

# Magnetic field screening in hydrogen-rich high-temperature superconductors

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In the last few years, the superconducting transition temperature,  $T_c$ , of hydrogen-rich compounds has increased dramatically, and is now approaching room temperature. However, the pressures at which these materials are stable exceed one million atmospheres and limit the number of available experimental studies. Superconductivity in hydrides has been primarily explored by electrical transport measurements, whereas magnetic properties, one of the most important characteristic of a superconductor, have not been satisfactorily defined. Here, we develop SQUID magnetometry under extreme high-pressure conditions and report characteristic superconducting parameters for  $Im-3m$ - $H_3S$  and  $Fm-3m$ - $LaH_{10}$ —the representative members of two families of high-temperature superconducting hydrides. We determine a lower critical field  $H_{c1}$  of  $\sim 0.82$  T and  $\sim 0.55$  T, and a London penetration depth  $\lambda_L$  of  $\sim 20$  nm and  $\sim 30$  nm in  $H_3S$  and  $LaH_{10}$ , respectively. The small values of  $\lambda_L$  indicate a high superfluid density in both hydrides. These compounds have the values of the Ginzburg-Landau parameter  $\kappa \sim 12$ – $20$  and belong to the group of “moderate” type II superconductors, rather than being hard superconductors as would be intuitively expected from their high  $T_c$ s.

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The Bardeen–Cooper–Schrieffer<sup>1</sup> and Migdal–Eliashberg<sup>2,3</sup> theories of conventional phonon-mediated superconductivity imply that high frequency phonons and strong electron-phonon interactions are favorable for high-temperature superconductivity. Hydrogen, which has the highest naturally-occurring phonon frequencies due to its low mass, could be the best candidate material for high-temperature superconductivity<sup>4,5</sup>. Although the realization of superconductivity in pure hydrogen has been hindered by the extreme pressures required to reach the superconducting state (~500 GPa), the idea of “chemical precompression” of hydrogen by heavier chemical elements in hydrogen-rich compounds<sup>6</sup> has brought great success. Following the discovery of  $T_c = 203$  K in  $H_3S$  at ~150 GPa<sup>7,8</sup>, higher  $T_c$ s were subsequently reported in so-called metal superhydrides including  $T_c \sim 220$  K in  $CaH_x$ <sup>9,10</sup>,  $T_c \sim 243$  K in  $YH_9$ <sup>11</sup> and  $T_c \sim 250$  K in  $LaH_{10}$ <sup>12–14</sup>. These major leaps toward room temperature superconductivity are the result of fruitful synergy between theory, computation, and experiment.

Superconductivity in hydrogen-rich compounds has since been demonstrated in numerous experiments<sup>15,16</sup>; however, it was identified based mostly on electrical transport measurements. Magnetic measurements, which are, inter alia, a crucial and independent test of superconductivity are scarce. They have not provided reliable experimental values of a lower critical field  $H_{c1}$  and the London penetration depth  $\lambda_L$  in hydrogen-rich superconductors. Magnetic field screening in the superconducting state of the  $Im-3m-H_3S$  phase below 203 K was demonstrated using a superconducting quantum interference device (SQUID) and was in good agreement with the sharp drop of resistance in corroborating electrical resistance measurements of the same sample<sup>7</sup>. However,  $H_{c1}$  was only roughly estimated from the hysteretic loops of  $M(H)$  data instead of the initial virgin portion of magnetization curves of zero-field-cooled (ZFC) sample. More recently, the diamagnetic response in  $H_3S$ <sup>17</sup> and  $LaH_{10}$ <sup>18</sup> were qualitatively demonstrated by alternating current magnetic susceptibility measurements adapted for diamond anvil cells (DACs)<sup>19</sup>.

In the present work, we created an effective approach for accurate magnetometry measurements of samples under megabar pressures by measuring the reference magnetic signal of the whole DAC assembly before the synthesis of a superconducting compound. This technique allows us to accurately determine the values of  $H_{c1}$ ,  $\lambda_L$ , the Ginzburg–Landau parameter  $\kappa$ , and the critical current density  $j_c$  in  $Im-3m-H_3S$  and  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$  high-temperature superconductors.

## Results

### Synthesis and characterization of superconducting samples.

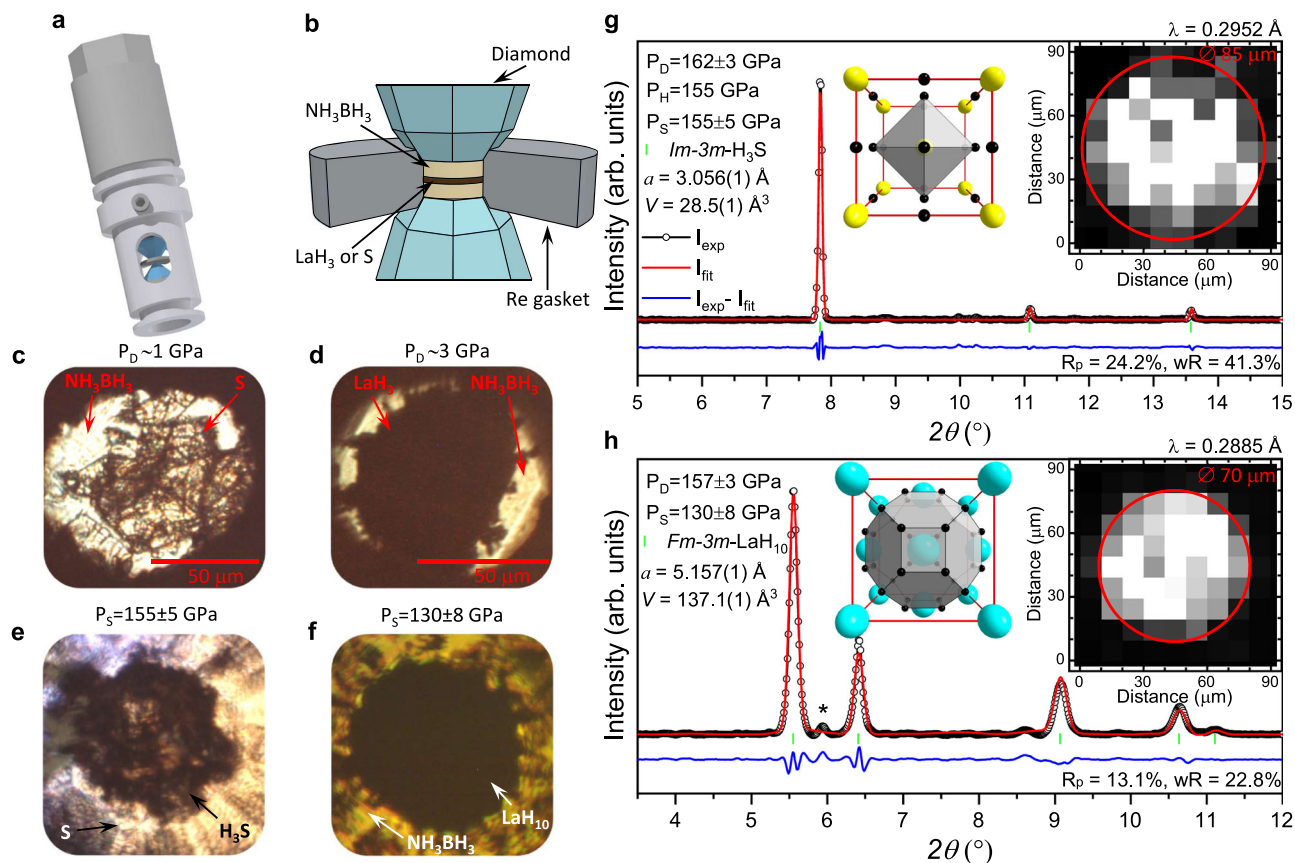
Samples of  $H_3S$  and  $LaH_{10}$  were synthesized via a chemical reaction between sulfur or lanthanum trihydride and hydrogen at high pressures, in the stability field of the final products. The samples were prepared by sandwiching thin plates of S or  $LaH_3$  between two thicker layers of  $NH_3BH_3$  and pressurized in miniature nonmagnetic DACs to ~170 GPa. The reference background magnetization signal was collected from the whole assembly of DAC including the pressurized precursor compounds in a SQUID magnetometer. The samples were subsequently heated using a pulsed laser to synthesize the desired superconducting products. Several photos of samples are shown in Fig. 1. Ammonia borane was chosen as an alternative source of hydrogen<sup>20</sup>, as it readily decomposes at high temperature and releases free  $H_2$ . This approach was successfully implemented for synthesis of hydrides earlier<sup>11,13</sup>. In contrast to synthesis in an atmosphere of pure  $H_2$ , the use of  $NH_3BH_3$  simplified the experimental procedure and significantly enlarged a size of the final products. The latter is crucial for SQUID measurements

because the measured magnetic moment is proportional to square of a sample radius. In addition, the use of  $NH_3BH_3$  allowed for correct reference magnetization measurements in contrast to pure hydrogen, which can cause uncontrolled spontaneous hydrogenation and formation of the superconducting phases at high pressure prior to the laser heating.

Figure 1g, h shows X-ray diffraction patterns from the dominant  $Im-3m-H_3S$  and  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$  phases in the heated samples. Although  $LaH_{10}$  sample contained  $P6_3/mmc-LaH_{10}$  as a minor impurity phase, we note that this was also found in various samples synthesized from La or  $LaH_3$  and pure  $H_2$  in previous studies and did not hinder superconductivity in  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$ , which has the highest  $T_c$  in the lanthanum-hydrogen system<sup>12,21</sup>. Both the  $Im-3m-H_3S$  and  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$  phases were found to be homogeneous and evenly distributed within the heated area to an average diameter of ~85 and ~70  $\mu m$ , respectively (insets in Fig. 1), which are in good agreement with the values estimated by optical microscopy. In addition, a sample pressure of  $P_S = 155 \pm 5$  GPa for  $Im-3m-H_3S$  and  $P_S = 130 \pm 8$  GPa for  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$  was determined more precisely based on the variation of the refined lattice parameters across the sample (see Supplementary Information). The  $Fm-3m$  crystal lattice of  $LaH_{10}$  sample is likely slightly distorted as (111), (220) and (311) diffraction peaks are broader than (200) peak. These peaks were shown to be most sensitive to the monoclinic structural distortions in  $LaH_{10}$  at pressures below ~138 GPa<sup>21</sup>.

**$M(T)$  magnetization measurements.** The ZFC samples with the  $Im-3m-H_3S$  and  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$  phases exhibit clear diamagnetic signal below their respective  $T_c$ s, indicated that they had become superconducting after laser heating (see Fig. 2 and Supplementary Figs. S1 and S2). The pronounced changes were detected in raw voltage curves of direct current (DC) scans measured before and after laser heating (see Fig. 2a, b). The pressurized unheated precursors have two minima in DC scans at ~0 and -1.5 cm, which correspond to the centered position of the sample in DAC and the center of the massive part of DAC body including a piston and a cap, respectively (see Supplementary Fig. S3). After the synthesis of  $Im-3m-H_3S$  and  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$  phases, an additional diamagnetic signal originating from the superconductor below its  $T_c$  appeared at 0 cm. The distinctive step on the resulting  $M(T)$  dependence associated with superconductivity was observed in both heated samples at 2, 4 and 10 mT (see Fig. 2c–f). The  $LaH_{10}$  sample has a broader superconducting transition, which is most likely caused by a larger pressure gradient across the sample and a strong  $T_c(P)$  dependence on the verge of structural instability in this pressure range<sup>21</sup>. The observed values of  $T_c \sim 231$  K in  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$  and ~196 K in  $Im-3m-H_3S$  are in excellent agreement with the previously-reported values from four-probe electrical transport measurements of samples at the same pressures<sup>7,21–24</sup>.

It is worth noting that whereas the superconducting transition is pronounced in ZFC measurements, its signature is subtle or almost undetectable in field-cooled measurements (see Fig. 2g, h and Supplementary Figs. S1 and S2). The weak flux expulsion or its absence is well-known for type II superconductors with strong pinning of vortices<sup>25</sup>. Strong pinning prevents vortices inside the sample from leaving the sample below the  $H_{c1}(T)$  value. The very low fields are favorable for the detection of the Meissner state, because in this case the  $H_{c1}(T)$  line is crossed in the vicinity of  $T_c$  where critical currents are smaller and the pinning is weaker<sup>26</sup>. We also observed strong suppression of the Meissner effect in the test measurements performed on a powder sample of  $MgB_2$  (see Supplementary Information). No flux expulsion at all was also reported in some publications on Fe-based superconductors<sup>27,28</sup>.



**Fig. 1** Synthesis of the *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S* and *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>* phases. **a** Illustration of the miniature DAC used for magnetic measurements in SQUID. **b** Scheme showing the typical arrangement of the sandwiched precursors in the DAC. **c, d** Photos of the sandwiched samples, S + NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> and LaH<sub>3</sub> + NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub>, after loading at  $P_D \sim 1$  and  $\sim 3$  GPa, respectively. **e, f** Photos of the H<sub>3</sub>S and LaH<sub>10</sub> samples after compression and subsequent pulsed laser heating. **g, h** X-ray powder diffraction patterns collected from the synthesized *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S* and *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>* samples. The black circles and red and blue curves correspond to the experimental data, Rietveld refinement fits and residues, respectively. The green ticks indicate the calculated peak positions. The (101) reflection stemming from the *P6<sub>3</sub>/mmc-LaH<sub>10</sub>* impurity phase is marked by asterisk. The fragments of the crystal structure with the characteristic SH<sub>6</sub> and LaH<sub>32</sub> coordination polyhedra are shown as insets. The large yellow and cyan and small black spheres represent the S, La and H atoms in the crystallographic unit cells, respectively. The spatial distribution across the heated samples and the estimated diameter of the superconducting *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S* and *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>* phases are shown as inset.  $P_D$ ,  $P_H$  and  $P_S$  are pressure values estimated from the position of diamond edge and hydrogen vibron in Raman spectra and refined lattice parameters of the final products, respectively (see details in “Methods”).

When measuring a superconducting sample with a large magnetization value, it is important to consider demagnetization effects. The total magnetic field  $H_t$  inside a sample is given by:

$$H_t = H - H_d, \quad (1)$$

where  $H$  is the external applied field and  $H_d$  is the demagnetization field. The demagnetization field is given by  $H_d = -NM$ , where  $N$  is a shape-dependent demagnetization factor and  $M$  is the magnetization of a sample. For a long and thin sample in a parallel field  $N \approx 0$ , while for a short and flat sample in a perpendicular magnetic field the demagnetization correction  $NM$  can be enormous.

We estimated an effective demagnetization factor  $N$  in the studied samples using the measured values of magnetization, assuming an ideal diamagnetic signal in low fields ZFC measurements. Then the demagnetization correction for a perfect diamagnet (magnetic susceptibility  $\chi = -1$ ) can be written as follows:

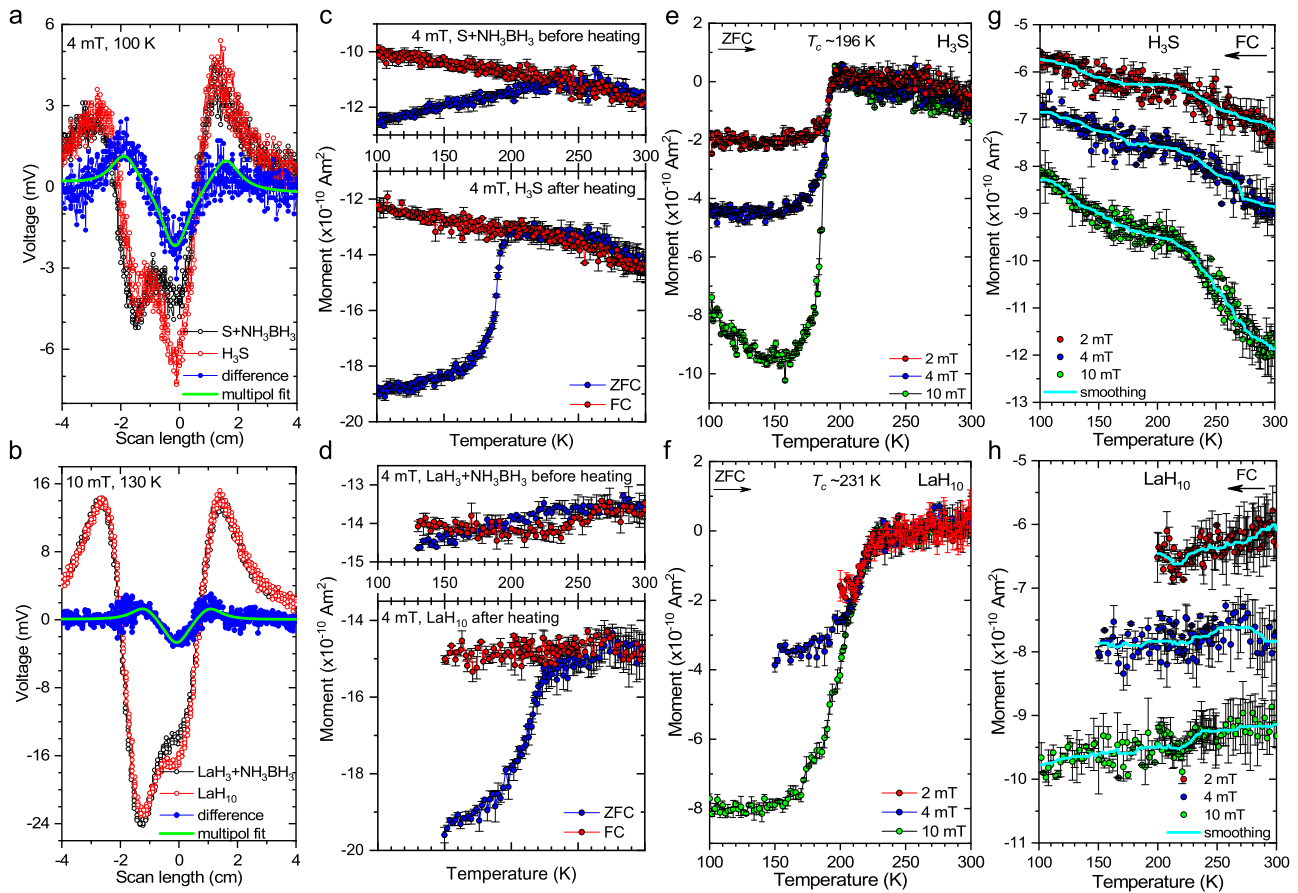
$$\frac{\Delta M}{HV} = -\frac{1}{1-N}, \quad (2)$$

where  $V$  is the volume of a sample. The absolute value of  $\Delta M$ , the difference in  $M$  between a normal metal state (above  $T_c$ ) and a superconducting state (below  $T_c$ ), was extracted from the

measurements by subtraction of the reference data of the compressed sandwiched samples (see Fig. 2). A thickness of samples is, however, the main contributor to the uncertainty in the values of  $V$  and  $N$  because it cannot be directly probed in the experiment. Nevertheless, we indirectly estimated a thickness of the final H<sub>3</sub>S and LaH<sub>10</sub> samples as  $\sim 2.8$  and  $\sim 1.9 \mu\text{m}$ , respectively, by considering: (1) the visual expansion of samples during pressurizing, (2) the pressure-induced compressibility of S and LaH<sub>3</sub>, and (3) the increase of product volumes after the hydrogenation reaction (see details in Supplementary Information). If we put the values of  $\Delta M$  and  $V$  in Eq. (2) the demagnetization correction is  $\sim 8.5$  for the sample of *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S* and  $\sim 13.5$  for the sample of *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>*.

An alternative way of the evaluation of the diamagnetic factor would be approximating of the shape of samples by thin solid disks and using the equation for effective demagnetization factor from ref. 29 (see detailed discussion in “Methods”). We consider the  $N$  values from  $M(T)$  data more reasonable and reliable and will use them in the rest of the paper.

**$M(H)$  magnetization measurements.** Measurements of the magnetic field dependence of magnetization allow us to estimate the characteristic superconducting parameters  $H_{c1}$ ,  $\lambda_L$ ,  $\kappa$ , and  $j_c$ .



**Fig. 2** Expulsion of magnetic field by the superconducting *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S* and *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>* phases at  $P_S = 155 \pm 5$  GPa and  $P_S = 130 \pm 8$  GPa, respectively.

**a, b** Appearance of the diamagnetic signal in the raw SQUID output signal of ZFC samples containing the superconducting *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S* and *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>* phases under low magnetic fields below their  $T_c$ s. Black circles correspond to data measured for the compressed S + NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> and LaH<sub>3</sub> + NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> sandwiched samples at  $P_D \sim 167$  GPa before laser heating, red circles correspond to data collected from heated samples with *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S* and *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>* phases. The blue circles show the difference, whereas the green curve shows the fit. The position at 0 cm corresponds to the center of the pickup coil relative to which the superconducting samples were centered (see “Methods”). **c, d** ZFC and FC portions of  $M(T)$  measurements of the sandwiched samples with metallic S and LaH<sub>3</sub> (top panel) and heated samples with *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S* and *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>* phases (bottom panel), respectively. **e, f** ZFC portions of  $M(T)$  magnetization data for the *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S* and *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>* phases at 2, 4 and 10 mT after subtraction of the background signal measured from the DACs with the pressurized unheated sandwiched samples. **g, h** FC portions of  $M(T)$  data measured at 2, 4 and 10 mT after formation of the *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S* and *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>* phases. The curves were vertically translated for better representation. The raw  $M(T)$  data of the initial pressurized and heated samples are summarized in Supplementary Figs. S2 and S3. Smoothed by a percentile filter, light blue curves demonstrate the subtle Meissner effect in FC measurements.

The value of  $H_p$ , at which the applied magnetic field starts to penetrate the sample, was determined from the onset of the deviation of  $M(H)$  from the linear dependence (see Fig. 3). The extrapolation of  $H_p(T)$  to lower temperatures yields  $H_p(0\text{ K}) \sim 96$  mT for *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S* and  $\sim 41$  mT for *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>*. Applying the demagnetization correction we obtain values of  $H_{c1}(0\text{ K}) \sim 820$  mT for H<sub>3</sub>S and  $\sim 550$  mT for LaH<sub>10</sub>. The Ginzburg–Landau parameter  $\kappa$  can be evaluated from the equation:

$$\frac{H_{c2}}{H_{c1}} = \frac{2\kappa^2}{\ln\kappa}, \quad (3)$$

where  $H_{c2}$  is an upper critical field<sup>30</sup>. Inserting the experimental estimations of  $H_{c2}(0\text{ K}) \sim 97$  T for *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S*<sup>23</sup> and  $\sim 143.5$  T for *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>*<sup>21</sup> gives  $\kappa \sim 12$  and  $\sim 20$  for H<sub>3</sub>S and LaH<sub>10</sub>, respectively. A coherence length  $\xi(0\text{ K}) \sim 1.8$  nm for H<sub>3</sub>S and  $\sim 1.5$  nm for LaH<sub>10</sub> were evaluated using the available experimental data<sup>21,23</sup>, which gives a London penetration depth of  $\lambda_L(0\text{ K}) \sim 22$  nm in *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S* and  $\sim 30$  nm in *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>*. The temperature dependence of  $\lambda_L$  is shown in Supplementary

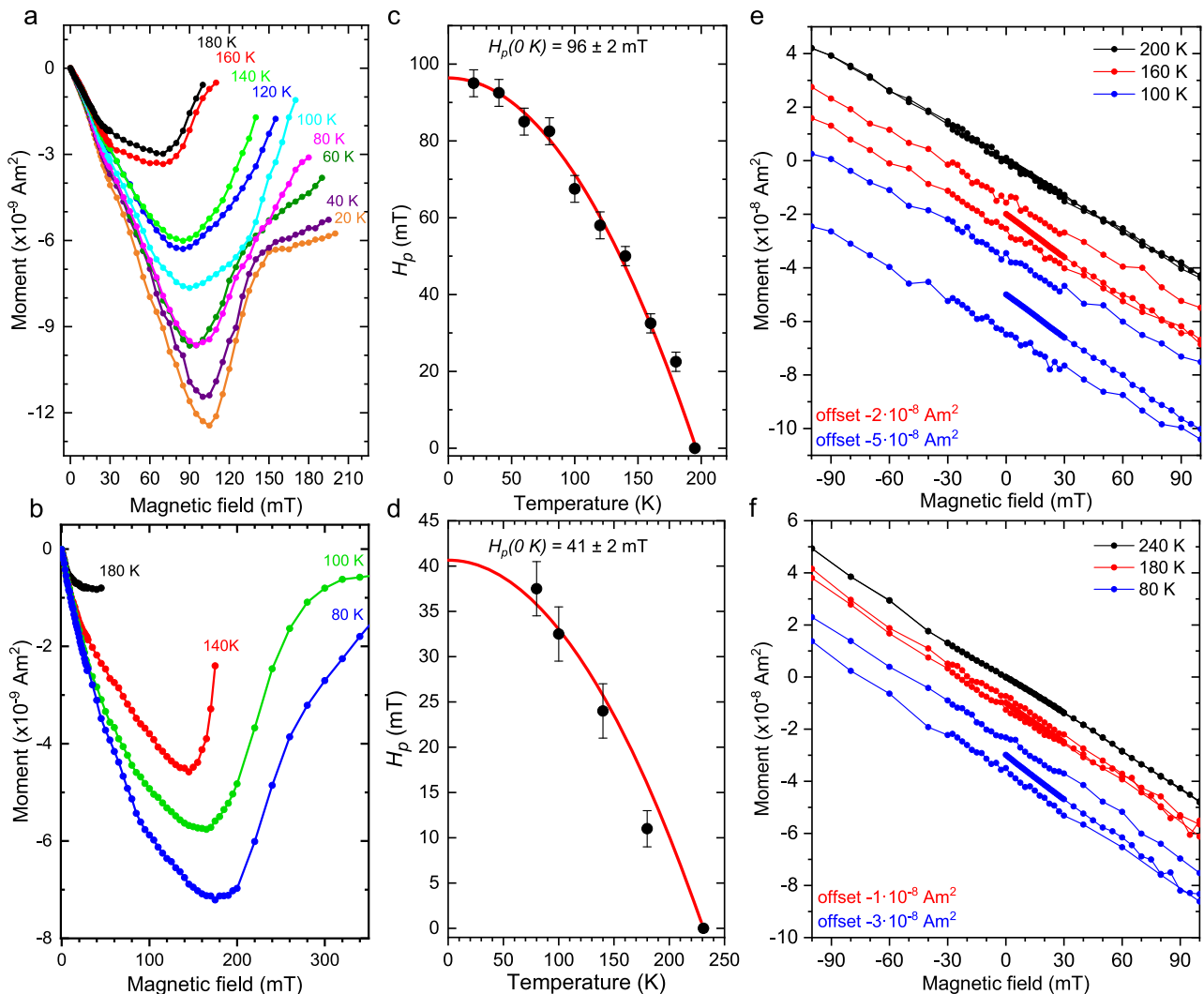
Fig. S4. At low temperatures, the *s*-wave model of conventional superconductivity well reproduces the data for both compounds. The thermodynamic critical field value is given by:

$$H_c(0\text{ K}) = \frac{\sqrt{H_{c1}(0\text{ K})H_{c2}(0\text{ K})}}{\sqrt{\ln\kappa}}. \quad (4)$$

$H_c(0\text{ K}) \sim 5.6$  T for H<sub>3</sub>S and  $\sim 5.1$  T for LaH<sub>10</sub>. The robustness of the dissipation-free vortex solid phase in hydrides can be evaluated via Ginzburg–Levanyuk number:

$$Gi = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{2\pi\mu_0\kappa_B T_c \lambda_L^2}{\phi_0^2 \xi} \right)^2 \quad (5)$$

where  $\kappa_B$  is the Boltzmann constant,  $\mu_0$  is the vacuum permeability and  $\phi_0$  is the magnetic flux quantum.  $Gi$  quantifies the scale of fluctuations responsible for vortex melting<sup>31</sup> and vortex creep<sup>32</sup> in a superconductor.  $Gi(0\text{ K}) \sim 9 \times 10^{-7}$  for H<sub>3</sub>S and  $\sim 6 \times 10^{-6}$  for LaH<sub>10</sub>, which is substantially smaller than what is reported for cuprate and pnictide high-temperature superconductors<sup>31,32</sup> and comparable to that of Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn. Despite high  $T_c$  both hydrides display a moderate  $\kappa$  which results in weaker vortex fluctuations



**Fig. 3**  $M(H)$  magnetization data for  $Im\text{-}3m\text{-H}_3\text{S}$  and  $Fm\text{-}3m\text{-LaH}_{10}$  at high pressure. **a, b** Virgin curves of the  $M(H)$  magnetization data for the  $Im\text{-}3m\text{-H}_3\text{S}$  phase at  $P_S = 155 \pm 5$  GPa and the  $Fm\text{-}3m\text{-LaH}_{10}$  phase at  $P_S = 130 \pm 8$  GPa at selected temperatures. The curves were superimposed for a better representation; so the linear trend of  $M(H)$  dependences coincides for measurements at different temperatures. **c, d** Temperature dependence of a penetration field  $H_p$  for  $Im\text{-}3m\text{-H}_3\text{S}$  and  $Fm\text{-}3m\text{-LaH}_{10}$  derived from the virgin curves of  $M(H)$  magnetization data. Black circles and red curves correspond to the experimental data and fits, respectively. **e, f** Hysteretic part of  $M(H)$  measurements of  $\text{H}_3\text{S}$  and  $\text{LaH}_{10}$  in the normal metallic state above  $T_c$  and the superconducting state below  $T_c$ , correspondingly.

and explains why the reported vortex liquid region remains narrow even at high magnetic fields<sup>21,23</sup>.

It is important to estimate the range of values of the superconducting parameters of  $Im\text{-}3m\text{-H}_3\text{S}$  and  $Fm\text{-}3m\text{-LaH}_{10}$ , which depends on a sample thickness. We evaluated the minimum and maximum values of a sample thickness as 2.1–3.1  $\mu\text{m}$  for  $\text{H}_3\text{S}$  and 0.6–2.5  $\mu\text{m}$  for  $\text{LaH}_{10}$  (see details in Supplementary Information). Thus, the lower and upper limits are:  $\sim 0.74\text{--}1.09$  T for  $H_{c1}(0\text{K})$ ,  $\sim 18\text{--}23$  nm for  $\lambda_L(0\text{K})$  and  $\sim 10\text{--}13$  for  $\kappa$  in  $Im\text{-}3m\text{-H}_3\text{S}$ ; and  $\sim 0.42\text{--}1.75$  T for  $H_{c1}(0\text{K})$ ,  $\sim 14\text{--}35$  nm for  $\lambda_L(0\text{K})$  and  $\sim 10\text{--}23$  for  $\kappa$  in  $Fm\text{-}3m\text{-LaH}_{10}$ . For  $\text{LaH}_{10}$ , the larger dispersion is a result of a substantial increase of  $N$  in case of the lower limit of a sample thickness. The estimated superconducting parameters for both hydrides are summarized in Table 1.

A general behavior of  $M(H)$  (see Fig. 3e, f) is typical for type II superconductors, in particular, the difference in a magnetic moment between the forward and reverse sweep of an applied magnetic field increases with a decrease of temperature. However, it was not possible to observe the extent of the superconducting

magnetization hysteresis and the characteristic field  $H^*$ , above which magnetization becomes reversible, because the magnetic signal of the DAC becomes much higher in comparison with the magnetic response of  $\text{H}_3\text{S}$  and  $\text{LaH}_{10}$  samples for the reliable subtraction of the background.

We also estimated the critical currents using the Bean critical state model<sup>33,34</sup>. This model assumes that when the sweeping magnetic field fully penetrates the sample the density of the screening current equals the critical current value  $j_c$ . The difference in magnetic moment  $\Delta m$  between forward and reverse field is due to the reversal of the direction of the screening moment, and can be used to evaluate the magnitude of the bulk critical current. A concentric screening current pattern with density  $j_c$  creates a magnetic moment  $m = \frac{\pi}{3} j_c h r^3$ , where  $h$  is the thickness and  $r$  is the radius of the disk-shaped sample, often approximated by  $j_c = 30 \frac{m}{Vr}$ , where  $m$ ,  $V$ , and  $r$  are in CGS units and  $j_c$  is in  $\text{A cm}^{-2}$ . We found that  $j_c$  reaches values of  $\sim 7 \times 10^6 \text{ A cm}^{-2}$  for both  $\text{LaH}_{10}$  and  $\text{H}_3\text{S}$  at 100 K (see Supplementary Fig. S5). This high value of the critical current indicates strong vortex pinning, which corroborates negligible

**Table 1 Summary of estimated superconducting parameters for *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S* and *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>* at high pressure.**

Sample	$P_S$ , GPa	$T_c$ , K	Size, $\mu\text{m}$		$\frac{1}{1-N}$	$H_p(0\text{ K})$ , mT	$H_{c1}(0\text{ K})$ , T	$\lambda_L$ , nm	$\kappa$	$G_i$
			$\varnothing$	Thickness						
<i>Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S</i>	155 ± 5	~196	85	2.8 (2.1–3.1)	8.5 (7.7–11.4)	96 ± 2	0.82 (0.74–1.09)	22 (18–23)	12 (10–13)	$9 \times 10^{-7}$
<i>Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub></i>	130 ± 8	~231	70	1.9 (0.6–2.5)	13.5 (10.2–42.6)	41 ± 2	0.55 (0.42–1.75)	30 (14–35)	20 (10–23)	$6 \times 10^{-6}$

The upper and lower limits of corresponding parameters are parenthesized.

magnetization signal observed during field cooling, as well as very high irreversibility field  $H^*$ , or vortex melting/de-pining field, reported in magnetotransport measurements<sup>7,12,21,23,35</sup>. The critical currents in LaH<sub>10</sub> estimated from the magnetization measurements are of the same order of magnitude but somewhat higher than the value of  $1.2\text{--}2.8 \times 10^6\text{ A cm}^{-2}$  at 4.2 K measured in presumably yttrium-doped lanthanum superhydride using electrical transport technique<sup>35</sup>. This discrepancy can be attributed to the fact that in the transport measurements  $j_c$  is constrained by those parts of the electrical current path where the superconductivity is least robust, while the magnetization signal is dominated by the parts of the sample with most robust superconductivity.

## Discussion

It is informative to compare our findings with the available magnetic data from previous studies on H<sub>3</sub>S<sup>7,36</sup>. Although  $H_{c1} \sim 30\text{ mT}$  was reported in an earlier study of *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S*<sup>7</sup>, this value was strongly underestimated. Firstly,  $H_{c1}$  was determined from the hysteretic loops of  $M(H)$  data instead of the initial virgin magnetization curves, which were not measured. Secondly, the real shape of the superconducting phase was not determined and the corresponding demagnetization correction were not applied. In addition, the diamagnetic signal was superposed by a much stronger paramagnetic signal, presumably stemming from the body of DAC.

In another work, authors applied forward nuclear resonant scattering technique using the <sup>119</sup>Sn Mössbauer isotope as a sensor and reported a value of  $H \sim 0.68\text{ T}$ , which was expelled by the sample at  $\sim 120\text{ K}$ <sup>36</sup>. The sample was synthesized by pressure-induced disproportionation of H<sub>2</sub>S at  $\sim 150\text{ GPa}$  as in ref. 7, however the superconducting phase was not characterized—neither crystal structure nor  $T_c$  were determined. Since the geometry and arrangement of a tin foil and superconducting sample, which are required for calculations of demagnetization and end effects, are unknown, it is not possible to quantify the value of  $H_{c1}$  from this experiment.

In summary, we have performed magnetization measurements using a specially-designed miniature DAC for representative members of two families of hydrogen-rich superconductors—H<sub>3</sub>S, which contains covalent H-S bonds, and LaH<sub>10</sub>, which has ionic bonding between La and H. The present data demonstrate that the diamagnetic signal is absent in the pressurized S and LaH<sub>3</sub> precursor compounds and only appears after laser heating of the samples and the resultant chemical synthesis of the respective superconducting phases. In contrast to high- $T_c$  superconductors of the cuprate family, the *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S* and *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>* phases have significantly lower values of  $\lambda_L$ . The low values of  $\kappa$  indicate that both compounds belong to “moderate” type II superconductors not far from the clean limit. Both H<sub>3</sub>S and LaH<sub>10</sub> hydrides possess good superconducting characteristics; in addition to high values of  $T_c$  they exhibit high critical current densities and have high values of lower and upper critical fields. These make hydrogen-rich compounds promising materials for technological use, provided that they can be stabilized at ambient or accessible pressure conditions.

## Methods

**Diamond anvil cell.** The samples were synthesized in miniature DACs, which were specially designed for a standard commercial SQUID magnetometer (either Quantum Design MPMS or Cryogenic Limited S700X) with the sample space diameter of 9 mm by reworking and modifying the prototype piston/locking nut design. The design of the DAC was briefly described in ref. 7. To minimize the magnetic signal over a wide temperature range simultaneously providing a high mechanical strength, the body of the DAC was made of a high-purity Cu-Ti alloy with 3 wt% Ti<sup>37</sup>. This material has the lowest magnetic susceptibility among the known hard metallic alloys:  $\chi_g = 8 \times 10^{-4}\text{ mJ T}^{-1}\text{ g}^{-1}$  at 1.8 K and at the same time it is hard enough to build parts of the DAC: its tensile strength is  $\sim 10^3\text{ MPa}$ <sup>38</sup>. As parts such as piston and diamond seats are subjected to the highest load, they were made of harder Cu-Be alloy with 1.8–2.0 wt% Be. Such combination of materials allows us to construct the miniature DAC with an outer diameter of 8.8 mm, which is capable to reach pressures as high as 220 GPa retaining the low overall magnetic response.

The diamonds were beveled at 9° to a diameter of  $\sim 250\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  with a culet size of  $\sim 75$  and  $\sim 90\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ . In total, 200- $\mu\text{m}$ -thick rhenium gasket was pre-indented to a thickness of 20 and 30  $\mu\text{m}$ , and a hole with a diameter of about the culet size was drilled using a laser. All elements of the high-pressure cell assembly were thoroughly etched in acids in order to remove a possible contamination by magnetic pieces, which could stem from the manufacturing of the DAC parts, polishing of the diamonds and cutting of the gaskets. All parts of the DACs and prepared gaskets were etched in 3 M hydrochloric acid for 30 min, and diamonds were etched in a mixture of concentrated nitric and hydrochloric acids in 1:3 molar ratio for 90 min in an ultrasonic cleaner.

**Preparation of samples.** Sulfur (99.999%, Alfa), NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> (97%, Sigma-Aldrich), and LaH<sub>3</sub>, which was synthesized from La (99.9%, Alfa Aesar) and H<sub>2</sub> (99.999%, Spectra Gases), were used as initial reactants. In contrast to metallic La, LaH<sub>3</sub> was beneficial because it required less hydrogen for the full hydrogenation. The loading of samples in DACs were handled in an inert Ar atmosphere with the O<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O residual contents of <0.1 ppm. NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> acted both as a source of H<sub>2</sub> and a thermal isolator from the diamonds during laser heating. The thin plates of S, LaH<sub>3</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> for the sandwiched samples were molded out the corresponding powder samples by squeezing them between two large 1-mm-diameter diamond anvils. The thickness of the plates was monitored by the interference of the visible light.

The sandwiched samples, in which 8- $\mu\text{m}$ -thick S or 6- $\mu\text{m}$ -thick LaH<sub>3</sub> plates were interposed between two  $\sim 10\text{--}15\text{-}\mu\text{m}$ -thick layers of NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> were put in the hole of pre-indented metallic gaskets. Then samples were pressurized to  $P_D$  of  $\sim 167\text{ GPa}$  with a pressure gradient across the culet of about  $\pm 7\text{ GPa}$ . The decomposition of NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> and synthesis of the superconducting *Im-3m-H<sub>3</sub>S* and *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>* phases were performed using the one-side heating with Nd:YAG pulse laser (a wavelength  $\lambda = 1.064\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ , the duration of pulses of 3  $\mu\text{s}$ , and frequency of  $10^4\text{ Hz}$ ). We heated S + NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> sample at  $\sim 700\text{ K}$  and LaH<sub>3</sub> + NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> sample at  $\sim 2000\text{ K}$  by traversing the  $\sim 5\text{-}\mu\text{m}$ -diameter laser spot horizontally and vertically across the diamond culets. Several photos of the initial, pressurized and heated samples are summarized in Supplementary Figs. S6 and S7.

Importantly, the integrity of a superconducting phase in a final sample is crucial for detecting of the diamagnetic signal by a SQUID. For example, LaH<sub>3</sub> completely transformed to the *Fm-3m-LaH<sub>10</sub>* phase already after the first laser heating at  $\sim 1000\text{ K}$  according to the X-ray diffraction data, nevertheless the superconducting transition was not observed in the magnetic measurements (see Supplementary Fig. S8). We guessed that this was because the sample was not uniform and consisted of separate parts, from which the sum magnetic signal is smaller than that from the one uniform disk of the same integral area. Our rough estimations gave a factor of  $\sim 5$  difference in the signal between one 60- $\mu\text{m}$ -diameter disk and 20 12- $\mu\text{m}$ -diameter disks with a thickness of 2  $\mu\text{m}$  just because of different demagnetization factors. Additionally, the smaller disks might have a smaller total volume resulting in an increase of a factor to  $\sim 10$ , so the sum magnetic signal becomes less than the sensitivity of a SQUID. To improve the integrity of the superconducting phase by sintering, we again heated LaH<sub>10</sub> but at significantly higher temperatures of  $\sim 2000\text{ K}$ . As a result, the pronounced superconducting transition appeared in the subsequent magnetic measurements.

**Estimation of pressure.** The pressure values in samples were estimated using three different techniques. Initially we determined the pressure in the compressed

sandwiched samples using the diamond scale<sup>39</sup> based on the shift of the Raman line edge of a stressed diamond (marked as  $P_D$  in the text). This scale is not accurate and depends on the arrangement of a sample and the geometry of diamond anvils. Therefore, after the high-pressure synthesis we estimated pressure values more accurately using the refined lattice parameters of the superconducting  $Im-3m-H_3S$  and  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$  phases from X-ray diffraction data (marked as  $P_S$  in the text). The average value of the refined lattice parameter  $a$  across the sample is  $3.057(8)$  Å for  $Im-3m-H_3S$  phase and  $5.175(13)$  Å for  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$  phase. Taking into account the available accurate structural data of  $H_3S$  and  $LaH_{10}$  measured in samples under quasi hydrostatic conditions of  $H_2$  medium<sup>12,21–24,40</sup>, we defined pressure as  $P_S = 155 \pm 5$  GPa in  $Im-3m-H_3S$  sample and  $P_S = 130 \pm 8$  GPa in  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$  sample.

In addition, we identified the vibron of  $H_2$  at  $\sim 4035$   $cm^{-1}$  in Raman spectra of the heated sample with  $Im-3m-H_3S$  phase (see Supplementary Fig. S8), which corresponds to  $P_H = 155$  GPa according to the hydrogen scale<sup>41</sup>.

**X-ray diffraction measurements.** X-ray diffraction data were collected from the heated samples in the same miniature DACs at the beamlines 13-IDB at GSECARS, Advanced Photon Source ( $\lambda = 0.2952$  Å, a beam spot size of  $\sim 2.5 \times 3.5$   $\mu m^2$ , Pilatus 1 M CdTe detector) and P02.2 at PETRA III, DESY ( $\lambda = 0.2885$  Å, a beam spot size of  $\sim 2 \times 2$   $\mu m^2$ , LAMBDA GaAs detector). The reference samples of  $LaB_6$  and  $CeO_2$  were used for calibration of the distance between sample and detector. To examine the size and distribution of the superconducting phase in the samples, we collected X-ray powder diffraction patterns from the spatial area of  $110 \times 110$   $\mu m^2$  with the horizontal and vertical step of  $10$   $\mu m$ . Primary processing and integration of the data were made using the Dioptas software<sup>42</sup>. The indexing of X-ray diffraction patterns and refinement of the crystal structures were done with GSAS and EXPGUI packages<sup>43</sup>.

**Magnetization measurements.** Magnetization measurements were done in the S700X SQUID magnetometer by Cryogenic Limited, a miniature DAC was attached to the 140-mm-long straw made of kapton polyimide film, which was specially designed to minimize the end effects. The relative position of the sample in the SQUID magnetometer was determined using the ferromagnetic signal from a small steel piece with a size of about  $140 \times 100 \times 25$   $\mu m^3$  attached directly to the rhenium gasket, which surrounded the sample (see Supplementary Fig. S3). This approach allows one to directly find the sample position in contrast to the centering procedure for a symmetric DAC, in which the total magnetization response from the whole assembly is inferred (presumed to be) as symmetric<sup>44</sup>. To minimize the errors associated with the sample positioning at different temperatures, the temperature-induced expansion of the rod, which holds the sample, was additionally calibrated within the wide temperature range using the ferromagnetic signal from the same steel piece.

For the micrometer-size superconducting samples in DACs we were able to extract the small diamagnetic signal of a superconductor from the measured overall magnetic moment including that of the bulky body of DAC, diamonds and rhenium gasket. We first measured the magnetic signal of the DACs with the starting pressurized precursor compounds before laser heating, in which S and  $LaH_3$  were normal metals. Then we subtracted these reference data from the magnetic moment collected from the same DACs after laser heating and chemical synthesis, i.e., with the superconducting  $Im-3m-H_3S$  and  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$  phases.

$T_c$  was determined as the offset of the diamagnetic transition on the ZFC curves of the temperature dependence of magnetic moment  $M(T)$ . The other basic characteristic of superconductivity, such as  $H_{c2}(0K)$ ,  $\lambda_L(0K)$  and  $\kappa$ , were determined from the magnetization measurements. The  $M(H)$  data were collected at several temperatures above and below  $T_c$  within the range of magnetic field up to  $-1$  T and summarized in Supplementary Figs. S10 and S11. The value of  $H_p$ , at which an applied magnetic field starts to penetrate into the sample, was determined from the onset of the evident deviation of the  $M(H)$  from the linear dependence. We extrapolated  $H_p(T)$  to lower temperatures using the equation  $H_p(T) = H_p(0K)(1 - (T/T_c)^2)$  with the fixed  $T_c = 196$  K for  $Im-3m-H_3S$  and  $231$  K for  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$ . The coherence length  $\xi(0K)$  was determined from the experimental estimation of  $H_{c2}(0K)$ <sup>21,23</sup> using the equation  $H_{c2}(0K) = \frac{\phi_0}{2\pi\xi(0K)}$ . The London penetration depth was determined using the equation  $\lambda_L = \kappa\xi$ .

Another, independent, very rough estimation of the  $\lambda_L$  can be done using the equation  $\lambda_L = \sqrt{\frac{m_e c^2}{4\pi n_s e^2}}$  where  $m_e$  is the effective mass,  $c$ —speed of light,  $n_s$ —density of superconducting electrons,  $e$ —electron charge. Using  $n$  for  $n_s$  from the measurements of the Hall effect at room temperature<sup>21,23</sup> and assuming no mass enhancement the  $\lambda_L(0K)$  is  $\sim 18$  nm for  $H_3S$  and  $\sim 63$  nm for  $LaH_{10}$ . These values are reasonably consistent with the more accurate estimations using the values of the upper and lower critical fields.

An order-of-magnitude estimation of the mean free path  $l$  can be done using the formula  $l = \frac{mv_F}{n_e^2 \rho(0K)}$  where  $v_F = \frac{\xi(0K)\pi\Delta(0K)}{\hbar}$  is the Fermi velocity with  $2\Delta(0K) = 3.52 k_B T_c$ ,  $\rho(0K)$ —a residual resistivity, and  $\Delta(0K)$ —a superconducting gap. Using the data from refs. 21,23 we obtain the values for  $v_F$  of  $\sim 2.6 \times 10^5$   $m s^{-1}$  and  $l$  of  $\sim 1.3$  nm for  $Im-3m-H_3S$ , and  $v_F$  of  $\sim 2.5 \times 10^5$   $m s^{-1}$  and  $l$  of  $\sim 4$  nm or

$\sim 0.4$  nm for  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$  if we assume  $\rho(0K) = 0.1 \times \rho(300K)$  or  $\rho(0K) = \rho(300K)$ , respectively. Thus, we conclude that  $l \sim \xi(0K)$  for both materials and they are not far from the clean limit.

**Demagnetization correction.** We estimated the effective demagnetization correction as  $\sim 8.5$  for the  $\varnothing 85 \times 2.8$   $\mu m^3$  sample of  $Im-3m-H_3S$  and  $\sim 13.5$  for the  $\sim \varnothing 70 \times 1.9$   $\mu m^3$  sample of  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$  using the measured value of magnetization. The demagnetization factor  $N$  can be also calculated for the given geometry of a superconductor according to ref. 29. This gives demagnetization correction  $\sim 20$  and  $\sim 24$  for the  $Im-3m-H_3S$  and  $Fm-3m-LaH_{10}$  samples, respectively. We note that the difference in values of  $N$  for a thin disk- and thin ellipsoid-shaped (due to the cupping effect in diamond anvils at high pressures) samples is negligible if a diameter is much larger than a thickness. For the sake of simplicity, we consider the samples as thin disks in our estimates. The larger values of the computed demagnetization correction stem from the ignoring of variation of thickness in a sample and imperfections of sample integrity, which are, conversely, already included in the experimental value of  $\Delta M$ . A magnetic field penetrates into a superconductor at these imperfections decreasing an effective demagnetizing factor  $N$ . Thus, using the measured value of  $\Delta M$  we obtain a lower estimate of  $N$ , since a decrease of a sample volume in a case of variation of a sample thickness will lead to an increase of  $N$ . For a good single-crystal, where imperfections of a sample are minimal, the demagnetization correction should be of the same value if calculated from a sample geometry or its value of magnetization. For instance, we have almost the same values of demagnetization correction derived from the prior ZFC  $M(T)$  measurements of the test single-crystal of  $Bi_2Sr_2CaCu_2O_8$  with a size of a size of  $100 \times 80 \times 10$   $\mu m^3$  (see details in Supplementary Information). In particular,  $\frac{1}{1-N} \sim 8$  from the value of  $\Delta M$  and  $\sim 7$  from the geometry of the sample.

## Data availability

The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding authors upon reasonable request.

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## Author contributions

V.S.M. and M.I.E. supervised the work. M.I.E. designed the miniature DAC. V.S.M. designed and performed the experiment. V.B.P., S.C., H.P.L. and R.J.H. assisted with the powder X-ray diffraction measurements. V.S.M., S.L.B. and F.F.B. processed and analyzed the data. V.S.M. and M.I.E. wrote the manuscript along with S.L.B. and F.F.B.

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## Competing interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

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# Supplementary Information for

Magnetic field screening in hydrogen-rich high-temperature superconductors

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**This PDF file includes:**

Supplementary Notes  
Supplementary Figures S1 to S13  
Supplementary References

## SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

### Estimation of a sample thickness

A thickness of the prepared samples was estimated using optical microscopy. After compression to  $P_D$  of  $\sim 167$  GPa the hole in metal gaskets restraining the samples expanded from  $\sim 90$   $\mu\text{m}$  to  $\sim 180$   $\mu\text{m}$  for the sandwich with S and from  $\sim 80$   $\mu\text{m}$  to  $\sim 190$   $\mu\text{m}$  for the sandwich with  $\text{LaH}_3$  (Figure S12). We estimated the thickness of the final samples by considering *i*) the visual expansion of samples during pressurizing, *ii*) the pressure-induced compressibility of S and  $\text{LaH}_3$ , and *iii*) the expansion of product volumes after the hydrogenation reaction. The area of the initial S and  $\text{LaH}_3$  samples increased by  $\sim 3.3$  and  $\sim 3.9$  after pressurizing, respectively. At the same time, a molar volume decreases by  $\sim 3$  times for S (from  $\sim 25.5$   $\text{\AA}^3/\text{S atom}$  at ambient pressure<sup>1</sup> to  $\sim 8.7$   $\text{\AA}^3/\text{S atom}$  at 155 GPa<sup>2</sup>) and  $\sim 2$  times for  $\text{LaH}_3$  (from  $\sim 44.8$   $\text{\AA}^3/\text{La atom}$  at ambient pressure<sup>3</sup> to  $\sim 21.9$   $\text{\AA}^3/\text{La atom}$  at 130 GPa<sup>4,5</sup>). Assuming that the sandwich expands evenly the final thickness of S and  $\text{LaH}_3$  plates in the pressurized sandwiches was estimated as  $\sim 1.7$   $\mu\text{m}$  and  $\sim 1.2$   $\mu\text{m}$ , respectively. After hydrogenation a molar volume of products increases by  $\sim 1.6$  times (to  $\sim 14.3$   $\text{\AA}^3/\text{S atom}$  in  $\text{Im-3m-H}_3\text{S}$ , and  $\sim 34.3$   $\text{\AA}^3/\text{La atom}$  in  $\text{Fm-3m-LaH}_{10}$ ). Consequently, the thickness of the synthesized  $\text{H}_3\text{S}$  and  $\text{LaH}_{10}$  samples should be  $\sim 2.8$   $\mu\text{m}$  and  $\sim 1.9$   $\mu\text{m}$ , respectively. These estimations are in good agreement with the range of theoretical calculated maximum and minimum values of thickness in these samples (see below).

### Estimation of theoretical upper and lower limits of a thickness of samples

The upper limit of a sample thickness can be estimated by taking into account a complete chemical reaction and maximum value of a sample chamber volume realized between diamond anvils at high pressure. Based on Ref<sup>6</sup> the equilibrium thickness of the tungsten gasket at the edge of diamond culets should be  $\sim 3$   $\mu\text{m}$  for a 90- $\mu\text{m}$ -diameter culet at  $\sim 150$  GPa and  $\sim 2.5$   $\mu\text{m}$  for a 75- $\mu\text{m}$ -diameter culet at  $\sim 130$  GPa. However, the final thickness for much softer materials such as S,  $\text{NH}_3\text{BH}_3$  and  $\text{LaH}_3$  must be even thinner at high pressures. We supposed the final thickness of our samples at the edge of culets as  $\sim 2.5$   $\mu\text{m}$  and  $\sim 2.0$   $\mu\text{m}$  for 90- $\mu\text{m}$ - and 75- $\mu\text{m}$ -diameter culets, respectively. Furthermore, we considered an additional contribution to the sample chamber volume due to the cupping deformation of anvils at high pressure, which is significant. According to both computational<sup>7</sup> and experimental<sup>6</sup> studies 75- $\mu\text{m}$ - and 90- $\mu\text{m}$ -diameter culets concave at  $\sim 1.5$  and  $\sim 1.8$   $\mu\text{m}$ , respectively. By knowing the cupping effect and final distance between anvils we can calculate the total available volume for a sample and estimate the volume ratio between S or  $\text{LaH}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_3\text{BH}_3$  for a complete conversion into  $\text{H}_3\text{S}$  and  $\text{LaH}_{10}$ . The extrapolation of the compressibility data for  $\text{NH}_3\text{BH}_3$  from Ref<sup>8</sup> gives the value of  $\sim 22.5$   $\text{\AA}^3$  per a molecule at  $\sim 150$  GPa. Assuming complete decomposition of  $\text{NH}_3\text{BH}_3$  into BN and  $\text{H}_2$  on heating, the stoichiometry of chemical reactions, molar volumes of reactants and products we estimated the maximum thickness of  $\text{H}_3\text{S}$  as  $\sim 3.1$   $\mu\text{m}$  and  $\text{LaH}_{10}$  as  $\sim 2.5$   $\mu\text{m}$ .

The lower limit of a sample thickness can be evaluated from the X-ray diffraction experiments. Based on our experience the minimum thickness of sputtered gold leads, which give reasonable intensities in X-ray powder diffraction patterns at the same experimental conditions is  $\sim 100$  nm. We used these data as a reference for further estimations. The intensity of the diffracted beam is proportional to the square of atomic form factor. Using the literature data for atomic form factors<sup>9</sup> and considering the increase in density of the products at high pressure we estimated the minimum thickness of  $\text{H}_3\text{S}$  as  $\sim 2.1$   $\mu\text{m}$  and  $\text{LaH}_{10}$  as  $\sim 0.6$   $\mu\text{m}$ .

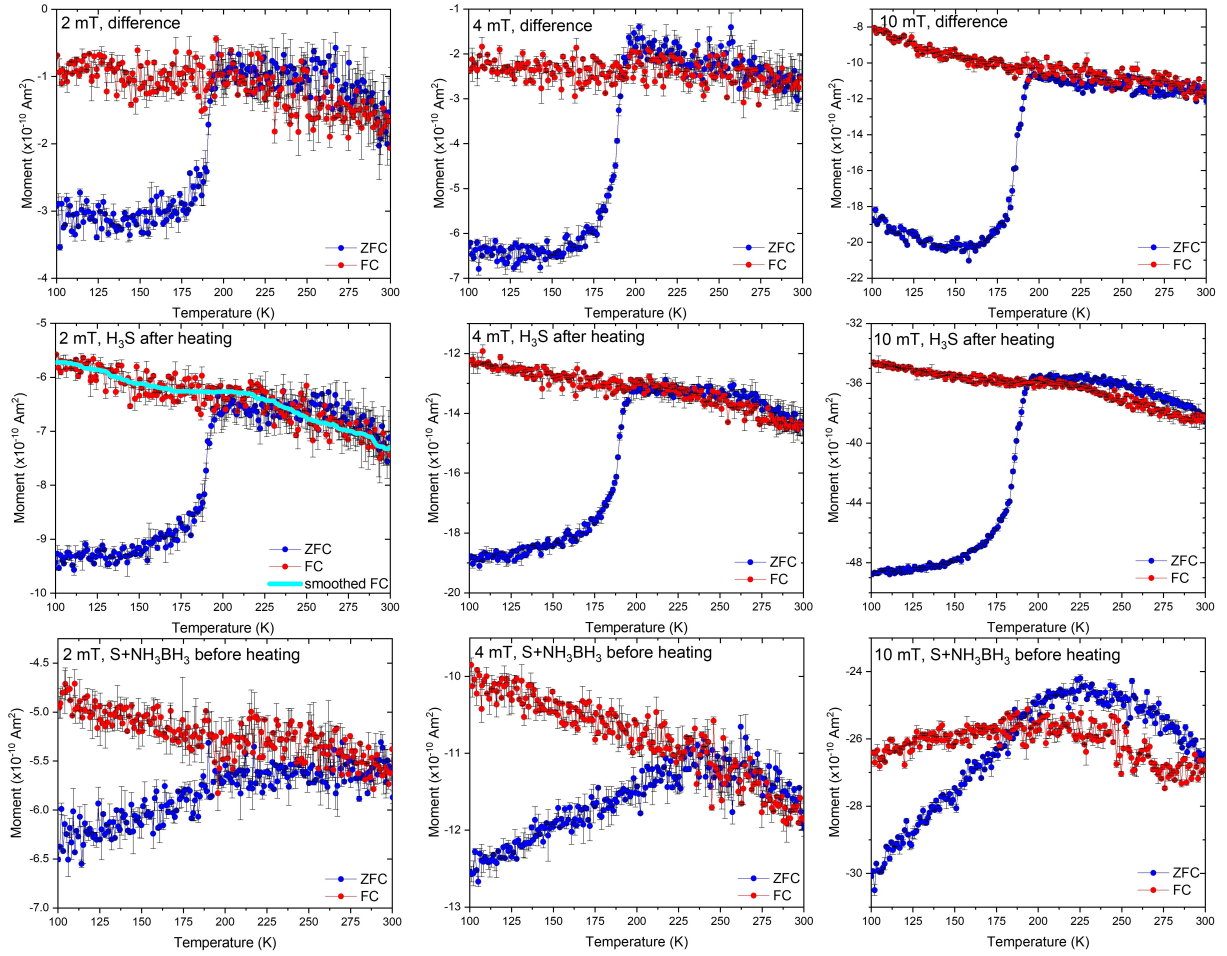
### Prior test magnetization measurements

To verify the magnetization measurements for samples housing in the miniature DACs we performed test measurements for the known and well-studied ambient-pressure superconductors. The primary goal of the test measurements was to demonstrate that *i*) superconducting transitions and *ii*) a lower critical field  $H_{c1}$  can reliably be detected for a  $\sim 100\text{-}\mu\text{m}$ -diameter sample residing in the miniature DAC. For this purpose we used the following materials: single-crystal samples of  $\text{MgB}_2$  (synthesized at Ames Laboratory, a size of  $35\times 25\times 17\ \mu\text{m}^3$ ) and  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Sr}_2\text{CaCu}_2\text{O}_8$  (synthesized at Brookhaven National Laboratory, a size of  $100\times 80\times 10\ \mu\text{m}^3$ ), and powder sample of  $\text{MgB}_2$  (Sigma-Aldrich,  $\geq 99\%$ , compacted into a disk with a size of  $\varnothing 120\times 10\ \mu\text{m}^3$  and sandwiched with  $\text{NH}_3\text{BH}_3$ ). The size of these materials was comparable with that of the synthesized  $Im\text{-}3m\text{-H}_3\text{S}$  and  $Fm\text{-}3m\text{-LaH}_{10}$  samples. The whole assembly of the test DACs entirely imitated the conditions for  $\text{H}_3\text{S}$  and  $\text{LaH}_{10}$  samples under high pressure: the test materials were put into the drilled hole in a rhenium gasket, which was then clamped between two diamond anvils.

Due to the low magnetic signal from the DAC one can unambiguously detect the diamagnetic transition into the superconducting state on the ZFC and FC magnetization curves from the overall magnetic signal without subtraction a background of the DAC (Figure S13). The  $T_c$ s in the tested materials inside the miniature DACs were observed at  $T_c \sim 38\ \text{K}$  for the single-crystal  $\text{MgB}_2$  at ambient pressure,  $T_c \sim 35\ \text{K}$  for the powder  $\text{MgB}_2$  at  $P_D \sim 1\ \text{GPa}$ , and  $T_c \sim 88\ \text{K}$  for the single-crystal  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Sr}_2\text{CaCu}_2\text{O}_8$  at ambient pressure. These values are in excellent agreement with the literature data<sup>10-13</sup>. We also performed magnetic measurements using the standard technique and placed the same test samples in a gelatin capsule and fixed them by a thin layer of low viscosity mineral oil. The capsule was then put inside a transparent plastic tube, which was inserted into SQUID. In these corroborating measurements, the diamagnetic character of the superconducting transitions and observed  $T_c$ s of  $\text{MgB}_2$  and  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Sr}_2\text{CaCu}_2\text{O}_8$  perfectly agree with the measurements in DACs. However, the values of  $\Delta M$  measured for the test samples in gelatin capsules are smaller because the orientation of single-crystal samples lying onto the hemispherical bottom of capsules differs from that in DACs. The magnetic response strongly depends on the orientation of a sample in an applied magnetic field and is determined by a demagnetization factor. This effect is even more pronounced for the anisotropic layered crystal structures of both  $\text{MgB}_2$  and  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Sr}_2\text{CaCu}_2\text{O}_8$ . For instance, the thin-plate shaped single-crystal of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Sr}_2\text{CaCu}_2\text{O}_8$  was placed between two anvils in DAC perpendicular to an applied magnetic field and this yielded the maximum value of the measured signal.

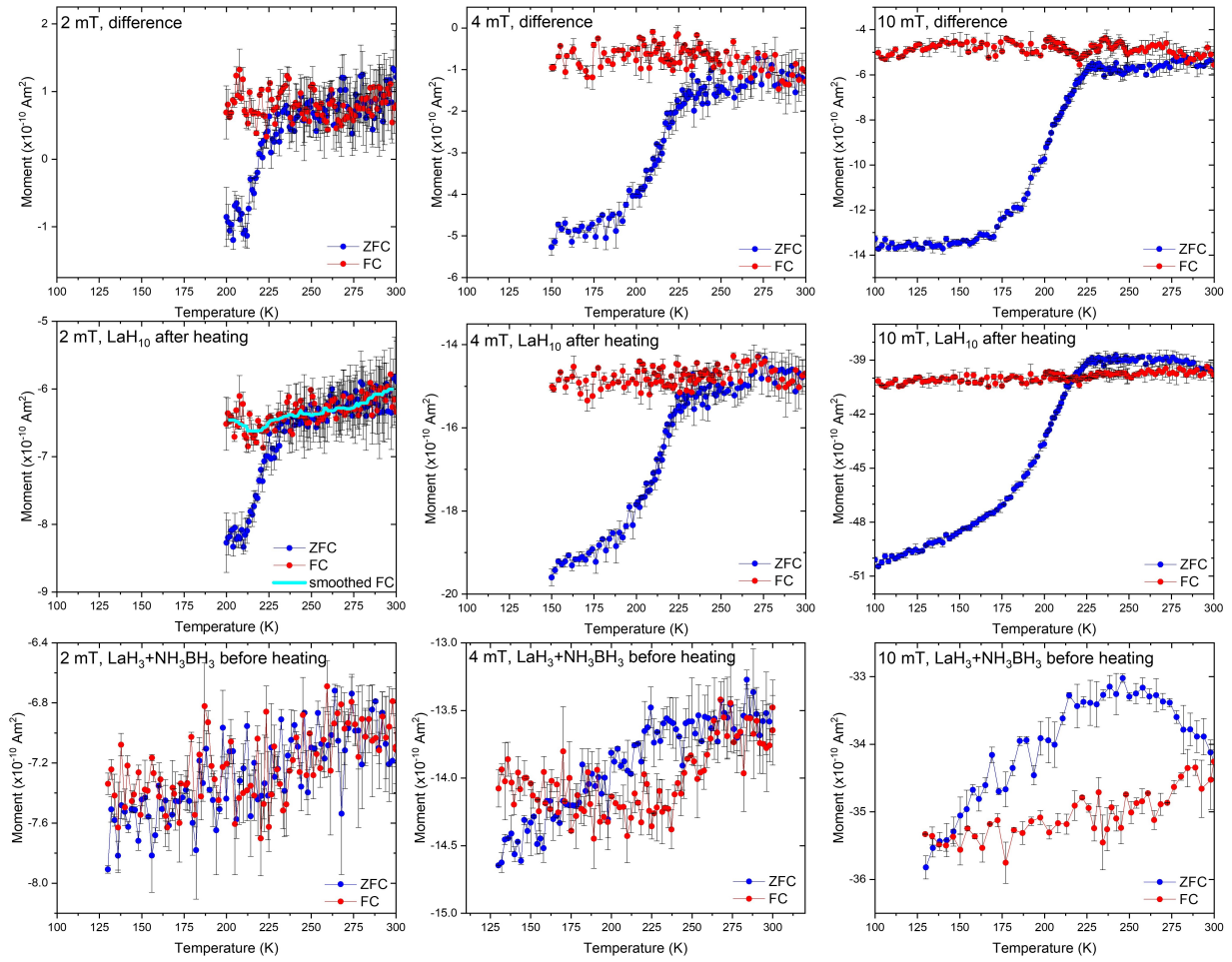
The same single-crystal  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Sr}_2\text{CaCu}_2\text{O}_8$  in the miniature DAC was used for the  $M(H)$  test magnetization measurements and determination of a  $H_{c1}$  value. The  $M(H)$  data are summarized in Figure S13g. The extrapolation of the  $H_p(T)$  data to  $0\ \text{K}$  gives  $H_p(0\ \text{K}) = 2.5 \pm 0.2\ \text{mT}$ . To connect the sample magnetic moment with the applied magnetic field we used the effective demagnetizing factor  $N$ . According to Ref<sup>14</sup> for the cuboid-shaped test crystal  $N = 0.8556$ , and thus  $H_{c1}(0\ \text{K}) = \frac{1}{1-N} H_p(0\ \text{K}) = 17.3 \pm 1.4\ \text{mT}$ , what is in good agreement with the literature data<sup>12</sup> (Figure S13i).

## SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES



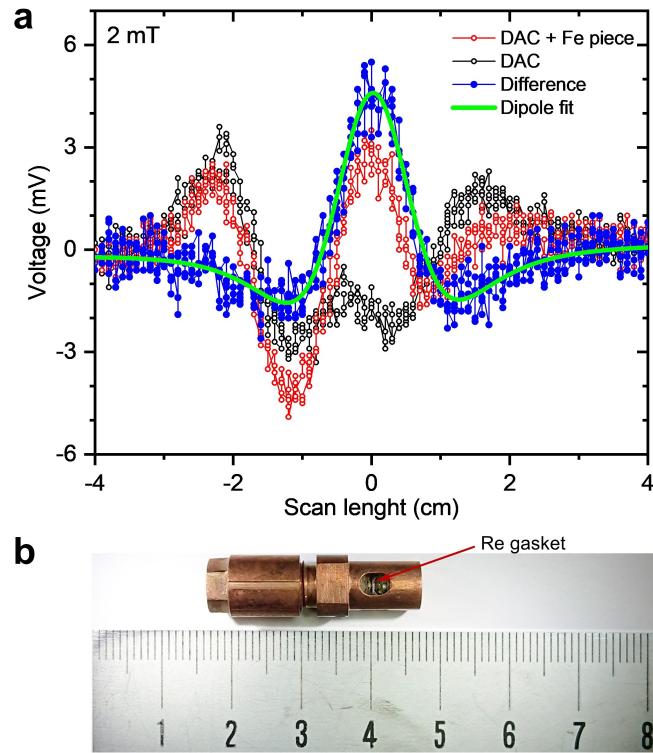
**Supplementary Figure S1.**

$M(T)$  magnetization data of the sandwiched sample with S and  $\text{NH}_3\text{BH}_3$  pressurized at  $P_D = 167 \pm 7$  GPa at 2, 4 and 10 mT (lower panel), the heated sample with the superconducting  $Im-3m\text{-H}_3\text{S}$  phase at  $P_S = 155 \pm 5$  GPa ( $P_D = 162 \pm 3$  GPa,  $P_H = 155$  GPa) at 2, 4, 10 mT (middle panel), and the difference plot (upper panel). The blue and red circles correspond to the zero-field-cooled (ZFC) and field-cooled (FC) measurements. Light blue smoothed curve shows the subtle Meissner effect in FC measurements at 2 mT. We used percentile filter and 40 points for smoothing the raw data.



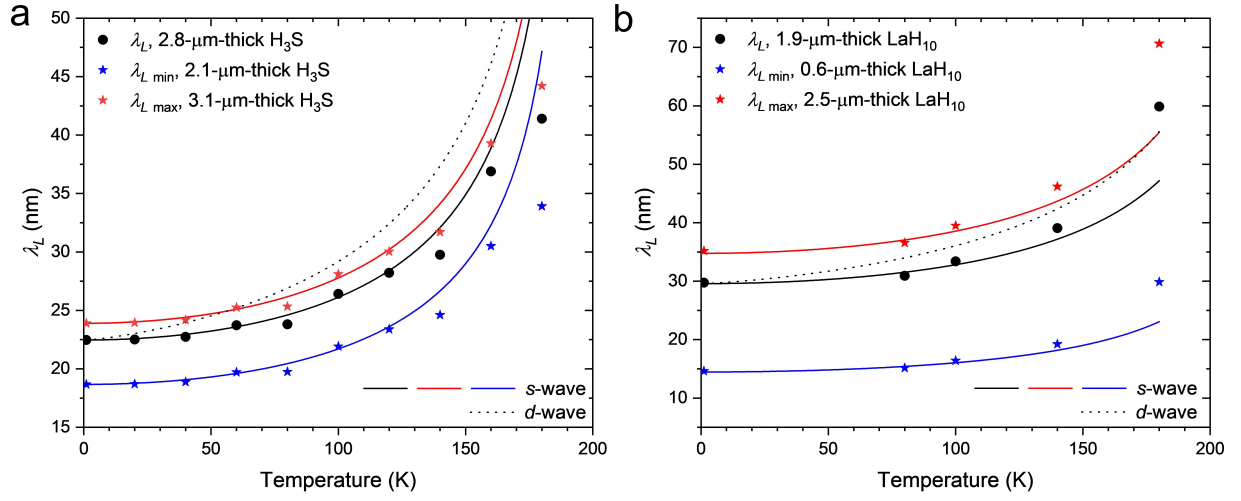
### Supplementary Figure S2.

$M(T)$  magnetization data of the sandwiched sample with  $\text{LaH}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_3\text{BH}_3$  pressurized at  $P_D = 168 \pm 7$  GPa at 2, 4 and 10 mT (lower panel), the heated sample with the superconducting  $Fm-3m$ - $\text{LaH}_{10}$  phase at  $P_S = 130 \pm 8$  GPa ( $P_D = 157 \pm 3$  GPa) at 2, 4, 10 mT (middle panel), and the difference plot (upper panel). The blue and red circles correspond to the zero-field-cooled (ZFC) and field-cooled (FC) measurements. Light blue smoothed curve shows the subtle Meissner effect in FC measurements at 2 mT. We used percentile filter and 16 points for smoothing the raw data.



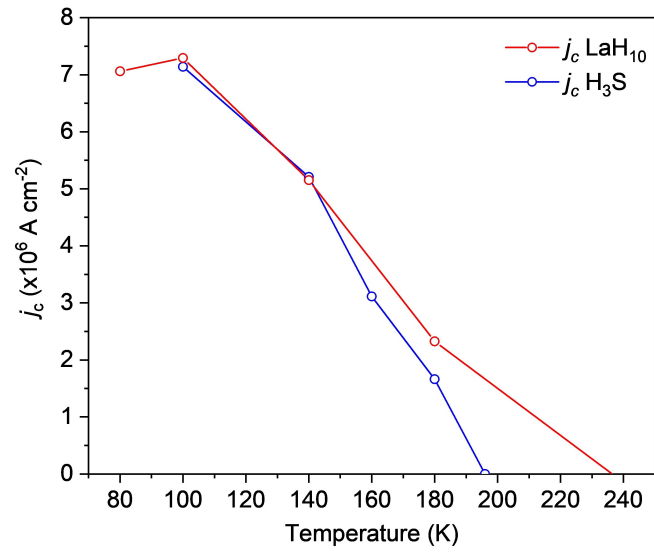
**Supplementary Figure S3.**

Centering of a sample residing in the miniature DAC using a ferromagnetic signal of the steel piece with a size of  $140 \times 100 \times 25 \mu\text{m}^3$  attached to the rhenium gasket. **a)** The red, black and blue circles and green curve correspond to the voltage curves of DC scans of the miniature DAC with and without steel piece, the difference, and dipole fit, respectively. Here is the centering of the sample with the *Fm-3m*-LaH<sub>10</sub> phase in DAC at 295 K and 2 mT. **b)** Photo of the miniature DAC scaled to the length of DC scans in panel **a**. The asymmetric design of the DAC causes asymmetric profiles of voltage curves of DC scans (black and red curves).



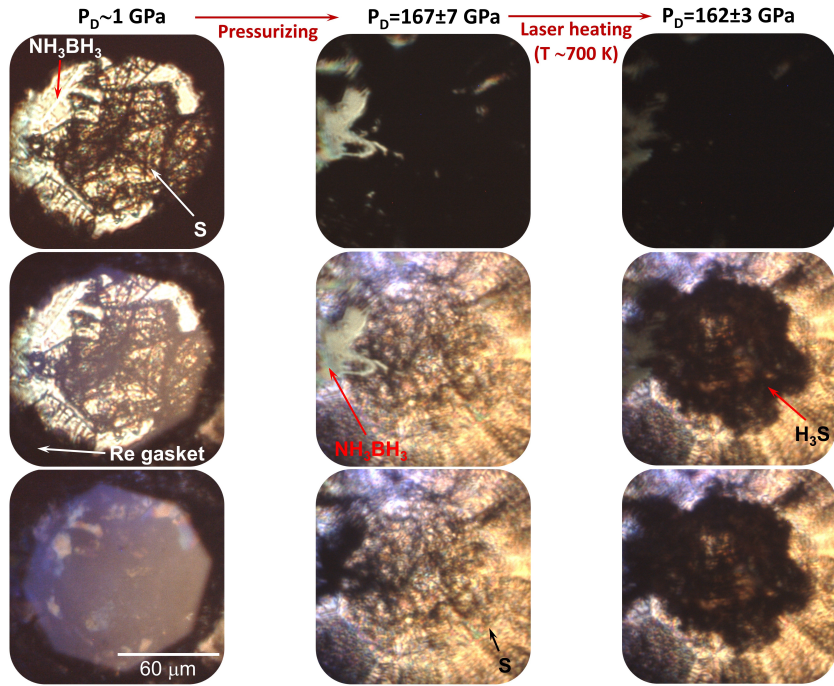
### Supplementary Figure S4.

Temperature-dependence of the London penetration depth,  $\lambda_L$ , of  $Im-3m\text{-H}_3\text{S}$  at  $P_S = 155 \pm 5$  GPa, **a**, and  $Fm-3m\text{-LaH}_{10}$  at  $P_S = 130 \pm 8$  GPa, **b**. The black circles correspond to the  $\lambda_L$  values, which were determined using the sample thickness of 2.8  $\mu\text{m}$  for  $\text{H}_3\text{S}$  and 1.9  $\mu\text{m}$  for  $\text{LaH}_{10}$  samples estimated from the optical microscopy data. The red and blue stars correspond to maximum and minimum  $\lambda_L$  values, which were estimated using the theoretical calculated maximum and minimum values of sample thickness. The solid and dotted curves are approximate functional forms for the London penetration depth in the entire temperature range for the  $s$ -wave ( $\lambda_L(T) = \lambda_L(0 \text{ K})/\sqrt{1-t^2}$ , where  $t = T/T_c$ ) and  $d$ -wave ( $\lambda_L(T) = \lambda_L(0 \text{ K})/\sqrt{1-t^{4/3}}$ ) clean limits.



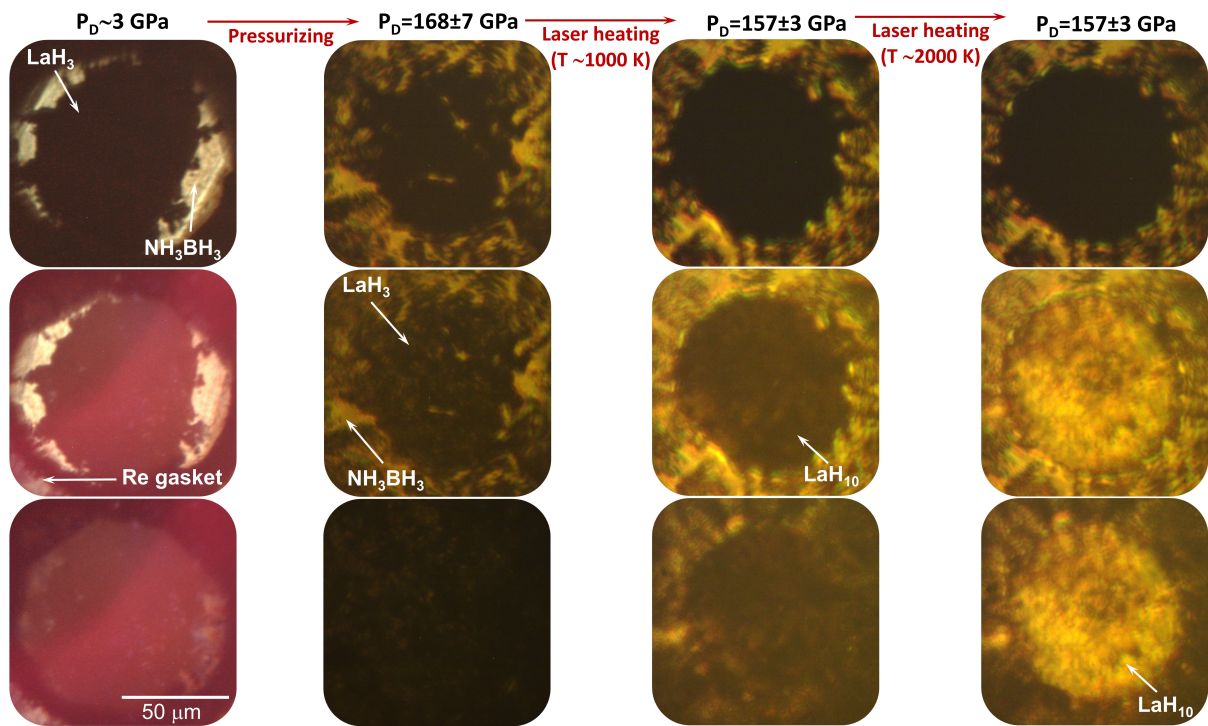
**Supplementary Figure S5.**

Temperature-dependence of the critical current density  $j_c$  in the  $Im-3m$ -H<sub>3</sub>S and  $Fm-3m$ -LaH<sub>10</sub> samples estimated from the hysteretic loops of  $M(H)$  data using Bean's model.



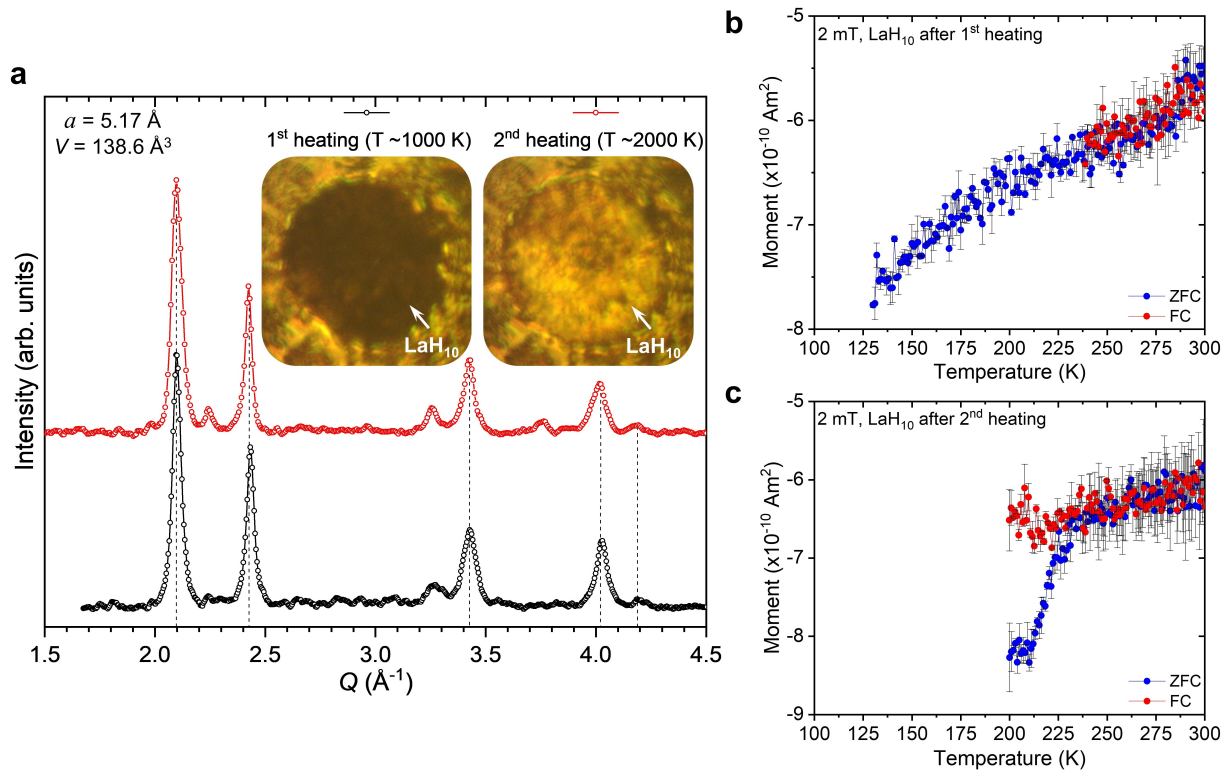
### Supplementary Figure S6.

Photos of the sandwiched sample with S and  $\text{NH}_3\text{BH}_3$  after clamping at  $P_D \sim 1$  GPa (left panel) and pressurizing to  $P_D = 167 \pm 7$  GPa (central panel), and the heated sample with the superconducting *Im-3m*- $\text{H}_3\text{S}$  phase at  $P_S = 155 \pm 5$  GPa ( $P_D = 162 \pm 3$  GPa,  $P_H = 155$  GPa). The photos are taken in transmitted (top), transmitted and reflected (center), and reflected (bottom) light.



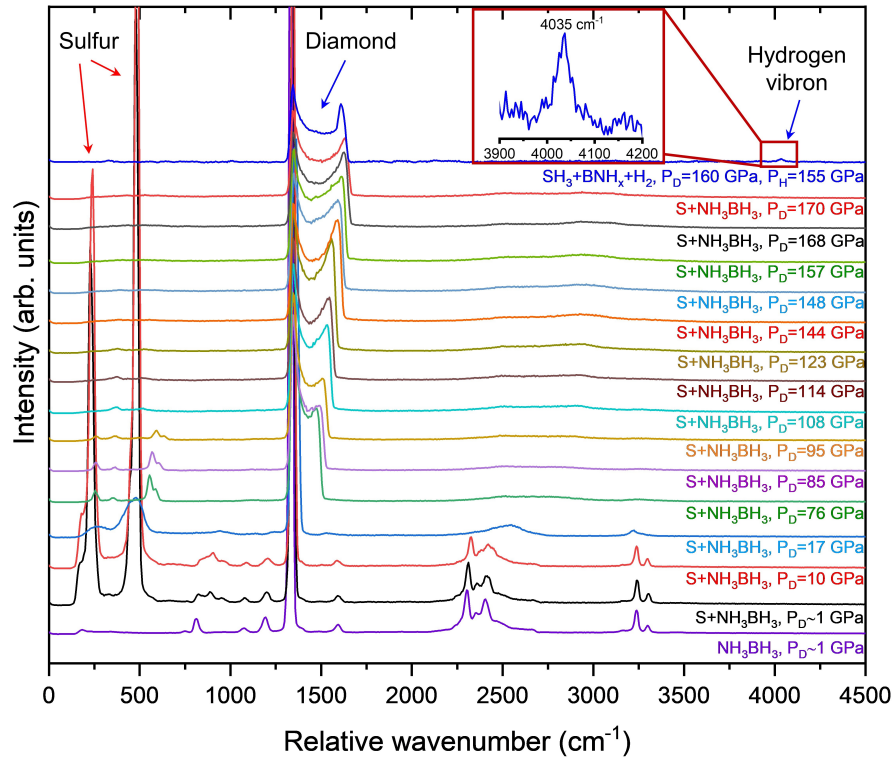
**Supplementary Figure S7.**

Photos of the sandwiched sample with  $\text{LaH}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_3\text{BH}_3$  after clamping at  $P_D \sim 3 \text{ GPa}$  (left panel) and pressurizing to  $P_D = 168 \pm 7 \text{ GPa}$  (second panel), and the sample with the superconducting  $Fm\text{-}3m\text{-LaH}_{10}$  phase at  $P_S = 130 \pm 8 \text{ GPa}$  ( $P_D = 157 \pm 3 \text{ GPa}$ ) after heating by a pulse laser at  $\sim 1000 \text{ K}$  (third panel) and  $\sim 2000 \text{ K}$  (right panel). The photos are taken in transmitted (top), transmitted and reflected (center), and reflected (bottom) light.



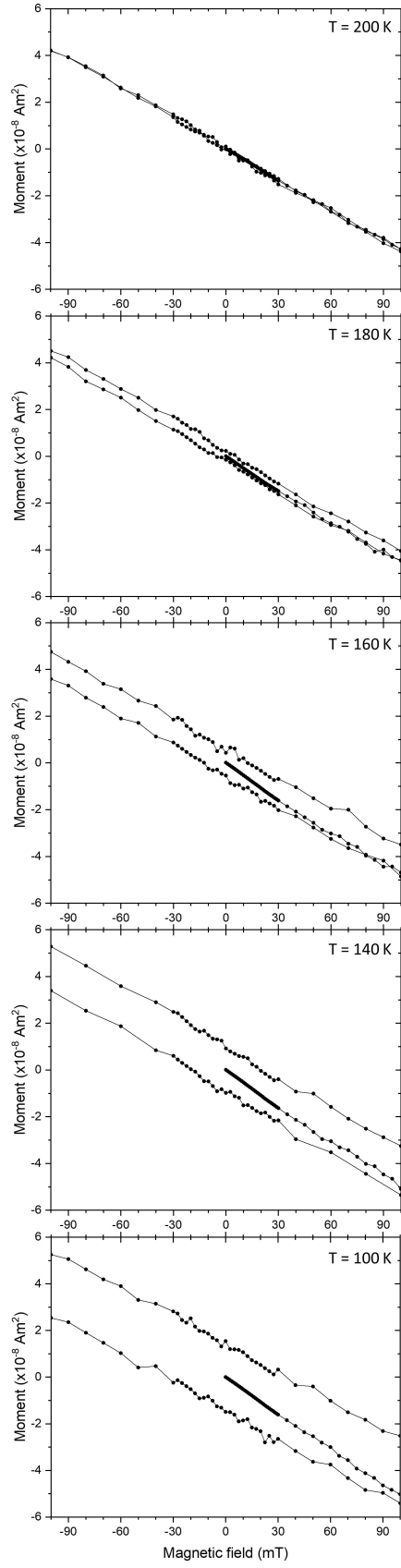
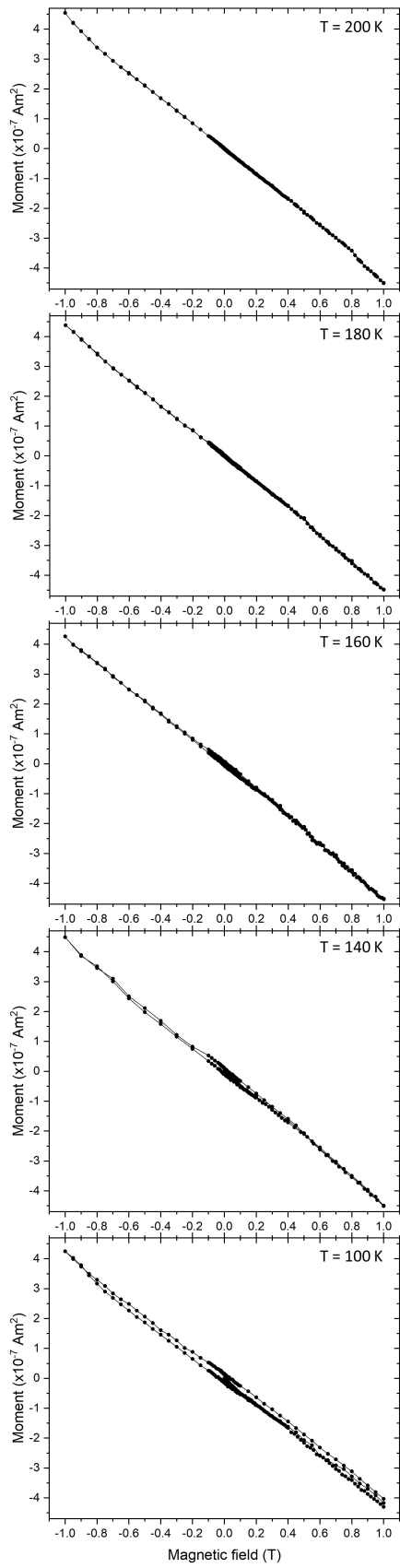
### Supplementary Figure S8.

Characterization of the sample of the  $Fm-3m$ -LaH<sub>10</sub> phase after two laser heating treatments at ~1000 K and ~2000 K. **a**) X-ray powder diffraction patterns collected from the same spot of the sample after the first and second heating. Positions of peaks of the  $Fm-3m$ -LaH<sub>10</sub> phase are almost the same after both high-temperature treatments (marked by dashed vertical lines). Insets are photos of the heated sample taken in transmitted and reflected light. Sample became shinier after the second treatment at ~2000 K. **b**) and **c**)  $M(T)$  magnetization data of the sample of  $Fm-3m$ -LaH<sub>10</sub> after the first and second heating, respectively.



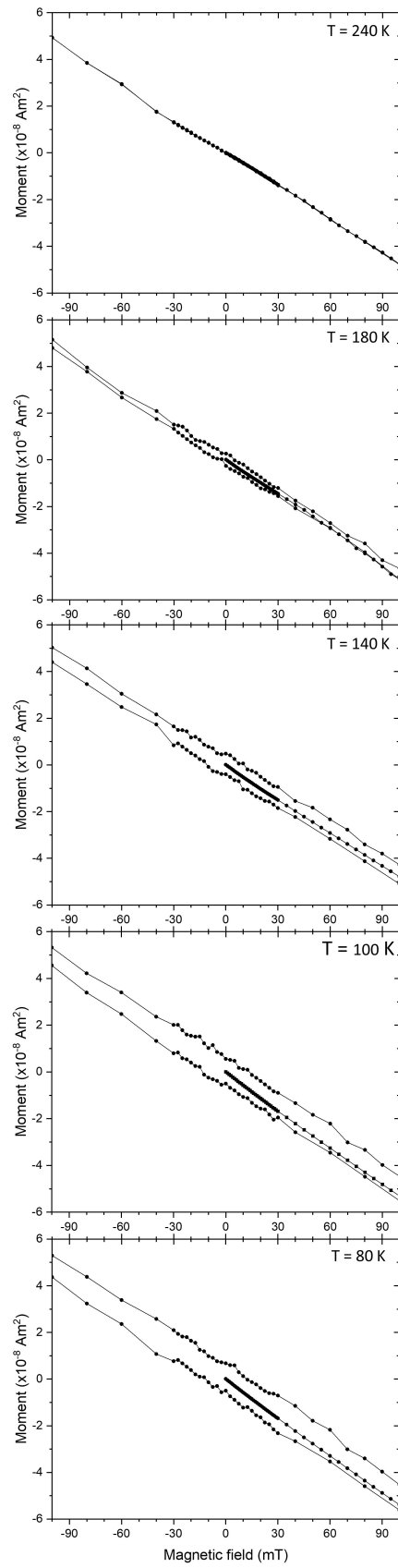
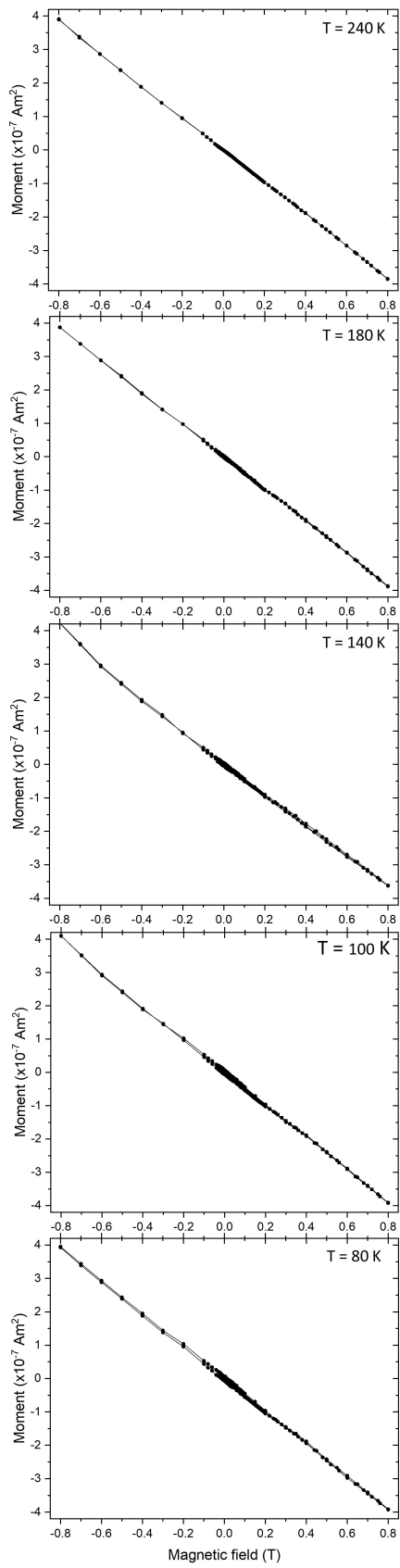
### Supplementary Figure S9.

Raman spectra of the sandwiched sample with S and NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> upon pressurizing from  $P_D \sim 1$  GPa (black Raman spectrum) to  $P_D = 167 \pm 7$  GPa (red Raman spectrum), demonstrating the metallization of sulfur. The blue Raman spectrum on the top corresponds to the sample with the superconducting *Im-3m*-H<sub>3</sub>S phase, which was synthesized after heating at  $\sim 700$  K by a pulse laser. The wavenumber of the hydrogen vibron, which was appeared in the Raman spectrum after heating of NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub>, corresponds to a pressure value of  $P_H = 155$  GPa, slightly lower than  $P_D = 162 \pm 3$  GPa estimated by the diamond scale<sup>15</sup>.



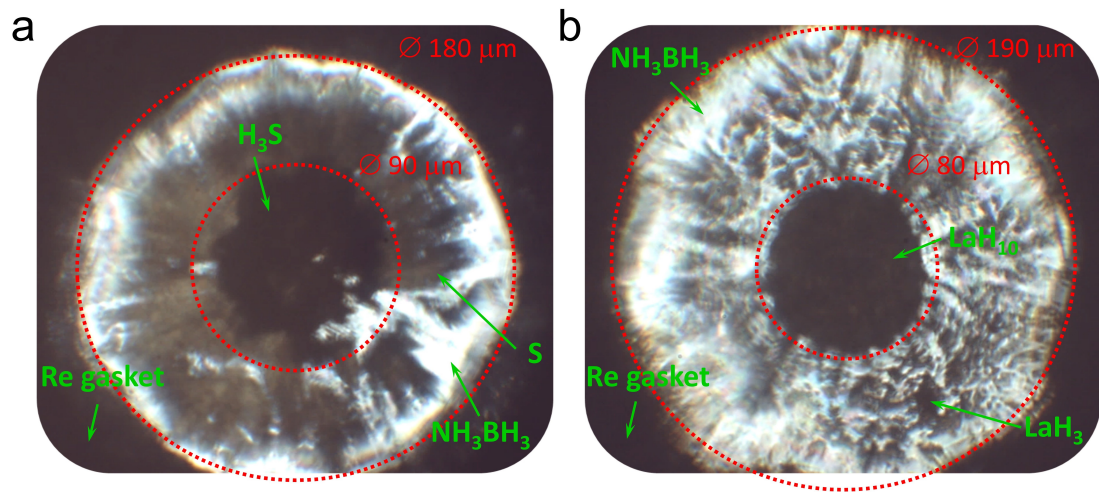
**Supplementary Figure S10.**

$M(H)$  magnetization data of the heated sample with the  $Im-3m$ -H<sub>3</sub>S at  $P_S = 155 \pm 5$  GPa ( $P_D = 162 \pm 3$  GPa,  $P_H = 155$  GPa) at several temperatures: in a normal metallic state above  $T_c$  at 200 K, and in a superconducting state below  $T_c$  at 180, 140, 100 and 80 K. The left panel shows the full range of hysteresis and the right panel shows the enlarged magnetic field range of  $-0.1 - 0.1$  T.



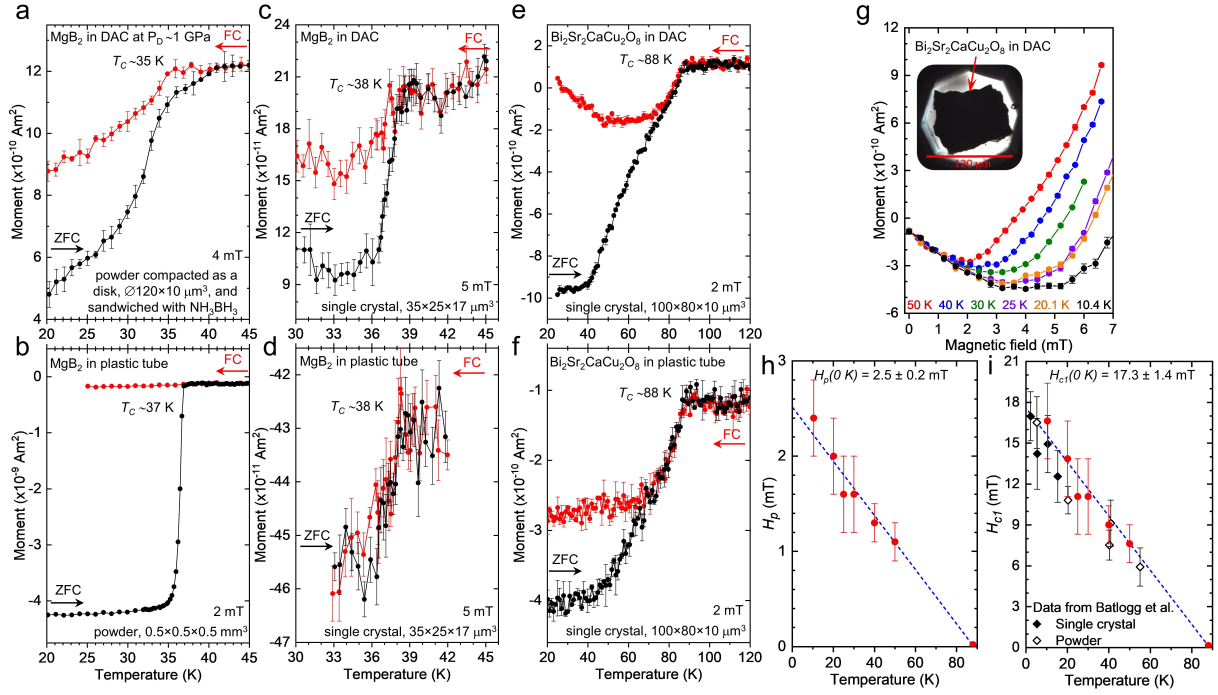
**Supplementary Figure S11.**

$M(H)$  magnetization data of the heated sample with the  $Fm-3m$ -LaH<sub>10</sub> phase at  $P_S = 130 \pm 8$  GPa ( $P_D = 157 \pm 3$  GPa) at several temperatures: in a normal metallic state above  $T_c$  at 240 K, and in a superconducting state below  $T_c$  at 180, 140, 100 and 80 K. The left panel shows the full range of hysteresis and the right panel shows the enlarged magnetic field range of  $-0.1 - 0.1$  T.



**Supplementary Figure S12.**

Estimation of a thickness of the superconducting samples in the miniature DACs at high pressure. **a** and **b**, Expansion of the hole in the rhenium gasket restraining the sandwiched samples with  $\text{H}_3\text{S}$  at  $P_S = 155 \pm 5$  GPa and  $\text{LaH}_{10}$  at  $P_S = 130 \pm 8$  GPa, respectively. The inner red circles show the starting size of the hole in the rhenium gasket at  $P_D \sim 1$  and  $\sim 3$  GPa. Photos are taken with 90%-transmitting and 10%-reflecting light.



**Supplementary Figure S13.**

Magnetic measurements of the test materials in a SQUID.  $M(T)$  magnetization data for powder  $MgB_2$  sample, **a** and **b**, single crystal  $MgB_2$  sample, **c** and **d**, and single crystal  $Bi_2Sr_2CaCu_2O_8$  sample, **e** and **f**, housing in the miniature DACs and the standard nonmagnetic plastic tube. Black and red cycles correspond to ZFC and FC magnetization curves. **g**,  $M(H)$  magnetization data of the single crystal  $Bi_2Sr_2CaCu_2O_8$  sample in the DAC at different temperatures. **h** and **i**,  $H_p(T)$  and  $H_{c1}(T)$  plots of the single crystal  $Bi_2Sr_2CaCu_2O_8$  sample in the DAC built from the  $M(H)$  data without effective demagnetizing factor  $N$  and with the estimated  $N = 0.8556$ , respectively. Red circles and black rhombuses are the present data and the data from Ref<sup>12</sup>, respectively.

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