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#### Behaviour in high temperature oxidation of chromium-rich cobalt alloys reinforced by different types of MC carbides

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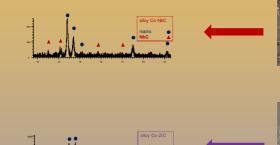
Faculté des Sciences et Technologies

In the family of MC carbides able to mechanically reinforce cast cobalt-base superalloys the tantalum carbides TaC are certainly among the most known and the most used. However the NbC, HfC and ZrC carbides can be also obtained in such alloys, and it can be interesting to explore the high temperature behaviours of alloys containing such MC carbides.

In this study several alloys, all based on Co-8Ni-30Cr-0,2 or 0,4C (wt.%), and containing quantities of Nb, Hf or Zr which allow obtaining the same carbides densities, were synthesized by high frequency induction melting, and compared to a similar TaC-containing alloy concerning both their high temperature stability and their oxidation kinetic in hot air.

#### Elaboration of the alloys by HF foundry under inert atmosphere

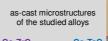
elements alloys	Со	Ni (wt.%)	Cr (wt.%)	C (wt.%)	M (wt.%)
Co-NbC	Bal.	8.3	29.2	0.39	4.6 Nb
	Bal.	8.5	30.2	0.46	
Co-ZrC	Bal.	8.7	29.8	0.21	4.9 Zr
Co-Ta	Bal.	9.8	29.5	0.42	7.2 Ta

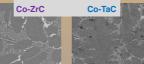


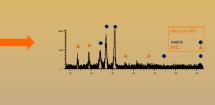


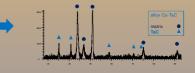


100 μm

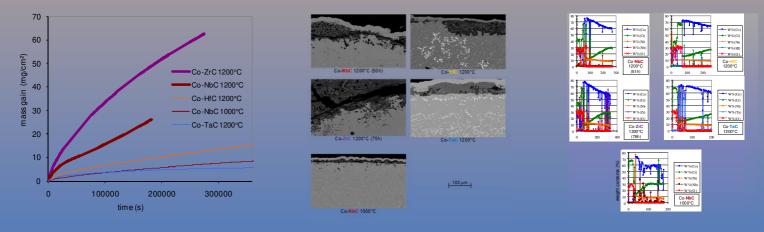








# in air by thermogravimetry



The as-cast alloys display NbC, HfC or ZrC carbides forming an interdendritic eutectic with matrix, as usually observed for the TaC carbides obtained in some tantalum containing superalloys. The repartition as well as the "script" morphologies of these carbides. favorable to high strength at high temperature, are similar to the TaC-strengthened alloy with about the same {Ni, Cr, C} composition.

It is unfortunately not the case for their behaviour in oxidation at high temperature. Indeed, when oxidized at 1200°C, their mass gains are much faster and, after several tens hours, these (Nb, Hf or Zr)C-containing alloys are significantly deteriorated and the oxidation products formed on their surface are essentially spinel oxides rather than protective chromia as observed for the TaCstrengthened alloy. To take benefit of the strengthening potential of such unusual carbides a protection against hot oxidation is required.