

Supplementary Information

Search for ambient superconductivity in the Lu–N–H system

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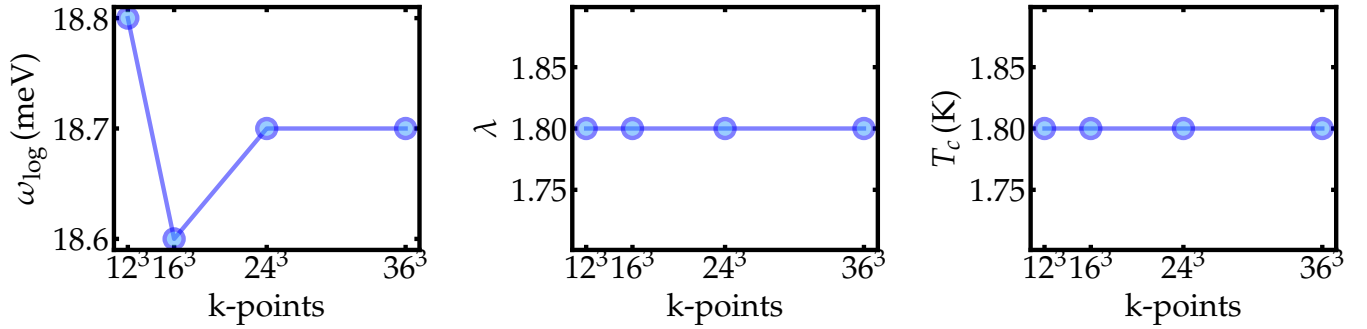
I. SUPPLEMENTARY METHODS

A. Ephemeral Data Derived Potentials

Ephemeral Data Derived Potentials (EDDPs) can be used to accelerate crystal structure prediction. We trained potentials using the iterative approach described in reference [1]. In summary, this begins with 1000 single-point-energy calculations of randomly generated structures on which an EDDP is trained. In each iteration, 100 local minima are found by random searching using the current EDDP, and single-point-energies are calculated for 10 ‘shaken’ structures in the vicinity of each minimum. At the end of each iteration, a new EDDP is trained.

For Lu + N + H potentials, we used 5 iterations and local minima found at pressures randomly chosen between 0 and 10 GPa. The form of the potential is naturally cut-off at a distance of 6Å, containing 5 polynomials and a neural network containing a single layer with 5 nodes. The structures in the training data contained between 0-2, 0-4, and 0-12 Lu, N, and H, respectively. By construction, the atoms can come in close contact, such as 0.5Å for H-H and 2.5Å Lu-Lu, to sample unfavorable high-energy configurations.

B. Convergence tests



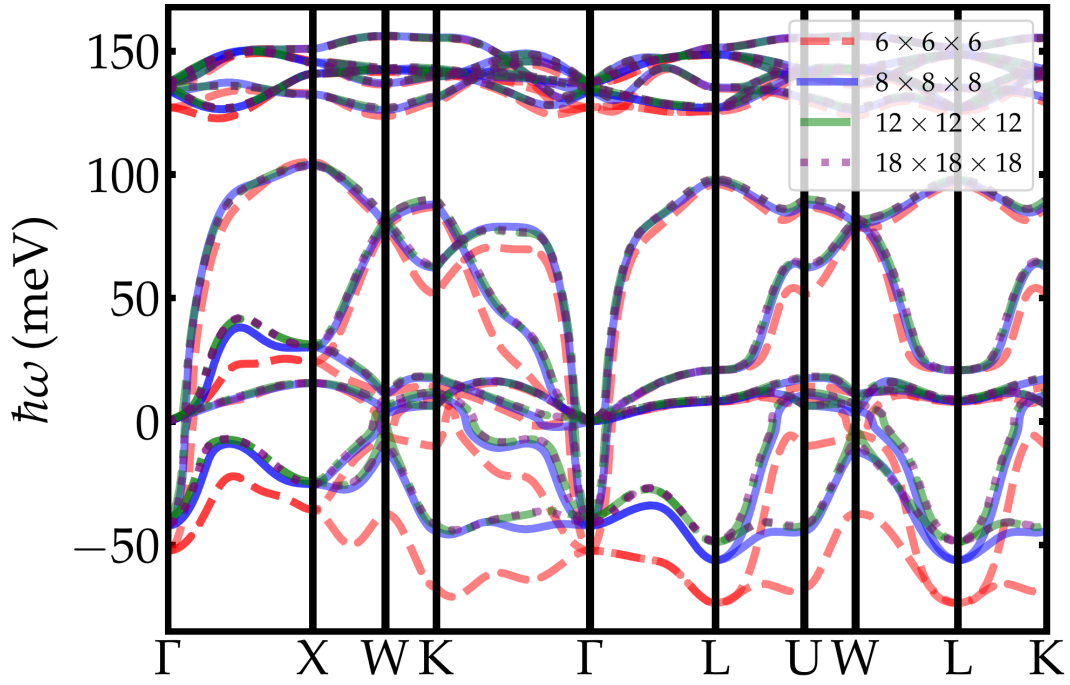
Supplementary Figure 1: Convergence test for B4-Fm $\bar{3}m$ -LuH₃ of the electron-phonon properties with respect to the **k**-grid. The ω_{\log} , λ , and T_c were obtained by integrating the Eliashberg function only on real frequencies.

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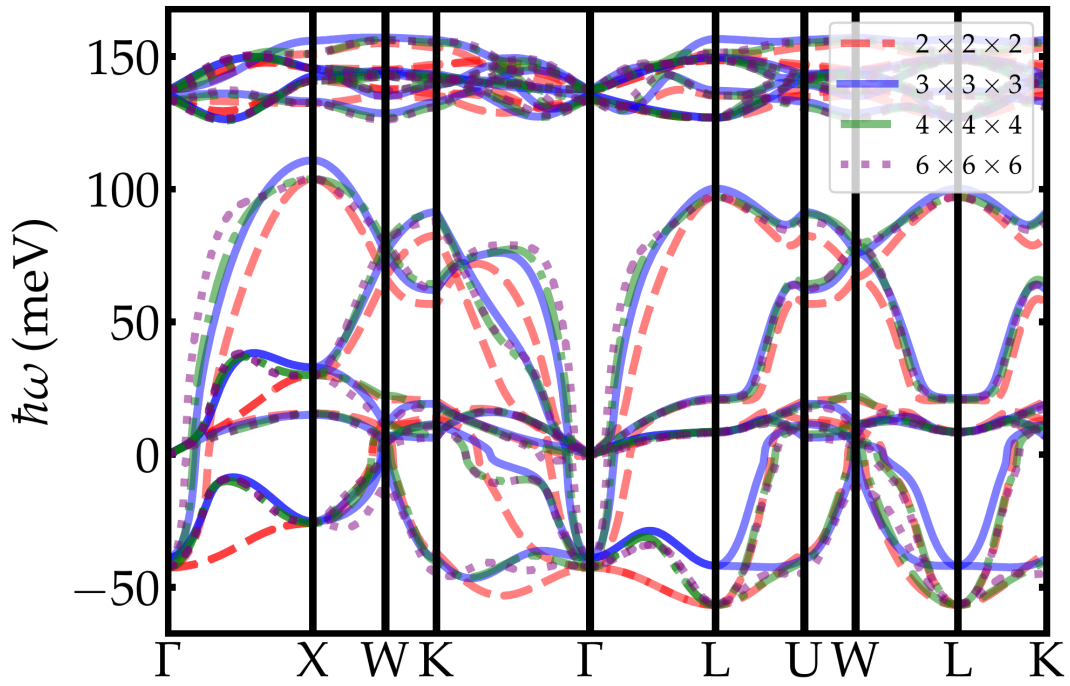
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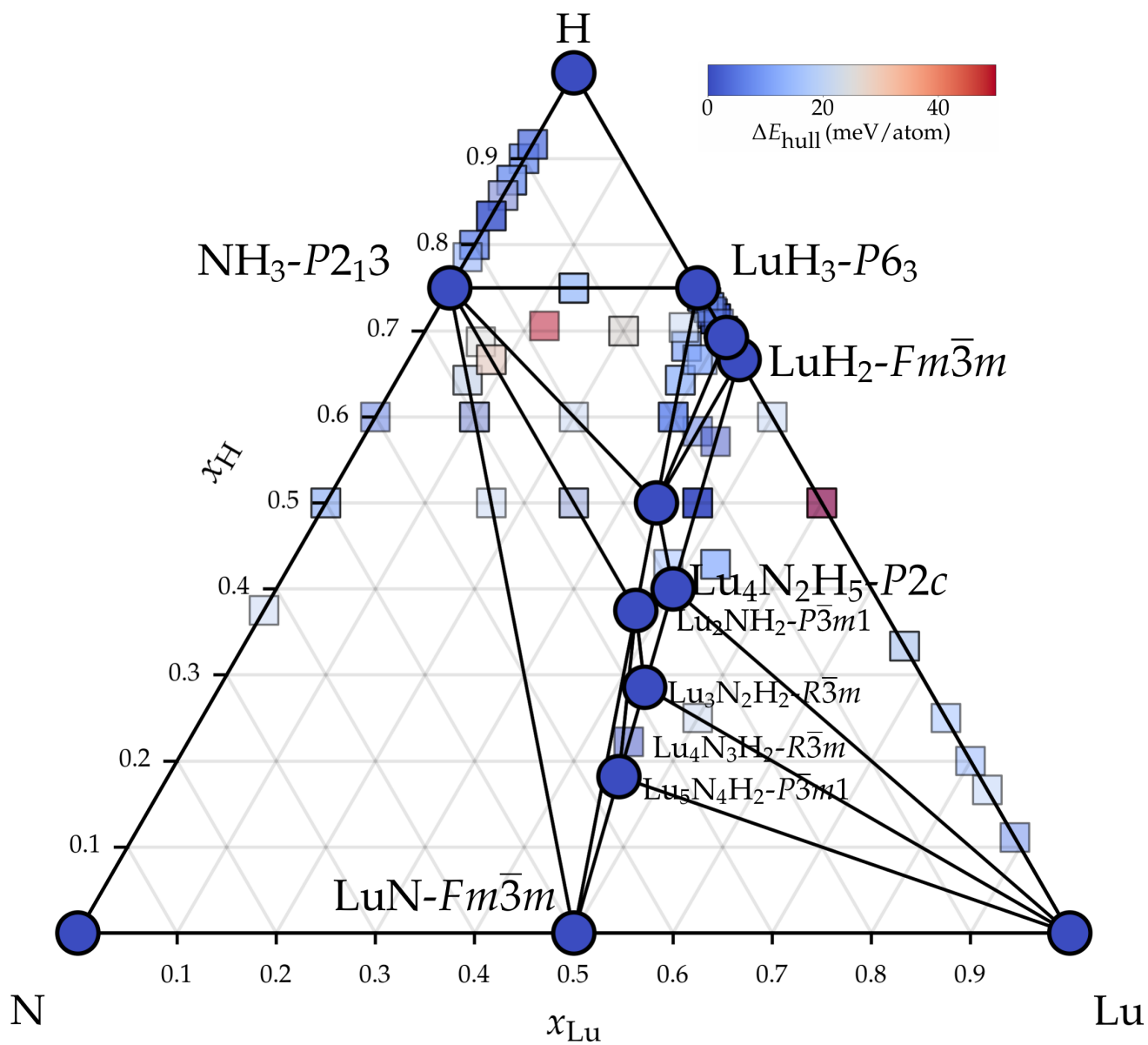


Supplementary Figure 2: Convergence test for B4- $Fm\bar{3}m$ -LuH₃ of the phonon dispersion with respect to the \mathbf{k} -grid employed to generate the self-consistent charge density.



Supplementary Figure 3: Convergence test for B4- $Fm\bar{3}m$ -LuH₃ of the phonon dispersion with respect to the \mathbf{q} -grid.

C. Convex hull



Supplementary Figure 4: Convex hull for the Lu–N–H ternary system at 10 GPa.

II. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

A. Crystallographic data

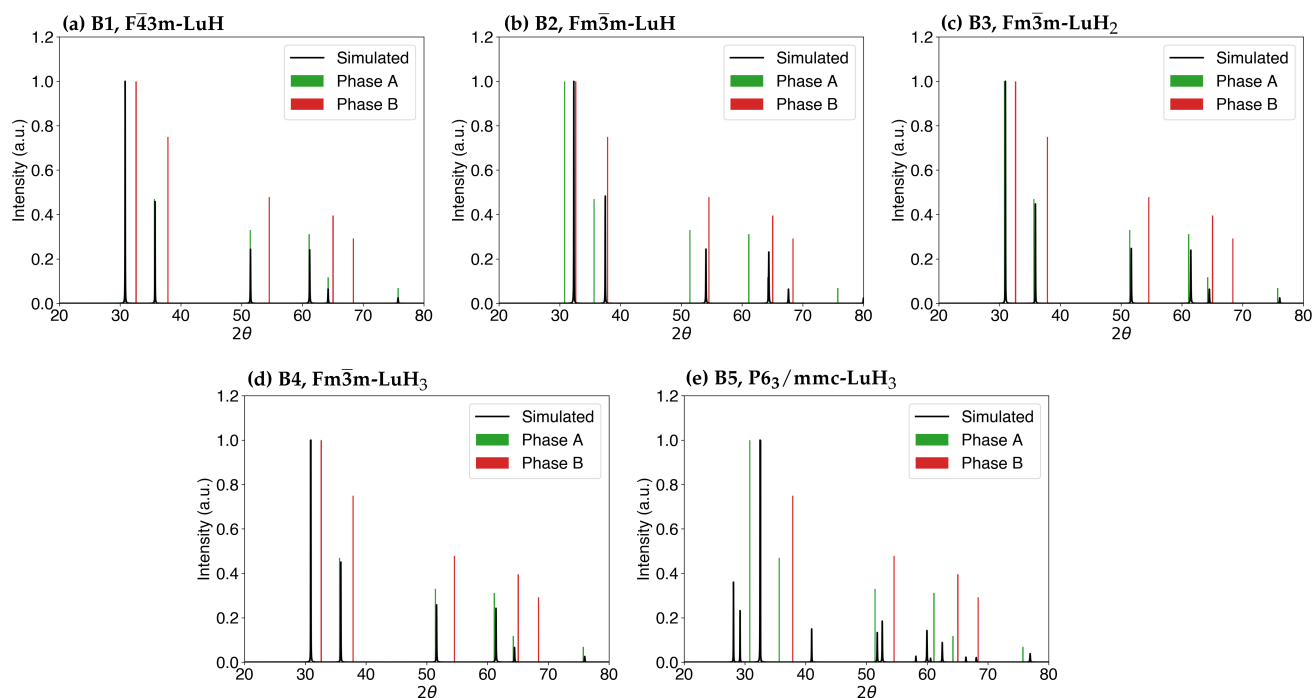
Supplementary Table 1: Crystallographic data for selected binary phases with LuH, LuH₂ and LuH₃ composition predicted at ambient pressure.

ID	Comp.	SG	ΔE_{hull} (meV/atom)	Lattice parameters (Å)	Sites	x	y	z
B1	LuH	$F\bar{4}3m$	102	$a = 5.019$	Lu(4d)	0.2500	0.2500	0.7500
					H(4a)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
B2	LuH	$Fm\bar{3}m$	222	$a = 4.794$	Lu(4a)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
					H(4b)	0.0000	0.0000	0.5000
B3	LuH ₂	$Fm\bar{3}m$	0	$a = 4.999$	Lu(4a)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
					H(8c)	0.2500	0.2500	0.2500
B4	LuH ₃	$Fm\bar{3}m$	101	$a = 5.005$	Lu(4a)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
					H(4b)	0.0000	0.0000	0.5000
					H(8c)	0.2500	0.2500	0.2500
B5	LuH ₃	$P6_3/mmc$	10	$a = 3.528$ $c = 6.341$	Lu(2c)	0.3333	0.6667	0.2500
					H(2a)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
					H(4f)	0.3333	0.6667	0.5955

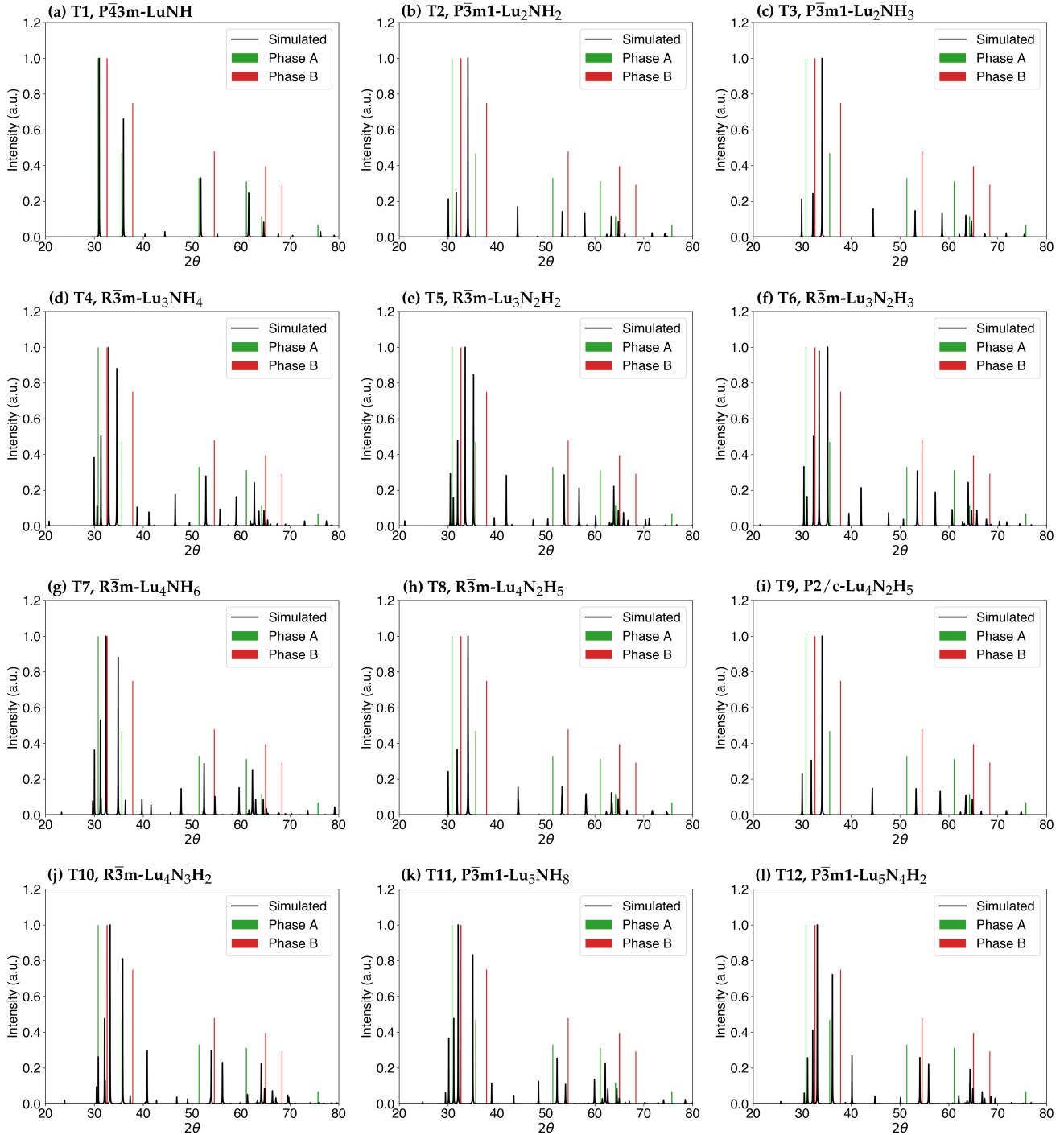
Supplementary Table 2: Crystallographic data for ternary metallic phases within 50 meV/atom from the convex hull predicted at 0 GPa

ID	Comp.	SG	ΔE_{hull} (meV/atom)	Lattice parameters	Sites	x	y	z
T1	LuNH	$P\bar{4}3m$	485	$a = 4.990$	Lu(4e)	0.2354	0.2354	0.7646
					N(4e)	0.2276	0.2276	0.2276
					H(4e)	0.3586	0.3586	0.3586
T2	Lu ₂ NH ₂	$P\bar{3}m1$	5	$a = 3.432$ $c = 5.647$	Lu(2d)	0.3333	0.6667	0.7658
					N(1a)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
					H(2d)	0.3333	0.6667	0.3852
T3	Lu ₂ NH ₃	$P\bar{3}m1$	20	$a = 3.446$ $c = 5.555$	Lu(2d)	0.3333	0.6667	0.7438
					N(1b)	0.0000	0.0000	0.5000
					H(1a)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
					H(2d)	0.3333	0.6667	0.1360
T4	Lu ₃ NH ₄	$R\bar{3}m$	6	$a = 3.463$ $c = 25.647$	Lu(3a)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
					Lu(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.2183
					N(3b)	0.0000	0.0000	0.5000
					H(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0834
					H(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.3035
T5	Lu ₃ N ₂ H ₂	$R\bar{3}m$	2	$a = 3.409$ $c = 25.189$	Lu(3)	0.0000	0.0000	0.5000
					Lu(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.2731
					N(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.1118
					H(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.3587
T6	Lu ₃ N ₂ H ₃	$R\bar{3}m$	14	$a = 3.419$ $c = 24.896$	Lu(3a)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
					Lu(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.2240
					N(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.3879
					H(3b)	0.0000	0.0000	0.5000
					H(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.1366
T7	Lu ₄ NH ₆	$R\bar{3}m$	6	$a = 3.486$ $c = 34.306$	Lu(6)	0.0000	0.0000	0.2090
					Lu(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.3718
					N(3a)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
					H(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.1456
					H(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.2714
					H(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.4352
T8	Lu ₄ N ₂ H ₅	$C2/m$	2	$a = 12.694$ $c = 5.945$ $\beta = 117.813$	Lu(4i)	0.1305	0.0000	0.9669
					Lu(4i)	0.1313	0.5000	0.4607
					N(4i)	0.2491	0.0000	0.7537
					H(2b)	0.0000	0.5000	0.0000
					H(4i)	0.0599	0.5000	0.7157
					H(4i)	0.0621	0.0000	0.2442
T9	Lu ₄ N ₂ H ₅	$P2/c$	0	$a = 5.609$ $b = 6.866$ $c = 5.951$ $\alpha = \gamma = 90.000$ $\beta = 90.062$	Lu(4g)	0.2600	0.1221	0.0807
					Lu(4g)	0.2640	0.3721	0.5857
					N(2f)	0.5000	0.1243	0.7500
					N(2f)	0.5000	0.3739	0.2500
					H(2e)	0.0000	0.1252	0.7500
					H(4g)	0.1195	0.3835	0.9218
					H(4g)	0.1240	0.1364	0.4077
T10	Lu ₄ N ₃ H ₂	$R\bar{3}m$	2	$a = 3.398$ $c = 33.431$	Lu(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.2070
					Lu(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.3790
					N(3b)	0.0000	0.0000	0.5000
					N(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0840
					H(6c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.3145
T11	Lu ₅ NH ₈	$P\bar{3}m1$	6	$a = 3.497$ $c = 14.337$	Lu(1b)	0.0000	0.0000	0.5000
					Lu(2d)	0.3333	0.6667	0.9081
					Lu(2d)	0.3333	0.6667	0.2972
					N(1a)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
					H(2c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.3481
					H(2d)	0.3333	0.6667	0.1477
					H(2d)	0.3333	0.6667	0.4481
					H(2d)	0.3333	0.6667	0.7565
T12	Lu ₅ N ₄ H ₂	$P\bar{3}m1$	2	$a = 3.389$ $c = 13.896$	Lu(1b)	0.0000	0.0000	0.5000
					Lu(2d)	0.3333	0.6667	0.6952
					Lu(2d)	0.3333	0.6667	0.1098
					N(2c)	0.0000	0.0000	0.2024
					N(2d)	0.3333	0.6667	0.4008
					H(2d)	0.3333	0.6667	0.9551

B. Simulated XRD diffractograms



Supplementary Figure 5: Simulated XRD diffractogram (black lines) compared to the obtained Bragg peaks of Phase A (green lines) and Phase B (red lines) in Dasenbrock-Gammon *et al.* [2] for the binaries (a) B1, $F\bar{4}3m$ -LuH; (b) B2, $Fm\bar{3}m$ -LuH; (c) B3, $Fm\bar{3}m$ -LuH₂; (d) B4, $Fm\bar{3}m$ -LuH₃; and (e) B5, $P6_3/mmc$ -LuH₃.

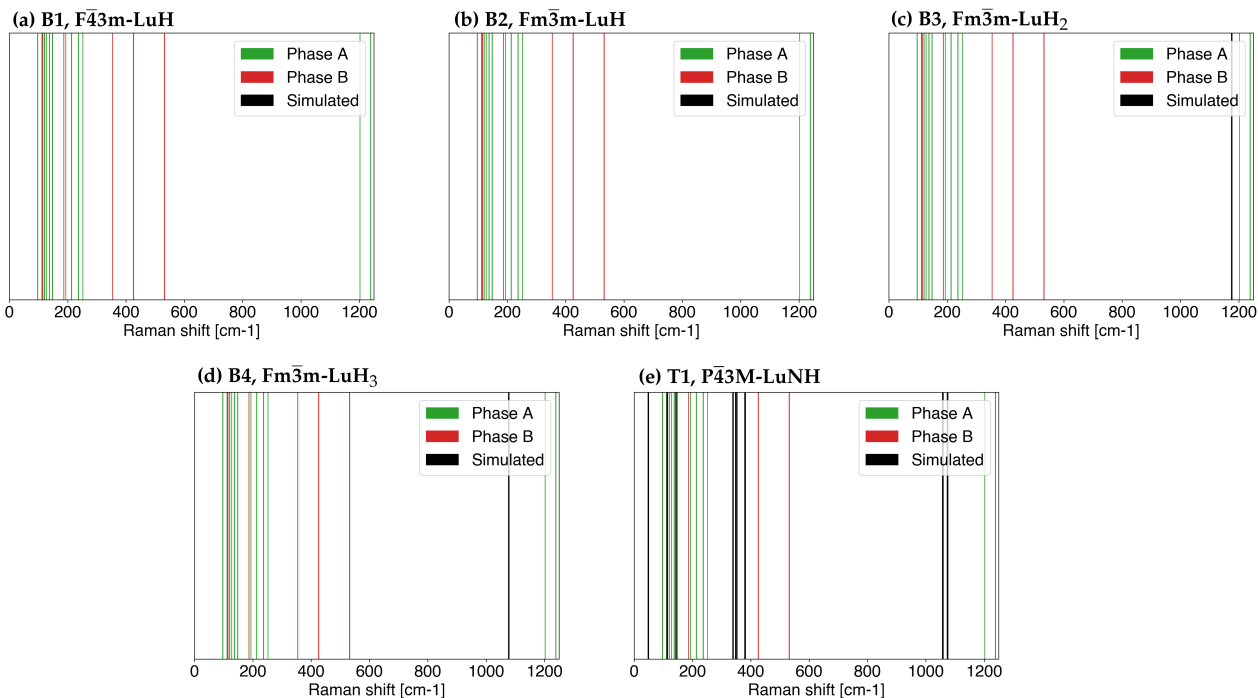


Supplementary Figure 6: Simulated XRD diffractogram (black lines) compared to the obtained Bragg peaks of Phase A (green lines) and Phase B (red lines) in Dasenbrock-Gammon *et al.* [2] for the ternaries (a) (a) T1, $P\bar{4}3m$ -LuNH; (b) T2, $P\bar{3}m1$ -Lu₂NH₂; (c) T3, $P\bar{3}m1$ -Lu₂NH₃; (d) T4, $R\bar{3}m$ -Lu₃NH₄; (e) T5, $R\bar{3}m$ -Lu₃N₂H₂; (f) T6, $R\bar{3}m$ -Lu₃N₂H₃; (g) T7, $R\bar{3}m$ -Lu₄NH₆; (h) T8, $R\bar{3}m$ -Lu₄N₂H₅; (i) T9, $P2/c$ -Lu₄N₂H₅; (j) T10, $R\bar{3}m$ -Lu₄N₃H₂; (k) T11, $P\bar{3}m1$ -Lu₅NH₈; and (l) T12, $P\bar{3}m1$ -Lu₅N₄H₂.

C. Raman data

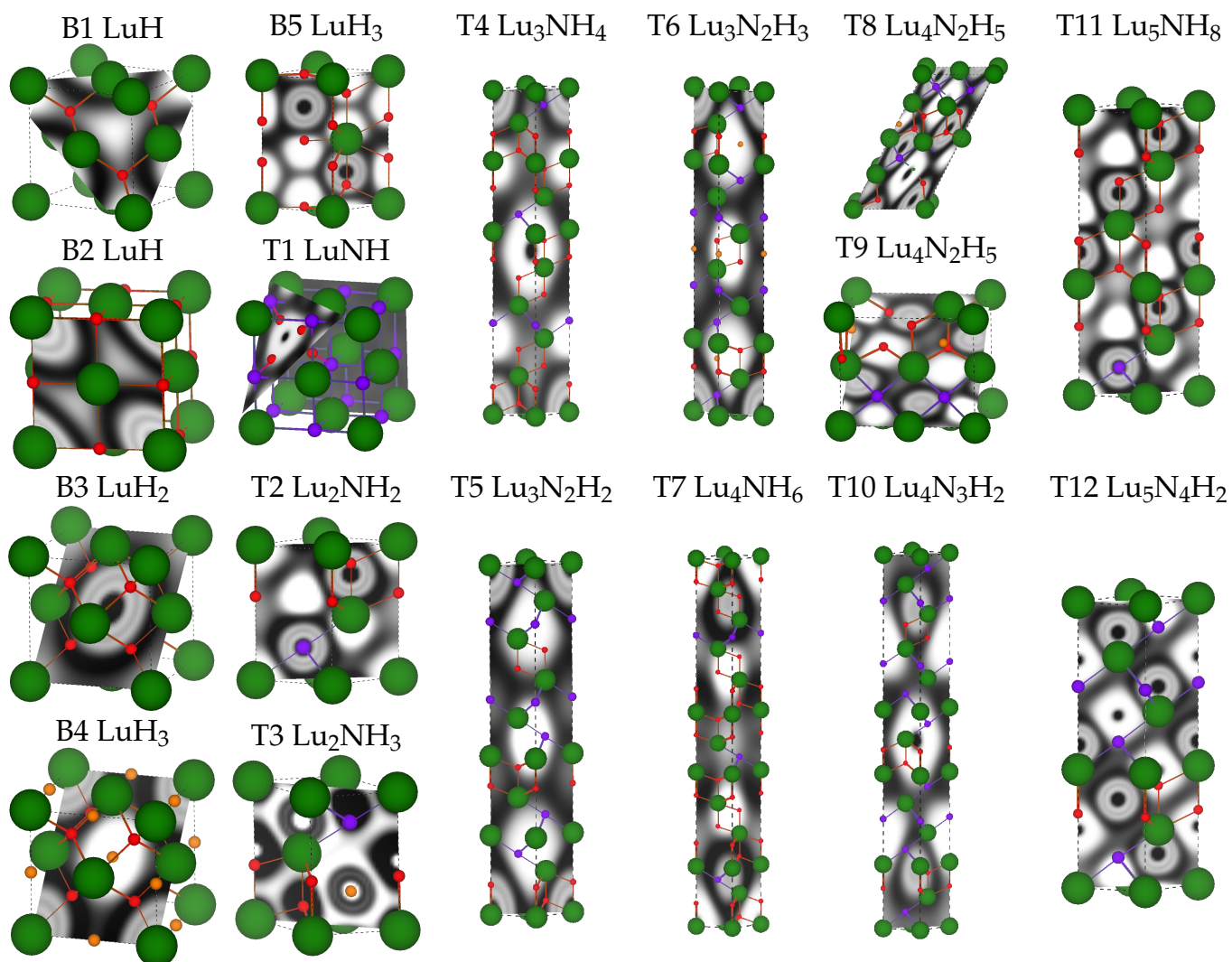
Supplementary Table 3: Comparison of the reported Raman frequencies of compound A and B in Ref. [2] and the calculated Raman active modes at Γ for B1-LuHF $\bar{4}3m$, B2-LuHF $m\bar{3}m$, B3-LuH $_2$ - $Fm\bar{3}m$, B4-LuH $_3$ - $Fm\bar{3}m$, and T1-LuNH- $P\bar{4}3m$. All frequencies are given in units of cm^{-1} .

Compound A Ref. [2]	97	112	121	128	138	148	193	214	237	252	1202	1239
Compound B Ref. [2]	115	187	354	426	532							
B1-LuHF $\bar{4}3m$	none											
B2-LuHF $m\bar{3}m$	none											
B3-LuH $_2$ - $Fm\bar{3}m$	1176											
B4-LuH $_3$ - $Fm\bar{3}m$	1078											
T1-LuNH- $P\bar{4}3m$	49	113	114	143	339	349	349	380	1059	1075	1366	1921

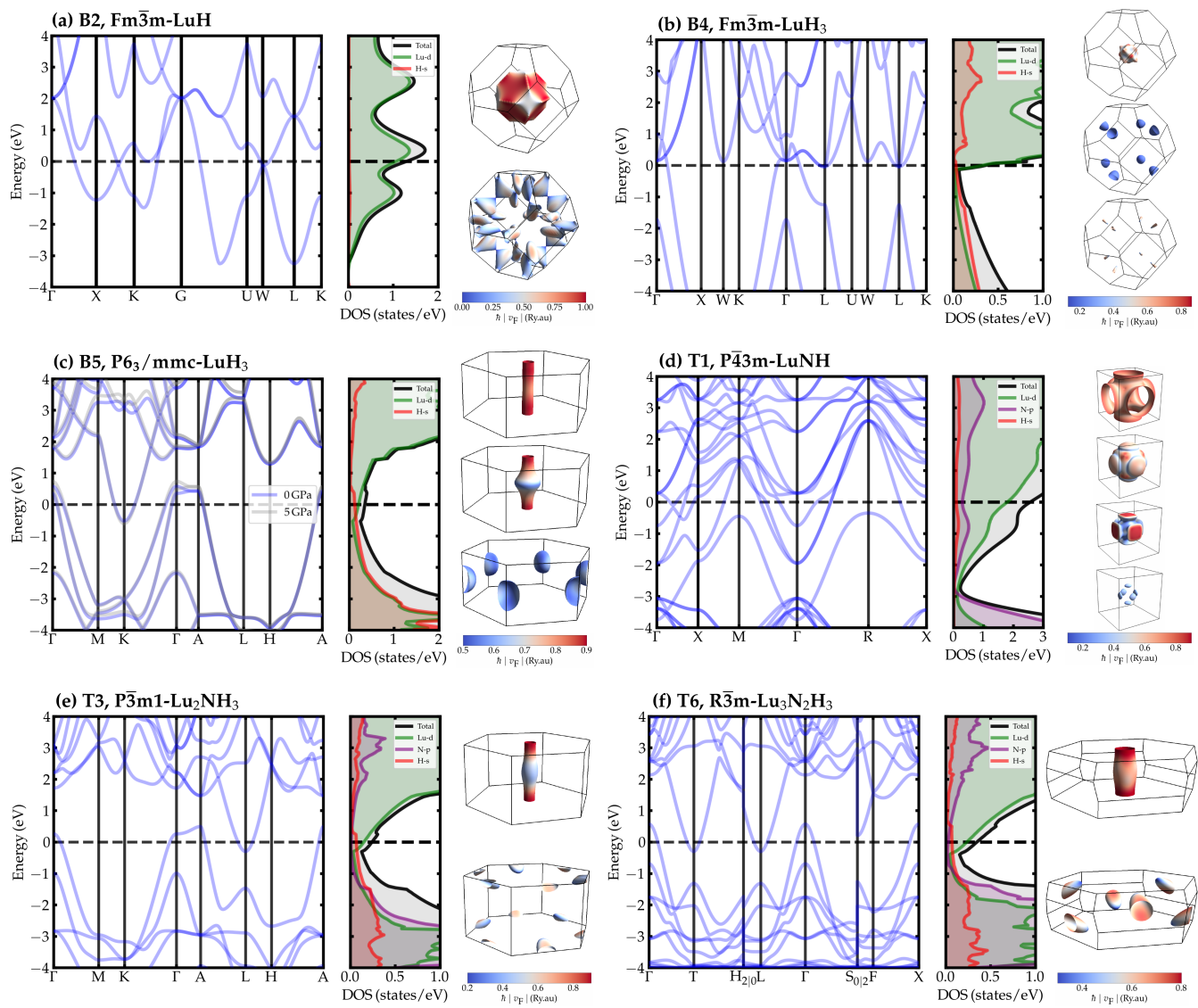


Supplementary Figure 7: Calculated Raman active modes at Γ (black lines) compared to the obtained Raman frequencies of Phase A (green lines) and Phase B (red lines) in Dasenbrock-Gammon *et al.* [2] for (a) B1, $F\bar{4}3m$ -LuH; (b) B2, $Fm\bar{3}m$ -LuH; (c) B3, $Fm\bar{3}m$ -LuH $_2$; (d) B4, $Fm\bar{3}m$ -LuH $_3$; and (e) T1, $P\bar{4}3m$ -LuNH.

D. Electronic structure



Supplementary Figure 8: Electron localization functions (ELF) of the best candidates for SC in Lu-N-H ternary system as listed in Tab. 1. Lu, N, H, and H in octahedral sites are indicated as large green, medium purple, small red, and small orange spheres, respectively.



Supplementary Figure 9: Electronic band structure, density of states (DOS), and Fermi surface for (a) B2, $Fm\bar{3}m$ -LuH, (b) B4, $Fm\bar{3}m$ -LuH₃, (c) B5, $P6_3/mmc$ -LuH₃, (d) T1, $P\bar{4}3m$ -LuNH, (e) T3, $P\bar{3}m1$ -Lu₂NH₃, and (f) T6, $R\bar{3}m$ -Lu₃N₂H₃.

E. Superconductivity

In this section, we report the details of the effective model for superconductivity discussed in Sec. V and Fig. 4 of the main manuscript. Specifically, we estimate the critical temperatures through the semi-empirical McMillan-Allen-Dynes formula [3].

$$k_B T_c^{\text{AD}} = \frac{\omega_{\text{log}}}{1.2} \exp\left[-\frac{1.04(1+\lambda)}{\lambda(1-0.62\mu^*)-\mu^*}\right], \quad (1)$$

where ω_{log} is the logarithmic averaged phonon frequency, λ is the electron-phonon coupling strength, and μ^* is the Morel-Anderson pseudopotential [4].

Moreover, λ was expressed according to the McMillan-Hopfield's formula [5],

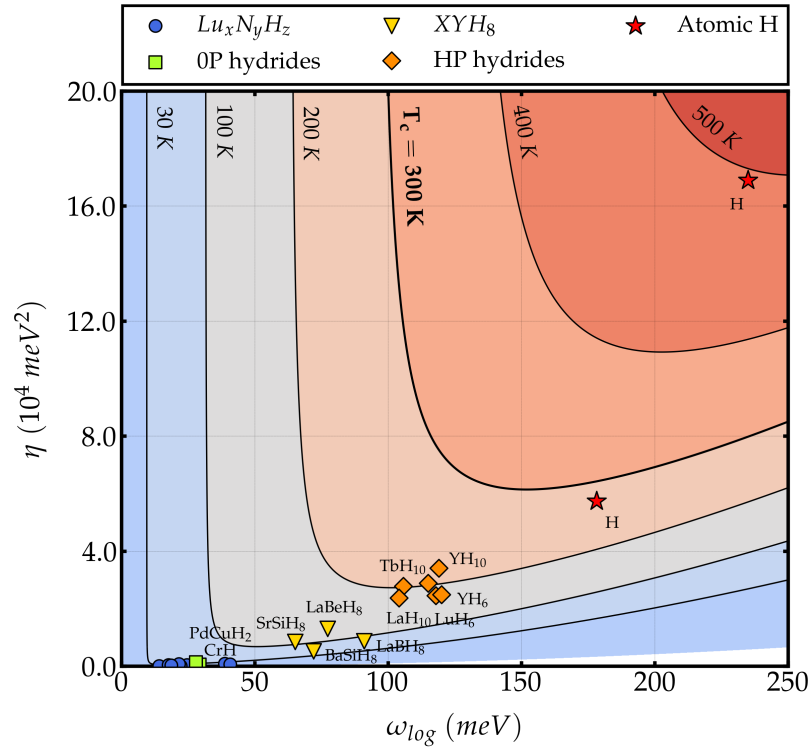
$$\lambda = \frac{N(E_F)I^2}{M\omega^2} \equiv \frac{\eta}{\omega^2}, \quad (2)$$

assuming $\omega = \omega_{\text{log}}$. The collected data from the literature for λ and ω_{log} for selected hydrides are reported in Supplementary Table 4, while in Tab. 1 of the main manuscript is reported the data obtained for the newly-predicted Lu-N-H structures.

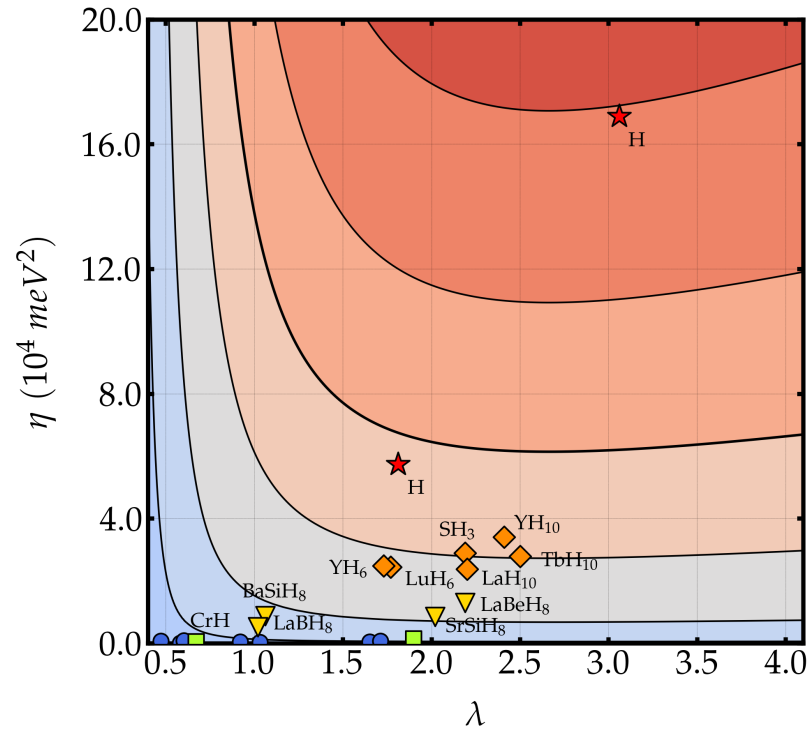
Supplementary Figures. 10 and 11 show the plots for λ and η .

Supplementary Table 4: Superconducting properties of selected hydrides from literature. To make the comparison with our data consistent, the superconducting critical temperatures (T_c^{AD}) reported in this table were re-computed by employing the semi-empirical McMillan-Allen-Dynes formula with $\mu^* = 0.1$ using the ω_{log} and λ collected in the literature, as cited in the "Ref" column.

Comp.	SG	P (GPa)	ω_{log} (meV)	λ	η (10^4 meV^2)	T_c^{AD} (K)	T_c^{Ref} (K)	Ref.
CrH	P6 ₃ /m	0	29	0.67	0.06	11	11	[6]
PdCuH ₂	Pm $\bar{3}$ m	0	28	1.90	0.15	45	45	[7]
LaBeH ₈	Fm $\bar{3}$ m	50	77	2.19	1.31	137	167	[8]
BaSiH ₈	Fm $\bar{3}$ m	50	72	1.02	0.88	60	84	[9]
LaBH ₈	Fm $\bar{3}$ m	75	91	1.06	0.53	80	96	[10]
SrSiH ₈	Fm $\bar{3}$ m	100	65	2.02	0.86	109	169	[9]
LuH ₆	Im $\bar{3}$ m	100	65	3.60	1.51	145	273	[11]
LuH ₆	Im $\bar{3}$ m	200	118	1.77	2.46	180	250	[11]
SH ₃	Im $\bar{3}$ m	200	115	2.19	2.90	204	204	[12]
TbH ₁₀	Fm $\bar{3}$ m	250	106	2.50	2.79	202	278	[13]
LaH ₁₀	Fm $\bar{3}$ m	300	104	2.20	2.38	185	234	[14]
YH ₆	Im $\bar{3}$ m	300	120	1.73	2.49	180	290	[15]
YH ₁₀	Fm $\bar{3}$ m	300	119	2.41	3.41	223	310	[15]
H	I4 ₁ /amd	500	178	1.81	5.75	277	330	[16]
H	R $\bar{3}$ m	2000	235	3.06	16.90	495	715	[16]



Supplementary Figure 10: η vs ω_{\log} for different classes of superconducting hydrides. The best Lu–N–H hydrides considered in this work are indicated by blue circles and a selection of other hydrides is included as reference (Supplementary Table 4). Isocontour lines for T_c are plotted according to Eq. 1, with $\mu^* = 0.1$.



Supplementary Figure 11: η vs λ for different classes of superconducting hydrides. Isocontours refer to T_c calculated using the McMillan-Allen-Dynes equation (Eq. 1), with $\mu^* = 0.1$.

III. SUPPLEMENTARY REFERENCES

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