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Vibrational dynamics of AV_2Al_{20} (A = Sc, La and Ce) cage compounds ANDREAS LEITHE-JASPER, MPI-CPfS, MAREK KOZA, ILL, Grenoble, YURI GRIN, MPI-CPfS — We report on the inelastic response of AV_2Al_{20} (with A = Sc, La and Ce) probed by high-resolution inelastic neutron scattering experiments [1]. Intense signals associated with the dynamics of Sc, La and Ce are identified in the low-energy range at 6-14 meV in ScV_2Al_{20} and at 8-16 meV in LaV_2Al_{20} and CeV_2Al_{20} . Their response to temperature changes between 2 and 300 K reveals a very weak softening of the modes upon heating in LaV_2Al_{20} and CeV_2Al_{20} and a distinguished blue shift by about 2 meV in ScV_2Al_{20} . By means of density functional theory (DFT) and LDC we show that the unusual anharmonicity of the Sc-dominated modes is due to the local potential of Sc featured by a strong quartic term and compare it with anharmonic systems (Al,Ga) V_2Al_{20} [2]. [1] M. M. Koza et al., Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. 16, 27119 (2014) [2] M. M. Koza et al., Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. 17, 24837 (2015)

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