



# On the one-dimensional family of Riemann surfaces of genus $q$ with $4q$ automorphisms<sup>☆</sup>



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## ARTICLE INFO

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### Article history:

Received 27 February 2018

Received in revised form 27 June 2018

Available online 5 July 2018

Communicated by S. Kovács

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**MSC:**  
30F10; 14H37; 14H40

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## ABSTRACT

Bujalance, Costa and Izquierdo have recently proved that all those Riemann surfaces of genus  $g \geq 2$  different from 3, 6, 12, 15 and 30, with exactly  $4g$  automorphisms form an equisymmetric one-dimensional family, denoted by  $\mathcal{F}_g$ . In this paper, for every prime number  $q \geq 5$ , we explore further properties of each Riemann surface  $S$  in  $\mathcal{F}_q$  as well as of its Jacobian variety  $JS$ .

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## 1. Introduction

Automorphism groups of compact Riemann surfaces have been extensively studied, going back to Wiman, Klein and Hurwitz, among others.

It is classically known that the full automorphism group of a Riemann surface of genus  $g \geq 2$  is finite; its size is bounded by  $84(g-1)$ . Moreover, there are infinitely many integers  $g$  for which this bound is attained; see [36].

Usually when additional conditions are imposed on a group of automorphisms, a smaller bound for its order is obtained; for example, classical results assert that in the abelian and cyclic case these bounds are  $4g+4$  and  $4g+2$  respectively.

It is an interesting problem to understand the extent to which the order of the full automorphism group determines the Riemann surface; see for example [32], [33] and [39].

Very recently, Costa and Izquierdo have proved that the maximal order of the form  $ag+b$  (for fixed integers  $a$  and  $b$ ) of the full automorphism group of equisymmetric and one-dimensional families of Riemann surfaces of genus  $g \geq 2$  appearing in all genera is  $4g+4$ . Moreover, they constructed explicit families attaining this bound; see [11]. The second possible largest order is  $4g$ .

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<sup>☆</sup> Partially supported by Postdoctoral FONDECYT Grant 3160002, Redes Etapa Inicial Grant REDI-170071 and Anillo ACT1415 PIA CONICYT Grant.

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Bujalance, Costa and Izquierdo have recently determined all those Riemann surfaces of genus  $g \geq 2$  with exactly  $4g$  automorphisms. More precisely, following [6, Theorem 7], if  $g$  is different from the exceptional values 3, 6, 12, 15 and 30, then the Riemann surfaces of genus  $g$  admitting exactly  $4g$  automorphisms form an equisymmetric one-dimensional family, denoted by  $\mathcal{F}_g$ . Moreover, if  $S$  is a Riemann surface in  $\mathcal{F}_g$  then its full automorphism group  $G$  is isomorphic to a dihedral group, and the corresponding quotient  $S/G$  has genus zero.

The present article is devoted to study further properties of each member  $S$  of the family  $\mathcal{F}_g$  and of its Jacobian variety  $JS$ . In spite of the fact that the results of this paper might be stated for each integer  $g \geq 2$  different from 3, 6, 12, 15 and 30, for the sake of simplicity we shall restrict to the case  $g = q \geq 5$  prime.

This paper is organized as follows.

In Section 2 we shall introduce the basic background; namely, group actions on Riemann surfaces, complex tori and abelian varieties, representation of groups, and the group algebra decomposition theorem for Jacobians.

In Section 3 we shall take advantage of the hyperellipticity of the Riemann surfaces in the family  $\mathcal{F}_q$  (see [6, Remark 9]) to determine explicit algebraic descriptions of them. In addition, with respect to these models, we will provide realizations of their full automorphism groups.

If a finite group  $G$  acts on a Riemann surface  $S$ , then this action induces a  $G$ -equivariant isogeny decomposition of  $JS$  into a product of abelian subvarieties, of the form  $JS \sim_G \prod_{i=1}^r B_i^{n_i}$ . This decomposition (known as the *group algebra decomposition* of  $JS$  with respect to  $G$ ; see [8] and [34]) only depends on the algebraic structure of the group; however, further information such as the dimension of each factor  $B_i$  depends on the geometry of the action. Following [44], the dimension of each  $B_i$  is explicitly given after choosing a *generating vector* of  $G$  representing the action on  $S$ . Because of this dependence, the general question arises about how the choice of such a generating vector affects the group algebra decomposition of  $JS$ .

In Section 4 we shall give a complete answer to the aforementioned question, for each Riemann surface  $S$  in the family  $\mathcal{F}_q$ . To prove this result, we shall begin by proving some lemmata concerning the rational representations of  $G$ , and the possible generating vectors representing the action. We shall also prove that each Jacobian  $JS$  contains an elliptic curve, and that it decomposes into a product of Jacobians of quotients of  $S$ .

In Section 5 we shall explore the fields of definition of the Riemann surfaces  $S$  in the family  $\mathcal{F}_q$ . More precisely, we shall give a characterization for when  $S$  and  $JS$  can be defined, as projective algebraic varieties, by polynomials with real coefficients, and by polynomials with algebraic coefficients. Furthermore, in the latter case we prove that  $JS$  decomposes in terms of abelian subvarieties which can also be defined by polynomials with algebraic coefficients. We shall also observe that  $S$  and  $JS$  can be defined over the field of moduli of  $S$ .

Finally, in Section 6 we shall compute the dimension of a *special variety* in the moduli space  $\mathcal{A}_q$  of principally polarized abelian varieties of dimension  $q$  associated to each Riemann surface  $S$  in the family  $\mathcal{F}_q$ , called the *Shimura family*; see [54]. Moreover, for the particular case  $q = 5$ , we will be able to describe its elements – by exhibiting period matrices – as members of a three-dimensional family in  $\mathcal{A}_5$  admitting a fixed action of the dihedral group of order 20.

**Acknowledgments.** The author wishes to express his gratitude to Anita M. Rojas for sharing her SAGE routines with him.

## 2. Preliminaries

### 2.1. Group actions on Riemann surfaces

Let  $S$  be a compact Riemann surface and let  $G$  be a finite group. We denote by  $\text{Aut}(S)$  the full automorphism group of  $S$ , and say that  $G$  acts on  $S$  if there is a group monomorphism  $\psi : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(S)$ . The

space of orbits  $S/G$  of the action of  $G \cong \psi(G)$  on  $S$  is naturally endowed with a Riemann surface structure in such a way that the natural projection  $\pi : S \rightarrow S/G$  is holomorphic. The degree of  $\pi$  is the order  $|G|$  of  $G$  and the multiplicity of  $\pi$  at  $p \in S$  is  $|G_p|$ , where  $G_p$  denotes the stabilizer of  $p$  in  $G$ . If  $|G_p| \neq 1$  then  $p$  is called a *branch point* and its image by  $\pi$  is a *branch value*.

Let  $\{p_1, \dots, p_l\}$  be a maximal collection of non- $G$ -equivalent branch points of  $\pi$ . The *signature* of the action of  $G$  on  $S$  is the tuple  $(\gamma; m_1, \dots, m_l)$  where  $\gamma$  is the genus of the quotient  $S/G$  and  $m_i = |G_{p_i}|$ . If  $\gamma = 0$  we write  $(m_1, \dots, m_r)$  for short. The branch value  $\pi(p_i)$  is said to be *marked* with  $m_i$ . The Riemann–Hurwitz formula relates these numbers, the order of  $G$  and the genus  $g$  of  $S$ ; namely

$$2g - 2 = |G|(2\gamma - 2) + |G| \cdot \sum_{i=1}^l \left(1 - \frac{1}{m_i}\right).$$

A  $2\gamma + l$  tuple  $(a_1, \dots, a_\gamma, b_1, \dots, b_\gamma, c_1, \dots, c_l)$  of elements of  $G$  is called a *generating vector of  $G$  of type  $(\gamma; m_1, \dots, m_l)$*  if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (a)  $G$  is generated by the elements  $a_1, \dots, a_\gamma, b_1, \dots, b_\gamma, c_1, \dots, c_l$ ,
- (b)  $\text{order}(c_i) = m_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq l$ , and
- (c)  $\prod_{j=1}^\gamma [a_j, b_j] \prod_{i=1}^l c_i = 1$ , where  $[a_i, b_i] = a_i b_i a_i^{-1} b_i^{-1}$ .

Riemann’s existence theorem ensures that the group  $G$  acts on a Riemann surface of genus  $g$  with signature  $(\gamma; m_1, \dots, m_l)$  if and only if the Riemann–Hurwitz formula is satisfied and  $G$  has a generating vector of type  $(\gamma; m_1, \dots, m_l)$ . See [4].

If we denote by  $C_j$  the conjugacy class of the subgroup  $G_{p_j}$  in  $G$  then, the tuple  $(\gamma; [m_1, C_1], \dots, [m_l, C_l])$  is called a *geometric signature* for the action of  $G$  on  $S$ . This concept was introduced in [44] in order to control the behavior of the intermediate coverings ( $S \rightarrow S/H$  for a subgroup  $H$  of  $G$ ) and the dimension of the factors arising in the group algebra decomposition of  $JS$  (see Subsection 2.6).

We shall say that the geometric signature  $(\gamma; [m_1, C_1], \dots, [m_l, C_l])$  is *associated* to the generating vector  $(a_1, \dots, a_\gamma, b_1, \dots, b_\gamma, c_1, \dots, c_l)$  because the subgroup of  $G$  generated by  $c_i$  is in the conjugacy class  $C_i$ .

## 2.2. Topologically equivalent actions

Let  $\text{Hom}^+(S)$  denote the group of orientation preserving homeomorphisms of  $S$ . Two actions  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  of  $G$  on  $S$  are *topologically equivalent* if there exist  $\omega \in \text{Aut}(G)$  and  $h \in \text{Hom}^+(S)$  such that

$$\psi_2(g) = h\psi_1(\omega(g))h^{-1} \quad \text{for all } g \in G. \quad (2.1)$$

In terms of Fuchsian groups, the action of  $G$  on  $S$  can be constructed by means of a pair of Fuchsian groups  $\Gamma \trianglelefteq \Delta$  such that  $S = \mathbb{H}/\Gamma$ , with  $\mathbb{H}$  denoting the upper half-plane, and an epimorphism  $\theta : \Delta \rightarrow G$  with kernel  $\Gamma$ . The group  $\Gamma$  is torsion-free and isomorphic to the fundamental group of  $S$ . It is also known that  $\Delta$  has a presentation given by generators  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\gamma, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_\gamma, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_l$  and relations

$$\gamma_1^{m_1} = \dots = \gamma_l^{m_l} = \prod_{j=1}^\gamma [\alpha_j, \beta_j] \prod_{i=1}^l \gamma_i = 1.$$

Note that there is a bijective correspondence between the set of generating vectors of  $G$  of type  $(\gamma, m_1, \dots, m_l)$  and the set  $\mathcal{K}$  of epimorphism of groups  $\Delta \rightarrow G$  with torsion-free kernel.

Each orientation preserving homeomorphism  $h$  satisfying (2.1) yields a group automorphism  $h^*$  of  $\Delta$ ; we denote by  $\mathcal{B}$  the subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(\Delta)$  consisting of them. The group  $\text{Aut}(G) \times \mathcal{B}$  acts on  $\mathcal{K}$  by

$$((\omega, h^*), \theta) \mapsto \omega \circ \theta \circ (h^*)^{-1}$$

and therefore it also acts on the set of generating vectors of  $G$  of type  $(\gamma, m_1, \dots, m_l)$ .

Let  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  be two generating vectors of type  $(\gamma, m_1, \dots, m_l)$  of  $G$ . Then  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  define topologically equivalent actions if and only if  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  are in the same  $(\text{Aut}(G) \times \mathcal{B})$ -orbit (see [4]; also [22] and [35]).

We refer to the classical articles [48] and [49] for more details concerning the relationship between Riemann surfaces, generating vectors and Fuchsian groups.

### 2.3. Abelian varieties

A  $g$ -dimensional *complex torus*  $X = V/\Lambda$  is the quotient of a  $g$ -dimensional complex vector space  $V$  by a lattice  $\Lambda$ . Each complex torus is an abelian group and a  $g$ -dimensional compact connected complex analytic manifold.

Complex tori can be described in a very concrete way, as follows. Choose bases

$$B_V = \{v_i\}_{i=1}^g \quad \text{and} \quad B_\Lambda = \{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^{2g} \quad (2.2)$$

of  $V$  as a  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space, and of  $\Lambda$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module, respectively. Then there are complex constants  $\{\pi_{ij}\}$  such that  $\lambda_j = \sum_{i=1}^g \pi_{ij} v_i$ . The matrix

$$\Pi = (\pi_{ij}) \in M(g \times 2g, \mathbb{C})$$

represents  $X$ , and is known as the *period matrix* for  $X$  with respect to (2.2).

A *homomorphism* between complex tori is a holomorphic map which is also a homomorphism of groups. We shall denote by  $\text{End}(X)$  the ring of endomorphism of  $X$ . An *automorphism* of a complex torus is a bijective homomorphism into itself.

Special homomorphisms are *isogenies*: these are surjective homomorphisms with finite kernel; isogenous tori are denoted by  $X_1 \sim X_2$ . The isogenies of a complex torus  $X$  into itself are the invertible elements of the ring of rational endomorphisms

$$\text{End}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X) := \text{End}(X) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}.$$

An *abelian variety* is a complex torus which is also a projective algebraic variety. Each abelian variety  $X = V/\Lambda$  admits a *polarization*; namely, a non-degenerate real alternating form  $\Theta$  on  $V$  such that for all  $v, w \in V$

$$\Theta(iv, iw) = \Theta(v, w) \quad \text{and} \quad \Theta(\Lambda \times \Lambda) \subset \mathbb{Z}.$$

If the elementary divisors of  $\Theta|_{\Lambda \times \Lambda}$  are  $\{1, \dots, 1\}$ , where  $g$  is the dimension of  $X$ , then the polarization  $\Theta$  is called *principal* and the pair  $(X, \Theta)$  is called a *principally polarized abelian variety* (from now on we write *ppav* for short).

Let  $(X = V/\Lambda, \Theta)$  be a ppav of dimension  $g$ . Then there exists a basis for  $\Lambda$  such that the matrix for  $\Theta$  with respect to it is

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I_g \\ -I_g & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $I_g$  denoting the  $g \times g$  identity matrix; such a basis is termed *symplectic*. Furthermore, there exist a basis for  $V$  and a symplectic basis for  $\Lambda$  which respect to which the period matrix for  $X$  is  $\Pi = (I_g Z)$ , where  $Z$  belongs to the Siegel space

$$\mathcal{H}_g = \{Z \in M(g, \mathbb{C}) : Z = Z^t \text{ and } \text{Im}(Z) > 0\},$$

with  $Z^t$  denoting the transpose matrix of  $Z$ .

## 2.4. Moduli space of ppavs

An *isomorphism* between ppavs is an isomorphism of the underlying complex torus structures that preserves the polarizations.

Let  $(X_i, \Theta_i)$  be a ppav of dimension  $g$ , and let  $\Pi_i = (I_g Z_i)$  be the period matrix of  $X_i$  with respect to chosen basis, for  $i = 1, 2$ . Each isomorphism between  $(X_1, \Theta_1)$  and  $(X_2, \Theta_2)$  is given by a pair of matrices

$$M \in \mathrm{GL}(g, \mathbb{C}) \quad \text{and} \quad R \in \mathrm{GL}(2g, \mathbb{Z})$$

(corresponding to the *analytic* and *rational* representations, respectively) such that

$$M(I_g Z_1) = (I_g Z_2)R. \quad (2.3)$$

Since  $R$  preserves the principal polarizations, it belongs to the symplectic group

$$\mathrm{Sp}(2g, \mathbb{Z}) = \{R \in \mathrm{M}(2g, \mathbb{Z}) : R^t J R = J\}.$$

Now, it follows from (2.3) that the correspondence

$$\mathrm{Sp}(2g, \mathbb{Z}) \times \mathcal{H}_g \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_g \quad \left( \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}, Z \right) \mapsto (A + ZC)^{-1}(B + ZD)$$

defines an action which identifies period matrices representing isomorphic ppavs. Hence, the quotient

$$\mathcal{H}_g \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_g := \mathcal{H}_g / \mathrm{Sp}(2g, \mathbb{Z})$$

is the *moduli space* of isomorphism classes of ppavs of dimension  $g$ .

We refer to [3] and [12] for more details on abelian varieties.

## 2.5. Representations of groups

Let  $G$  be a finite group and let  $\rho : G \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}(V)$  be a complex representation of  $G$ . Abusing notation, we shall also write  $V$  to refer to the representation  $\rho$ . The *degree*  $d_V$  of  $V$  is the dimension of  $V$  as complex vector space, and the character  $\chi_V$  of  $V$  is the map obtained by associating to each  $g \in G$  the trace of the matrix  $\rho(g)$ . Two representations  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  are *equivalent* if and only if their characters agree; we write  $V_1 \cong V_2$ . The *character field*  $K_V$  of  $V$  is the field obtained by extending the rational numbers by the values of the character  $\chi_V$ . The *Schur index*  $s_V$  of  $V$  is the smallest positive integer such that there exists a field extension  $L_V$  of  $K_V$  of degree  $s_V$  over which  $V$  can be defined.

It is a known fact that for each rational irreducible representation  $W$  of  $G$  there is a complex irreducible representation  $V$  of  $G$  such that

$$W \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{C} \cong (\oplus_{\sigma} V^{\sigma}) \oplus \stackrel{s_V}{\cdots} \oplus (\oplus_{\sigma} V^{\sigma}) = s_V (\oplus_{\sigma} V^{\sigma}),$$

where the sum  $\oplus_{\sigma}$  is taken over the Galois group associated to the extension  $\mathbb{Q} \leq K_V$ . We say that  $V$  is *associated* to  $W$ .

We refer to [47] for further basic facts related to representations of groups.

## 2.6. Group algebra decomposition theorem for Jacobians

Let  $S$  be a Riemann surface of genus  $g$ . Let us denote by  $\mathcal{H}^{1,0}(S, \mathbb{C})$  the  $g$ -dimensional complex vector space of the holomorphic 1-forms on  $S$ , and by  $H_1(S, \mathbb{Z})$  the first homology group of  $S$ . The *Jacobian variety* of  $S$  is the ppav of dimension  $g$  defined as

$$JS = (\mathcal{H}^{1,0}(S, \mathbb{C}))^*/H_1(S, \mathbb{Z}),$$

endowed with the principal polarization given by the geometric intersection number.

The relevance of the Jacobian variety lies in the well-known Torelli's theorem, which asserts that two compact Riemann surfaces are isomorphic if and only if their Jacobians are isomorphic as ppavs.

Let  $G$  be a finite group and let  $W_1, \dots, W_r$  be its rational irreducible representations. It is known that each action of  $G$  on  $S$  induces a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra homomorphism  $\Phi : \mathbb{Q}[G] \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbb{Q}}(JS)$ . Each  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}[G]$  defines an abelian subvariety of  $JS$ ; namely,

$$A_{\alpha} := \text{Im}(\alpha) = \Phi(l\alpha)(JS) \subset JS,$$

where  $l$  is some positive integer chosen such that  $l\alpha \in \text{End}(JS)$ .

The decomposition  $1 = e_1 + \dots + e_r \in \mathbb{Q}[G]$ , where  $e_i$  is a central idempotent (uniquely determined and canonically computed from  $W_i$ ) yields an isogeny

$$JS \sim A_{e_1} \times \dots \times A_{e_r}$$

which is  $G$ -equivariant; this is called the *isotypical decomposition* of  $JS$ . See [34].

Additionally, there are idempotents  $f_{i1}, \dots, f_{in_i}$  such that  $e_i = f_{i1} + \dots + f_{in_i}$  where  $n_i = d_{V_i}/s_{V_i}$ , with  $V_i$  being a complex irreducible representation associated to  $W_i$ . These idempotents provide  $n_i$  subvarieties of  $JS$  which are isogenous to each other; let  $B_i$  be one of them, for each  $i$ . Then

$$JS \sim_G B_1^{n_1} \times \dots \times B_r^{n_r} \quad (2.4)$$

which is called the *group algebra decomposition* of  $JS$  with respect to  $G$ . See [8].

If  $W_1$  denotes the trivial representation, then  $n_1 = 1$  and  $B_1 \sim J(S/G)$ .

Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . It was proved in [8] that the group algebra decomposition (2.4) of  $JS$  with respect to  $G$  yields the following isogeny decomposition:

$$J(S/H) \sim B_1^{n_1^H} \times \dots \times B_r^{n_r^H} \quad \text{where } n_i^H = d_{V_i}^H/s_{V_i} \quad (2.5)$$

with  $d_{V_i}^H$  denoting the dimension of the vector subspace  $V_i^H$  of  $V_i$  consisting of those elements which are fixed under  $H$ .

The previous result provides a criterion to identify if a factor in (2.4) is isogenous to the Jacobian of a quotient of  $S$  (cf. [30]). Namely, if a subgroup  $N$  of  $G$  satisfies  $d_{V_i}^N = s_{V_i}$  for some fixed  $2 \leq i \leq r$  and  $d_{V_i}^N = 0$  for all  $l \neq i$  such that  $B_l \neq 0$ , then

$$B_i \sim J(S/N). \quad (2.6)$$

Let us now suppose that  $\tau = (\gamma; [m_1, C_1], \dots, [m_l, C_l])$  is the geometric signature of the action of  $G$  on  $S$ . Let  $G_k$  be a representative of the conjugacy class  $C_k$  for  $1 \leq k \leq l$ . In [44] it was proved that the dimension of the factor  $B_i$  in (2.4) is

$$\dim(B_i) = k_i(d_{V_i}(\gamma - 1) + \frac{1}{2}\sum_{k=1}^l(d_{V_i} - d_{V_i}^{G_k})) \quad (2.7)$$

where  $k_i$  is the degree of the extension  $\mathbb{Q} \leq L_{V_i}$ . To avoid confusion, we shall write  $\dim_\tau(B_i)$  instead of  $\dim(B_i)$  to refer to the dependence on  $\tau$ .

For decompositions of Jacobians with respect to special groups, see, for example, the articles [7], [9], [24], [29], [31], [40], [42], [43] and [46].

### 3. Algebraic description of $\mathcal{F}_q$

Let  $q \geq 5$  be a prime number. Let  $S$  denote a Riemann surface in the family  $\mathcal{F}_q$  and let

$$G = \langle r, s : r^{2q} = s^2 = (sr)^2 = 1 \rangle \cong \mathbf{D}_{2q}$$

denote its full automorphism group. We recall that the quotient Riemann surface  $S/G$  has genus zero, and that the associated  $4q$ -fold branched regular covering map

$$\pi_G : S \rightarrow S/G \cong \mathbb{P}^1$$

ramifies over four values; three ramification values marked with 2 and one ramification value marked with  $2q$ . We can assume the action to be represented by the generating vector  $(s, sr^{-2}, r^q, r^{q+2})$ . In addition, up to a Möbius transformation, we can assume the branch values to be  $\infty, 0, 1$  marked with 2 and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} - \{0, 1\}$  marked with  $2q$ .

As we will discuss later (see Remark 5),  $\lambda$  must be different from the exceptional values  $-1, \frac{1}{2}, 2, \gamma, \gamma^2$  where  $\gamma^3 = -1$ . If we denote by

$$\Omega := \mathbb{C} - \{0, \pm 1, \frac{1}{2}, 2, \gamma, \gamma^2\}$$

the set of *admissible* parameters, then the family  $\mathcal{F}_q$  can be understood by means of an everywhere maximal rank holomorphic map

$$h : \mathcal{F}_q \rightarrow \Omega$$

in such a way that the fibers of  $h$  agree with the Riemann surfaces in  $\mathcal{F}_q$ . See, for example, Section 6.2 in [27].

We denote by  $S_\lambda$  the Riemann surface  $h^{-1}(\lambda)$  and by  $G_\lambda \cong G$  its full automorphism group.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $\lambda \in \Omega$ . Then  $S_\lambda$  is isomorphic to the Riemann surface defined by the normalization of the hyperelliptic algebraic curve*

$$y^2 = x(x^{2q} + 2\frac{1+\lambda}{1-\lambda}x^q + 1).$$

**Proof.** Following [6, Remark 9], the Riemann surface  $S_\lambda$  is hyperelliptic; the hyperelliptic involution being represented by  $r^q$ . In other words, the Riemann surface  $R_\lambda := S_\lambda/\langle r^q \rangle$  has genus zero, and the associated two-fold branched regular covering map

$$\pi_1 : S_\lambda \rightarrow R_\lambda$$

ramifies over  $2q + 2$  values; let us denote these values by  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{2q+2}$ . Let

$$\pi_2 : R_\lambda \rightarrow R_\lambda/K \cong S_\lambda/G \cong \mathbb{P}^1$$

denote the  $2q$ -fold branched regular covering map associated to the action of the quotient group  $K = G/\langle r^q \rangle \cong \mathbf{D}_q$  on  $R_\lambda$ . The following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & S_\lambda & \\ \pi_G \swarrow & & \searrow \pi_1 \\ \mathbb{P}^1 & \xleftarrow{\pi_2} & R_\lambda \end{array}$$

**Claim.** The ramification values of  $\pi_2$  are:  $\infty$  marked with two, 0 marked with two, and  $\lambda$  marked with  $q$ . Moreover, among the ramification values of  $\pi_1$  only two of them are ramification points of  $\pi_2$ , these points lying over  $\lambda$  by  $\pi_2$ .

We proceed to study carefully the ramification data associated to the coverings in the previous commutative diagram. To do that, we follow [44, Section 3.1].

(a) The fiber over  $\infty$  by  $\pi_G$  consists of  $2q$  different points, say  $\beta'_1, \dots, \beta'_{2q}$ . The stabilizer subgroup of  $\beta'_j$  in  $G$  is of the form  $\langle sr^{-2t} \rangle$  for a suitable choice of  $t$ . Now, as  $|\langle sr^{-2t} \rangle \cap \langle r^q \rangle| = 1$  for each choice of  $t$ , it follows that  $\beta'_j$  is not a branch point of  $\pi_1$ . Thus, over  $\infty$  by  $\pi_2$  there are exactly  $q$  different points, say

$$\{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_q\} = \pi_1(\{\beta'_1, \dots, \beta'_{2q}\}),$$

showing that  $\infty$  is a ramification value of  $\pi_2$  marked with two.

(b) The fiber over 0 by  $\pi_G$  consists of  $2q$  different points, say  $\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_{2q}$ . As argued in (a),  $\gamma'_j$  is not a branch point of  $\pi_1$  and over 0 by  $\pi_2$  there are exactly  $q$  different points, say

$$\{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_q\} = \pi_1(\{\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_{2q}\}),$$

showing that 0 is a ramification value of  $\pi_2$  marked with two.

(c) The fiber over 1 by  $\pi_G$  consists of  $2q$  different points, say  $\alpha'_1, \dots, \alpha'_{2q}$ . The stabilizer subgroup of  $\alpha'_j$  in  $G$  is  $\langle r^q \rangle$  and therefore  $\alpha'_j$  is a branch point marked with two of  $\pi_1$  for each  $j$ . Thus, over 1 by  $\pi_2$  there are exactly  $2q$  different points, say

$$\alpha_j = \pi_1(\alpha'_j), \quad \text{for } j \in \{1, \dots, 2q\}$$

showing that 1 is not ramification value of  $\pi_2$ .

(d) The fiber over  $\lambda$  by  $\pi_G$  consists of 2 different points, say  $\alpha'_{2q+1}$  and  $\alpha'_{2q+2}$ . The stabilizer subgroup of  $\alpha'_{2q+1}$  and  $\alpha'_{2q+2}$  in  $G$  is  $\langle r \rangle$ . Now, as  $|\langle r \rangle \cap \langle r^q \rangle| = 2$ , it follows that  $\alpha'_{2q+1}$  and  $\alpha'_{2q+2}$  are branch points of  $\pi_1$  marked with 2. Thus, over  $\lambda$  by  $\pi_2$  there are exactly two different points:

$$\alpha_{2q+1} = \pi_1(\alpha'_{2q+1}) \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_{2q+2} = \pi_1(\alpha'_{2q+2}),$$

showing that  $\lambda$  is a ramification value of  $\pi_2$  marked with  $q$ .

The proof of the claim is done.

Then, without loss of generality, we can suppose  $K$  to be generated by

$$a(z) = \omega_{2q}^2 z \quad \text{and} \quad b(z) = \frac{1}{z}$$

where  $\omega_t = \exp(\frac{2\pi i}{t})$ , and that:

- (a) the  $q$  branch points of  $\pi_2$  over  $\infty$  are  $\beta_j = \omega_{2q}^{2j-1}$  for  $1 \leq j \leq q$ .
- (b) the  $q$  branch points of  $\pi_2$  over  $0$  are  $\gamma_j = \omega_{2q}^{2j}$  for  $0 \leq j < q$ .
- (c) the two branch points of  $\pi_2$  over  $\lambda$  are  $\alpha_{2q+1} = 0$  and  $\alpha_{2q+2} = \infty$ .

It follows that  $S_\lambda$  is isomorphic to the Riemann surface defined by the normalization of the hyperelliptic algebraic curve

$$y^2 = x(x - \alpha_1) \cdots (x - \alpha_{2q}),$$

and it only remains to prove that  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{2q}$  are the  $2q$  different solutions of the polynomial equation

$$z^{2q} + 2\frac{1+\lambda}{1-\lambda}z^q + 1 = 0.$$

Now, by virtue of the claim, to accomplish this task we need to exhibit a  $2q$ -fold branched regular covering map  $\Pi : \mathbb{P}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$  admitting  $\langle a, b \rangle \cong \mathbf{D}_q$  as its deck group, such that  $\Pi(\infty) = \Pi(0) = \lambda$  and

$$\Pi(\omega_{2q}^k) = \begin{cases} \infty & \text{if } k \text{ is odd;} \\ 0 & \text{if } k \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

It is straightforward to check that  $\Pi(z) = \lambda \cdot \frac{z^{2q} - 2z^q + 1}{z^{2q} + 2z^q + 1}$  is the desired map, and the proof follows directly after noticing that

$$\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{2q}\} = \Pi^{-1}(1). \quad \square$$

**Remark 1.** As we shall see later (see Theorem 5) among the members of the family  $\mathcal{F}_q$  there are some of them which admit anticonformal involutions. In this case, the previous result can also be obtained as a consequence of the results of [5].

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $\lambda \in \Omega$ . In the algebraic model of Theorem 1 the full automorphism group of  $S_\lambda$  is generated by the transformations*

$$r(x, y) = (\omega_q x, \omega_{2q} y) \quad \text{and} \quad s(x, y) = (\frac{1}{x}, \frac{y}{x^{q+1}})$$

where  $\omega_t = \exp(\frac{2\pi i}{t})$ .

**Proof.** The fact that the transformations  $r$  and  $s$  are indeed automorphisms of  $S_\lambda$  follows from an easy computation. Note that  $s$  has order two,  $r$  has order  $2q$  and

$$sr(x, y) = (\frac{1}{\omega_q x}, \frac{y}{\omega_{2q} x^{q+1}})$$

has order two; thus,  $r$  and  $s$  generate a group of order  $4q$  isomorphic to  $\mathbf{D}_{2q}$ .

The proof of the theorem follows after noticing that the stabilizer subgroup of each ramification point of the regular covering map associated to the action of  $\langle r, s \rangle$  is conjugate to the group generated by either  $s, sr^{-2}, r^q$  or  $r^{q+2}$ . In fact:

- (a) each power of  $r^{q+2}$  has two fixed points with stabilizer subgroup  $\langle r \rangle$ ,
- (b)  $r^q$  has  $2q$  fixed points with stabilizer subgroup  $\langle r^q \rangle$ ,
- (c) if  $t$  is odd then the involution  $sr^t$  does not have fixed points, and

(d) if  $t$  is even then the involution  $sr^t$  has four fixed points; the  $G$ -orbit of each of them has cardinality  $2q$ , and the stabilizer subgroup of each point in this orbit is conjugate to  $\langle s \rangle$ .

The proof is done.  $\square$

We anticipate the fact that the Jacobian variety  $JS_\lambda$  decomposes, up to isogeny, as a product of an elliptic curve  $E_\lambda$  and (two copies of) the Jacobian of a Riemann surface of genus  $\frac{q-1}{2}$ .

The next proposition describes algebraically the elliptic curve  $E_\lambda$ .

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $\lambda \in \Omega$ , and consider the following subgroup of  $G$*

$$H_4 = \langle r^{-2}, sr^{-1} \rangle \cong \mathbf{D}_q.$$

*Then the quotient Riemann surface  $E_\lambda$  given by the action of  $H_4$  on  $S_\lambda$  has genus one, and it is endowed with a two-fold regular covering map over the projective line which ramifies over  $\infty, 0, 1$  and  $\lambda$ . In particular,  $E_\lambda$  is isomorphic to the Riemann surface defined by the elliptic curve*

$$y^2 = x(x-1)(x-\lambda).$$

**Proof.** The normality of  $H_4$  as a subgroup of  $G$  implies that the quotient group  $H := G/H_4 \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$  acts on  $E_\lambda$ . Let

$$\pi_1 : S_\lambda \rightarrow E_\lambda \quad \text{and} \quad \pi_2 : E_\lambda \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$$

denote the branched regular covering maps given by the action of  $H_4$  on  $S_\lambda$ , and by the action of  $H$  on  $E_\lambda$  respectively. The following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & S_\lambda & \\ \pi_G \swarrow & & \searrow \pi_1 \\ \mathbb{P}^1 & \xleftarrow{\pi_2} & E_\lambda \end{array}$$

Following the same notations used in the proof of Theorem 1, we can assert that:

- (a) the  $2q$  different points  $\beta'_1, \dots, \beta'_{2q}$  ( $\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_{2q}$  and  $\alpha'_1, \dots, \alpha'_{2q}$ , respectively) lying over  $\infty$  (over 0 and over 1, respectively) by  $\pi_G$  are not ramification points of  $\pi_1$  and therefore they are sent to one point in  $E_\lambda$ . Thereby,  $\infty$  (0 and 1, respectively) is a branch value of  $\pi_2$  marked with two,
- (b) the two different points  $\alpha'_{2q+1}$  and  $\alpha'_{2q+2}$  lying over  $\lambda$  by  $\pi_G$  are ramification points of  $\pi_1$ ; the intersection of their stabilizer subgroup with  $H_4$  having order  $q$ . Thus, they are sent to one point in  $E_\lambda$ , and  $\lambda$  is a branch value of  $\pi_2$  marked with two.

Thus,  $E_\lambda$  is endowed with a two-fold regular covering map over the projective line, with four branch values. As the genus of  $E_\lambda$  is one (Riemann–Hurwitz formula), the result follows.  $\square$

#### 4. The group algebra decomposition of $JS$

In this section we consider the Jacobian variety  $JS_\lambda$  and study the group algebra decomposition of it with respect to its full automorphism group  $G$ . In order to state the results, we start by studying the representations of  $G$  and the generating vectors representing the action of  $G$  on  $S_\lambda$ .

It is well-known that the dihedral group

$$G = \langle r, s : r^{2q} = s^2 = (sr)^2 = 1 \rangle$$

has, up to equivalence, 4 complex irreducible representations of degree one; namely,

$$V_1 : \begin{cases} r \rightarrow 1 \\ s \rightarrow 1 \end{cases} \quad V_2 : \begin{cases} r \rightarrow 1 \\ s \rightarrow -1 \end{cases} \quad V_3 : \begin{cases} r \rightarrow -1 \\ s \rightarrow 1 \end{cases} \quad V_4 : \begin{cases} r \rightarrow -1 \\ s \rightarrow -1 \end{cases}$$

and  $q - 1$  complex irreducible representations of degree two; namely,

$$V_{k+4} : r \mapsto \text{diag}(\omega_{2q}^k, \bar{\omega}_{2q}^k), \quad s \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

for  $1 \leq k \leq q - 1$  and  $\omega_t = \exp(\frac{2\pi i}{t})$ .

**Lemma 1.**

(1) *The rational irreducible representations of  $G$ , up to equivalence, are:*

- (a) *four of degree 1; namely  $W_i := V_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq 4$  and*
- (b) *two of degree  $q - 1$ ; namely*

$$W_5 = \bigoplus_{\sigma \in G_5} V_5^\sigma \quad \text{and} \quad W_6 = \bigoplus_{\sigma \in G_6} V_6^\sigma$$

where  $G_5$  and  $G_6$  denote the Galois group associated to the extensions  $\mathbb{Q} \leq \mathbb{Q}(\omega_{2q} + \bar{\omega}_{2q})$  and  $\mathbb{Q} \leq \mathbb{Q}(\omega_q + \bar{\omega}_q)$  respectively, and  $\omega_t = \exp(\frac{2\pi i}{t})$ .

(2) *Let  $\lambda \in \Omega$ . The group algebra decomposition of  $JS_\lambda$  with respect to  $G$  is*

$$JS_\lambda \sim_G B_1 \times B_2 \times B_3 \times B_4 \times B_5^2 \times B_6^2$$

where  $B_j$  stands for the factor associated to the representation  $W_j$ .

**Proof.** The proof of part (1) follows directly from the way in which the rational irreducible representations of a group are constructed (see Subsection 2.5). The proof of part (2) is a direct consequence of (1) together with the group algebra decomposition theorem (see Subsection 2.6).  $\square$

As anticipated in the introduction of this article, to compute the dimension of the factors  $B_j$  (which may be zero) we need to choose a generating vector representing the action of  $G$  on  $S_\lambda$ ; the following lemma provides all those possible choices.

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $\sigma$  be a generating vector of  $G$  of type  $(2, 2, 2, 2q)$ . Then there exist integers  $e_1, e_2$  with  $e_1 - e_2$  even and not congruent to 0 modulo  $2q$ , such that*

$$\sigma = (sr^{e_1}, sr^{e_2}, r^q, r^{e_1 - e_2 + q})$$

up to the action of the symmetric group  $S_3$  over the first three entries.

**Proof.** Let us suppose that

$$\sigma = (g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4 = (g_1 g_2 g_3)^{-1})$$

is a generating vector of  $G$  of type  $(2, 2, 2, 2q)$ . It is not difficult to see that  $G$  has exactly three conjugacy classes of elements of order two; namely

$$C_1 = \{sr^n : 0 \leq n < 2q \text{ even}\}, \quad C_2 = \{sr^m : 1 \leq m < 2q \text{ odd}\}$$

and  $C_3 = \{r^q\}$ . Moreover, there are  $\frac{q-1}{2}$  conjugacy classes of elements of  $G$  of order  $2q$ ; namely  $\{r^t, r^{-t}\}$  for each odd integer  $1 \leq t < q$ .

Since  $g_1, g_2$  and  $g_3$  must generate  $G$  and since their product  $g_4^{-1}$  must have order  $2q$ , it is straightforward to see that:

- (a) the elements  $g_1, g_2$  and  $g_3$  cannot belong simultaneously to only one of the conjugacy classes  $C_1, C_2$  or  $C_3$ ,
- (b) the elements  $g_1, g_2$  and  $g_3$  cannot belong to three different conjugacy classes  $C_1, C_2$  and  $C_3$ , and
- (c) one (and only one) of the elements  $g_1, g_2$  or  $g_3$  must belong to the conjugacy class  $C_3$ .

Hence, up to a permutation in  $\mathbf{S}_3$ , we may assume  $\sigma$  to be of the form

$$(sr^{e_1}, sr^{e_2}, r^q, r^{e_1-e_2+q})$$

where  $0 \leq e_1, e_2 < 2q$  are simultaneously odd or simultaneously even. As  $e_1 - e_2 + q$  must be coprime with  $2q$ , the difference  $e_1 - e_2$  is not congruent with zero modulo  $2q$ . The proof is done.  $\square$

### Remark 2.

- (a) We should mention that the proof of the previous lemma could be derived from the proof of Theorem 7 in [6].
- (b) Following [6, Remark 8] there is a unique topological class of action of  $\mathbf{D}_{2q}$  on Riemann surfaces of genus  $q$  with signature  $(2, 2, 2, 2q)$ ; consequently, every generating vector of  $G$  of the desired type can be chosen to represent the action of  $G$  on  $S_\lambda$ .

We now proceed to analyze how the choice of the generating vector changes the dimension of the factors arising in the group algebra decomposition of  $JS_\lambda$  with respect to  $G$ . To accomplish this task, it is convenient to bring in the following equivalence relation:

**Definition 1.** Two generating vectors  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  are termed *essentially equal* with respect to the action of  $G$  on  $S_\lambda$  if  $\dim_{\tau_1}(B_j) = \dim_{\tau_2}(B_j)$  for all  $j$ , where  $\tau_i$  is the geometric signature associated to  $\sigma_i$ .

**Lemma 3.** *Each generating vector of  $G$  of type  $(2, 2, 2, 2q)$  is essentially equal to*

$$\sigma_0 = (s, sr^{-2}, r^q, r^{q+2}) \quad \text{or to} \quad \sigma_1 = (sr, sr^{-1}, r^q, r^{q+2}).$$

**Proof.** Let  $\sigma$  be a generating vector of  $G$  of type  $(2, 2, 2, 2q)$  for the action of  $G$  on  $S_\lambda$ . By Lemma 2 we can suppose

$$\sigma = (sr^{e_1}, sr^{e_2}, r^q, r^{e_1-e_2+q})$$

for some integers  $e_1, e_2$  with  $e_1 - e_2$  even and not congruent to 0 modulo  $2q$ , up to the action of  $\mathbf{S}_3$  on the first three entries. The action of  $\iota \in \mathbf{S}_3$  over the three first entries produces the following change on the fourth one:

$$r^{e_1-e_2+q} \mapsto \iota(r^{e_1-e_2+q}) = r^{\pm(e_1-e_2+q)}$$

sending  $r^{e_1-e_2+q}$  into either itself or its inverse. Hence, in spite of the fact that the corresponding geometric signature changes under permutations in  $\mathbf{S}_3$ , the dimension of the each factor  $B_j$  remains the same ( $\iota$  permutes the summands in the sum (2.7)); thus the generating vectors  $\sigma$  and  $\iota(\sigma)$  are essentially equal.

We remark the obvious observation that the geometric signature associated to a given generating vector is kept invariant under inner automorphisms of the group. Now, after conjugating every element in  $\sigma$  by

$$\begin{cases} r^{-e_1/2} & \text{if } e_1 \text{ and } e_2 \text{ are even;} \\ r^{-(e_1+1)/2} & \text{if } e_1 \text{ and } e_2 \text{ are odd,} \end{cases}$$

we obtain normalized generating vectors

$$\sigma_{0,n} := (s, sr^{-n}, r^q, r^{q+n}) \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_{1,n} := (sr, sr^{1-n}, r^q, r^{q+n})$$

for  $e_1, e_2$  even, and for  $e_1, e_2$  odd respectively, where  $n = e_1 - e_2$ .

Note that if  $n$  and  $m$  are distinct even numbers, then  $\sigma_{0,n}$  and  $\sigma_{0,m}$  are essentially equal, and  $\sigma_{1,n}$  and  $\sigma_{1,m}$  are essentially equal.

Hence, the result follows after verifying that  $\sigma_0 = \sigma_{0,2}$  and  $\sigma_1 = \sigma_{1,2}$  are not essentially equal; this follows from  $\dim_{\tau_0}(B_3) = 0$  and  $\dim_{\tau_1}(B_3) = 1$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.** *Let  $\lambda \in \Omega$ , and consider the group algebra decomposition of  $JS_\lambda$  with respect to  $G$*

$$JS_\lambda \sim_G B_1 \times B_2 \times B_3 \times B_4 \times B_5^2 \times B_6^2.$$

*If  $\tau_0$  denotes the geometric signature associated to  $\sigma_0 = (s, sr^{-2}, r^q, r^{q+2})$  then*

$$\dim_{\tau_0}(B_j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j = 0, 1, 2, 3, 6 \\ 1 & \text{if } j = 4 \\ \frac{q-1}{2} & \text{if } j = 5 \end{cases}$$

*If  $\tau_1$  denotes the geometric signature associated to  $\sigma_1 = (sr, sr^{-1}, r^q, r^{q+2})$ , then*

$$\dim_{\tau_1}(B_j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j = 0, 1, 2, 4, 6 \\ 1 & \text{if } j = 3 \\ \frac{q-1}{2} & \text{if } j = 5 \end{cases}$$

*In particular,  $JS_\lambda$  contains an elliptic curve.*

**Proof.** The genus of the quotient  $S/G$  is zero; thus,  $\dim_{\tau_0}(B_1) = \dim_{\tau_1}(B_1) = 0$ . The table below summarized the dimension of the vector subspaces of each  $V_j$  fixed under the cyclic subgroup  $\langle g \rangle$ , for each  $g$  arising in the signatures  $\sigma_0$  and  $\sigma_1$ .

	$\langle s \rangle$	$\langle sr \rangle$	$\langle sr^{-2} \rangle$	$\langle sr^{-1} \rangle$	$\langle r^q \rangle$	$\langle r^{q+2} \rangle$
$V_2$	0	0	0	0	1	1
$V_3$	1	0	1	0	0	0
$V_4$	0	1	0	1	0	0
$V_5$	1	1	1	1	0	0
$V_6$	1	1	1	1	2	0

Now, the result follows directly as an application of (2.7).  $\square$

**Theorem 3.** Let  $\lambda \in \Omega$ . The group algebra decomposition of  $JS_\lambda$  with respect to  $G$  does not depend on the choice of the generating vector.

**Proof.** By Lemmata 2 and 3, we only need to compare the decompositions associated to  $\sigma_0$  and  $\sigma_1$ . By Proposition 2, these decompositions are

$$JS_\lambda \sim_{G,\sigma_0} B_4 \times B_5^2 \quad \text{and} \quad JS_\lambda \sim_{G,\sigma_1} B_3 \times B_5^2$$

respectively, showing that  $B_3$  and  $B_4$  are isogenous. We claim that, in addition,  $B_4$  and  $B_5$  are equal. Indeed, note that the generating vectors  $\sigma_0$  and  $\sigma_1$  are identified by the action of the outer automorphism  $\Phi$  of  $G$  defined by  $r \mapsto r$ ,  $s \mapsto sr$ .

Accordingly, at the level of rational irreducible representations,  $W_3$  is sent by  $\Phi$  to  $W_4$ . As a matter of fact, this shows that the roles played by  $B_3$  and  $B_4$  are interchanged according to the choice of the generating vector employed to compute the dimensions.

The proof is done.  $\square$

**Remark 3.** The independence of the group algebra decomposition on the choice of the generating vector when there is a unique topological class of action is not new and was firstly noticed by Rojas in [44, Example 4.3] when she considered the Weyl group  $\mathbb{Z}_2^3 \rtimes \mathbf{S}_3$  acting on a Riemann surface of genus three with signature  $(2, 4, 6)$ .

Very recently, the same phenomenon has been noticed by Izquierdo, Jiménez and Rojas itself in [29] when they studied a two-dimensional family of Riemann surfaces of genus  $2n - 1$  with action of  $\mathbf{D}_{2n}$  with signature  $(2, 2, 2, 2, n)$ .

It is worth recalling that in the two aforementioned cases as well as in the case of the family  $\mathcal{F}_q$ , the existence of outer automorphisms of the group is the key ingredient. Based on the evidence of explicit examples, it seems reasonable to ask if this is the general situation; however, according to the knowledge of the author, it has not been proved a general result on this respect.

From now on, we assume the action of  $G$  on  $S_\lambda$  to be determined by the generating vector  $\sigma_0$  and, in consequence, the group algebra decomposition of  $JS_\lambda$  with respect to  $G$  to be of the form

$$JS_\lambda \sim_G B_4 \times B_5^2.$$

The following result shows that the factors  $B_4$  and  $B_5$  have a geometric meaning.

**Theorem 4.** Let  $\lambda \in \Omega$ . Consider the subgroups  $H_4 = \langle r^{-2}, sr^{-1} \rangle$  and  $H_5 = \langle s \rangle$  of  $G$ , and the quotient Riemann surfaces  $E_\lambda$  and  $C_\lambda$  given by the action of  $H_4$  and of  $H_5$  on  $S_\lambda$ , respectively. Then

$$B_4 \sim JE_\lambda \quad \text{and} \quad B_5 \sim JC_\lambda.$$

In particular,  $JS_\lambda$  decomposes into a product of Jacobians as follows:

$$JS_\lambda \sim_G JE_\lambda \times JC_\lambda^2.$$

**Proof.** The dimension of the complex vector subspaces of  $V_4$  and  $V_5$  fixed under the subgroups  $H_4$  and  $H_5$  are

$$d_{V_4}^{H_4} = d_{V_5}^{H_5} = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad d_{V_4}^{H_5} = d_{V_5}^{H_4} = 0.$$

Thus, the result follows after applying the criterion to identify factors in the group algebra decomposition of  $JS_\lambda$  as Jacobians of quotients of  $S_\lambda$  (as explained in Subsection 2.6; see equations (2.5) and (2.6)) together with Proposition 2.  $\square$

**Remark 4.** Note that  $C_\lambda$  is an irregular  $2q$ -gonal Riemann surface of genus  $\frac{q-1}{2}$ . An explicit algebraic description of  $E_\lambda$  has been obtained in Proposition 1.

## 5. Fields of definition

Let  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{C})$  denote the group of field automorphisms of  $\mathbb{C}$ . Let  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^n$  be a (smooth algebraic) variety and  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(\mathbb{C})$ . We shall denote by  $X^\sigma$  the variety defined by the polynomials obtained after applying  $\sigma$  to the coefficients of the polynomials which define  $X$ .

Let  $k$  be a subfield of  $\mathbb{C}$  and let  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{C}/k)$  be the subgroup of  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{C})$  consisting of those automorphisms which fix the elements in  $k$ . We shall say that  $X$  is *defined over*  $k$  if  $X = X^\sigma$  for all  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(\mathbb{C}/k)$ . We shall say that  $X$  can be *defined over*  $k$  (or that  $k$  is a field of definition for  $X$ ) if there exists an isomorphism  $X \rightarrow Y$  into a variety  $Y \subset \mathbb{P}^m$  which is defined over  $k$ .

By considering the explicit algebraic description of  $S_\lambda$  provided in Theorem 1, in this section we derive results concerning the field of definitions of  $S_\lambda$  according to the value of  $\lambda$ .

### 5.1. Real Riemann surfaces

An algebraic variety is called *real* if it can be defined over the field of the real numbers; equivalently, if it admits an anticonformal involution (i.e. an anticonformal automorphism of order two).

Following [6, Section 6], when we consider the family  $\mathcal{F}_q$  as a complex subvariety of the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_q$  of compact Riemann surfaces of genus  $q$ , it is isomorphic to the projective line minus three points. Furthermore,  $\mathcal{F}_q \subset \mathcal{M}_q$  admits an anticonformal involution whose fixed point set consists of points representing real Riemann surfaces.

The following result shows that among the Riemann surfaces  $S_\lambda$  in  $\mathcal{F}_q$ , the real ones can be easily recognized according to the value of  $\lambda$ . More precisely:

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $\lambda \in \Omega$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (a)  $S_\lambda$  is a real Riemann surface.
- (b)  $JS_\lambda$  is a real algebraic variety.
- (c)  $\lambda \in \{\bar{\lambda}, 1 - \bar{\lambda}, 1/\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\lambda}/(1 - \bar{\lambda})\}$

**Proof.** The equivalence between the first two statements is well-known; indeed, following [37, Theorem 1.1], a Riemann surface and its Jacobian variety can be defined over the same fields.

We now proceed to prove the equivalence between the statements (a) and (c).

Let us assume that  $S_\lambda$  is a real Riemann surface or, equivalently, that  $S_\lambda$  admits an anticonformal involution, denoted by  $f_\lambda : S_\lambda \rightarrow S_\lambda$ . It is clear that  $f_\lambda G f_\lambda^{-1} = G$  and therefore  $f_\lambda$  gives rise to an anticonformal involution  $g_\lambda : \mathcal{O}_\lambda \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_\lambda$ , where  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda$  denotes the Riemann orbifold given by the action of  $G$  on  $S_\lambda$ .

We recall that  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda$  has genus zero and four marked points: 0, 1 and  $\infty$  marked with 2, and  $\lambda$  marked with  $2q$ . It follows that  $g_\lambda$  is an extended Möbius transformation, i.e.  $g_\lambda(z) = (a\bar{z} + b)/(c\bar{z} + d)$  with  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $ad - bc \neq 0$ , satisfying

$$g_\lambda(\lambda) = \lambda \quad \text{and} \quad g_\lambda(\{\infty, 0, 1\}) = \{\infty, 0, 1\}.$$

We only have four possibilities:

- (1)  $g_\lambda$  fixes  $\infty$  and permutes 0 and 1. In this case  $g_\lambda(z) = 1 - \bar{z}$  showing that  $\lambda = 1 - \bar{\lambda}$ .
- (2)  $g_\lambda$  fixes 0 and permutes 1 and  $\infty$ . In this case  $g_\lambda(z) = \frac{\bar{z}}{1 - \bar{z}}$  showing that  $\lambda = \bar{\lambda}/(1 - \bar{\lambda})$ .
- (3)  $g_\lambda$  fixes 1 and permutes  $\infty$  and 0. In this case  $g_\lambda(z) = \frac{1}{\bar{z}}$  showing that  $\lambda = 1/\bar{\lambda}$ .
- (4)  $g_\lambda$  fixes  $\infty, 0$  and 1. In this case  $g_\lambda(z) = \bar{z}$  showing that  $\lambda = \bar{\lambda}$ .

Hence,  $\lambda$  is as in statement (c).

Conversely, if  $\lambda$  is as in statement (c), to construct explicitly an anticonformal involution is an easy task, and the proof is done.  $\square$

**Remark 5.** Following [6, Theorem 14], the real Riemann surfaces in the family  $\mathcal{F}_q$  form three (one-real-dimensional) arcs. In addition, in order to compactify the union of these arcs in the Deligne–Mumford compactification of  $\mathcal{M}_g$ , it was proved that it is enough to add to  $\mathcal{F}_q$  three points: these points representing two nodal Riemann surfaces, and the *Wiman surface* of type II (this is the unique compact Riemann surface of genus  $q$  admitting an automorphism of order  $4q$ ; see [52]).

The aforementioned results were obtained by using Teichmüller theory and Fuchsian groups, among other techniques. Here, by considering the algebraic description of the Riemann surfaces in  $\mathcal{F}_q$  given in Theorem 1, we are able to recover partly these results in a very explicit way as follows.

The Riemann surfaces  $S_{\lambda_1}$  and  $S_{\lambda_2}$  are isomorphic if and only if  $\lambda_2 = T(\lambda_1)$  for some

$$T \in \mathbb{G} = \langle z \mapsto \frac{1}{\bar{z}}, z \mapsto \frac{1}{1-\bar{z}} \rangle \cong \mathbf{S}_3. \quad (5.1)$$

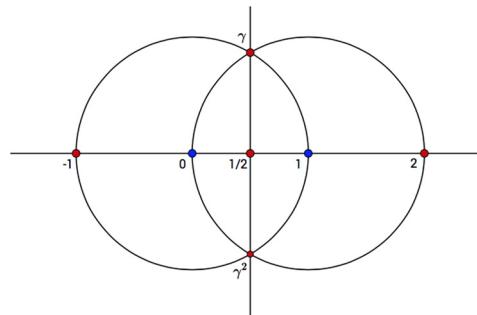
Observe that for the exceptional values  $-1, \frac{1}{2}, 2, \gamma$  and  $\gamma^2$  where  $\gamma^3 = -1$ , the Riemann surface  $S_\lambda$  has more than  $4q$  automorphisms.

Thus, the family  $\mathcal{F}_q$  is isomorphic to the quotient of the parameter space

$$\Omega = \mathbb{C} - \{0, \pm 1, \frac{1}{2}, 2, \gamma, \gamma^2\}$$

up to the action of  $\mathbb{G}$ . Namely:  $\Omega \rightarrow \Omega/\mathbb{G} \cong \mathcal{F}_q \cong \mathbb{C} - \{0, 1\}$ .

According to Theorem 5, the complex numbers  $\lambda \in \Omega$  representing Riemann surfaces  $S_\lambda$  which are real can be represented in the diagram below; the colored red points represent Riemann surfaces with more than  $4q$  automorphisms (and therefore they do not belong to  $\mathcal{F}_q$ ).



Note that a fundamental region for the action of  $\mathbb{G}$  on  $\Omega$  is given by

$$\{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1, \operatorname{Re}(z) < \frac{1}{2}\}$$

and, consequently, the subsets of  $\mathcal{F}_q$  given by

$$\Pi(\{e^{i\theta} : \pi < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}\}), \Pi(\{z : |z - 1| = 1, |z| < 1\}) \text{ and } \Pi([-1, 0])$$

are the three arcs in  $\mathcal{F}_q$  (denoted in [6] by  $a_2, a_1$  and  $b$  respectively) corresponding to real Riemann surfaces in  $\mathcal{F}_q$ .

Note that the limit point of  $\mathcal{F}_q$  which connects the arcs  $a_2$  and  $b$  correspond to  $S_{-1}$  and therefore, by Theorem 1, can be algebraically described by

$$y^2 = x(x^{2q} + 1).$$

The map  $(x, y) \mapsto (-\omega_{4q}x, \omega_{8q}y)$  where  $\omega_t = \exp(\frac{2\pi i}{t})$ , induces an isomorphism between  $S_{-1}$  and the curve

$$y^2 = x(x^{2q} - 1);$$

this is the Wiman surface of type II.

**Remark 6.** After proving that an algebraic variety is real, to find explicit defining equations with real coefficients is, in general, a difficult problem. If  $\lambda$  is real then a model for  $S_\lambda$  in terms of equations with real coefficients is provided by Theorem 1. In the remaining cases, the construction of real equations can be done by applying the results of [25].

## 5.2. Arithmetic Riemann surfaces

An algebraic variety is called *arithmetic* if it can be defined over a number field or, equivalently, over the algebraic closure  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  of the field of the rational numbers.

A well-known result due to Belyi ensures that a Riemann surface is arithmetic if and only if it admits a non-constant meromorphic function with three critical values; see [2]. For arithmetic complex surfaces an analogous result to Belyi's theorem was proved by González-Diez in [16] by considering the so-called Lefschetz maps. For the case of arithmetic families of Riemann surfaces we refer to the articles [18] and [19].

We mention that arithmetic Riemann surfaces (also known as *Belyi curves*) have attracted much attention ever since Grothendieck noticed, in his famous *Esquisse d'un Programme*, interesting relations between them and bipartite graphs embedded in a topological surface; see [20].

As in the case of real Riemann surfaces, arithmetic Riemann surfaces among the Riemann surfaces in the family  $\mathcal{F}_q$  can be easily identified.

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $\lambda \in \Omega$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (a)  $S_\lambda$  is an arithmetic Riemann surface.
- (b)  $JS_\lambda$  is an arithmetic algebraic variety.
- (c)  $\lambda$  is an algebraic complex number.

**Proof.** As in the proof of Theorem 5, the equivalence between the first two statements follows from [37, Theorem 1.1].

We denote by  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda$  the Riemann orbifold given by the action of  $G_\lambda$  on  $S_\lambda$ , and by

$$\pi_{G_\lambda} : S_\lambda \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_\lambda$$

the associated covering map.

Let us assume that  $S_\lambda$  is arithmetic. Then there exists an algebraic model  $S'_\lambda$  of  $S_\lambda$  defined by equations whose coefficients belong to the field of the algebraic numbers. Let us denote by  $G'_\lambda$  the automorphism group of  $S'_\lambda$ , by  $\mathcal{O}'_\lambda$  the Riemann orbifold given by the action of  $G'_\lambda$  on  $S'_\lambda$ , and by  $\pi_{G'_\lambda}$  the associated covering map.

As a consequence of [17, Proposition 3.3], both each element of  $G'_\lambda$  and the projection  $\pi_{G'_\lambda}$  are algebraic (i.e. defined over  $\bar{\mathbb{Q}}$ ). In particular, the branch values of  $\pi_{G'_\lambda}$  are also algebraic. Let  $\mu_0, \mu_1, \mu_\infty$  and  $\mu_\lambda$  denote these values, where  $\mu_0, \mu_1, \mu_\infty$  are marked with 2 and  $\mu_\lambda$  is marked with  $2q$ .

Now, the existence of an isomorphism  $f_\lambda : S_\lambda \rightarrow S'_\lambda$  guarantees the existence of an isomorphism  $g_\lambda : \mathcal{O}_\lambda \rightarrow \mathcal{O}'_\lambda$  such that  $\pi_{G'_\lambda} \circ f_\lambda = g_\lambda \circ \pi_{G_\lambda}$ . It follows that  $g_\lambda$  is a Möbius transformation satisfying that

$$g_\lambda(\mu_\lambda) = \lambda \quad \text{and} \quad g_\lambda(\{\mu_\infty, \mu_0, \mu_1\}) = \{\infty, 0, 1\}.$$

Thus,

$$g_\lambda(z) = T \left( \frac{(\mu_1 - \mu_\infty)(z - \mu_0)}{(\mu_1 - \mu_0)(z - \mu_\infty)} \right)$$

for some  $T \in \mathbb{G}$  as in (5.1), and therefore

$$\lambda = T \left( \frac{(\mu_1 - \mu_\infty)(\mu_\lambda - \mu_0)}{(\mu_1 - \mu_0)(\mu_\lambda - \mu_\infty)} \right).$$

Finally, as each  $T \in \mathbb{G}$  is defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and the points  $\mu_0, \mu_1, \mu_\infty, \mu_\lambda$  are algebraic, we are in position to conclude that the complex number  $\lambda$  must be algebraic.

The converse follows directly from Theorem 1, and the proof is done.  $\square$

**Corollary 1.** *Let  $\lambda \in \Omega$ . Then  $JS_\lambda$  is an arithmetic algebraic variety admitting a group algebra decomposition in which each factor is arithmetic as well.*

**Proof.** Following [17, Theorem 4.4], if  $S$  is an arithmetic Riemann surface then any Riemann surface  $S'$  for which there is a covering map  $S \rightarrow S'$  is arithmetic as well. Thus, the result follows directly from Theorems 4 and 6.  $\square$

**Remark 7.**

- (a) It is worth observing that Theorem 6 and Corollary 1 can be easily generalized from  $\bar{\mathbb{Q}}$  to any algebraically closed subfield  $k$  of the field of the complex numbers.
- (b) In addition, Corollary 1 can also be generalized from each  $S_\lambda$  in  $\mathcal{F}_q$  to any Riemann surface  $S$  defined over  $k$  whose Jacobian variety admit a group algebra decomposition in which every factor is isogenous to the Jacobian of a quotient of  $S$ .

### 5.3. Riemann surfaces defined over the field of moduli

The field of moduli  $\mathcal{M}(S)$  of a compact Riemann surface  $S$  is by definition the fixed field of the group

$$\mathbb{I}(S) = \{\sigma \in \text{Gal}(\mathbb{C}) : S^\sigma \cong S\}.$$

**Proposition 3.** *Let  $\lambda \in \Omega$ . Then*

$$\mathbb{Q}(j(\lambda)) \leq \mathcal{M}(S) \leq \mathbb{Q}(\lambda)$$

where  $j$  denotes the invariant function for elliptic curves, in the Legendre form.

**Proof.** We recall that, as a consequence of Theorem 1 and Proposition 1,

$$(S_\lambda)^\sigma = S_{\sigma(\lambda)} \quad \text{and} \quad (E_\lambda)^\sigma = E_{\sigma(\lambda)}$$

for all  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(\mathbb{C})$ , where  $E_\lambda = S_\lambda/\langle r^{-2}, sr^{-1} \rangle$ .

Now, if  $\sigma \in \mathbb{I}(S)$  then there is an isomorphism  $S_\lambda \rightarrow S_{\sigma(\lambda)}$  which induces an isomorphism  $E_\lambda \rightarrow E_{\sigma(\lambda)}$ . In particular,

$$j(\lambda) = j(\sigma(\lambda)) = \sigma(j(\lambda))$$

showing that  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Q}(j(\lambda)))$ ; it follows that  $\mathbb{Q}(j(\lambda)) \leq \mathcal{M}(S)$ .

The other inclusion follows from Theorem 1, and from the fact that the field of moduli is contained in every field of definition. The proof is done.  $\square$

Weil in [51] provided necessary conditions for  $S$  to admit its field of moduli as a field of definition; these conditions hold trivially if  $S$  does not have non-trivial automorphisms. On the other extreme, following [53], if  $S/\text{Aut}(S)$  is an orbifold with signature of type  $(a, b, c)$  then  $S$  can be defined over its field of moduli.

By results of Dèbes–Emsalem [13] (see also Hammer–Herrlich [21]) there is a field of definition of  $S$  which is an extension of finite degree of its field of moduli.

In general, the determination of whether the field of moduli is a field of definition is a difficult task; see, for example [14], [23], [26], [41] and [50]. By contrast, in the hyperelliptic case it is possible to decide, in a very simple way, if the field of moduli is a field of definition. In fact, following [28], if the reduced automorphism group of a hyperelliptic Riemann surface is not cyclic, then it can be defined over its field of moduli. It follows immediately the following:

**Proposition 4.** *Let  $\lambda \in \Omega$ . The field of moduli of  $S_\lambda$  is a field of definition for  $S_\lambda$  and for  $JS_\lambda$ .*

## 6. A three-dimensional family of ppavs with $\mathbf{D}_{10}$ -action

Let  $S$  be a compact Riemann surface of genus  $g \geq 2$ , and let

$$JS = (\mathcal{H}^{1,0}(S, \mathbb{C}))^*/H_1(S, \mathbb{Z})$$

be its Jacobian variety. We recall that, after fixing a symplectic basis of  $H_1(S, \mathbb{Z})$ , both a period matrix  $(I_g Z_S)$  with  $Z_S \in \mathcal{H}_g$  for  $JS$ , and a rational representation of  $L_S := \text{End}_{\mathbb{Q}}(JS)$  are determined, up to equivalence.

If  $S$  is hyperelliptic, then the symplectic representation

$$\rho_r : G \rightarrow \text{Sp}(2g, \mathbb{Z})$$

of the automorphism group  $G$  of  $S$  induces an isomorphism

$$G \cong \mathcal{G} := \{R \in \text{Sp}(2g, \mathbb{Z}) : R \cdot Z_S = Z_S\}.$$

We can now consider the complex submanifold of  $\mathcal{H}_g$

$$\mathcal{H}_g(G) = \{Z \in \mathcal{H}_g : R \cdot Z = Z \text{ for all } R \in \mathcal{G}\}$$

consisting of those period matrices  $Z$  representing ppavs of dimension  $g$  admitting the given action of  $G$ . Clearly,  $Z_S \in \mathcal{H}_g(G)$ .

In the case of the action of  $\mathbf{D}_{10}$  on the Riemann surfaces in family  $\mathcal{F}_5$ , we can be much more explicit.

**Theorem 7.** Consider the action of  $\mathbf{D}_{10}$  with generating vector  $\sigma_0$ .

There exists a three-dimensional family  $\mathcal{A}_5(\mathbf{D}_{10})$  of principally polarized abelian varieties of dimension five admitting the given group action; it is given by the period matrices in  $\mathcal{H}_5$  of the following form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2(u+v+u) & -w-u & -2v & -v-w-u & -v+u \\ -w-u & -v-\frac{1}{2}w+\frac{5}{4}u & v-\frac{1}{2}u & w+\frac{1}{2}u & v-u \\ -2v & v-\frac{1}{2}u & u & v & w \\ -v-w-u & w+\frac{1}{2}u & v & u & -w \\ -v+u & v-u & w & -w & 2(u-v-w) \end{pmatrix} \quad (6.1)$$

for complex numbers  $u, v$  and  $w$ .

Furthermore,  $\mathcal{A}_5(\mathbf{D}_{10})$  contains the one-dimensional family  $\mathcal{F}_5$ .

**Proof.** The proof is based on the results and routines in [1] (implemented in the open source computer algebra system SAGE).

By constructing a family of very special hyperbolic polygons that uniformize Riemann surfaces with a given group action, it was implemented, among others, routines to determine a symplectic representation of the group, and after that, those matrices which are invariant.

We consider the generating vector  $\sigma_0 = (s, sr^{-2}, r^5, r^7)$  of  $G = \mathbf{D}_{10}$ . By applying the routine *P.symplectic.generators*, we obtain that, if  $\rho$  denotes the symplectic representation of  $G$ , then

$$\rho(r) = \text{diag}(R, (R^t)^{-1}) \quad \text{and} \quad \rho(s) = \text{diag}(S, S^t),$$

where

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad S = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The problem of finding those period matrices in  $\mathcal{H}_5$  which are invariant under the given action involves solving a system of nonlinear equations in fifteen variables. If we apply the routine *P.moebius.invariant*, the desired form is obtained.  $\square$

The automorphism group  $G$  of  $S$  can be canonically seen as a subgroup of  $L_S$ . Thus, the variety  $\mathcal{H}_g(G)$  contains the complex submanifold  $\mathbb{H}(L_S)$  whose points are matrices representing ppavs containing  $L_S$  in their endomorphism algebras; see [54, Section 3] and also [45, Sections 2 and 3] for a more general context. This is called the *Shimura family* of  $S$  and corresponds to a *special subvariety* of  $\mathcal{A}_g$  (see [38, Section 3] for a precise definition).

**Proposition 5.** Let  $\lambda \in \Omega$ . The dimension of the Shimura family of each Riemann surface  $S_\lambda$  in  $\mathcal{F}_q$  is  $\frac{q+1}{2}$ .

**Proof.** Following the results proved in [15] and Serre's formula [47, Proposition 3], it can be seen that the dimension  $N$  of the Shimura family of  $S_\lambda$  is given by

$$\frac{1}{8q} \sum_{g \in G} [\chi(g)^2 + \chi(g^2)],$$

where  $\chi$  stands for the character of the analytic representation  $\rho_a$  of  $G$ . Clearly, this dimension does not depend on  $\lambda$ ; in fact, it only depends on the local monodromy of the action of  $G$  on  $S_\lambda$ .

Now, by using the classically known Chevalley–Weil formula [10], we obtain that

$$\rho_a \cong W_4 \oplus W_5.$$

The character of  $\rho_a$  is summarized in the following table:

Rep. of conj. class	$id$	$s$	$sr$	$r^q$	$r^t$
Length	1	$q$	$q$	1	2
Character	$q$	-1	1	$-q$	0

where  $1 \leq t \leq q - 1$ . It follows that

$$N = \frac{1}{8q}[(q^2 + q) + (1 + q)q + (1 + q)q + (q^2 + q)] = \frac{q+1}{2}. \quad \square$$

Given a Riemann surface  $S$ , to provide an explicit description of the elements of  $\mathbb{H}(L_S)$  seems to be a difficult task. However, as a simple consequence of Theorem 7, we obtain the following direct corollary:

**Corollary 2.** *Each element of the Shimura family associated to every member of the family  $\mathcal{F}_5$  admits a period matrix of the form (6.1) for some  $u, v, w \in \mathbb{C}$ .*

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