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## Pressure-induced electronic anomaly and multiband superconductivity in the doped topological insulator Nb\_{x}Bi\_{2}Se\_{3}

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1 multiple-band structure induced by strong hybridization between the Nb-4d and 2 Bi/Se- $p$  orbitals in accessing novel quantum states.

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#### **I. INTRODUCTION**

 The chemical doping or pressure-induced ETT or Lifshitz transition is a change in the Fermi surface topology (FST) without symmetry breaking [1]. It is significant for discovering new quantum matters, such as nontrivial semimetal [2,3], and the enhancement and/or occurence of superconductivity [4-6]. Superconductivity may be closely related to the FST change, as reported in the quasi-2D multiband 10 superconductor  $2H\text{-}NbSe<sub>2</sub>$  [7].

 As potential topological superconductors [8], the doped topological insulators M<sub>x</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> (M=Cu, Nb, Sr) are currently attracting more interest due to their novel superconducting properties, i.e., the nematic superconductivity in Cu/Sr/Nb-doped [9-12], unconventional zero-bias conductance peak in Cu/Nb-doped [13-16], and vortex pinning dynamics associated with the peak effect in 16 Cu-doped [17,18]. Despite sharing some similarities, the Nb-doped Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> is distinct from the others in three main aspects [16,19,20]. Firstly, the Nb dopants strongly prefer to occupy intercalation sites for the minimized total energy compared to other 19 Wyckoff sites [16,19]. Secondly, the Nb atoms with partially occupied 4d-orbital states may possess magnetic moments, leading to coexistence of ferromagnetism and 21 superconductivity [19,21]. Lastly, the occupied Nb-4d states can form new energy 22 bands within the narrow bulk band gap  $[16]$  by hybridization with the Bi/Se- $p$  orbital 23 states near Fermi level  $(E_F)$ , resulting in multiple Fermi surfaces [20]. However, it is 24 tricky to synthesize fully bulk superconducting  $M_xBi_2Se_3$  samples [19,22-24]. Due to 25 intrinsic inhomogeneity, not all  $M_xB_1S_2S_3$  batches even from the same ingot become superconducting. The internal strain caused by dopants seems to be a crucial factor for triggering superconductivity [25]. This could somehow explain the loss of 28 superconductivity or the significant decrease of the  $T_c$  in exfoliated thin flakes from 29 Cu or Nb-doped  $Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> bulk crystals [8,16].$ 

30 From a band theory perspective, the  $M_xBi_2Se_3$  materials are heavily doped narrow-gap semiconductors, whose electronic states are expected to be highly susceptible to external pressure. Compared with chemical doping, electric-gating, and magnetic fields, pressure is a clean and effective tool for exploring new quantum

 states [26], e.g., insulator-metal-superconductor transitions [27], topological quantum phase transitions [28,29], and unconventional superconductivity [30,31]. Under high 3 pressure, the superconducting  $Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  crystal suprisingly shows a positive 4 hydrostatic pressure dependent  $T_c$  up to 0.6 GPa [32], unlike the suppression of  $T_c$ 5 in  $Sr<sub>0.10</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  up to 2.2 GPa [33] and  $Cu<sub>0.30</sub>Bi<sub>2.1</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  up to 2.31 GPa [34]. Another 6 controvertial issue in prototype  $Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  is whether the ETT exists as Raman scattering and theoretical calculations [35,36] and Hall effect results are inconsistent [31,37,38]. Given the unique multiband structures and layered crystal structure in Nb-doped 9 Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>, it provides an tunable platform for accessing the electronic phase transition 10 such as Lifshitz transition in  $Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$ -based topological materials.

11 In this work, we report the pressure-induced electronic anomaly below 12.0 GPa in 12 a non-superconducting  $Nb_{0.25}Bi_2Se_3$  crystal. Above 12.0 GPa and 22.3 GPa, two first-order structural phase transitions (SPT) were also assigned. Intriguingly, we observed distinct superconducting behavior divided by the border of a monoclinic-tetragonal transition and discuss the signatures of multiband 16 superconductivity and a semi-dome shaped  $T_c(P)$  in tetragonal phase.

#### **II. EXPERIMENTALAND COMPUTATIONAL METHODS**

#### **A. Experimental details**

19 The  $Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  single crystal was grown by melt method. The source materials with stoichiometric composition of high purity metals Nb (99.97%), Bi (5N) and Se (5N) lumps were loaded into an evacuated ampoule. The growth was carried out by slowly cooling the mixture from 1148 K to 900 K at a rate of 2.5 K/h in a box furnace. After growth, the crystals were annealed at 900 K for more than 24 h and then quenched into an ice water bath. We also used the same method to prepare the parent Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> single crystal.

 High-pressure electrical transport measurements were carried out using standard four probes method under von der Pauw configuration in a commercial DynaCool PPMS (QD) [39]. A nonmagnetic BeCu diamond anvil cell (DAC) was used to generate high pressure condition. The thin crystals were loaded into a BeCu-DAC 30 with a diamond culet of 300  $\mu$ m (sample size of ~80×70×20  $\mu$ m<sup>3</sup> for run 1,  $\sim$  60×60×10 µm<sup>3</sup> for run 3) and 250 µm (~70×70×20 µm<sup>3</sup> for run 2). Four pieces of 32 thin platinum foil (thickness $\sim$ 2 μm) were utilized as the contacts in each run (see Fig. S1). Nonmagnetic BeCu alloys with a thickness of 250 μm were used as a gasket, and

 the pre-indented hole was covered by cubic boron nitride (C-BN) as an insulating layer. The samples were put onto a soft KBr pressure transmitting medium (PTM) with a small ruby ball sitting inside.

4 The high-pressure synchrotron angle-dispersive XRD of the  $Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  and 5 Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> powder was measured at 16BM-D station (photon energy 30 keV), HPCAT, Advanced Photon Source. A symmetrical Mao-Bell DAC was used to generate high pressure and mineral oil was used as PTM. The raw 2-dimenssional (2D) XRD images were integrated into 1D reflections versus two-theta angles using Dioptas [40]. The distance between the sample and detector, and its set-up parameters 10 was calibrated using standard  $CeO<sub>2</sub>$ . The XRD patterns were further analyzed by Retvield refinement using the GASA program package with a user interface EXPGUI [41,42].

 The high-pressure Raman spectra were measured in a Raman microscope spectrometer (Renishaw, UK) with un-polarized 633 nm He-Ne laser excitation. The symmetrical Mao-Bell DAC was used to generate high pressure and mineral oil was used as the PTM. The pressure in all measurements in this work was determined from the standard ruby fluorescence [43].

#### **B. First-principles calculations method**

 First-principles calculations were performed with the Vienna *ab initio* Simulation Package (VASP) [44], which is based on density functional theory (DFT). Good agreement with the experimental results was obtained using the projection plane wave pseudopotential method [45,46] and the generalized gradient approximation in the 23 Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof form (GGA-PBE). A unit cell of  $Nb_{0.25}Bi_2Se_3$  with 21 atoms was constructed and the lattice parameters and internal atomic position of it were fully 25 optimized until the total residual forces were smaller than  $10^{-3}$  eV/ $\AA$  to obtain a reasonably stable structure under pressure. The weak van der Waals interaction between the Bi-Se quintuple layer was taken into account by employing the DFT-D2 method of Grimme [47]. The obtained structure was then used to calculate the electronic structure including the band structure and density of state. The spin-orbit coupling (SOC) effect was introduced into the calculation of the electronic structures because it has a significant effect on the band structure of elements with an atomic number greater than 80, e.g., Bi.

### 1 **III. SAMPLE SYNTHESIS AND PHYSICAL PROPERTIES AT HIGH**  2 **PRESSURE**

3 **A. Crystal growth and characterization**

4 At ambient pressure, the Nb-doped  $Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  system crystallizes into a rhombohedral 5 structure ( $R\overline{3}m$ , No. 166, CN=6) like parent  $Bi_2Se_3$ . The XRD patterns of the 6 as-grown single crystals were collected by an x-ray diffractometer with Cu  $K_{\alpha}$ 7 radiation on a PANalytical x-ray diffractometer, as shown in Fig. 1(a). The enlarged 8 c-axis lattice parameter in the  $Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  crystal indicates the Nb atom was 9 intercalated into the von der Waals gap of  $Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$ . The strong reflections of (00l) 10 indicates good crystallinity for the as-grown samples. As seen in Fig. 1(b), the 11 resistivity of the  $Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  crystal shows metallic behavior and no 12 superconductivity was observed down to 2 K. We note that the resistivity of the  $13$  Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> crystal was smaller than the parent, which can be ascribed to its higher 14 carrier density as indicated by the higher Hall coefficient. At ambient pressure, unlike 15 Cu<sub>x</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [17,22,48], the  $R_H(T)$  in Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> bulk crystal shows an unusual 16 linear increase down to 20 K, implying that conductivity is involved in 17 multi-relaxation time due to multiple bands crossing  $E_F$  [20,49]. The Nb dopants may 18 severely modify the pristine FST to produce the considerable change in the magnitude 19 of the Fermi velocity  $(v_F)$  [20,50].

#### 20 **B. Electrical transport properties at high pressure**

21 Figure 2 (a) shows the in-plane resistance as a function of temperature,  $R_{xx}(T)$ , 22 under various pressures up to 49.8 GPa. Note that the ambient data point was obtained 23 without using DAC. Unexpectedly, unlike the metallic behavior of  $R_{xx}(T)$  in bulk 24 crystal, the thin samples show semiconducting behavior and the  $R_{xx}(P)$  shows an 25 abnormal increase below 8.7 GPa. Actually, the exfoliated thin flakes of  $Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  show 26 semiconducting behavior at ambient conditions [51]. The exfoliation-induced 27 modification of the electronic band was also reported in exfoliated thin films of 28 Cu<sub>x</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [52]. These results indicate the Fermi level of thin flakes of Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>-based 29 materials may be different from the bulk. In  $Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  crystal, the  $R_{xx}(T)$  at 0.6 30 GPa indeed shows semiconducting behavior (see Fig. S2 for an overview of the

 $R_{xx}(T)$  curves for three runs), accompanying with a considerable decrease of mobility. With the application of larger pressure, a very small resistance dip at 4.26 K was observed above 5.9 GPa (run 2, see Fig. S3 for details). In run 2, we also plotted the Hall channel data at 5.9 GPa and 8.7 GPa, in which the resistance drop is more prominent than the longitudinal resistance channel. This indicates the minority drop mainly originated from the sample center, which shall have a higher pressure than the sample edge caused by the pressure gradient. At 19.1 GPa, the magnetic field could shift the resistance drop temperature towards lower temperature and its drop percentage is also diminished, which is consistent with the features of superconductivity. Therefore, the suppression of the dip temperature and reduction of the resistance drop supports the origin of superconductivity. At 30.4 GPa and above, the resistance dropped sharply to zero, suggesting a bulk superconducting state was achieved. The pressure induced resistance change and zero resistance transition can be reproduced in run 3, suggesting the observed electrical transport phenomena is intrinsic.

 The Hall effect was measured to explore the underlying changes in the electronic 17 structure. The Hall resistance  $(R_{xy})$  versus the applied field (B) at 20 K shows linear 18 field dependence with negative slopes indicative of dominant electron-type  $(n$ -type) 19 carriers, as shown in Fig. 2 (b) and (c). We note the  $R_H(P)$  and  $\mu_H(P)$  results are 20 reproducible in run 3 (see Fig. 3). The symmetrized  $R_{xy}(B)$  was obtained by the difference of the Hall resistance at positive and negative fields to eliminate the 22 longitudinal contribution, i.e.,  $R_{xy}(B) = [R_{xy}(+B) - R_{xy}(-B)]/2$ . The Hall 23 mobility  $\mu_H$  was determined by  $\mu_H = (d/\rho_{xx})R_{xy}/B$  [39], where d is the sample 24 thickness. We plotted the  $R_H$  and Hall mobility ( $\mu_H$ ) as a function of pressure in Fig. 25 2(c). For comparison, the values of the Hall coefficient and mobility at 300 K (20 K) 26 under the ambient pressure are extracted to be  $-0.58$  ( $-0.53$ ) cm<sup>-3</sup>/C and 3383.5 27 (4450.1) cm<sup>2</sup>/V s. At 20 (300) K, an unusual decrease in  $R_H(P)$  was observed with a minimum reached at 5.9 (8.7) GPa, above which it increases quickly and attains

1 saturation when  $P > 30.4$  GPa. This feature is strikingly different from 2 Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [31,37,38]. A slight decrease of *n* was also reported in  $Cu<sub>0.30</sub>Bi<sub>2.1</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  up to 3 2.31 GPa [34]. Meanwhile, the  $\mu$ <sub>H</sub>(P) below 11.8 GPa shows a V-shape character 4 with a valley at 8.7 GPa, above which a dramatic increase occurs, signaling abrupt 5 changes of the FST. Hence, the electronic anomalies in  $Nb_{0.25}Bi_2Se_3$  are likely 6 attributed to the pressure-induced modification of the electronic band topology.

7 From  $R_H(T)$  and  $\mu_H(T)$  under different pressure (see Fig. S4), we observed the 8 temperature or pressure-induced sign change in  $R_H$  [53], indicating a significant 9 reconstruction of the Fermi surface. For instance, at 28.5 GPa and 36.4 GPa, a  $p - n$ 10 transition was observed at 300 K, as seen in Fig. 3(a)-(b). Importantly, the pressure 11 dependence of  $R_H(P)$  and  $\mu_H(P)$  at 300 K and 20 K was reproducible in run 3 (see 12 Fig. 3(c)), verifying the pressure-induced electronic anomalies in  $Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$ . Figure 13 4(a) shows a typical  $R(T)$  curve at 7.6 GPa (run 3) in R-phase. With decreasing 14 temperature, the resistance increases dramatically and a resistance hump characterized 15 by the  $dR/dT$  change appears at around 80.4 K. Other two resistance anomalies 16 were observed at 6.7 K and 250 K, as indicated in inset of Fig. 4(a). Coexistence of 17 p-type and n-type carriers is demonstrated by the non-linear  $R_{xy}(B)$  at 7.6 GPa, as 18 seen in Fig. 4(b). This suggests the *n*-type and *p*-type carriers may give a synergetic 19 contribution to the complicated conductivity by different scattering times at high 20 pressure, supporting the existence of multiple Fermi surface in the R-phase for  $21$  Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>. All the results point to the multiple band structure in the R-phase and 22 high-pressure phase for  $Nb_{0.25}Bi_2Se_3$  [20,50].

#### 23 **C. Superconducting properties at high pressure**

 To investigate magnetic field effects on superconductivity, we measured the suppression of superconductivity by external fields. Fig. 5(a)-(b) shows plotted representatives at 30.4 GPa and 49.8 GPa, and Fig. 5(c)-(d) shows the upper critical 27 field with temperature,  $B_{c2}(T)$ . Besides the shift of the  $T_c$ , the suppression of the superconducting transition is not always parallel but can be divided into two parallel sectors by a critical field. This striking feature characterized by an upward curvature

1 (or kink), is clearly displayed in the  $B_{c2}(T)$  or normalized  $b^*(t)$  curves in Fig. 5(c) 2 and (d). This is unusual compared to  $Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [31]$ ,  $Cu<sub>0.30</sub>Bi<sub>2.1</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [34]$ , and 3 Sr<sub>0.19</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [54], in which quasilinear  $B_{c2}(T)$  was observed. The kink of  $B_{c2}(T)$ 4 may reveal multiband superconductivity, as demonstrated in other layered 5 superconductors, e.g., NbSe<sub>2</sub> [55], MgB<sub>2</sub> [56], and FeSe [57]. As shown in Fig. 3 and 6 Fig. S4, the slope changes in  $R_{xy}(B)$  from positive to negative either below 300 K or 7 above 28.5 GPa at 300 K (run 3), signaling a temperature- or pressure-driven  $p - n$ 8 transition. This proves the multiband feature in  $Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  under high pressure, 9 leading to our conjecture that the kink originates from multiband superconductivity.

10 To calculate  $B_{c2}(T)$  at 0 K, we simply fitted the  $B_{c2}(T)$  by the modified 11 Ginzburg-Landau (GL) relation,  $B_{c2}^{GL}(T) = B_{c2}^{GL}(0)[(1 - t^2)/(1 + t^2)]^m$ , where m 12 is a constant. Interestingly, all  $B_{c2}(T)$  data can be well fitted, and the yielded 13 parameters are plotted in the inset of Fig. 5(c). The large  $B_{c2}(0)$  suggests type-II 14 superconductivity. Using a weak coupling relation 15  $\kappa = 3.54 \times 10^4 (\rho_0 | dB_{c2}/dT |_{T_c})^{1/2}$  and  $B_c(0) = (T_c | dB_{c2}/dT |_{T_c})/2.45\kappa$  in dirty 16 limit [58], the GL parameter  $\kappa$  and thermal dynamical critical  $B_c(0)$  were estimated 17 to be 31.5 and 34.5 mT at 30.4 GPa, indicating that it is a strong type-II 18 superconductor. The lower critical field can thus be calculated by  $B_{c1}(0) =$ 19  $B_c(0)$ ln $\kappa/(\sqrt{2}\kappa)$ , yielding 2.7 mT at 30.4 GPa. Due to the difficulty of implementing 20 such high pressure to heat capacity measurements, we indirectly estimated the 21 electronic coefficient and density of states (DOS) at  $E_F$  with the relation  $\gamma_s =$  $B_c^2(0)/2\pi T_c^2 = \frac{1}{3}$ 22  $B_c^2(0)/2\pi T_c^2 = \frac{1}{3}\pi^2 k_B^2 N(E_F)$  [59], which yields 1.81 mJ/mol K<sup>2</sup> and  $N(E_F) = 2.02$ 23 states/eV-atoms spin<sup>-1</sup> per formula unit (f. u.) at 30.4 GPa, larger than ambient 24 Cu<sub>0.29</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [48]. This indicates the pressurized  $Nb_{0.25}Bi_2Se_3$  metallized. If adopting 25 the orbital-limited Werthamer-Helfand-Hohenberg (WHH) formula with a dirty 26 limit [60],  $B_{c2}^{orb}(0) = -0.693T_c dB_{c2}/dT|_{T_c}$ , this will yield much smaller  $B_{c2}^{orb}(0)$ 27 than the GL fitted value (see Table I). On the other hand, the values of  $b^*(t)$  at 0 K 28 below 49.8 GPa are considerably larger than the expected  $b^*_{WHH}(0) \cong 0.693$  for

1 orbital-limited [60] or  $b_{\text{pp}}^*(0) \cong 0.85$  for polar p-wave superconductivity [61]. Table 1 summarizes the derived superconducting critical parameters, in which the  $B_{c1} (0)$ , 3  $B_c(0)$ ,  $\gamma_s$ , and  $N(E_F)$  values set the upper-bound for the band with the largest 4 energy gap.

5 To get more qualitative insights into the superconducting properties, we adopted 6 the relation  $S = -\left(dB_{c2}^{\text{orb}}/dT\right)|_{T_c}/T_c \propto 1/v_F^2$ , for a single-band 7 superconductor [53,62], where  $v_F$  is Fermi velocity determining the slope of the 8 energy dispersion  $E(k)$  at the Fermi level. Since the difference in the slope is 9 *dB*<sup>orb</sup>/*dT*, we extracted the slopes above  $(S_a)$  and below  $(S_b)$  the kink temperature 10 by linear fitting to represent the two respective bands in good approximation. The  $T_c$ 11 of the latter was defined as an intercept to the temperature axis at 0 T. More strict 12 treatment definitely needs the individual  $v_F$  values determined by quantum oscillations within a two-band model [62]. We plot the  $-(dB_{c2}^{\text{orb}}/dT)\big|_{T_c}/T_c$  as a 14 function of pressure in the inset of Fig. 5(d). The  $S_a$  firstly increases at a small rate 15 but shows a larger increasing rate above 35.8 GPa, whilst a slight decrease between 16 35.8 and 42.8 GPa for  $S_b$ , which seems involve a significant Fermi surface change. 17 Above 42.8 GPa, both  $S_a$  and  $S_b$  show a nearly parallel increase. Altogether, the 18 single-band WHH and polar  $p$ -wave models are inadequate for interpreting the 19 observed  $B_{c2}(T)$  data in pressurized Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>.

#### 20 **D. Normal state properties at ambient and high pressure**

In pure metals, the resistivity behaves with decreasing temperature as  $\rho \propto T^5$ 21 22 below the Debye temperature  $(\theta, \ \theta_p)$ : obtained from specific heat,  $\theta_R$ : obtained from 23 electrical resistivity) while  $\rho \propto T$  for  $T > \Theta$  [63]. However, in materials with 24 anisotropic Fermi surfaces, the electrons are from different orbital state bands. Thus, 25 scatterings of electrons from either intra-states or inter-states will contribute to 26 conductivity. In the electron-phonon (e-p) scattering Umklapp-processes (U-process), 27 an exponential factor  $\rho \propto \exp(-\theta/T)$  is expected to appear in resistivity. Therefore, 28 the normal state resistivity versus temperature in  $Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  can be tentatively 29 written with the following relation [63]

$$
\rho(T) = \rho_0 + A \cdot T^2 + B \cdot \exp(-\theta/T), (1)
$$

2 where the  $\rho_0$  is the residual resistivity from impurity scattering, the second term 3 represents the contribution of electron-electron (e-e) scattering, and the last one 4 relates to the e-p scattering of the U-process. For U-process e-p scattering, the crystal 5 momentum is written as  $k + q = k' - g$ , where k and k' are electron wave vector 6 before and after scattering,  $q$  phonon wave vector,  $q$  an non-zero arbitrary vector of 7 the reciprocal lattice resulting in the change of the electron wave vector  $(g = 0$ 8 corresponds to normal-process, N-process). We note that the fitting parameter  $\theta$  in 9 Eq. (1) is related to the Debye temperature by  $\theta = \Theta/\beta$  with  $\beta = Q/q_0$  (Q Debye 10 radius,  $q_0$  the shortest distance between the Fermi surface and its image). We found 11 that the experimental data of both the ambient R-phase and T-phase in bulk  $Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  and 12 Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> can be well fitted by Eq. (1), as shown in Fig. 6. At low temperature, the 13  $\rho(T)$  curve was dominated by the first two terms, indicating the dominant 14 electron-electron interaction. At higher temperature, the U-process e-p scattering 15 contributes more to resistivity.

16 The specific heat measurements indicates the  $\mathcal{O}_D$  is between 140-200 K for bulk 17 Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [64], ~120 K for bulk Cu<sub>0.29</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [48]. By fitting the  $\rho(T)$  curve using Eq. 18 (1), we obtained  $\theta$ =164.67 K and  $\theta$ =128.07 K for Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> and Cu<sub>0.20</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> with 19  $T_c=3.54$  K [18], respectively. Therefore,  $\theta \cong \Theta_{\rm D} \cong \Theta_{\rm R}$  ( $\beta \cong 1$ ) applies to bulk Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> 20 and Cu<sub>0.29</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> at ambient pressure. We should recall here the magnitude of  $\theta$  is 21 directly proportional to the size of  $\Theta_{\text{D}}$  with a factor of  $1/\beta$ , to get which one would 22 need to know the lattice spectrum and shape of the Fermi surface et al. [63]. Here, we 23 simply assume the  $\beta$  is independent of pressure and  $\beta \cong 1$  to track the pressure 24 dependence of  $\Theta_{\text{D}}$  in Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>. One can estimate the Debye temperature by fitting  $\rho(T)$  according to Eq. (1). Since the coefficient  $A \propto (m^*)^2$  [65],  $m^*$ 25 electron effective mass, the  $m^*$  is expected to decrease as the  $A$  decreases with 27 pressure. Furthermore, the electron-phonon coupling parameters  $\lambda$  could be 28 calculated by the McMillan formula in strong-coupling [66],  $\lambda = \frac{1.04 + \mu^* \ln(\Theta_D/1.45T_c)}{(4.257 \times 10^{-4} \text{ kg})(9.445T_c)}$ 29  $\lambda = \frac{1.04 + \mu^2 \ln(\Theta_D/1.45T_c)}{(1 - 0.62\mu^2) \ln(\Theta_D/1.45T_c) - 1.04}$ , using  $\mu^* = 0.13$ . The fitted and calculated parameters

1 are summarized in Table II. The increase of the  $\theta$  in Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> reflects the lattice 2 becomes stiffer as expected in a compressed solid. To our surprise, the  $\theta$  also shows a dramatic increase between 35.8 and 42.8 GPa, in consistent with the behavior of  $S_a$ . 4 Due to the electrons can be strongly scattered by transverse phonons in 5 U-process [63], this implies the transverse phonons might play key role in the 6 superconducting behavior in compressed tetragonal  $Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$ , which needs further 7 study of the issue.

#### 8 **IV. STRUCTURAL EVALUATIONS AT HIGH PRESSURE**

 To better understand the pressure-induced superconductivity, a series of XRD patterns were measured. We observed two SPTs occurring at 12.0 GPa and 22.3 GPa. 11 Like  $Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  [67], the high-pressure phases are identified as monoclinic (space group:  $C2/m$ , No.12, CN=7) and tetragonal (space group:  $14/mmm$ , No.139, CN=8) phase. Using the GASA program package with a user interface EXPGUI [41,42], we refined 14 the XRD patterns for  $Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  and representative Rietveld refinement profiles at  $P=0.7$  GPa,  $P=18.4$  GPa, and  $P=47.1$  GPa were plotted in Fig. 7(a)-(c). This means the sequence of SPTs was not affected by Nb doping. Hereafter, we denote the rhombohedral, monoclinic, and tetragonal phases as the R-phase, M-phase and T-phase, respectively. A series of XRD patterns, the refined lattice parameters and the volume / *versus* pressure are plotted in Fig. 8(b) and (d). Due to dominant covalent bonding in Bi-Se quintuple layers (QPLs) and only very weak covalent bonding between QPLs spaced by von der Waals gap [68,69], this makes the expected 22 larger compressibility of  $c$ -axis than the  $ab$  plane featured as a fast decrease of the  $c/a$  ratio. Interestingly, the ratio of  $c/a$  undergoes an abrupt drop between 4.9 and 24 5.4 GPa, as indicated by the dash square in Fig. 8(c). Above around 9.7 GPa, the  $c/a$ 25 ratio rapidly rises again. This is contrast with the pressure dependence of  $c/a$  in 26 Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [35,70].

27 To compare the compressibility with R-phase, we plotted the lattice parameters and 28 the  $V/Z$  versus pressure for the M-phase and T-phase in Fig. 8(c) and (d). The 29  $P - V/Z$  data was fitted using the third-order Birch-Murnaghan equation of state

1 (BM-EoS), 
$$
P = 3K_0 f_E (1 + 2f_E)^{5/2} \cdot [1 + \frac{3}{2}(K'_0 - 4)f_E]
$$
, where

 $f_{\rm E} = [(V_0/V)^{2/3} - 1]/2$  is the Eulerian strain,  $K_0$  is the bulk modulus, and  $K'_0$  is 3 the pressure derivative of  $K_0$ ,  $V_0$  the volume at ambient pressure. The best fitting 4 yielded  $K_0^r = 45.3(7.6)$  GPa,  $K_0^{1,r} = 7.4(1.8)$  and  $V_0^r = 143.1(9)$   $\mathring{A}^3$  for the R-phase;  $K_0^m = 50.1(8.3)$  GPa,  $K_0^{\prime,m} = 4$  (fixed) and  $V_0^m = 140.5(3.8)$   $\mathring{A}^3$  for the M-phase;  $K_0^t = 86.2(4.1) \text{ GPa}, K_0'^t = 4 \text{ (fixed)} \text{ and } V_0^t = 125.1(1.0) \text{ Å}^3 \text{ for T-phase. The volume}$  collapse at the two SPTs is estimated to be 3.7% and 2.8%, indicating a first-order transition. Details of the BM-EoS fitting results comparing with other reports can be found in Table S-I.

10 In layered materials, the minimum of  $c/a$  is commonly attributed to the 11 ETT [28,35], nevertheless there is a lack of smoking-gun evidence in  $Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$ -based 12 materials at least [35,36,67]. At ambient pressure, the bottom conduction band (CB) 13 and top valence band (VB) in Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> are dominated by the Bi-6 $p_z^+$  and Se1-4 $p_z^-$ 14 orbitals states with band inversion at Brillouin center [69]. After Nb doping, the 15 partially occupied Nb-4d orbital states can form new energy bands by hybridizing 16 with the Bi/Se-p orbital states near  $E_F$  [16,19,20]. For this reason, the electronic 17 band structure of Nb-doped  $Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  is expected to be more sensitive to pressure. The 18 drastic drop and approached minimum of  $c/a$  thus prefigure changes of chemical 19 bonding, i.e., variations of the enhancing and/or diminishing bond length and angle. 20 These fine structure changes might correlate to the electronic anomalies in R-phase. 21 In fact, the bonding length and bonding angle extracted from GSAS refinement 22 displays a significant opposite pressure dependent behavior [53], further supporting 23 the different pressure responses between rhombohedral  $Bi_2Se_3$  and  $Nb_{0.25}Bi_2Se_3$ .

#### 24 **V. LATTICE DYNAMICS**

25 To further confirm the SPTs by XRD measurements, we carried out unpolarized 26 Raman scattering spectroscopy measurements of the  $Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  crystal to 27 investigate the lattice dynamics under high pressure. The pressure dependence of 28 selected Raman spectrum and shifts  $(\omega(P))$  is shown in Fig. 9(a) and (b). In R-phase, 29 the Nb, Bi, Se1 and Se2 locate in Wyckoff sites of  $3b$ , 6c,  $3a$ , and 6c with Se1 as

1 the inversion center, respectively. According to the group theory analysis [71,72], a 2 total of 15 lattice dynamical modes at  $\Gamma$  point ( $q=0$ ) are classified into 3 acoustic 3 modes composed of one  $A_{2u}$  mode and a twofold-degenerated  $E_u$  modes and 12 4 optical modes with irreducible representations expressed by  $\Gamma = 2A_{1g} + 2A_{2u} +$ 5  $2E_g + 2E_u$ , in which E symmetry modes are twofold-degenerated. This indicates 6 there are four Raman-active modes  $(2A_{1g} + 2E_g)$  with even-parity and four 7 Infrared-active modes  $(2A_{2u} + 2E_u)$  with odd-parity. As seen in Fig. 9(a), three of the Raman modes were clearly assigned. Due to the smallest phonon frequency of  $E_g^1$ 8 9 mode is out of the detection limit for present Raman spectrometer  $(50\n-9000 \text{ cm}^{-1})$  [73], 10 it is not addressed in this study. Bottom insets sketch the corresponding atomic 11 vibration for  $A_{1g}^1$ ,  $E_g^2$ , and  $A_{1g}^2$  modes, among which the  $A_{1g}$  and  $E_g$  modes denote 12 the out-of-plane and in-plane phonon vibrations. In further, the  $E_g^1$  and  $A_{1g}^1$  modes 13 are characterized by the in-phase vibrating for Bi-Se2 pairs while opposite-phase for 14  $E_g^2$  and  $A_{1g}^2$  modes.

15 Interestingly, unlike  $Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$ , we observed the slope changes at around 5.84 GPa and 16 10.12 GPa of the three Raman modes in the R-phase for  $Nb_{0.25}Bi_2Se_3$ , respectively. This is indicated by the solid lines in Fig. 9(b). The relatively smaller pressure coefficient above 10.12 GPa indicates the phonon frequency abnormally softens. To uncover the pressure-induced electronic anomaly in the R-phase [74], we plotted in Fig. 9(c) the full width at half maximum (FWHM) versus pressure. Surprisingly, the FWHM of the three phonon modes shows a very contrasting evolution with pressure, 22 i.e., both the  $E_g^1$  and  $A_{1g}^1$  modes undergo a minimum at around 4.9 GPa. By contrast, the minimum occurs at around 8.2 GPa for the stretching  $A_{1g}^2$  mode. These unusual transitions agree with the structural anomalies assigned by XRD, supporting the intrinsic nature of the subtle pressure-induced structural changes. For comparison, the pressure coefficient of the FWHM changes only occur at around 5.0 GPa in 27 Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [35], 4.0 GPa in Bi<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>3</sub> [75], and 3.5 GPa in Sb<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>3</sub> [76].

1 Above 12.5 GPa, new types of phonon frequencies occur, signifying an SPT from 2 the R-phase to M-phase. According to XRD results, the structure of the high-pressure 3 M-phase is monoclinic with space group  $C2/m$  (No. 12, CN=7, formula number  $\frac{4}{2}$  =4) [70], and all Bi1, Bi2, Se1, Se2, and Se3 atoms occupy the 4*i* Wyckoff sites. 5 The group theory analysis predicts 30 zone-center lattice vibration modes, which can 6 be written in an irreducible representation as  $\Gamma = 10B_u + 5A_u + 5B_g + 10A_g$ . There 7 are three acoustic modes composed of one  $A_u$  and two  $B_u$  modes. The remaining 27 are optical modes including 15 Raman-active modes expressed by  $\Gamma_{15}^{R} = 5B_g + 10A_g$ 9 and 12 Infrared-active modes  $\Gamma_{12}^{IR} = 8B_u + 4A_u$ . Except the four lowest phonon 10 frequencies with symmetry of  $B_g^1$ ,  $A_g^1$ ,  $B_g^2$ , and  $A_g^2$ , all the Raman-active modes 11 were observed with a clear blueshift at high pressure above 12.5 GPa. We note that 12 the  $B_g^2$  phonon mode may be masked by the close position and higher intensity of 13  $A_{\rm g}^6$  and  $A_{\rm g}^7$ , similar to the case in Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [35]. With further increasing pressure, the 14 Raman peaks broadened and weakened. Eventually, all the phonon frequencies 15 disappeared above 33.4 GPa, indicating the second M-T SPT had completed and 16 metallization of T-phase.

#### 17 **VI. FIRST-PRINCIPLES CALCULATIONS**

18 To gain deeper insights into the pressure-induced electronic anomalies in the 19 R-phase, we performed first principles calculations of the electronic band structure. At 20 ambient condition, the most prominent character after Nb intercalation into  $Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  is 21 the appearance of new energy bands with at least three bands (denoted as the  $\alpha$ -band, 22  $\beta$  -band, and  $\gamma$  -band) crossing  $E_F$ , resulting in a heavily electron-doped 23 semiconductor. As seen in Fig. 10, three more energy bands appear after Nb doping 24 and the valence band close to  $E_F$  mainly comes from the Se- $P_x$  states at ambient 25 pressure, in contrast to the parent  $Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$  [69]. Simultaneously, the direct band gap not 26 only became smaller ( $E_g^d \sim 0.25$  eV) than the parent ( $E_g^d \sim 0.31$  eV), but the  $E_F$  also 27 crosses three conduction bands. For the Nb 4d electrons, the  $d_{z^2}$  and  $d_{xz}$  orbital 28 states seem to be dominant around  $E_F$  (see Fig. S9 for details).

1 The calculated band structures up to 10.4 GPa are plotted in Fig. 11 (a)-(f). We note 2 the CBs close to  $E_F$  have contributions from the Bi-6p, Se-4p, and Nb-4d orbital 3 states, manifesting the significance of the orbital hybridization between the Nb and 4 Bi/Se atoms. Under pressure up to 1 GPa, the CB tends to lift towards  $E_F$ , while a 5 new band inversion between the α-band and β-band occurred at the G point. 6 Meanwhile, a hole-like pocket at the L point from the γ-band disappeared at 0.30 7 GPa (see Fig. 12(a)). Above 4.8 GPa, the  $\alpha$ -band lifted above  $E_F$ , indicating the 8 disappearance of one electron-like pocket at the G point. With further increasing 9 pressure, the β-band moved down and eventually shifted below  $E_F$  at the L point 10 under 9.4 GPa. These results indicate the pressure can theoretically induce the Fermi 11 surface reconstruction in multiband  $Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$ . Interestingly, the two minimums of 12 the  $c/a$  ratio at around 3 GPa and 6 GPa are correlated with the valley and peak of 13 the direct energy gap between the  $\delta$ -band and VB at the G point (see Fig. 12(b)). 14 Thus, our results emphasize the key role of the multiband structure originating from 15 orbital hybridization between the  $d$  and  $p$  electrons in accessing the 16 pressure-induced electronic anomaly in  $Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$ .

#### 17 **VII. DISCUSSIONS**

18 Figure 13(a) summarized the  $R_{xx}(P)$  and  $\mu_H(P)$  at 300 K and 20 K. We note 19 the electronic anomaly at much lower pressure in run 1 were probably attributed to the 20 Bi-Se layers slide during compression [53]. Here we only focus on the run 2 and run 3 21 for further discussions. Below 2.2 GPa, we observed a gradual increase of  $R_{xx}$  and 22 nearly stabilized  $\mu_{\text{H}}$ . However, the  $R_{xx}$  tends to increase much faster above 2.2 GPa 23 and reaches a maximum at around 7.6 GPa, above which the  $R_{xx}(P)$  not only 24 suddenly drops but  $R_{xx}(T)$  also becomes metallic. Since XRD and Raman results 25 ruled out the occurrence of SPTs below 12.0 GPa, the drastic change in electrical 26 properties at around 7.6 GPa intrinsically signifies the pressure-induced changes in 27 FST. Above 12 GPa, the peak value of Hall mobility starts to decrease gradually. 28 However, it tends to decline rapidly above 22.9 GPa and reaches a small value of 1.45 29 cm<sup>2</sup>/V s at 35.8 GPa, indicating the metallization of  $Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$ . To further examine 30 the electronic anomaly in R-phase, we derived the pressure dependence of carrier

1 density as plotted in Fig. 13(b). The results of  $n(P)$  obtained with a finer pressure 2 step shows there is an apparent decrease at around 6.4 GPa and an abrupt increase at 3 around 7.6 GPa, as seen in inset of Fig. 13(b). We found the pressure value for  $n(P)$ 4 is slightly different from the values determined from XRD and Raman results. This is 5 probably originating from the different pressure gradient generated by PTM. 6 According to the report of Zhao et al [77], the KBr PTM becomes non-hydrostatic 7 above 3-5 GPa. In our case, the rough estimation indicates the axial pressure is ~1.4 8 GPa higher than radial pressure at 7.6 GPa [53]. If one takes into this account, the 9 observed anomalies in  $n(P)$  can be approximately in consistent with the results of 10 XRD and Raman scattering measurements. Moreover, the behavior of  $n(P)$  in 11  $Nb_{0.25}Bi_2Se_3$  is strikingly different from  $Bi_2Se_3$  [31,37,38], in which it shows a 12 monotonic increase up to 8 GPa in R-phase.

13 As shown in Fig. 13(b), unlike the maximized  $T_c(P)$  in the M-phase for 14 Sr<sub>0.19</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [54] and stabilized  $T_c(P)$  in the T-phase for Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [31], the  $T_c$  in 15  $Nb_{0.25}Bi_2Se_3$  reached a maximum at around 30 GPa, and then declines at a small rate 16  $dT_c/dP \approx 0.079(5)$  K/GPa and nearly stabilizes above 42.8 GPa. Very recently, a 17 similar  $T_c(P)$  phase diagram was reported in Bi<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>2</sub>Se and Bi<sub>1.1</sub>Sb<sub>0.9</sub>Te<sub>2</sub>S [78]. On 18 one hand, we note that the zero-resistance transition is not observed in M-phase in 19 present experiments, which is different from the superconducting transition in 20 Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [31,38], in Bi<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>2</sub>Se and Bi<sub>1.1</sub>Sb<sub>0.9</sub>Te<sub>2</sub>S [78], and Sr<sub>0.19</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [54]. Although 21 the underlying reason is not clear, we think this behavior is caused by either low 22 carrier density or magnetic pair-breaking effect by Nb ions [53]. On the other hand, a 23 similar saturation of the  $T_c$  with pressure was also observed in other layered systems 24 such as metallized  $MoS<sub>2</sub>$  up to megabar pressure [27], which is proposed to be a 25 characteristic of band overlap in layered materials with almost 2D  $N(E_F)$  as it is 26 independent of  $n$ . This scenario is partly true in our case based on two points. The 27 Fermi velocity  $v_F^a$  shows a fast decrease with pressure but it is much slower above 28 42.8 GPa, implying the associated band structure tends to become more narrowing, an 29 indication of becoming a quasi-2D FS. This is also in consistent with the saturation 30 trend of  $R_H$  and  $\mu_H$  above 42.8 GPa. On the other hand, the  $c/a$  ratio in the

1 T-phase shows an abnormal increase with pressure (see Fig. S6), also hinting at the 2 tendency of the approach to a more 2D-layered structure upon compression.

3 Finally, we discuss the nature of the superconducting state in T-phase. As seen in 4 Fig. 13(b), the *n* shows a gradual increase below 42.8 GPa with a saturation trend 5 above this pressure. According to BCS theory [79], the  $T_c$  is given by  $T_c$  = 6 1.14 $\Theta_{\text{D}}$ exp[-1/N( $E_{\text{F}}$ ) $V_0$ ] for a phonon-mediated superconductor in a weak coupling 7 limit, with  $N(E_F) \propto m^* n^{1/3}$  and  $V_0$  electron-electron interaction potential obeying 8 the relation  $N(E_F)V_0 = \lambda - \mu^*$ . In Cu<sub>0.30</sub>Bi<sub>2.1</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>, the suppression of the  $T_c$  by 9 pressure was attributed to the decrease of  $n$  [34]. Apparently, the suppression of the 10  $T_c$  in T-phase cannot be simply ascribed to the decrease of n. By fitting  $R_{xx}(T)$ , we 11 could evaluate the change of  $\Theta_{\text{D}}$  with pressure, i.e., increasing from 119.67 K at 30.4 12 GPa to 147.64 K at 49.8 GPa. This means a concurrent decrease of  $\lambda$  was required to 13 rebalance the  $T_c$ . Using McMillan's relation [66], the  $\lambda$  was calculated to decline 14 from 1.21 at 30.4 GPa to 0.97 at 49.8 GPa, indicating strong coupling 15 superconductivity. In the case of strong coupling, the pressure dependence of the  $T_c$ 16 can be estimated by  $d\ln T_c/d\ln V = (K_0/T_c)dT_c/dP \cong [\gamma_G + \Delta \cdot (d\ln \eta/d\ln V +$ 17 2 $\gamma$ <sub>G</sub>)] [31,66,80], where  $\gamma$ <sub>G</sub> = −dln $\langle \omega \rangle$ /dlnV is Grüneisen parameter,  $\Delta$ = 18  $1.04\lambda(1+0.38\mu^*)/[\lambda-\mu^*(1+0.62\lambda)]^2$ , and  $\eta = N(E_F) < I^2$  the Hopfield 19 parameter  $( $I^2>$  is an electron-ion matrix element) [81]. Using the bulk modulus$ 20  $K_0 = 86.2$  GPa by XRD,  $dT_c/dP \sim 0.079(5)$  K/GPa (30.4 GPa < P < 42.8 GPa), we 21 obtained  $d\ln T_c/d\ln V = (K_0/T_c)dT_c/dP = 0.86$ . Since  $d\ln \eta/d\ln V \approx -1$  for s-electron 22 or p-electron metals whilst  $-3$   $-4$  for d-electron metals [80,81], we assume an 23 intermediate coefficient -2.5 when considering the Nb-4d electrons and  $\lambda$ =1.08 24 (averaged value) herein. This yields a Grüneisen parameter of  $\gamma_G = 1.16$  for 25 Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>, slightly larger than Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> ( $\gamma$ <sub>G</sub>=1) [31], inferring the importance of 26 hybridization between the Nb-4d and Bi/Se- $p$  electrons states. Nevertheless, this 27 value is somewhat lower than transition metals ( $\gamma_G \sim 2$  for Nb) [81] and MgB<sub>2</sub> 28  $(\gamma_G=2.36)$  [80].

#### 29 **VIII. CONCLUSIONS**

30 In summary, we reported on the study of the pressure-induced electronic anomaly

 below 12.0 GPa in the rhombohedral phase and superconductivity in high pressure 2 phase of  $Nb_xBi_2Se_3$ . According to the first-principles calculations, the emerging 3 multibands at the  $E_F$  from hybridizing the Nb-4d and Bi/Se-p orbital states are critical for our findings. Two first-order SPTs were also assigned above 12.0 GPa and 22.3 GPa. Intriguingly, the monoclinic phase underwent filamentary superconductivity, while there were signatures of bulk superconductivity with a 7 semi-dome shaped  $T_c(P)$  in the tetragonal phase. We demonstrate the first evidence 8 of multiband superconductivity in pressurized  $Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>$ , which may be ascribed to 9 multiple Fermi surfaces associated with Nb-4d orbital states. To fully understand the multiband superconductivity in the tetragonal phase, the precise sites of the Nb atoms must be probed experimentally by local sensitive techniques. The superconducting 12 Nb<sub>x</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> crystals under pressure will be investigated in the future.

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#### 2 **Figures**

3





**FIG. 1** (a) The single-crystal XRD patterns. (b) The temperature dependence of the bulk  $Bi_2Se_3$ 6 and  $Nb_{0.25}Bi_2Se_3$  crystal resistivity. Inset shows the temperature dependence of Hall coefficient, 7 and the solid line is the linear fit result as a guide to eyes for  $Nb_{0.25}Bi_2Se_3$ .





**FIG. 2** (a) The  $R_{xx}(T)$  under various pressures below 10 K. (b) The  $R_{xy}(B)$  under various 11 pressures at 20 K. (c) The  $R_H(P)$  and  $\mu_H(P)$  at 300 K and 20 K. The data was collected in run 2. 12



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2 **FIG. 3** (a) The Hall resistance as a function of field at 300 K for different pressures (run 3). (b) The enlarged view shows the positive slope of  $R_{xy}(B)$  at 28.5 GPa and 36.4 GPa. (c) The 4 pressure dependence of Hall coefficient and mobility at 300 K and 20 K. The inset is an enlarged 5 view in the range of 0-12.0 GPa.







8 **FIG. 4** (a) The resistance as a function of temperature. The inset shows its first order derivative. (b) 9 The field dependence of Hall resistance.





**FIG. 5** The  $R_{xx}(T)$  under magnetic fields for (a)  $P=30.4$  GPa, (b)  $P=49.8$  GPa. (c) The  $B_{c2}(T)$ 3 under various pressures. Inset shows  $B_{c2}(P)$  and fitted exponent m. (d). The  $b^*(t)$  under 4 various pressures. Solid lines in (c) and (d) are fitted by the modified GL formula.



**2 FIG. 6** The temperature dependence of resistivity in bulk  $Nb_{0.25}Bi_2Se_3$  at ambient pressure and

3 high pressures.

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5

6 **FIG. 7** The representative Rietveld refinement profiles for  $Nb_{0.25}Bi_2Se_3$  (a)  $P=0.7$  GPa. (b) 7  $P=18.4$  GPa. (c)  $P=47.1$  GPa.





2 **FIG. 8** (a) The selected angle-dispersive XRD patterns under high pressures at room temperature. 3 Symbols of \* and # marks the new reflections. (b) The pressure dependence of lattice parameters 4 for the R-phase, the M-phase and T-phase. (c) The ratio of  $c/a$  versus pressure for R-phase. (d) 5 The volume per formula unit  $V/Z$  versus pressure with the EoS fitting indicated by lines.







8 **FIG. 9** (a) The selected Raman shift under various pressures at room temperature. The schematic 9 atomic vibration modes for the R-phase were presented at the bottom. The pressure dependence of 10 (b) phonon modes, (e) FWHM in R-phase. The solid lines are guide to eyes.



**3 FIG. 10** The band structures for  $Nb_{0.25}Bi_2Se_3$  at 0 GPa. (a) The projection from  $P_x$  orbital states,

4 (b) The projection from  $P_y$  orbital states, and (c) The projection from  $P_z$  orbital states.



7 **FIG. 11** The band structures of Nb<sub>0.25</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> under different pressures. (a) 0 GPa, (b) 1 GPa, (c) 3 GPa, (d) 5 GPa, (d) 6.5 GPa, and (e) 10.4 GPa. Blue squares indicate the band crossing change at 9  $E_F$ . The violet, red, and green points are projections for the Nb-4d, Bi-6p, and Se-4p orbital states. 



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2 **FIG. 12** (a) The pressure dependence of the energy level in the α-band, β-band, and γ-band to 3 the Fermi level at the time reversal invariant point. (b) The pressure dependence of direct band gap 4 at the G point.



**FIG. 13** Phase diagram for  $Nb_{0.25}Bi_2Se_3$ . (a)  $R_{xx}(P)$  at 300 K. (b)  $T_c(P)$  and  $n(P)$  for runs 2 3 and 3. The inset of (a) shows the corresponding log-log plot including  $\mu_H(P)$ . The inset of (b) 4 shows the enlarged view of  $n(P)$  at 300 K.





2 **TABLES**

3

**TABLE I.** The derived physical parameters for  $T_c$ ,  $dB_{c2}/dT|_{T_c}$ ,  $B_{c1}(0)$ ,  $B_c(0)$ ,  $\gamma_s$ ,  $N(E_F)$ , 5  $B_{c2}^{\text{orb}}(0)$ ,  $B_{c2}^{\text{GL}}(0)$ , and  $b_{GL}^{\dagger}(0)$  under selected pressures (run 2).



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7 **TABLE II.** The fitted and calculated parameters by Eq. (1). The data at 0 GPa is from bulk



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