations. In one direction this is obvious. In the opposite direction, assume that (A) and (B1) hold. Let $V_{-}=W_{1} \oplus \cdots \oplus W_{k}$ be a decomposition in irreducible representations. Then

$$
\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\bigoplus_{i=1}^{k}\left(S^{2} W_{i}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \oplus \bigoplus_{i<j}\left(W_{i} \otimes W_{j}\right)^{\tilde{G}} .
$$

Since $\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}}$ is 1-dimensional, there are two cases: either $\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(S^{2} W_{i}\right)^{\tilde{G}}$ for some $i$ or $\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(W_{i} \otimes W_{j}\right)^{\tilde{G}}$ for some $i$ and some $j$. We treat the first case, the other being identical. Let $t \in\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(S^{2} W_{i}\right)^{\tilde{G}}$ be a generator. By Schur lemma this represents an isomorphism $t: W_{i}^{*} \rightarrow W_{i}$. If $d=\operatorname{dim} W_{i}$, then $t$ has rank $d$. By (B1) $t$ is decomposable hence $d=1$, therefore $\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=W_{i} \otimes W_{i}$.

## 4. Special subvarieties in the ramified Prym locus

In this section we would like to repeat the construction of the previous section in the case in which the double covering $\pi_{t}: \tilde{C}_{t} \rightarrow C_{t}$ is ramified at two points. This is the only other case in which the associated Prym variety is principally polarised [40, 5].

Let $C$ be a curve, $\eta$ a line bundle on $C$ of degree 1 and $B$ a reduced divisor in the linear system $\left|\eta^{2}\right|$, i.e. $B=p+q$ with $p \neq q$. From this data one gets a double cover $\pi: \tilde{C} \rightarrow C$ ramified over $B$. The Prym variety $P(\tilde{C}, C)$ of $\pi$ is defined as the kernel of the norm map, which in this case is connected. As in the unramified case, the polarization of $J(\tilde{C})$ restricts
to the double of a principal polarization $E$ on $P(\tilde{C}, C)$. We will always consider $P(\tilde{C}, C)$ with the principal polarizaztion $E$. In the case at hand it has dimension $g$.

Let $\mathrm{R}_{g,[2]}$ denote the scheme parametrizing triples $[C, \eta, B]$ up to isomorphism; the Prym map is the morphism

$$
\mathscr{P}: \mathrm{R}_{g,[2]} \rightarrow \mathrm{A}_{g}
$$

which associates to $[C, \eta, B]$ the Prym variety $P(\underline{C}, C)$ of $\pi$.
We recall that we have the following inclusions $\overline{j\left(\mathrm{M}_{g}\right)} \subset \overline{\mathscr{P}\left(\mathrm{R}_{g,[2]}\right)} \subset \overline{\mathscr{P}\left(\mathrm{R}_{g+1}\right)}$. Roughly the inclusion $\overline{\mathscr{P}\left(\mathrm{R}_{g,[2]}\right)} \subset \overline{\mathscr{P}\left(\mathrm{R}_{g+1}\right)}$ can be seen as follows: given a double covering of a smooth curve of genus $g$ ramified at two points, we obtain an admissible Beauville covering gluing the two branch points and the corresponding ramification points (see [21] p.763).

The inclusion $\overline{j\left(\mathrm{M}_{g}\right)} \subset \overline{\mathscr{P}\left(\mathrm{R}_{g,[2]}\right)}$ can be seen as follows: take a smooth genus $g$ curve $C$. Consider the 2-pointed 1-nodal curve $X=C \cup \mathbb{P}^{1}$ where $C$ and $\mathbb{P}^{1}$ meet transversally at a point $x$ and let $p, q$ the two marked points in $\mathbb{P}^{1}$. Consider the admissible ramified double cover $\tilde{X}$ of $X$ costructed as follows. Take the double cover $f: \mathbb{P}^{1} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}$ ramified in $p, q$ and denote by $\left\{p_{1}, p_{2}\right\}=f^{-1}(x) \subset \mathbb{P}^{1}$. Take two copies $C_{1}, C_{2}$ of $C$, and glue these curves with $\mathbb{P}^{1}$ identifying the points $x \in C_{i}$ with $p_{i}$. Clearly the $\operatorname{Prym} P(\tilde{X}, X)$ is the Jacobian of $C$.

Thus it is again natural to extend the search for Shimura varieties in the Torelli locus to the ramified Prym locus and the question about the existence of such Shimura subvarieties in high dimension.
Definition 4.1. A ramified Prym datum is triple $\Xi=(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta}, \sigma)$, where $\tilde{G}$ is a finite group, $\tilde{\theta}: \Gamma_{r} \rightarrow \tilde{G}$ is an epimorphism and $\sigma \in Z(\tilde{G})$ is an element of order 2, that satisfies one of the following two conditions:
(1) there is one and only one index $i$ such that $\sigma \in\left\langle\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{i}\right)\right\rangle$ and $m_{i}=|\tilde{G}| / 2$;
(2) there are exactly two indices $i, j$ such that $\sigma \in\left\langle\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{i}\right)\right\rangle, \sigma \in\left\langle\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{j}\right)\right\rangle$ and $m_{j}=m_{i}=|\tilde{G}|$. ( $Z(\tilde{G})$ denotes the centre of $\tilde{G}$.)

We set $G:=\tilde{G} /\langle\sigma\rangle$ and we denote by $\theta: \Gamma_{r} \rightarrow G$ the composition of $\tilde{\theta}$ with the projection $\tilde{G} \rightarrow G$. The ramified Prym datum gives rise to two submanifolds of Teichmüller spaces, namely $\mathrm{T}(G, \theta) \subset \mathrm{T}_{g}$ and $\mathrm{T}(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta}) \subset \mathrm{T}_{\tilde{g}}$. Both are isomorphic to $\mathrm{T}_{0, r}$. For any $t \in \mathrm{~T}_{0, r}$ we have a diagram


Here $\tilde{C}_{t} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}$ is the $\tilde{G}$-covering corresponding to $t \in \mathrm{~T}_{0, r}$ and to the datum $(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta})$, while $C_{t} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}$ is the $G$-covering corresponding to $(G, \theta)$. The quotient map $\pi_{t}: \tilde{C}_{t} \rightarrow \tilde{C}_{t} /\langle\sigma\rangle$ has exactly two ramification points. To check this let $\left\{t_{1}, \ldots, t_{4}\right\}$ be the critical values of $\psi$. If $\Xi$ satisfies condition (1) in Definition 4.1, the two critical points of $\pi_{t}$ belong to the fibre $\psi^{-1}\left(t_{i}\right)$ and thus $m_{i}=|\tilde{G}| / 2$. If $\Xi$ satisfies condition (2) one critical point of $\pi_{t}$ is in $\psi^{-1}\left(t_{i}\right)$ and the other is in $\psi^{-1}\left(t_{j}\right)$ and thus $m_{i}=m_{j}=|\tilde{G}|$. Note that $\tilde{g}=2 g$.

Denote by $\eta_{t}$ the element of $\operatorname{Pic}^{0}\left(C_{t}\right)$, corresponding to the covering $\pi_{t}$, so that $\left(\pi_{t}\right)_{*}\left(\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{C}_{t}}\right)=$ $\mathcal{O}_{C_{t}} \oplus \eta_{t}^{-1}$. Let $B_{t} \in\left|\eta_{t}^{2}\right|$ be the branch divisor of $\pi_{t}$. Associating to $t \in \mathrm{~T}_{0, r}$ the class of the triple $\left(C_{t}, \eta_{t}, B_{t}\right)$ we get a map with discrete fibres $\mathrm{T}_{0, r} \longrightarrow \mathrm{R}_{g,[2]}$. Its image, denoted $\mathrm{R}_{[2]}(\Xi)$, is $(r-3)$-dimensional. The following diagram summarizes the construction.


Given a ramified Prym datum $(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta}, \sigma)$ and a covering $\pi: \tilde{C} \longrightarrow C$ of the family, we have the eigenspace decomposition for $\sigma$ just as in unramified case: $V:=H^{0}\left(\tilde{C}, K_{\tilde{C}}\right)=V_{+} \oplus V_{-}$. This time $V_{+} \cong H^{0}\left(C, K_{C}\right)$ and $V_{-} \cong H^{0}\left(C, K_{C} \otimes \eta\right)$ as $G$-modules. Similarly $W:=H^{0}\left(\tilde{C}, 2 K_{\tilde{C}}\right)=$ $W_{+} \oplus W_{-}, W_{+} \cong H^{0}\left(2 K_{C} \otimes \eta^{2}\right)=H^{0}\left(2 K_{C}+B\right)$ and $W_{-} \cong H^{0}\left(C, 2 K_{C} \otimes \eta\right)$. The multiplication $\underset{\tilde{G}}{\operatorname{map}} m: S^{2} V \longrightarrow W$ is the codifferential of the Torelli map $\widetilde{j}: \mathrm{M}_{\tilde{g}} \rightarrow \mathrm{~A}_{\tilde{g}}$ at $[\tilde{C}] \in \mathrm{M}_{\tilde{g}}$. It is $\tilde{G}$-equivariant. We have the following isomorphisms

$$
\begin{gathered}
\left(S^{2} V\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(S^{2} V_{+}\right)^{G} \oplus\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{G} \\
W^{\tilde{G}}=W_{+}^{G}
\end{gathered}
$$

Therefore $m$ maps $\left(S^{2} V\right)^{\tilde{G}}$ to $W_{+}^{G}$. We are interested in the restriction of $m$ to $\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{G}$ that for simplicity we denote by the same symbol:

$$
\begin{equation*}
m:\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{G} \longrightarrow W_{+}^{G} \tag{4.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

By the above discussion this is just the multiplication map

$$
\left(S^{2} H^{0}\left(C, K_{C} \otimes \eta\right)\right)^{G} \longrightarrow H^{0}\left(C, 2 K_{C} \otimes \eta^{2}\right)^{G} \cong H^{0}\left(2 K_{C}\right)^{G} \cong H^{0}\left(2 K_{\tilde{C}}\right)^{\tilde{G}}
$$

Theorem 4.2. Let $\Xi=(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta}, \sigma)$ be a ramified Prym datum. If for some $t \in \mathrm{~T}_{0, r}$ the map $m$ in (4.2) is an isomorphism, then the closure of $\mathscr{P}\left(\mathrm{R}_{[2]} \Xi\right)$ in $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ is a special subvariety.
Proof. Over $\mathrm{T}_{0, r}$ we have the families $\tilde{C}_{t}, C_{t}, \eta_{t}, B_{t}$. The lattice $H_{1}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, \mathbb{Z}\right)$ the intersection form $Q$ on $H_{1}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, \mathbb{Z}\right)$ and the the sublattice $\Lambda:=H_{1}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, \mathbb{Z}\right)_{-}$are independent of $t$. Moreover $E:=\left.(1 / 2) \cdot Q\right|_{\Lambda}$ is an integer-valued form on $\Lambda$. Let $\mathfrak{H}_{g}$ be the Siegel upper half-space parametrizing complex structures on $\Lambda \otimes \mathbb{R}=H_{1}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, \mathbb{R}\right)_{-}$that are compatible with $E$. For any $t \in \mathrm{~T}_{0, r}$ we have a decomposition $H^{1}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, \mathbb{C}\right)_{-}=V_{-, t} \oplus \overline{V_{-, t}}$. Dualizing we get a decomposition $H_{1}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, \mathbb{C}\right)_{-}=V_{-, t}^{*} \oplus \overline{V_{-, t}^{*}}$ that corresponds to a complex structure $J_{t}$ on $H_{1}\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, \mathbb{R}\right)_{-}$. $J_{t}$ is compatible with $E$ and therefore represents a point of $\mathfrak{H}_{g}$, that we denote by $f(t)$. We have thus defined a map $f: \mathrm{T}_{0, r} \rightarrow \mathfrak{H}_{g}$ that fits in following diagram:


The diagram commutes since also in this case

$$
P\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, C_{t}\right)=V_{-, t}^{*} / \Lambda,
$$

(see e.g. [1, p. 295ff] or [5, p. 374ff]). Since $\tilde{G}$ preserves $Q, G$ preserves $E$, so $G$ maps into $\operatorname{Sp}(\Lambda, E)$. Denote by $G^{\prime}$ the image of $G$ in $\operatorname{Sp}(\Lambda, E)$. The complex structure $J_{t}$ is $G$-invariant, i.e. $f(t)=J_{t} \in \mathfrak{H}_{g}^{G^{\prime}}$. Hence by Theorem $2.3 P\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, C_{t}\right)$ lies in the PEL special subvariety $\mathrm{Z}\left(D_{G^{\prime}}\right)$. Therefore $\mathscr{P}(\mathrm{R}(\Xi)) \subset \mathrm{Z}\left(D_{G^{\prime}}\right)$. Since $f\left(\mathrm{~T}_{0, r}\right) \subset \mathfrak{H}_{g}^{G^{\prime}}$ we can consider $f$ as a map $f: \mathrm{T}_{0, r} \rightarrow \mathfrak{H}_{g}^{G^{\prime}}$. Recall that

$$
\begin{aligned}
\Omega_{f(t)}^{1} \mathfrak{H}_{g}^{G^{\prime}} & \cong\left(S^{2} H^{0}\left(C_{t}, K_{C_{t}} \otimes \eta_{t}\right)\right)^{G}=S^{2} V_{-, t}, \\
\Omega_{t}^{1} \mathbf{T}_{0, r}=\Omega_{\left[C_{t}\right]}^{1} \mathrm{\top}(G, \theta) & =H^{0}\left(C_{t}, 2 K_{C_{t}}\right)^{G} \cong H^{0}\left(C_{t}, 2 K_{C_{t}} \otimes \eta_{t}^{2}\right)^{G}=W_{t,+}^{G} .
\end{aligned}
$$

The codifferential is simply the multiplication map

$$
m=\left(d f_{t}\right)^{*}:\left(S^{2} V_{-, t}\right)^{G} \longrightarrow W_{t,+}^{G}
$$

(see 41 Prop. 3.1, or 31]). By assumption there is some $t \in \mathrm{~T}_{0, r}$ such that the map $m$ is an isomorphism at $t$. This implies first of all that $\operatorname{dim}\left(S^{2} V_{-, t}\right)^{G}=\operatorname{dim} W_{t,+}^{G}=r-3$. Moreover $f$ is an immersion at $t$, hence its image has dimension $r-3$. As the vertical arrows in (4.3) are discrete maps, both $\mathscr{P}(\mathrm{R}(\Xi))$ and $\mathrm{Z}\left(D_{G^{\prime}}\right)$ have dimension $r-3$. Since $\mathrm{R}(\Xi) \subset \mathrm{Z}\left(D_{G^{\prime}}\right)$ and $\mathrm{Z}\left(D_{G^{\prime}}\right)$ is irreducible we conclude that $\overline{\mathrm{R}(\Xi)}=\mathrm{Z}\left(D_{G^{\prime}}\right)$ as desired.

The special subvarieties in $\mathrm{A}_{g}$ constructed using Theorem 4.2 are generically contained in the ramified Prym locus.

We wish to use Theorem 4.2 to construct special curves. So we set $r=4$. Just as in the unramified case we can then split the hypothesis of the Theorem in two conditions:

$$
\begin{gather*}
\operatorname{dim}\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=1  \tag{A}\\
m:\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \longrightarrow W_{+}^{G} \text { is not identically } 0 . \tag{B}
\end{gather*}
$$

Again once (A) is true, a sufficient condition ensuring (B) is the following

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \text { is generated by a decomposable tensor. } \tag{B1}
\end{equation*}
$$

## 5. Examples in the Prym locus

In this section we discuss several examples of Shimura curves in the Prym locus obtained using theorem 3.2 and the scripts. Although we do not study in detail all the examples gotten in this way (which are listed in Tables 1 and 2) we give several informations for various of them. In particular for each example we recall the genera of $\tilde{C}$ and $C$, the group $\tilde{G}$ with a presentation and the monodromy, i.e. the epimorphism $\tilde{\theta}$. With these data it is possible to compute everything of the family, at least in principle, and such presentation for all the examples of Tables 1 and 2 be found in the lists on-line (see Appendix).

Before describing the examples, let us recall the description of two Shimura families of Jacobians constructed in [37, namely family (3) and (4) in Table 1 in 37]. These two families will show up frequently in the following discussions.

As observed in [22] (see Table 1 and Table 2 in [22]), these two families have extra automorphisms: the group $D_{6}$ for (3) and $D_{4}$ for (4), in fact $(3)=(30)$ and $(4)=(29)$ in the enumeration of [22]. For every non-central element $a$ of order 2 in $D_{6}$ and for any curve $\tilde{C}_{t}$ in (3), the quotient $\tilde{C}_{t} /\langle a\rangle$ is an elliptic curve $E_{t}$. One easily shows that $J\left(\tilde{C}_{t}\right)$ is isogenous to $E_{t} \times E_{t}$.

The same happens for (4) taking $E_{t}$ to be the quotient by a non-central element of order 2 in $D_{4}$. Therefore these two families of Jacobians are both isogenous to the product of the same elliptic curve $E \times E$ which moves.

We also notice that family (3) has the equation: $\tilde{C}_{t}: v^{2}=\left(u^{3}+1\right)\left(u^{3}+t\right)$, while family (4) has the equation: $\tilde{C}_{t}: v^{2}=u\left(u^{2}-1\right)\left(u^{2}-t\right)$.

We notice that many of the examples give rise to decomposable Pryms. It would be interesting to study this aspect more in detail. For related questions in the case of Jacobians see e.g. 44].

Remark 5.1. Notice that if one of the families of Pryms we constructed satisfying (A) and (B) is a family of Jacobians, it must satisfy condition (*) of Theorem 3.9 in [22. Hence if the dimension of the Pryms is $\leq 9$, they yield a Shimura curve that must appear in Table 2 of [22].

Lemma 5.2. Let $(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\theta})$ be a datum. Assume that for any $t \in \mathrm{~T}_{0, r}$ there is a $\tilde{G}$-invariant rational Hodge substructure $W_{t} \subset H^{1}\left(P\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, C_{t}\right), \mathbb{C}\right)$. If $\left(S^{2} W_{t}^{1,0}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\{0\}$, then the abelian variety corresponding up to isogeny to $W_{t}$ does not depend on $t$.

Proof. It is enough to observe that the period matrix of the abelian variety corresponding up to isogeny to $W_{t}$ lies in $\mathfrak{H}_{k}^{\tilde{G}}$, where $k=\operatorname{dim} W_{t}^{1,0}$, and that $\mathfrak{H}_{k}^{\tilde{G}}$ is a point by the assumption.

There are only 28 abelian examples, all in $\mathrm{A}_{k}$ with $k \leq 10$. Recall that if the group is abelian both conditions (A) and (B1) are satisfied. Theorem 3.2 tells us that these families of Pryms yield special subvarieties of $\mathrm{A}_{k}$. We give here a descriptions of the 7 examples with $k \geq 6$, for which the closure of the Prym locus is not all $\mathrm{A}_{k}$.
5.1. The unramified abelian examples in $\mathrm{A}_{6}$ and in $\mathrm{A}_{7}$. Note that for $k=6,7$, in the abelian examples we always have $\tilde{G}=\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / n$ and for these examples we give explicit equations describing $\tilde{C}_{t}$ and $C_{t}$ as $n$-coverings of $\mathbb{P}^{1}$, via the quotient by $\mathbb{Z} / n$.

In the following $\zeta_{n}$ denotes a primitive $n$-th root of unity.
We denote by $\rho_{n}^{i}$ the character of $\langle g\rangle=\mathbb{Z} / n$ mapping $g$ to $\zeta_{n}^{i}$, while $W_{\zeta_{n}^{i}}$ denotes the irreducible representation of $\langle g\rangle$ corresponding to this character, i.e. mapping $g$ to $\zeta_{n}^{i}$. Since $\langle g\rangle \hookrightarrow \tilde{G} \rightarrow G=\tilde{G} /\langle\sigma\rangle$ is an isomorphism, we consider $V_{-}$as a representation of $\langle g\rangle$.

## Example 30.

$\tilde{g}=13, g=7$,
$\tilde{G}=G(16,5)=\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 8=\left\langle g_{2}, g_{1} \mid g_{2}^{2}=1, g_{1}^{8}=1, g_{1} g_{2}=g_{2} g_{1}\right\rangle, \sigma=g_{1}^{4} g_{2}$.
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{1}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{1}^{3}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{1} g_{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1}^{3} g_{2}$.
$\tilde{C}_{t}: \quad y^{8}=u^{2}\left(u^{2}-1\right)^{7}\left(u^{2}-t\right)^{5} \quad \pi: \tilde{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}, \quad \pi(u, y)=u$.
$g_{2}:(u, y)=(-u,-y), \quad g_{1}(u, y)=\left(u,-\zeta_{8} y\right)=\left(u, \zeta_{8}^{5} y\right) \quad \sigma(u, y)=(-u, y)$.
$C_{t}: \quad y^{8}=x(x-1)^{7}\left(x-t^{2}\right)^{5} \quad(x, y)=\left(u^{2}, y\right)$.
$V_{-}=W_{\zeta_{8}^{2}} \oplus 2 W_{\zeta_{8}^{5}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{8}^{6}} \oplus 2 W_{\zeta_{8}^{7}} \quad\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{G} \cong W_{\zeta_{8}^{2}} \otimes W_{\zeta_{8}^{6}}$.
Here $P\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, C_{t}\right)$ is not isogenous to a Jacobian, since Table 2 of [22] does not contain families of genus 6 curves with an action of $\mathbb{Z} / 8 . P\left(\tilde{C}_{t}, C_{t}\right)$ is isogenous to the product of a fixed CM abelian 4 -fold $T^{\prime}$ with a (Shimura) family of abelian surfaces with an action of $\mathbb{Z} / 4$. Geometrically set $D_{1}:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1}^{4}\right\rangle, D_{2}:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{2}\right\rangle, B:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{2}, g_{1}^{4}\right\rangle$. Then $g\left(D_{2}\right)=7, g\left(D_{1}\right)=5, g(B)=3$, $P(\tilde{C}, C) \sim P\left(D_{2}, B\right) \times P\left(D_{1}, B\right)$, where $T^{\prime}=P\left(D_{2}, B\right)$, while $P\left(D_{1}, B\right)$ is a Shimura family of abelian surfaces with an action of $\mathbb{Z} / 4$.

## Example 31.

$\tilde{g}_{\tilde{\sim}}=13, g=7$,
$\tilde{G}=G(20,5)=\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 10=\left\langle g_{1}, g_{2}, g_{3} \mid g_{1}^{2}=1, g_{2}^{2}=1, g_{3}^{5}=1\right\rangle, \sigma=g_{1} g_{2}$,
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{2} g_{3}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{1} g_{3}^{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1} g_{3}^{2}$.
$\tilde{C}_{t}: \quad z^{10}=\left(u^{2}-1\right)\left(u^{2}-t\right), \quad \pi: \tilde{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}, \quad \pi(u, y)=u$
$g_{2}(u, z)=(-u, z), \quad g_{1}(u, z)=\left(u, \zeta_{10}^{2} z\right), \quad g_{3}(u, z)=\left(u, \zeta_{10}^{5} z\right) \quad \sigma(u, z)=(-u,-z)$.
$C_{t}: \quad y^{10}=x^{5}(x-1)(x-t), \quad(x, y):=\left(u^{2}, u^{-1} z\right)$.
$V_{-}=W_{\zeta_{10}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{10}^{2}} \oplus 2 W_{\zeta_{10}^{4}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{10}^{7}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{10}^{8}} \quad\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \cong W_{\zeta_{10}^{2}} \otimes W_{\zeta_{10}^{8}}$.
$P(\tilde{C}, C)$ is isogenous to $T \times A^{\prime \prime}$, where $T$ is a fixed CM abelian surface and $A^{\prime \prime}$ is a moving abelian 4 -fold. Geometrically, set $D_{1}:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1}\right\rangle, D_{2}:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{2}\right\rangle, F:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1}, g_{2}\right\rangle$. Then $g\left(D_{1}\right)=6, g\left(D_{2}\right)=4, g(F)=2$ and $T=P\left(D_{2}, F\right), A^{\prime \prime}=P\left(D_{1}, F\right)$. Notice that $A^{\prime \prime}$ is not isogenous to any Shimura family of Jacobians, since Table 2 of [22] does not contain any family of Jacobians of genus 4 curves admitting an action of $\mathbb{Z} / 10$.

## Example 32.

$\tilde{g}_{\tilde{\sim}}=13, g=7$,
$\tilde{G}=G(24,9)=\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 12=\left\langle g_{1}, g_{2}, g_{3} \mid g_{1}^{4}=1, g_{2}^{2}=1, g_{3}^{3}=1\right\rangle, \sigma=g_{1}^{2} g_{2}$.
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{1}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{3} g_{1}^{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1} g_{2} g_{3}^{2}$.
$\tilde{C}_{t}: \quad z^{12}=\left(u^{2}-1\right)^{3}\left(u^{2}-t\right)^{2}, \quad \pi: \tilde{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}, \quad \pi(u, y)=u$.
$g_{2}(u, z)=(-u, z), \quad g_{1}(u, z)=\left(u, \zeta_{12}^{3} z\right), \quad g_{3}(u, z)=\left(u, \zeta_{12}^{4} z\right), \sigma(u, z)=(-u,-z)$.
$C_{t}: \quad y^{12}=x^{6}(x-1)^{3}(x-t)^{2}, \quad(x, y):=\left(u^{2}, u^{-1} z\right)$.
$V_{-}=W_{\zeta_{12}^{2}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{12}^{3}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{12}^{4}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{12}^{5}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{12}^{10}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{12}^{11}} \quad\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \cong \zeta_{12}^{2} \otimes \zeta_{12}^{10}$.
Here $P(\tilde{C}, C)$ is isogenous to the product a fixed CM abelian 4 -fold $T^{\prime \prime}$ with the Shimura family (3) of 37]. Set $D_{1}:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1}^{2}\right\rangle, D_{2}:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{2}\right\rangle, F_{1}:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1} g_{2}\right\rangle, E_{\rho}=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1}\right\rangle, E_{i}=$ $\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{2}, g_{3}\right\rangle$ (these are the two CM elliptic curves), $F:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1}^{2}, g_{2}\right\rangle$. Then $g\left(D_{1}\right)=g\left(D_{2}\right)=4$, $g(F)=1, g\left(F_{1}\right)=2, P(\tilde{C}, C) \sim P\left(D_{1}, F\right) \times P\left(D_{2}, F\right)$ and $P\left(D_{1}, F\right) \sim J\left(F_{1}\right) \times E_{\rho}$ and $J\left(F_{1}\right)$ is the family (3) of [37]. Moreover, $P\left(D_{2}, F\right) \sim Y \times E_{i}$, where $Y$ is a CM abelian surface, so $T^{\prime \prime}=Y \times E_{\rho} \times E_{i}$.

## Example 35.

$\tilde{g}=15, g=8$,
$\tilde{G}=G(24,9) \underset{\tilde{\theta}}{=} \mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 12=\left\langle g_{1}, g_{2}, g_{3} \mid g_{1}^{4}=1, g_{2}^{2}=1, g_{3}^{3}=1\right\rangle, \sigma=g_{1}^{2} g_{2}$.
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{1}^{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{2} g_{3}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{1} g_{3}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1} g_{2} g_{3}$.
$\tilde{C}_{t}: \quad z^{12}=u^{8}\left(u^{2}-1\right)^{6}\left(u^{2}-t\right)^{7}, \quad \pi: \tilde{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}, \quad \pi(u, y)=u$.
$g_{2}(u, z)=(-u, z), \quad g_{1}(u, z)=\left(u, \zeta_{12}^{3} z\right), \quad g_{3}(u, z)=\left(u, \zeta_{12}^{4} z\right) \quad \sigma(u, z)=(-u,-z)$.
$C_{t}: \quad y^{12}=x^{10}(x-1)^{6}(x-t)^{7}, \quad(x, y):=\left(u^{2}, u^{-1} z\right)$.
$V_{-}=2 W_{\zeta_{12}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{12}^{2}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{12}^{3}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{12}^{5}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{12}^{7}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{12}^{8}} \quad\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \cong W_{\zeta_{12}^{5}} \otimes W_{\zeta_{12}^{7}}$.
Here $P(\tilde{C}, C) \sim T^{\prime \prime \prime} \times E_{\rho} \times E_{i} \times E_{\rho}$, where $T^{\prime \prime \prime}$ is a moving abelian fourfold not isogenous to a Jacobian, since it carries an action of $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 12$ and in Table 2 of [22] there does not exist any family of Jacobians of genus 4 curves with an action of $\mathbb{Z} / 12$. More geometrically, set $E:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1}, g_{2}\right\rangle, D_{2}:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{2}\right\rangle, F:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1}^{2}, g_{2}\right\rangle, F_{1}:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1} g_{2}\right\rangle, F_{2}:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1}\right\rangle, E_{i} \cong \tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{2}, g_{3}\right\rangle$ (in fact it carries the action of $\mathbb{Z} / 4 \cong\left\langle g_{1}\right\rangle$ ). Then $g\left(D_{1}\right)=4, g\left(D_{2}\right)=7, g(F)=g\left(F_{1}\right)=$ $g\left(F_{2}\right)=2, P(\tilde{C}, C) \sim P\left(F_{1}, E\right) \times P\left(F_{2}, E\right) \times P\left(D_{2}, F\right)$ and $P\left(F_{1}, E\right) \sim P\left(F_{2}, E\right) \sim E_{\rho}$, $P\left(D_{2}, F\right) \sim E_{i} \times T^{\prime \prime \prime}$.
5.2. The unramified abelian examples in $\mathrm{A}_{8}$. We describe now the two only examples with $\tilde{G}$ abelian, yielding a Shimura curve generically contained in the Prym locus in $\mathrm{A}_{8}$. We notice that up to now there are no known examples of Shimura varieties generically contained in the Torelli locus for $g \geq 8$. On the other hand, by Remark 5.1 these families are not families of Jacobians since Table 2 in [22] contains no example at all in genus 8 .
Example 36.
$\tilde{g}=17, g=9$.
$\tilde{G}=G(24,9)=\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 12=\left\langle g_{1}, g_{2}, g_{3} \mid g_{1}^{4}=1, g_{2}^{2}=1, g_{3}^{3}=1\right\rangle, \sigma=g_{1}^{2} g_{2}$.
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{1}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{1} g_{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{1}^{3} g_{3}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1} g_{2} g_{3}^{2}$.
$V_{-}=W_{\zeta_{12}^{3}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{12}^{9}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{12}^{4}} \oplus 2 W_{\zeta_{12}^{7}} \oplus 2 W_{\zeta_{12}^{12}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{12}^{2}} \quad\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \cong W_{\zeta_{12}^{3}} \otimes W_{\zeta_{12}^{9}}$.
We have $P(\tilde{C}, C) \sim P(D, E) \times A$, where $A$ is a fixed CM abelian 5 -fold and $D=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{2}, g_{3}\right\rangle$, $E=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{2}, g_{3}, \sigma\right\rangle, g(D)=3, g(E)=1$ and $H^{1,0}(P(D, E)) \cong W_{\zeta_{12}^{3}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{12}^{9}}$.

## Example 37.

$\tilde{g}=17, g=9$.
$\tilde{G}=G(32,21)=\mathbb{Z} / 4 \times \mathbb{Z} / 4 \times \mathbb{Z} / 2 \cong\left\langle g_{1}\right\rangle \times\left\langle g_{2}\right\rangle \times\left\langle g_{3}\right\rangle$,
where $o\left(g_{1}\right)=o\left(g_{2}\right)=4, o\left(g_{3}\right)=2, \sigma=g_{2}^{2} g_{3}$.
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{2}, \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{2} g_{3}, \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{1}, \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1}^{3} g_{2}^{2} g_{3}$.
$V_{-}=W_{0,1,0} \oplus W_{1,0,1} \oplus 2 W_{1,1,0} \oplus W_{1,2,1} \oplus W_{1,3,0} \oplus W_{2,1,0} \oplus W_{3,1,0}$,
$\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \cong W_{1,3,0} \otimes W_{3,1,0}$,
where $W_{a_{1}, a_{2}, a_{3}}$ is the irreducible representation of the group $\tilde{G}$ corresponding to the character $\rho_{a_{1}, a_{2}, a_{3}}$ mapping $g_{i}$ to $\zeta_{k_{i}}^{a_{i}}$, for $i$ from 1 to 3 ( $k_{1}=k_{2}=4, k_{3}=2$ ).

Since $\tilde{G}$ is abelian both conditions (A) and (B1) are satisfied. Theorem 3.2 tells us that this family of Pryms yields a special subvariety of $\mathrm{A}_{8}$. Set $E_{1}:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1}\right\rangle, E_{2}:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{2}\right\rangle$, $E_{3}:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{2} g_{3}\right\rangle, E_{4}:=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1} g_{2}^{2} g_{3}\right\rangle$. These are all elliptic curves with a $\mathbb{Z} / 4$-action, hence isomorphic to $E_{i}$. We have $H^{0}\left(E_{1}, K_{E_{1}}\right) \cong W_{0,1,0}, H^{0}\left(E_{2}, K_{E_{2}}\right) \cong W_{1,0,1}, H^{0}\left(E_{3}, K_{E_{3}}\right) \cong$ $W_{1,2,1}, H^{0}\left(E_{4}, K_{E_{4}}\right) \cong W_{2,1,0}$. There is a diagram of coverings

where $M=\left\langle g_{3}, g_{1} g_{2}\right\rangle, N=\left\langle g_{3}, g_{1} g_{2}^{3}\right\rangle$ and $H=\left\langle g_{3}, g_{1} g_{2}, g_{1} g_{2}^{3}\right\rangle$. We have $g\left(C_{1}\right)=g\left(C_{2}\right)=$ $3, g(F)=1$, and $H^{1,0}\left(P\left(C_{1}, F\right)\right) \cong W_{3,1,0} \oplus W_{1,3,0}, H^{1,0}\left(P\left(C_{2}, F\right)\right) \cong 2 W_{1,1,0}$. Hence

$$
P(\tilde{C}, C) \sim E_{1} \times E_{2} \times E_{3} \times E_{4} \times P\left(C_{1}, F\right) \times P\left(C_{2}, F\right)=4 E_{i} \times P\left(C_{1}, F\right) \times P\left(C_{2}, F\right)
$$

Since $\left(S^{2}\left(V_{-}\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}} \cong S^{2} H^{1,0}\left(P\left(C_{1}, F\right)\right)$, by Lemma 5.2, $P(\tilde{C}, C)$ is isogenous to the product of a fixed CM abelian variety $A=4 E_{i} \times P\left(C_{2}, F\right)$ admitting an action of $\mathbb{Z} / 4$, with the Shimura family of abelian surfaces $P\left(C_{1}, F\right)$ having an action of $\tilde{G} / M \cong \mathbb{Z} / 4$ and moving in $\mathrm{A}_{2}(\Theta)$, where $A_{2}(\Theta)$ is the moduli space of abelian surfaces with a given type of polarisation $\Theta$.
5.3. The unramified abelian example in $\mathrm{A}_{10}$. We now describe the only abelian unramified example in $\mathrm{A}_{10}$.

## Example 41.

$\tilde{g}=21, g=11$.
$\tilde{G}=G(32,3)=\mathbb{Z} / 4 \times \mathbb{Z} / 8 \cong\left\langle g_{2}\right\rangle \times\left\langle g_{1}\right\rangle$, where $o\left(g_{1}\right)=8, o\left(g_{2}\right)=4, \sigma=g_{2}^{2} g_{1}^{4}$.
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{2}, \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{2} g_{1}^{4}, \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{1}, \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1}^{3} g_{2}^{2}$.
$V_{-}=W_{0,1} \oplus 2 W_{2,1} \oplus W_{2,3} \oplus W_{4,1} \oplus W_{5,0} \oplus W_{5,2} \oplus W_{6,1} \oplus W_{7,0} \oplus W_{7,2}$,
$\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \cong W_{2,3} \otimes W_{6,1}$,
where $W_{a_{1}, a_{2}}$ is the irreducible representation of the group $\tilde{G}$ corresponding to the character $\rho_{a_{1}, a_{2}}$ mapping $g_{1}$ to $\zeta_{8}^{a_{1}}$, and $g_{2}$ to $\zeta_{4}^{a_{2}}$.

Since $\tilde{G}$ is abelian both conditions (A) and (B1) are satisfied. Theorem 3.2 tells us that this family of Pryms yields a special subvariety of $\mathrm{A}_{10}$. Set $F=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1}\right\rangle, D=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{2}\right\rangle, Z=$ $\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{2} g_{1}^{4}\right\rangle, X=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1}^{7} g_{2}\right\rangle, E=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1} g_{2}, \sigma\right\rangle, L=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1} g_{2}^{2}\right\rangle$. We have $g(F)=g(E)=g(L)=1$, $g(D)=g(Z)=2, g(X)=3$,

$$
P(\tilde{C}, C) \sim F \times L \times J(D) \times J(Z) \times P(X, E) \times P(Y, E),
$$

where $H^{0}\left(F, K_{F}\right)=W_{0,1}, H^{0}\left(L, K_{L}\right)=W_{4,1}, H^{0}\left(D, K_{D}\right)=W_{7,0} \oplus W_{5,0}, H^{0}\left(Z, K_{Z}\right)=$ $W_{5,2} \oplus W_{7,2}, H^{1,0}(P(X, E))=2 W_{2,1}, H^{1,0}(P(Y, E))=W_{2,3} \oplus W_{6,1}$. Since $\left(S^{2}\left(V_{-}\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}} \cong$ $S^{2} H^{1,0}(P(Y, E))$, by Lemma 5.2, $P(\tilde{C}, C)$ is isogenous to the product of a fixed CM abelian variety $F \times L \times J(D) \times J(Z) \times P(X, E)$ with the Shimura family of abelian surfaces $P(Y, E)$.
5.4. Non abelian examples. In this section we describe three non-abelian examples satisfying condition (A), but not (B1). We prove by ad hoc arguments that condition (B) holds. Notice that these three examples are examples of Shimura curves generically contained in the Prym locus in $\mathrm{A}_{g}$, with $g=9$ or $g=12$. Moreover by Remark 5.1. Example 38 is not a family of Jacobians.

## Example 40.

$\tilde{g}=19, g=10$
$\tilde{G}=G(108,28)=((\mathbb{Z} / 3 \times \mathbb{Z} / 3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z} / 3) \rtimes(\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 2) \cong$
$\cong\left(\left(\left\langle g_{4}\right\rangle \times\left\langle g_{5}\right\rangle\right) \rtimes\left\langle g_{3}\right\rangle\right) \rtimes\left(\left\langle g_{1}\right\rangle \times\left\langle g_{2}\right\rangle\right)$,
where $o\left(g_{4}\right)=o\left(g_{5}\right)=o\left(g_{3}\right)=3, o\left(g_{1}\right)=o\left(g_{2}\right)=2$,
$Z(\tilde{G})=\left\langle g_{5}, g_{2}\right\rangle \cong \mathbb{Z} / 3 \times \mathbb{Z} / 2$,
$g_{3}^{-1} g_{4} g_{3}=g_{4} g_{5}, g_{1}^{-1} g_{3} g_{1}=g_{3}^{-1}, g_{1}^{-1} g_{4} g_{1}=g_{4}^{-1}, \sigma=g_{2}$.
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{1}, \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{1} g_{4}, \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{1} g_{2} g_{3}, \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1} g_{2} g_{3} g_{4}^{2}$.
$V_{-}=V_{15} \oplus V_{16} \oplus V_{20}$ (the notation is the one used by MAGMA).
$\operatorname{dim}\left(V_{15}\right)=\operatorname{dim}\left(V_{16}\right)=\operatorname{dim}\left(V_{20}\right)=3$.
$\operatorname{dim}\left(S^{2}\left(V_{-}\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\operatorname{dim}\left(V_{15} \otimes V_{20}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=1$, hence condition (A) is satisfied.
We have to verify that also condition $(B)$ is satisfied. Let $H:=\left\langle g_{1}, g_{3}\right\rangle \cong S_{3}, K:=$ $\left\langle g_{1} g_{2}, g_{3}\right\rangle \cong S_{3}$. By Riemann-Hurwitz $\tilde{C} / H=: E$ has genus 1 and $\tilde{C} / K=: D$ has genus 2 . The trace of $g_{1}$ on $V_{15}$ is -1 . Since $g_{1}$ has order 2, we have a decomposition $V_{15}=X_{15} \oplus W_{15}$, where $\operatorname{dim}\left(X_{15}\right)=1, \operatorname{dim}\left(W_{15}\right)=2$ and $g_{1 \mid X_{15}}=I d_{X_{15}}, g_{1 \mid W_{15}}=-I d_{W_{15}}$. The same happens for $V_{20}=X_{20} \oplus W_{20}$, where $\operatorname{dim}\left(X_{20}\right)=1, \operatorname{dim}\left(W_{20}\right)=2$ and $g_{1 \mid X_{20}}=I d_{X_{20}}, g_{1 \mid W_{20}}=-I d_{W_{20}}$.

The trace of $g_{1}$ on $V_{16}$ is 1 , so $V_{16}=X_{16} \oplus W_{16}$, where $\operatorname{dim}\left(X_{16}\right)=2$, $\operatorname{dim}\left(W_{16}\right)=1$ and $g_{1 \mid X_{16}}=I d_{X_{16}}, g_{1 \mid W_{16}}=-I d_{W_{16}}$.

Since $g_{2}$ acts as $-I d$ on $V_{-}=V_{15} \oplus V_{16} \oplus V_{20}$ we have $g_{1} g_{2 \mid X_{j}}=-I d_{X_{j}}, g_{1} g_{2 \mid W_{j}}=I d_{W_{j}}$, for $j=15,16,20$.

The group $S_{3}$ has three irreducible representations, $Y_{1}, Y_{2}, Y_{3}$, where $\operatorname{dim}\left(Y_{i}\right)=1, i=1,2$, $\operatorname{dim}\left(Y_{3}\right)=2, Y_{1}$ is the trivial one, $Y_{2}$ is the one given by the sign. Looking at the action of the subgroups $H \cong S_{3}$ on $V_{j}, j=15,16,20$, one sees that $V_{15} \cong Y_{2} \oplus Y_{3}$ and the same happens for $V_{20}$, since $g_{1 \mid Y_{2}}=-I d_{Y_{2}}, g_{3 \mid Y_{2}}=I d_{Y_{2}}, g_{1 \mid Y_{3}}$ has eigenvalues $1,-1, g_{3 \mid Y_{3}}$ has eigenvalues $\zeta_{3}, \zeta_{3}^{2}$. Similarly one sees that $V_{16} \cong Y_{1} \oplus Y_{3}$, hence the fixed point locus of the action of $H$ on $V$ (which must be isomorphic to $H^{0}\left(E, K_{E}\right)$, hence one dimensional) is contained in $V_{16} \subset V_{-}$. Therefore $H^{0}\left(E, K_{E}\right)=Y_{1} \subset V_{16} \subset V_{-}$.

On the other hand, if we look at the action of the subgroup $K \cong S_{3}$ on $V_{j}, j=15,16,20$, we clearly have $V_{15} \cong Y_{1} \oplus Y_{3}$ and the same for $V_{20}$, while $V_{16} \cong Y_{2} \oplus Y_{3}$, hence the fixed point locus of the action of $K$ on $V$, which we know to be two dimensional, is given by two copies of $Y_{1}$, one contained in $V_{15}$ and the other contained in $V_{20}$. Therefore $H^{0}\left(D, K_{D}\right) \subset V_{15} \oplus V_{20} \subset V_{-}$. Hence $P(\tilde{C}, C) \sim J(D) \times E \times T$ for some 6 -dimensional abelian variety $T$. Since $H^{0}\left(E, K_{E}\right) \subset V_{16}$ and $\left(S^{2}\left(V_{-}\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(V_{15} \otimes V_{20}\right)^{\tilde{G}}$, the elliptic curve $E$ does not move by Lemma [5.2. To prove condition (B) we will show that $J(D)$ moves.

Consider the action on $\tilde{C}$ of the subgroup $L:=\left\langle g_{1}, g_{2}, g_{3}\right\rangle \cong H \times \mathbb{Z} / 2$. By Riemann-Hurwitz $\tilde{C} / L \cong \mathbb{P}^{1}$ and we have a factorisation


If we prove that the 6 critical values of the hyperelliptic covering $p_{D}$ move, we are done. Denote by $\psi: \tilde{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}=\tilde{C} / \tilde{G}$ the original covering and consider the factorisation


The $18: 1$ covering $\pi$ factors as follows


Denote by $\left\{P_{1}, P_{2}, P_{3}, P_{4}\right\}$ the critical values of $\psi$ and by $\left\{y_{1}, y_{2}, y_{3}, z_{1}, z_{2}, z_{3}\right\}$ the critical values of $p_{D}$. Looking at the above diagrams, one easily checks that the critical values of $p_{D}$ all lie in $\pi^{\prime-1}\left(P_{1}\right) \cup \pi^{\prime-1}\left(P_{2}\right)$. More precisely:
$\pi^{\prime-1}\left(P_{1}\right)$ consists of 3 critical values $\left\{y_{1}, y_{2}, y_{3}\right\}$ of $p_{D}$ which are regular for $\pi^{\prime}$ and of three critical points of order 2 for $\pi^{\prime}$ which are regular values for $p_{D}$.
$\pi^{\prime-1}\left(P_{2}\right)$ consists of 3 critical values $\left\{z_{1}, z_{2}, z_{3}\right\}$ of $p_{D}$ which are regular for $\pi^{\prime}$ and of three critical points of order 2 for $\pi^{\prime}$ which are regular values for $p_{D}$.
$\pi^{\prime-1}\left(P_{3}\right)$ consists of three regular points and three critical points of order 2 of $\pi^{\prime}$ (all regular values for $p_{D}$ ).
$\pi^{\prime-1}\left(P_{4}\right)$ consists of two critical points of $\pi^{\prime}$, one of order 3 and one of order 6 (both regular values for $\left.p_{D}\right)$.

To understand better the 9:1 map $\pi^{\prime}$ let us consider this last factorisation


We have the following: $\bar{\pi}^{*}\left(P_{i}\right)=w_{i}+2 q_{i}$, for all $i=1,2,3,4$, and $p_{5}^{-1}\left(w_{1}\right)=\left\{y_{1}, y_{2}, y_{3}\right\}$, $p_{5}^{-1}\left(w_{2}\right)=\left\{z_{1}, z_{2}, z_{3}\right\}$. The critical values of the Galois $3: 1$ covering $p_{5}$ are $w_{4}$ and $q_{4}$.

Consider the $3: 1$ covering $\bar{\pi}: \mathbb{P}^{1} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}$. Composing with automorphisms of $\mathbb{P}^{1}$ in the source and in the target, we can assume that $P_{4}=\infty, P_{3}=0, P_{2}=1$. We denote $P_{1}$ by the parameter $\lambda, w_{4}=0, q_{4}=\infty, w_{3}=1$, and set $q_{3}=a$ for simplicity. Hence $\bar{\pi}(z)=b \frac{(z-1)(z-a)^{2}}{z}$, where $b$ is nonzero.

Computing the derivative of $\bar{\pi}$ we see that the other two critical points $q_{1}, q_{2}$ are $\frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1+8 a}}{4}$. Imposing that 1 and $\lambda$ are the corresponding critical values, we see that $a, w_{1}, w_{2}$ are all non constant functions on $\lambda$. We can assume that $p_{5}(z)=z^{3}$, hence $\left\{y_{1}, y_{2}, y_{3}\right\}=p_{5}^{-1}\left(w_{1}\right)=\{z \in$ $\left.\mathbb{P}^{1} \mid z^{3}=w_{1}\right\}$ and $\left\{z_{1}, z_{2}, z_{3}\right\}=p_{5}^{-1}\left(w_{2}\right)=\left\{z \in \mathbb{P}^{1} \mid z^{3}=w_{2}\right\}$, and since $w_{1}$ and $w_{2}$ are non-constant functions of $\lambda$, the same holds for $y_{i}, z_{i}, i=1,2,3$.

This proves that as $\lambda$ varies, the hyperelliptic covering $p_{D}: D \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}$ varies, and hence the genus 2 curve $D$ varies, so $J(D)$ varies and hence $P(\tilde{C}, C) \sim 3 E \times 3 J(D)$ varies. Therefore condition $(B)$ is satisfied.

## Example 43.

$\tilde{g}_{\tilde{G}}=25, g=13$.
$\tilde{G}=G(48,32)=\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times S L\left(2, \mathbb{F}_{3}\right) \cong\left\langle g_{1}\right\rangle \times S L\left(2, \mathbb{F}_{3}\right)$, where
$S L\left(2, \mathbb{F}_{3}\right)=\left\langle g_{2}=\left(\begin{array}{ll}2 & 1 \\ 2 & 0\end{array}\right) g_{3}=\left(\begin{array}{ll}0 & 2 \\ 1 & 0\end{array}\right) g_{4}=\left(\begin{array}{ll}1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2\end{array}\right) g_{5}=\left(\begin{array}{ll}2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2\end{array}\right)\right| g_{3}^{2}=g_{4}^{2}=g_{5}$,

$$
\left.g_{5}^{2}=1, g_{2}^{3}=1, g_{2}^{-1} g_{3} g_{2}=g_{4}, g_{2}^{-1} g_{4} g_{2}=g_{3} g_{4}, g_{3}^{-1} g_{4} g_{3}=g_{4} g_{5}\right\rangle
$$

$\underset{\tilde{\theta}}{\sigma}=g_{5}, Z(\tilde{G})=\left\langle g_{1}, g_{5}\right\rangle \cong \mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 2$.
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{1}, \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{1} g_{2} g_{5}, \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{1} g_{2} g_{4} g_{5}, \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1} g_{2} g_{3} g_{4} g_{5}$.
$V_{-}=V_{7} \oplus 2 V_{8} \oplus 2 V_{11} \oplus V_{12}$.
Here $V_{i}$ are the irreducible representations as enumerated by MAGMA. Note that $\operatorname{dim}\left(V_{7}\right)=$ $\operatorname{dim}\left(V_{8}\right)=\operatorname{dim}\left(V_{11}\right)=\operatorname{dim}\left(V_{12}\right)=2$.
$\left(S^{2}\left(V_{-}\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(V_{8} \otimes V_{8}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(\Lambda^{2} V_{8}\right)^{\tilde{G}}$ is one dimensional, hence condition (A) is satisfied.
We have to check condition ( $(\bar{B})$.
Consider the commutative diagram:


The curves $C^{\prime}$ and $C^{\prime \prime}$ have genus 7, while $E$ has genus 1 . One can check that $P(\tilde{C}, C) \sim$ $P\left(C^{\prime}, E\right) \times P\left(C^{\prime \prime}, E\right)$, since $H^{0}\left(P\left(C^{\prime}, E\right), K_{P\left(C^{\prime}, E\right)}\right) \cong V_{7}+2 V_{11}$ and $H^{0}\left(P\left(C^{\prime \prime}, E\right), K_{P\left(C^{\prime \prime}, E\right)}\right) \cong$ $2 V_{8}+V_{12}$. Since $\left(S^{2}\left(V_{-}\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(V_{8} \otimes V_{8}\right)^{\tilde{G}}$, the abelian variety $P\left(C^{\prime}, E\right)$ does not move by Lemma 5.2. To prove condition (B) we need to show that $P\left(C^{\prime \prime}, E\right)$ moves.

We have $\left(S^{2}\left(H^{0}\left(C^{\prime \prime}, K_{C^{\prime \prime}}\right)\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}} \cong\left(S^{2}\left(2 V_{8}+V_{12}\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}}+\left(S_{\tilde{G}}^{2} V_{3}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(\Lambda^{2} V_{8}\right)^{\tilde{G}}+\left(S^{2} V_{3}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=$ $\left(\Lambda^{2} V_{8}\right)^{\tilde{G}}$, as one can check. Therefore $\left(S^{2}\left(H^{0}\left(C^{\prime \prime}, K_{C^{\prime \prime}}\right)\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}}$ has dimension 1. So the family $C^{\prime \prime} \rightarrow C^{\prime \prime} / H=\tilde{C} / \tilde{G}$, where $H=\tilde{G} /\left\langle g_{1} g_{5}\right\rangle \cong S L\left(2, \mathbb{F}_{3}\right)$, satisfies condition (*) of [22], i.e. the codifferential of the Torelli map, i.e. the multiplication map $\left(S^{2}\left(H^{0}\left(C^{\prime \prime}, K_{C^{\prime \prime}}\right)\right)\right)^{H} \rightarrow$ $H^{0}\left(C^{\prime \prime}, 2 K_{C^{\prime \prime}}\right)^{H}$, is an isomorphism. So this is the Shimura family (40) of [22]. Since $J\left(C^{\prime \prime}\right) \sim$ $P\left(C^{\prime \prime}, E\right) \times E$ and $J\left(C^{\prime \prime}\right)$ moves, while $E$ is fixed, $P\left(C^{\prime \prime}, E\right)$ necessarily moves. Therefore $P(\tilde{C}, C)$ moves as well and condition $(B)$ is satisfied. Notice that on $E$ there is an action of $\left\langle g_{2}\right\rangle \cong \mathbb{Z} / 3$, hence $E=E_{\rho}$.

## Example 44

$\tilde{g}=25, g=13 . \tilde{G}=G(48,30)=A_{4} \rtimes \mathbb{Z} / 4=A_{4} \rtimes\left\langle g_{1}\right\rangle$,
where $A_{4}=\left\langle g_{3}=(123), g_{4}=(12)(34), g_{5}=(13)(24)\right.$,
$g_{3}^{3}=1, g_{4}^{2}=1, g_{5}^{2}=1, g_{3}^{-1} g_{4} g_{3}=g_{5}, g_{3}^{-1} g_{5} g_{3}=g_{4} g_{5}, g_{4} g_{5}=g_{5} g_{4}$,
$\left.g_{1}^{-1} g_{3} g_{1}=g_{3}^{2}, g_{1}^{-1} g_{4} g_{1}=g_{5}, g_{1}^{-1} g_{5} g_{1}=g_{4}\right\rangle$.
$\sigma=g_{2}=g_{1}^{2}, Z(\tilde{G})=\left\langle g_{2}\right\rangle \cong \mathbb{Z} / 2$.
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{1} g_{5}, \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{1} g_{4}, \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{1} g_{3} g_{4}, \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1} g_{3} g_{4} g_{5}$.
$V_{-}=2 V_{3} \oplus 2 V_{5} \oplus 2 V_{10}$, where $\operatorname{dim}\left(V_{3}\right)=1, \operatorname{dim}\left(V_{5}\right)=2, \operatorname{dim}\left(V_{10}\right)=3$.
(Notation of MAGMA as above.)
$\left(S^{2}\left(V_{-}\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(V_{5} \otimes V_{5}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(\Lambda^{2} V_{5}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\Lambda^{2} V_{5}$.
So $\left(S^{2}\left(V_{-}\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(V_{5} \otimes V_{5}\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\Lambda^{2} V_{5}$ is 1-dimensional, hence condition (A) is satisfied. We check now condition (B).

Consider the normal subgroup $H:=\left\langle g_{4}, g_{5}\right\rangle \cong \mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 2 \triangleleft \tilde{G}$. Set $C^{\prime}=\tilde{C} / H$. One sees that $\tilde{C} \rightarrow C^{\prime}=\tilde{C} / H$ is a 4:1 étale covering and $C^{\prime}$ has genus 7 . Moreover $H^{0}\left(C^{\prime}, K_{C^{\prime}}\right)=$ $2 V_{3}+2 V_{5}+V_{2}$.

Set $H^{\prime}:=\langle\sigma\rangle \times A_{4}$. The quotient $E:=\tilde{C} / H^{\prime}$ is a genus one curve and $H^{0}\left(E, K_{E}\right)=V_{2}$. So we have the following commutative diagram:


Hence $P(\tilde{C}, C) \sim P\left(C^{\prime}, E\right) \times A$, where $A$ is a fixed abelian 6 -fold. Consider the groups $L=$ $H^{\prime} / H<K=\tilde{G} / H, L \cong\langle\sigma\rangle \times\left(A_{4} / H\right) \cong \mathbb{Z} / 6$. We have


Notice that $D$ has genus 3 and $\varphi$ is a 3: 1 étale covering. Moreover, $H^{0}\left(C^{\prime}, K_{C^{\prime}}\right)^{\left\langle g_{3}\right\rangle} \cong$ $H^{0}\left(K_{D}\right) \cong V_{2} \oplus 2 V_{3}$, hence $H^{1,0}\left(P\left(C^{\prime}, D\right)\right) \cong 2 V_{5}$ and $P(\tilde{C}, C) \sim P\left(C^{\prime}, D\right) \times A^{\prime}$, where $A^{\prime}$ is a fixed abelian variety of dimension 8 .

We want to show that $P\left(C^{\prime}, D\right)$ moves and hence yields a Shimura curve.
Since the map $\varphi$ is a $3: 1$ étale covering, it corresponds to a 3 -torsion line bundle $\eta$ on $D$ and the pairs $\left[C^{\prime}, D\right]$ vary in a curve $\mathcal{B}$ in the moduli space $\mathcal{R}_{3,3}^{\prime}$ parametrising pairs $\left[C^{\prime}, D\right]$ where $C^{\prime} \rightarrow D$ is a $3: 1$ étale Galois covering of a genus three curve $D$. Denote by $\mathcal{P}: \mathcal{R}_{3,3}^{\prime} \rightarrow$ $\mathrm{A}_{4}(\Theta)$ the corresponding Prym map. To conclude we need to show that the differential of the restriction of $\mathcal{P}$ to $\mathcal{B}$ is injective. Notice that the image of $d \mathcal{P}_{\left[C^{\prime}, D\right]}: T_{\left[C^{\prime}, D\right]} \mathcal{R}_{3,3}^{\prime} \rightarrow$ $T_{P\left(C^{\prime}, D\right)} \mathrm{A}_{4}(\Theta)$ is contained in the $\mathbb{Z} / 3$ invariant part of $T_{P\left(C^{\prime}, D\right)} \mathrm{A}_{4}(\Theta)$. Therefore

$$
d \mathcal{P}_{[D, \eta]}^{\vee}:\left(T_{P\left(C^{\prime}, D\right)}^{*} \mathrm{~A}_{4}(\Theta)\right)^{\mathbb{Z} / 3} \cong S^{2} H^{1,0}\left(P\left(C^{\prime}, D\right)\right)^{\mathbb{Z} / 3} \rightarrow T_{[D, \eta]}^{*} \mathcal{R}_{3,3}^{\prime} \cong H^{0}\left(2 K_{D}\right)
$$

Observe that $H^{1,0}\left(P\left(C^{\prime}, D\right)\right) \cong H^{0}\left(K_{D}(\eta)\right) \oplus H^{0}\left(K_{D}\left(\eta^{2}\right)\right)$, hence

$$
S^{2} H^{1,0}\left(P\left(C^{\prime}, D\right)\right)^{\mathbb{Z} / 3} \cong H^{0}\left(K_{D}(\eta)\right) \otimes H^{0}\left(K_{D}\left(\eta^{2}\right)\right)
$$

and the codifferential is identified with the multiplication map

$$
m: H^{0}\left(K_{D}(\eta)\right) \otimes H^{0}\left(K_{D}\left(\eta^{2}\right)\right) \rightarrow H^{0}\left(2 K_{D}\right) .
$$

First of all we prove that $m$ is injective. Observe that injectivity follows from the base point free pencil trick if we show that $\left|K_{D}\left(\eta^{2}\right)\right|$ is base point free. In fact in this case the kernel of $m$ would be $H^{0}(\eta)=0$.

Let us now prove that $\left|K_{D}\left(\eta^{2}\right)\right|$ is base point free.
So assume that $\left|K_{D}\left(\eta^{2}\right)\right|$ has a base point $p \in D$. Then $h^{0}\left(K_{D}\left(\eta^{2}\right)(-p)\right)=h^{1}(\eta(p))=2$, hence $h^{0}(\eta(p))=1$, therefore there exists a point $q \in D$ such that $\eta=\mathcal{O}_{D}(q-p)$. By the commutativity of diagram (5.7), we know that $\eta=\pi^{*}\left(\eta_{E}\right)$, where $\eta_{E}$ is the 3 -torsion line bundle on $E$ corresponding to the $3: 1$ étale covering $\bar{q}$. In particular $\eta$ is invariant by the covering involution $\iota$ of $\pi$. Hence we have $p-q \equiv \iota(p)-\iota(q)$, equivalently $p+\iota(q) \equiv \iota(p)+q$, which is impossible since $D$ is not hyperelliptic. In fact the family $D \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}$ is the family (4) of [37, which is not hyperelliptic.

Now denote by $\alpha$ the line bundle on $E$ yielding the 2:1 covering $\pi$. We have $K_{D}=\pi^{*}(\alpha)$. Via the projection formula, the map $m$ can be identified with the multiplication map

$$
m_{E}: H^{0}\left(\alpha \otimes \eta_{E}\right) \otimes H^{0}\left(\alpha \otimes \eta_{E}^{2}\right) \rightarrow H^{0}\left(\alpha^{2}\right) \subset H^{0}\left(\alpha^{2}\right) \oplus H^{0}(\alpha) \cong H^{0}\left(2 K_{D}\right)
$$

Notice that $H^{0}\left(\alpha^{2}\right)$ can be identified with the cotangent space to the bielliptic locus at the point $D$ and the cotangent space $T_{\left[C^{\prime}, D\right]}^{*} \mathcal{B}$ is identified to a 1 dimensional subspace of it via the forgetful map $\mathcal{R}_{3,3}^{\prime} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{3}$. Since $\operatorname{dim}\left(H^{0}\left(\alpha^{2}\right)\right)=4$ and $m$ is injective, $m_{E}$ is an isomorphism, hence the differential of the restriction of the Prym map to $\mathcal{B}$ at the point $\left[C^{\prime}, D\right]$ is injective. Therefore the family $P(\tilde{C}, C)$ moves.

## 6. Examples in the ramified Prym locus

In this section we briefly describe the examples of families of ramified Pryms satisfying conditions (A) and (B), hence yielding Shimura curves generically contained in the ramified Prym locus.

## Example 1.

$\tilde{g}=4, g=2, \quad \tilde{G}=\mathbb{Z} / 6=\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 3=\left\langle g_{1}, g_{2} \mid g_{1}^{2}=1, g_{2}^{3}=1, g_{1} g_{2}=g_{2} g_{1}\right\rangle$.
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{2}^{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{1} g_{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1} g_{2}^{2}$.
$\tilde{C}_{t}: \quad y^{3}=u\left(u^{2}-1\right)^{2}\left(u^{2}-t\right), \quad \pi: \tilde{C}_{t} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}, \quad \pi(u, y)=u$.
$\sigma=g_{1}:(u, y) \rightarrow(-u,-y), g_{2}:(u, y) \rightarrow\left(u, \zeta_{3} y\right)$.
$C_{t}: \quad z^{3}=x^{2}(x-1)^{2}(x-t) \quad(x, z)=\left(u^{2}, y u\right)$.
Let $\zeta_{3}^{i}$ denote the character of $\left\langle g_{2}\right\rangle$ mapping $g_{2}$ to $\zeta_{3}^{i}$. Let $W_{\zeta_{3}^{i}}$ be the irreducible representation of $\left\langle g_{2}\right\rangle$ corresponding to the character $\zeta_{3}^{i}$.
As a representation of $\left\langle g_{2}\right\rangle$ we have: $V_{-}=W_{\zeta_{3}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{3}^{2}}, \quad\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \cong W_{\zeta_{3}} \otimes W_{\zeta_{3}^{2}}$.
In the notation of Magma $V_{4}=W_{\zeta_{3}}, \quad V_{6}=W_{\zeta_{3}^{2}}$. The orbit of $W_{\zeta_{3}}$ under the action of $\operatorname{Gal}\left(\mathbb{Q}\left(\zeta_{3}\right), \mathbb{Q}\right)$ is clearly $\left\{W_{\zeta_{3}}, W_{\zeta_{3}^{2}}\right\}$. The Pryms $P(\tilde{C}, C)$ form a 1-dimensional family of abelian surfaces with a $\mathbb{Z} / 3$-action. This yields a Shimura curve, hence it is family (3) of [37].

## Example 2.

$\tilde{g}=4, \quad g=2$,
$\tilde{G}=D_{6}=G(12,4)=\left\langle g_{1}, g_{2}, g_{3} \mid g_{1}^{2}=g_{2}^{2}=g_{3}^{3}=1, g_{1}^{-1} g_{3} g_{1}=g_{3}^{-1}, g_{1} g_{2}=g_{2} g_{1}, g_{2} g_{3}=g_{3} g_{2}\right\rangle$, $\sigma=g_{2}$.
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{1}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{1} g_{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{3}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{2} g_{3}^{2}$.
We observe that this is the same family as in Example 1, since the family of the curves $C$ is family (3) of [37]. In fact family (3) is equal to family (28) of [22].

In the following two examples we have
$\tilde{g}=8, \quad g=4$,
$\tilde{G}=\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 5=\left\langle g_{1}, g_{2} \mid g_{1}^{2}=1, g_{2}^{5}=1, g_{1} g_{2}=g_{2} g_{1}\right\rangle, \sigma=g_{1}$.
In both cases the family of Pryms is a 1-dimensional family of abelian 4-folds with an action of $\mathbb{Z} / 5$, that yields a Shimura curve .
$\underset{\sim}{\text { Example }} 3$.
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{2}^{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{1} g_{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1} g_{2}$.
$\tilde{C}_{t}: \quad y^{5}=u^{2}\left(u^{2}-1\right)^{2}\left(u^{2}-t\right), \quad \pi: \tilde{C}_{t} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}, \quad \pi(u, y)=u$.
$g_{1}(u, y)=(-u, y), \quad g_{2}(u, y)=\left(u, \zeta_{5} y\right)$.
$C_{t}: \quad y^{5}=x(x-1)^{2}(x-t) \quad(x, y)=\left(u^{2}, y\right)$.
$V_{-}=W_{\zeta_{5}} \oplus 2 W_{\zeta_{5}^{3}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{5}^{4}}$.
$\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \cong W_{\zeta_{5}} \otimes W_{\zeta_{5}^{4}}$.

## Example 4.

$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{2}^{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{1} g_{2}^{3}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1} g_{2}^{4}$.
$\tilde{C}_{t}: \quad y^{5}=u\left(u^{2}-1\right)^{2}\left(u^{2}-t\right), \quad \pi: \tilde{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}, \quad \pi(u, y)=u$.
$g_{1}:(u, y) \rightarrow(-u,-y), \quad g_{2}:(u, y) \rightarrow\left(u, \zeta_{5} y\right)$.
$C_{t}:=\quad z^{5}=x^{3}(x-1)^{2}(x-t) \quad(x, z)=\left(u^{2}, y u\right)$.
$V_{-}=2 W_{\zeta_{5}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{5}^{2}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{5}^{3}}$.
$\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \cong W_{\zeta_{5}^{2}} \otimes W_{\zeta_{5}^{3}}$.
In the next example the group $\tilde{G}$ is not abelian and condition (B1) is not satisfied. We show with a geometrical argument that that condition $(\bar{B})$ holds and therefore we get a Shimura curve in $\mathrm{A}_{4}$.

## Examples 5

$\tilde{g}_{\sim}=8, g=4$,
$\tilde{G}=G(24,10) \cong \mathbb{Z} / 3 \times D_{4}=$
$=\left\langle g_{1}, g_{2}, g_{3} \mid g_{1}^{2}=g_{2}^{2}=g_{3}^{3}=1,\left(g_{2} g_{1}\right)^{4}=1, g_{3} g_{i}=g_{i} g_{3} i=1,2,\right\rangle \cong$
$\cong\left\langle g_{3}\right\rangle \times\left\langle x=g_{2} g_{1}, y=g_{1} \mid x^{4}=y^{2}=1, y x=x^{-1} y\right\rangle$
$\sigma=\left(g_{2} g_{1}\right)^{2}$
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{1}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{3}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1} g_{2} g_{3}^{2}$.
$V_{-}=V_{14} \oplus V_{15}$, where $\operatorname{dim}_{\tilde{\tilde{G}}}\left(V_{14}\right)=\operatorname{dim}\left(V_{15}\right)=2$ (notation of MAGMA),
$\left(S^{2}\left(V_{-}\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(V_{14} \otimes V_{15}\right)^{\tilde{G}}$, it is one dimensional, hence condition (A) is satisfied. We need to check condition $(\overline{\mathrm{B}})$. Consider $\left\langle g_{1}\right\rangle \cong \mathbb{Z} / 2$ and set $D=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1}\right\rangle$. The quotient $\tilde{C} \rightarrow D$ is a double cover ramified in 6 points, hence $g(D)=3$. We have the following commutative diagram:


Here $q$ is a double cover ramified in 6 points and $E$ is an elliptic curve with an action of $\left\langle g_{3}\right\rangle \cong \mathbb{Z} / 3$, hence it is constant. From the above diagram one sees that $P(\tilde{C}, C) \sim P(D, E) \times A$, where $A$ is an abelian surface. To prove that $P(\tilde{C}, C)$ moves, we will show that $P(D, E)$ moves. Since $E$ is fixed, it is equivalent to show that $J(D)$ moves in a one dimensional family. Denote by $\psi: \tilde{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}=\tilde{C} / \tilde{G}$ our original covering, by $P_{1}, P_{2}, P_{3}, P_{4}$ the branch points of $\psi$ and by $\pi: E \rightarrow E /\left\langle g_{2}, g_{3}\right\rangle \cong \tilde{C} / \tilde{G}$. The branch points of the map $\pi$ (given by the $\mathbb{Z} / 6$-action on $E$ ) are $P_{1}, P_{3}, P_{4}$, hence, since $E$ does not move, the three branch points of the original $\operatorname{map} \psi, P_{1}, P_{3}, P_{4}$ do not move, therefore $P_{2}$ must move. The map $p$ has 4 branch points $\left\{e_{1}, e_{2}, e_{3}, e_{4}\right\} \subset E$, where $\pi\left(e_{i}\right)=P_{2}$ for $i=1,2,3$, while $\pi\left(e_{4}\right)=P_{4}$. Since $P_{2}$ moves, the
three branch points $\left\{e_{1}, e_{2}, e_{3}\right\}$ move, hence the covering $p: D \rightarrow E$ moves and so do $D$ and $J(D)$. This concludes the argument.

The following two examples both have
$\tilde{g}=12, \quad g=6$,
$\tilde{G}=\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 7=\left\langle g_{1}, g_{2} \mid g_{1}^{2}=1, g_{2}^{7}=1, g_{1} g_{2}=g_{2} g_{1}\right\rangle, \sigma=g_{1}$.
In both cases the family $P(\tilde{C}, C)$ is a 1-dimensional family of abelian 6 -folds with an action of $\mathbb{Z} / 7$, that yields a Shimura curve.
Example 6. $\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{2}^{3}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{1} g_{2}^{4}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1} g_{2}^{6}$.
$\tilde{C}_{t}: \quad y^{7}=u\left(u^{2}-1\right)^{3}\left(u^{2}-t\right), \quad \pi: \tilde{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}, \quad \pi(u, y)=u$,
$g_{1}:(u, y) \rightarrow(-u,-y), g_{2}:(u, y) \rightarrow\left(u, \zeta_{7} y\right)$,
$C_{t}: \quad z^{7}=x^{4}(x-1)^{3}(x-t) \quad(x, z)=\left(u^{2}, y u\right)$.
$V_{-}=2 W_{\zeta_{7}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{7}^{2}} \oplus 2 W_{\zeta_{7}^{3}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{7}^{5}}$.
$\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \cong W_{\zeta_{7}^{2}} \otimes W_{\zeta_{7}^{5}}$.
Example 7. $\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{2}^{3}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{1} g_{2}^{5}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1} g_{2}^{5}$.
$\tilde{C}_{t}: \quad y^{7}=u^{3}\left(u^{2}-1\right)^{3}\left(u^{2}-t\right), \quad \pi: \tilde{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}, \quad \pi(u, y)=u$.
$g_{1}:(u, y) \rightarrow(-u,-y), g_{2}:(u, y) \rightarrow\left(u, \zeta_{7} y\right)$.
$C_{t}: \quad z^{7}=x^{5}(x-1)^{3}(x-t) \quad(x, z)=\left(u^{2}, y u\right)$.
$V_{-}=2 W_{\zeta_{7}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{7}^{3}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{7}^{4}} \oplus 2 W_{\zeta_{7}^{5}}$.
$\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \cong W_{\zeta_{7}^{3}} \otimes W_{\zeta_{7}^{4}}$.
Example 8. $\tilde{g}=14, \quad g=7$,
$\tilde{G}=G(18,2)=\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 9=\left\langle g_{1}, g_{2} \mid g_{1}^{2}=1, g_{2}^{9}=1, g_{1} g_{2}=g_{2} g_{1}\right\rangle, \sigma=g_{1}$.
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{2}^{3}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{1} g_{2}^{7}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1} g_{2}^{7}$.
$\tilde{C}_{t}: \quad y^{9}=u^{7}\left(u^{2}-1\right)^{6}\left(u^{2}-t\right)^{5}, \quad \pi: \tilde{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}, \quad(u, y) \rightarrow u$.
$g_{1}:(u, y) \rightarrow(-u,-y), g_{2}:(u, y) \rightarrow\left(u, \zeta_{9} y\right)$.
$C_{t}: \quad z^{9}=x^{8}(x-1)^{6}(x-t)^{5} \quad(x, z)=\left(u^{2}, y u\right)$.
$V_{-}=W_{\zeta_{9}} \oplus 2 W_{\zeta_{9}^{2}} \oplus 2 W_{\zeta_{9}^{4}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{9}^{6}} \oplus W_{\zeta_{9}^{8}}$.
$\left(S^{2} V_{-}\right)^{\tilde{G}} \cong W_{\zeta_{9}} \otimes W_{\zeta_{9}^{\delta}}$.
In the next example that satisfies condition (A), the group $\tilde{G}$ is not abelian and condition (B1) does not hold. Hence we show again with a geometrical argument that also condition (B) holds and therefore it gives a Shimura curve generically contained in the ramified Prym locus in $\mathrm{A}_{8}$. Notice that by Remark 5.1 it is not contained in the Torelli locus.
Example 9. $\tilde{g}=16, \quad g=8$,
$\tilde{G}=G(40,10) \cong \mathbb{Z} / 5 \times D_{4}=$
$=\left\langle g_{1}, g_{2}, g_{3} \mid g_{1}^{2}=g_{2}^{2}=g_{3}^{5}=1\left(g_{2} g_{1}\right)^{4}=1, g_{3} g_{i}=g_{i} g_{3} i=1,2,\right\rangle \cong$
$\cong\left\langle g_{3}\right\rangle \times\left\langle x=g_{2} g_{1}, y=g_{1} \mid x^{4}=y^{2}=1, y x=x^{-1} y\right\rangle$
$\sigma=\left(g_{2} g_{1}\right)^{2}$.
$\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{1}\right)=g_{2}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{2}\right)=g_{1}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{3}\right)=g_{3}, \quad \tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{4}\right)=g_{1} g_{2} g_{3}^{-1}$.
$V_{-}=V_{22} \oplus V_{23} \oplus 2 V_{24}$, where $\operatorname{dim}\left(V_{22}\right)=\operatorname{dim}\left(V_{23}\right)=\operatorname{dim}\left(V_{24}\right)=2$ (notation of MAGMA).
$\left(S^{2}\left(V_{-}\right)\right)^{\tilde{G}}=\left(V_{22} \otimes V_{23}\right)^{\tilde{G}}$ and it is one dimensional, hence condition (A) is satisfied. We check now condition ( $(\mathrm{B})$. Consider $\left\langle g_{1}\right\rangle \cong \mathbb{Z} / 2 \subset \tilde{G}$ and denote by $D=\tilde{C} /\left\langle g_{1}\right\rangle$. One sees that $\tilde{C} \rightarrow D$ is a double cover ramified in 10 points, hence $g(D)=6$. We have the following commutative diagram:

where $q$ is a double cover ramified in 10 points and $F$ is a genus 2 curve with an action of $\left\langle g_{3}\right\rangle \cong \mathbb{Z} / 5$. Therefore $F$ is a CM curve for any value of the parameter. It follows that $F$ is constant. From the above diagram one sees that $P(\tilde{C}, C) \sim P(D, F) \times A$, where $A$ is an abelian surface. Therefore, to prove that $P(\tilde{C}, C)$ moves, we will show that $P(D, F)$ moves. Since $F$ is fixed, this is equivalent to show that $J(D)$ moves in a one dimensional family. Denote by $\psi: \tilde{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}=\tilde{C} / \tilde{G}$ our original covering, by $P_{1}, P_{2}, P_{3}, P_{4}$ the branch points of $\psi$ and by $\pi: F \rightarrow F /\left\langle g_{2}, g_{3}\right\rangle \cong \tilde{C} / \tilde{G}$. The branch points of the map $\pi$ (given by the $\mathbb{Z} / 10$-action on $F$ ) are $P_{1}, P_{3}, P_{4}$, hence, since $F$ does not move, the three branch points of the original map $\psi, P_{1}, P_{3}, P_{4}$ do not move, therefore $P_{2}$ must move. The map $p$ has 4 branch points $\left\{e_{1}, e_{2}, e_{3}, e_{4}\right\} \subset F$, where $\pi\left(e_{i}\right)=P_{2}$ for $i=1,2,3$, while $\pi\left(e_{4}\right)=P_{4}$. Since $P_{2}$ moves, the three branch points $\left\{e_{1}, e_{2}, e_{3}\right\}$ move, hence the covering $p: D \rightarrow F$ moves and so $D$ (and $J(D)$ ) moves. This concludes the argument.

## Appendix

This appendix gives the relevant information on the script and contains the tables of all the Prym data, which satisfy condition (A). Table 1 is for étale Prym data, while Table 2 is for the ramified Prym data.

To perform the calculations done in this paper we wrote a GAP4 [25] and a MAGMA [34] script, both of them are available at:

```
http://www.dima.unige.it/~ penegini/publications
```

We now describe the GAP4 program PrymGenerators_v2.gap.
The main routine is the function PossibleGoodPrym. One fixes a range for the genus of the covering curve $\tilde{C}$ (we used $4 \leq \tilde{g} \leq 30$ ), a range for the number of branch points of the covering $\tilde{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1}$ (we considered only the case of 4 branch points) and the type $x$ of Prym. The latter means the following:: $x=1$ for étale Prym datum, $x=2$ for ramified Prym datum satisfying (2) of Definition 4.1, $x=3$ for ramified Prym datum satisfying (1) of Definition 4.1. Once all these data are fixed the program performs the following calculations.
(1) First it calculates all possible signature types (Group order, m) for the coverings $\tilde{C} \rightarrow$ $\mathbb{P}^{1}$.
(2) After that, the program calculates for each signature type all the Prym data up to Hurwitz equivalence. These are: a group $\tilde{G}$ of a fixed order, all spherical systems of generators (SSG) for $\tilde{G}$ (images of $\tilde{\theta}$ ) of the fixed type $\mathbf{m}$ up to Hurwitz moves, and an order 2 central element in $\tilde{G}$. Here the script calls some parts of the script given in 45] (in particular the function NrOfComponents). We refer to the appendix of [45] for an explanation of the algorithm.

While looking for the Prym data in the unramified case we can forget from the very beginning the cyclic groups thanks to the following lemma.
Lemma 6.1. If $(G, \theta)$ is an unramified Prym datum, then $\tilde{G}$ is not cyclic.
Proof. Assume by contradiction that $\tilde{G}=\langle x\rangle$ with $o(x)=2 n$ and let $\left\{x^{n_{i}}=\tilde{\theta}\left(\gamma_{i}\right)\right\}_{i=1}^{k}$ be a set of generators for $\tilde{G}$. There is only one element of order 2 in $\tilde{G}$, namely $\sigma:=x^{n}$. It follows that $\sigma \in\langle a\rangle$ if and only if $o(a)$ is even. Since $\sigma \notin\left\langle x^{n_{i}}\right\rangle, o\left(x^{n_{i}}\right)$ is odd for any $i$. On the other hand if $a=x^{s}$, then $o(a)=2 n /(2 n, s)$. Write $n=2^{p} q$ and $n_{i}=2^{p_{i}} q_{i}$ with $q$ and $q_{i}$ odd. Then $o\left(x^{n_{i}}\right)=2^{p+1-\min \left\{p+1, p_{i}\right\}} \cdot \frac{q}{\left(q, q_{i}\right)}$. As this number is odd, we have $p_{i} \geq p+1$, so $n_{i}$ is even for any $i$. Then clearly $\left[n_{i}\right]_{2 n}$ cannot generate $\mathbb{Z} /(2 n)$, contradiction.

We used the GAP4 program because the algorithm for finding inequivalent pairs ( $\tilde{G}$, SSG) up to Hurwitz moves is efficient and quite fast. One can find the output of this program at the web page

```
http://www.dima.unige.it/~
```

The remaining computations are performed using a MAGMA program PrymMagma_v6, that we now describe.
(1) The function GoodExample calculates the dimension $N_{1}:=\operatorname{dim}\left(S^{2} V\right)^{\tilde{G}}$ using the script PossGruppigFix_v2Hwr written for the paper [22] (we refer to [22] for explanations). The input for this function are the data previously calculated by PrymGenerators_v2.gap.
(2) The function ProjSSG constructs an $S S G$ for the group $G$ (for the covering $C \rightarrow C / G \cong$ $\mathbb{P}^{1}$ ) compatible with the given $S S G$ of $\tilde{G}$.
(3) Afterwards we calculate the dimension $N_{2}=\operatorname{dim}\left(S^{2} V_{+}\right)^{G}$, again with the function GoodExample.
(4) The function GoodPrym(N1,N2) checks condition (A) in the form $N_{1}-N_{2}=1$. If the condition is satisfied the program will print GOOD EXAMPLE. The resulting lists are Table 1 and 2 here.
(5) Finally the function IsGoodGood checks condition (B1).

All the results are available at

```
http://www.dima.unige.it/~ penegini/publications/
```

A brief explanation of the tables.
The tables list all Prym data with $\tilde{g} \leq 28$ satisfying conditions (A) and (B1) up to Hurwitz equivalence. It also contains all the non-abelian examples satisfying (A) (but not (B1)) for which we have verified condition (B). For each datum we list a number that identifies the datum, the genera of $\tilde{C}$ and $C$, the group $\tilde{G}$ and its MAGMA SmallGroupId. The last two columns contain information about conditions (B1) and (B). There is a checkmark for (B1) if and only if (B1) is satisfied. If (B1) is true, then (B) follows. When there is a checkmark for $(B)$, this means that we proved that $(\mathbb{B})$ holds.

In the tables some data are grouped together because they differ only by $\tilde{\theta}$.
We do not give the full presentation of $\tilde{G}$, nor the morphism $\tilde{\theta}$, since that would take too much space. The complete information is of course available at the page above.

The data satisfying (B) yield Shimura curves in the Prym loci.

| $n$ | $g(\tilde{C})$ | $g(C)$ | $G$ | SmallGroupId | $B 1$ | $B$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1-3$ | 5 | 3 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 4$ | $G(8,2)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 4 | 5 | 3 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 6$ | $G(12,5)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 5 | 5 | 3 | $(\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 4) \rtimes \mathbb{Z} / 2$ | $G(16,3)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| $6-8$ | 5 | 3 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 4$ | $G(16,10)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 9 | 5 | 3 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times A_{4}$ | $G(24,13)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 10 | 7 | 4 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 6$ | $G(12,5)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| $11-12$ | 7 | 4 | $\mathbb{Z} / 4 \times \mathbb{Z} / 4$ | $G(16,4)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 13 | 7 | 4 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times Q_{8}$ | $G(16,12)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 14 | 9 | 5 | $\mathbb{Z} / 4 \times \mathbb{Z} / 4$ | $G(16,2)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 15 | 9 | 5 | $\mathbb{Z} / 4 \times \mathbb{Z} / 4$ | $G(16,4)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| $16-20$ | 9 | 5 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 8$ | $G(16,5)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| $21-23$ | 9 | 5 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 4$ | $G(16,10)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| $24-25$ | 9 | 5 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 6$ | $G(24,15)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 26 | 9 | 5 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times((\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 4) \rtimes \mathbb{Z} / 2)$ | $G(32,22)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 27 | 9 | 5 | $\mathbb{Z} / 4 \times D_{4}$ | $G(32,25)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 28 | 11 | 5 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 8$ | $G(16,5)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 29 | 11 | 6 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 12$ | $G(24,9)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 30 | 13 | 7 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 8$ | $G(16,5)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 31 | 13 | 7 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 10$ | $G(20,5)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 32 | 13 | 7 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 12$ | $G(24,9)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 33 | 13 | 7 | $(\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 8) \rtimes \mathbb{Z} / 2$ | $G(32,9)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 34 | 13 | 7 | $(\mathbb{Z} / 4 \times \mathbb{Z} / 4) \rtimes \mathbb{Z} / 2$ | $G(32,24)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 35 | 15 | 8 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 12$ | $G(24,9)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 36 | 17 | 9 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 12$ | $G(24,9)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |


| $n$ | $g(C)$ | $g(C)$ | $\tilde{G}$ | SmallGroupId | $B 1$ | $B$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 37 | 17 | 9 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 4 \times \mathbb{Z} / 4$ | $G(32,21)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 38 | 17 | 9 | $(\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 12) \rtimes \mathbb{Z} / 2$ | $G(48,14)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 39 | 17 | 9 | $(\mathbb{Z} / 4 \times \mathbb{Z} / 4 \times \mathbb{Z} / 2) \rtimes \mathbb{Z} / 2$ | $G(64,71)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 40 | 19 | 10 | $(\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times \mathbb{Z} / 3 \times \mathbb{Z} / 3) \rtimes S_{3}$ | $G(108,28)$ |  | $\checkmark$ |
| 41 | 21 | 11 | $\mathbb{Z} / 4 \times \mathbb{Z} / 8$ | $G(32,3)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 42 | 21 | 11 | $\mathbb{Z} / 4 \times D_{8}$ | $G(64,118)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 43 | 25 | 13 | $\mathbb{Z} / 2 \times S L(2,3)$ | $G(48,32)$ |  | $\checkmark$ |
| 44 | 25 | 13 | $A_{4} \rtimes \mathbb{Z} / 4$ | $G(48,30)$ |  | $\checkmark$ |

Table 1

| $n$ | $g(\tilde{C})$ | $g(C)$ | $\dot{G}$ | SmallGroupId | $B 1$ | $B$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 4 | 2 | $\mathbb{Z} / 6$ | $G(6,2)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 2 | 4 | 2 | $D_{6}$ | $G(12,4)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| $3-4$ | 8 | 4 | $\mathbb{Z} / 10$ | $G(10,2)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 5 | 8 | 4 | $\mathbb{Z} / 3 \times D_{4}$ | $G(24,10)$ |  | $\checkmark$ |
| $6-7$ | 12 | 6 | $\mathbb{Z} / 14$ | $G(14,2)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 8 | 14 | 7 | $\mathbb{Z} / 18$ | $G(18,2)$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 9 | 16 | 8 | $\mathbb{Z} / 5 \times D_{4}$ | $G(40,10)$ |  | $\checkmark$ |

Table 2

## References

[1] E. Arbarello, M. Cornalba, P. A. Griffiths, and J. Harris. Geometry of algebraic curves. Vol. I, volume 267 of Grundlehren der Mathematischen Wissenschaften. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1985.
[2] E. Arbarello, M. Cornalba, and P. A. Griffiths. Geometry of algebraic curves. Vol. II, volume 268 of Grundlehren der Mathematischen Wissenschaften. Springer-Verlag, New York, 2011.
[3] A. Beauville, Variétés de Prym et jacobiennes intermédiaires. (French) Ann. Sci. École Norm. Sup. (4) 10 (1977), no. 3, 309-391.
[4] A. Beauville, Prym varieties and the Schottky problem, Inventiones Math. 41 (1977), 149-96.
[5] C. Birkenhake and H. Lange. Complex abelian varieties, volume 302 of Grundlehren der Mathematischen Wissenschaften [Fundamental Principles of Mathematical Sciences]. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, second edition, 2004.
[6] J. S. Birman. Braids, links, and mapping class groups. Princeton University Press, Princeton, N.J., 1974. Annals of Mathematics Studies, No. 82.
[7] S. A. Broughton. The equisymmetric stratification of the moduli space and the Krull dimension of mapping class groups. Topology Appl., 37(2):101-113, 1990.
[8] F. Catanese, M. Lönne, and F. Perroni. Irreducibility of the space of dihedral covers of the projective line of a given numerical type. Atti Accad. Naz. Lincei Cl. Sci. Fis. Mat. Natur. Rend. Lincei (9) Mat. Appl., 22(3):291-309, 2011.
[9] F. Catanese, M. Lönne, and F. Perroni. Genus stabilization for the components of moduli spaces of curves with symmetries. Algebr. Geom., 3(1):23-49, 2016.
[10] K. Chen, X. Lu, and K. Zuo. On the Oort conjecture for Shimura varieties of unitary and orthogonal types. Compos. Math., 152(5):889-917, 2016.
[11] E. Colombo and P. Frediani. Some results on the second Gaussian map for curves. Michigan Math. J., 58(3):745-758, 2009.
[12] E. Colombo and P. Frediani. Siegel metric and curvature of the moduli space of curves. Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., 362(3):1231-1246, 2010.
[13] Colombo, E., Frediani, P., Prym map and second Gaussian map for Prym-canonical line bundles. Adv. Math. 239 (2013), 47-71.
[14] E. Colombo, P. Frediani, and A. Ghigi. On totally geodesic submanifolds in the Jacobian locus. International Journal of Mathematics, 26 (2015), no. 1, 1550005 (21 pages).
[15] E. Colombo, G. P. Pirola, and A. Tortora. Hodge-Gaussian maps. Ann. Scuola Norm. Sup. Pisa Cl. Sci. (4), 30(1):125-146, 2001.
[16] J. de Jong and R. Noot. Jacobians with complex multiplication. In Arithmetic algebraic geometry (Texel, 1989), volume 89 of Progr. Math., pages 177-192. Birkhäuser Boston, Boston, MA, 1991.
[17] J. de Jong and S.-W. Zhang. Generic abelian varieties with real multiplication are not Jacobians. In Diophantine geometry, volume 4 of CRM Series, pages 165-172. Ed. Norm., Pisa, 2007.
[18] R. Donagi, The tetragonal construction. Bull. Amer. Math. Soc. (N.S.), 4, no.2, 181-185, 1981.
[19] R. Donagi, R. Smith, The structure of the Prym map. Acta Math. 146 (1981), no. 1-2, 25-102.
[20] G. Farkas; Prym varieties and their moduli. In Contributions to algebraic geometry, 215-255, EMS, Zürich, 2012.
[21] G. Farkas; K. Ludwig, The Kodaira dimension of the moduli space of Prym varieties. J. Eur. Math. Soc.) 12 (2010), no. 3, 755-795.
[22] P. Frediani, A. Ghigi and M. Penegini. Shimura varieties in the Torelli locus via Galois coverings. Int. Math. Res. Not. 2015, no. 20, 10595-10623.
[23] Frediani, Paola; Penegini, Matteo; Porru Paola. Shimura varieties in the Torelli locus via Galois coverings of elliptic curves. Geometriae Dedicata 181 (2016) 177-192.
[24] Friedman, Robert; Smith, Roy, The generic Torelli theorem for the Prym map. Invent. Math. 67 (1982), no. 3, 473-490.
[25] The GAP Group, GAP - Groups, Algorithms, and Programming, Version 4.8.7; 2017, ( $\backslash$ protect $\backslash$ vrule widthOpt $\backslash$ protect $\backslash$ href $\{$ http://www.gap-system.org\}\{http://www.gap-system.org\}).
[26] G. González Díez and W. J. Harvey. Moduli of Riemann surfaces with symmetry. In Discrete groups and geometry (Birmingham, 1991), volume 173 of London Math. Soc. Lecture Note Ser., pages 75-93. Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge, 1992.
[27] S. Grushevsky and M. Möller. Shimura curves within the locus of hyperelliptic Jacobians in genus 3. Int. Math. Res. Not. IMRN, (6):1603-1639, 2016.
[28] S. Grushevsky and M. Moeller. Explicit formulas for infinitely many shimura curves in genus 4. arXiv preprint arXiv:1510.05674, 2015.
[29] R. Hain. Locally symmetric families of curves and Jacobians. In Moduli of curves and abelian varieties, Aspects Math., E33, pages 91-108. Friedr. Vieweg, Braunschweig, 1999.
[30] V. I. Kanev. A global Torelli theorem for Prym varieties at a general point. Izv. Akad. Nauk SSSR Ser. Mat., 46(2):244-268, 431, 1982.
[31] H. Lange and A. Ortega. Prym varieties of cyclic coverings. Geom. Dedicata, 150:391-403, 2011.
[32] K. Liu, X. Sun, X. Yang, and S.-T. Yau. Curvatures of moduli spaces of curves and applications. arXiv:1312.6932 [math.DG], 2013. Preprint.
[33] X. Lu and K. Zuo. The Oort conjecture for on Shimura curves in the Torelli locus of curves. arXiv preprint arXiv:1405.4751, 2014.
[34] MAGMA Database of Small Groups; http://magma.maths.usyd.edu.au/magma/ htmlhelp/text404.htm.
[35] V.O. Marcucci, G.P. Pirola. Generic Torelli theorem for Prym varieties of ramified coverings. Compos. Math. 148 (2012), no. 4, 1147-1170.
[36] B. Moonen. Linearity properties of Shimura varieties. I. J. Algebraic Geom., 7(3):539-567, 1998.
[37] B. Moonen. Special subvarieties arising from families of cyclic covers of the projective line. Doc. Math., 15:793-819, 2010.
[38] B. Moonen and F. Oort. The Torelli locus and special subvarieties. In Handbook of Moduli: Volume II, pages 549-94. International Press, Boston, MA, 2013.
[39] D. Mumford. A note of Shimura's paper "Discontinuous groups and abelian varieties". Math. Ann., 181:345351, 1969.
[40] D. Mumford. Prym varieties, I. In Contributions to Analysis, New York, 1974.
[41] D. S., Nagaraj; S. Ramanan, S. Polarisations of type (1,2,..,2) on abelian varieties. Duke Math. J. 80 (1995), no. 1, 157-194.
[42] J.C. Naranjo. The positive dimensional fibres of the Prym map Pacific Journal of Math., 172, no. 1, 223-226, 1996.
[43] F. Oort. Canonical liftings and dense sets of CM-points. In Arithmetic geometry (Cortona, 1994), Sympos. Math., XXXVII, pages 228-234. Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge, 1997.
[44] J. Paulhus and A. Rojas. Completely decomposable Jacobian varieties in new genera. Experimental Mathematics, 2016, 1-16.
[45] M. Penegini. The classification of isotrivially fibred surfaces with $p_{g}=q=2$. Collect. Math., 62(3):239-274, 2011. With an appendix by Sönke Rollenske.
[46] M. Penegini. Surfaces isogenous to a product of curves, braid groups and mapping class groups. In Beauville surfaces and groups, volume 123 of Springer Proc. Math. Stat., pages 129-148. Springer, Cham, 2015.
[47] J. C. Rohde. Cyclic coverings, Calabi-Yau manifolds and complex multiplication, volume 1975 of Lecture Notes in Mathematics. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 2009.
[48] J.-P. Serre. Représentations linéaires des groupes finis. Hermann, Paris, revised edition, 1978.
[49] W. Wirtinger, Untersuchungen über Thetafunktionen, Teubner, Berlin 1895.

Dipartimento di Matematica, Università di Milano, via Saldini 50, I-20133, Milano, Italy
E-mail address: elisabetta.colombo@unimi.it
Dipartimento di Matematica, Università di Pavia, via Ferrata 5, I-27100 Pavia, Italy
E-mail address: paola.frediani@unipv.it
Dipartimento di Matematica, Università di Pavia, via Ferrata 5, I-27100, Pavia, Italy
E-mail address: alessandro.ghigi@unipv.it
Dipartimento di Matematica, Università di Genova, Via Dodecaneso 35, I-16146 Genova, Italy
E-mail address: penegini@dima.unige.it


[^0]:    The first and the fourth authors were partially supported by MIUR PRIN 2015 "Geometry of Algebraic Varieties". The second and third authors were partially supported by MIUR PRIN 2015 "Moduli spaces and Lie theory". The second author was also partially supported by FIRB 2012 "Moduli Spaces and their Applications". The third author was also supported by FIRB 2012 "Geometria differenziale e teoria geometrica delle funzioni". The authors were also partially supported by GNSAGA of INdAM. .

