

## M circles and Nichols Chart

Consider a candidate design of a loop transfer function

$L(j\omega)$  shown on the RHS.

The equality

$$T(j\omega) = \frac{L(j\omega)}{1+L(j\omega)}$$

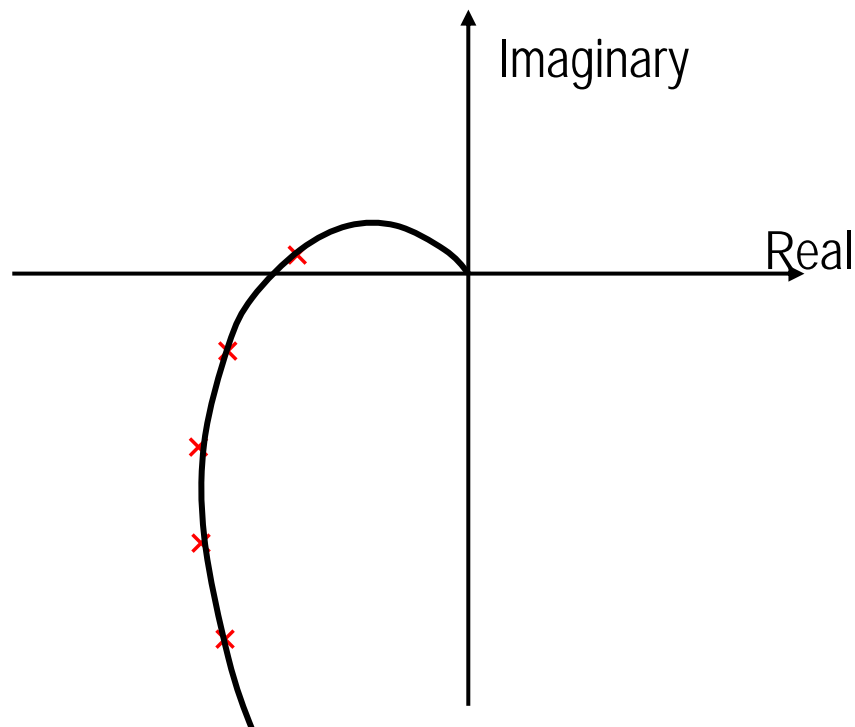
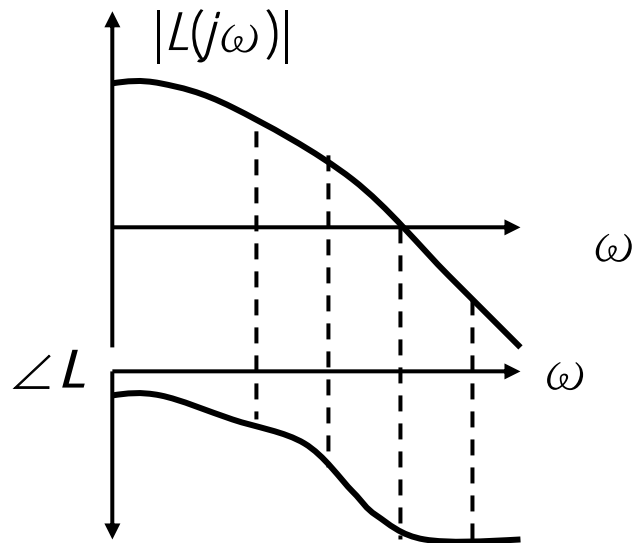
holds true freq. by freq.

for all  $\omega \in [0, \infty)$

Hence, in theory, we can precisely

Evaluate  $T(j\omega)$  from  $L(j\omega)$  in the manner of frequency point by frequency point.

Alternatively, the Bode plot of  $L(j\omega)$  can also be shown on the complex plane to form its Nyquist plot



## §M circles (constant magnitude of T)

In order to precisely evaluate  $|T(j\omega)|$  from the Nyquist plot of  $L(j\omega)$ , a tool called **M circle** is developed as followed.

Let  $L(j\omega) = X + jY$ , where  $X$  is the real and  $Y$  the imaginary

part. Then  $|T(j\omega)| = M = \frac{|X(j\omega) + jY(j\omega)|}{|1 + X(j\omega) + jY(j\omega)|}$ ,

and it follows  $M(j\omega)^2 = \frac{X(j\omega)^2 + Y(j\omega)^2}{(1 + X(j\omega))^2 + Y(j\omega)^2}$

Rearranging the above equation, it gives

$$X^2(1 - M^2) - 2M^2X - M^2 + (1 - M^2)Y^2 = 0 \quad (\#1)$$

(i) If  $M = 1$ , it follows from (#1) that  $X = -\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $Y = \text{anything}$

hence all  $(X, Y)$  pair that correspond to  $M=1$  is a vertical line on the complex plane.

(ii) If  $M \neq 1$ , (#1) reduces to

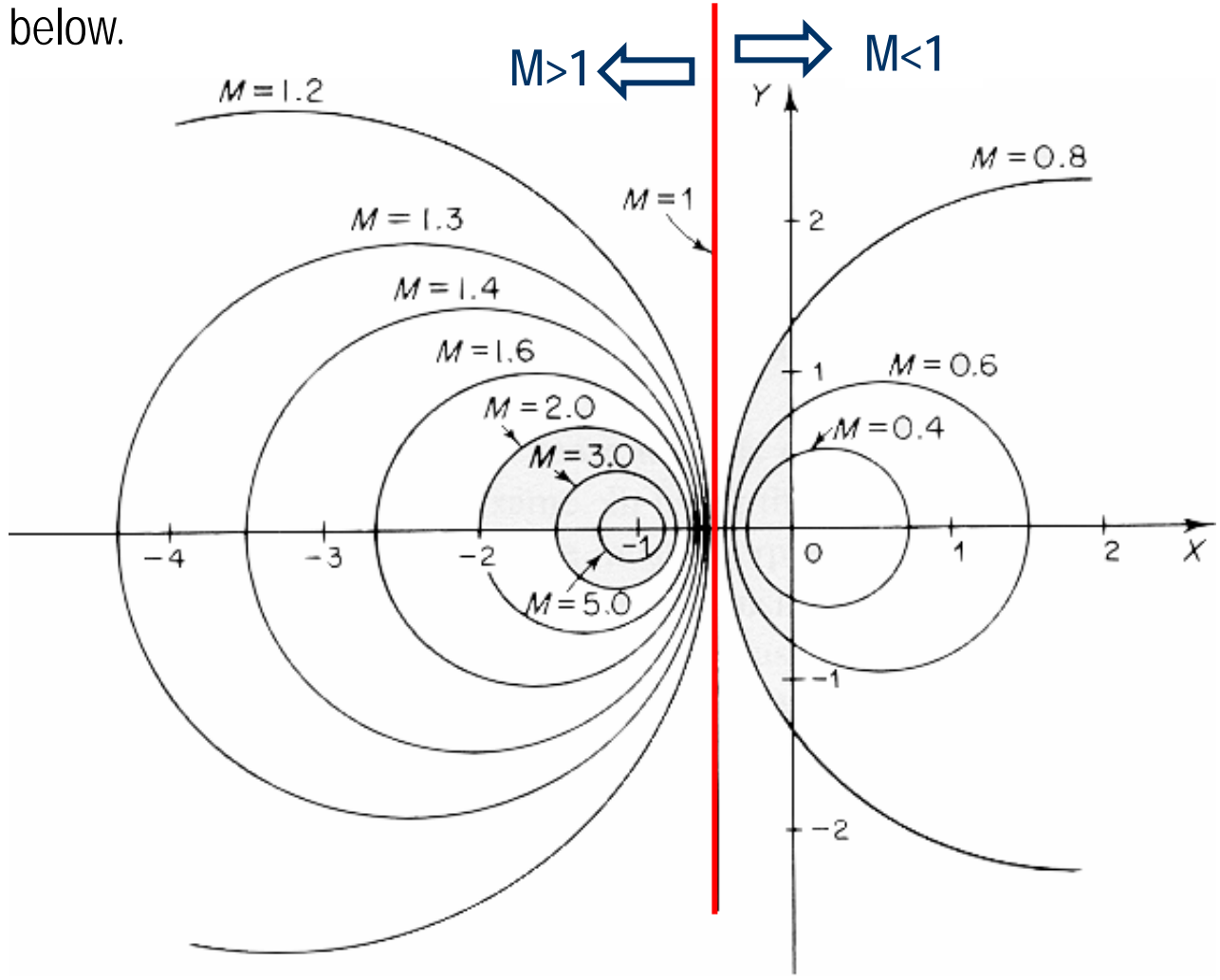
$$X^2 + \frac{2M^2}{M^2 - 1}X + \frac{M^2}{M^2 - 1} + Y^2 = 0$$

Adding  $M^2 / (M^2 - 1)^2$  to both sides of the above eq., it gives

$$\left[ X + \frac{M^2}{M^2 - 1} \right]^2 + Y^2 = \left( \frac{M}{M^2 - 1} \right)^2 \quad \text{circle on X-Y}$$

↑ Center location
↑ radius

That is, all (X, Y) pair corresponding to a constant value of M for a circle on the complex plane. Therefore, we have the following (constant) M circles on the complex plane as shown below.



**§N circles (constant phase of T)**

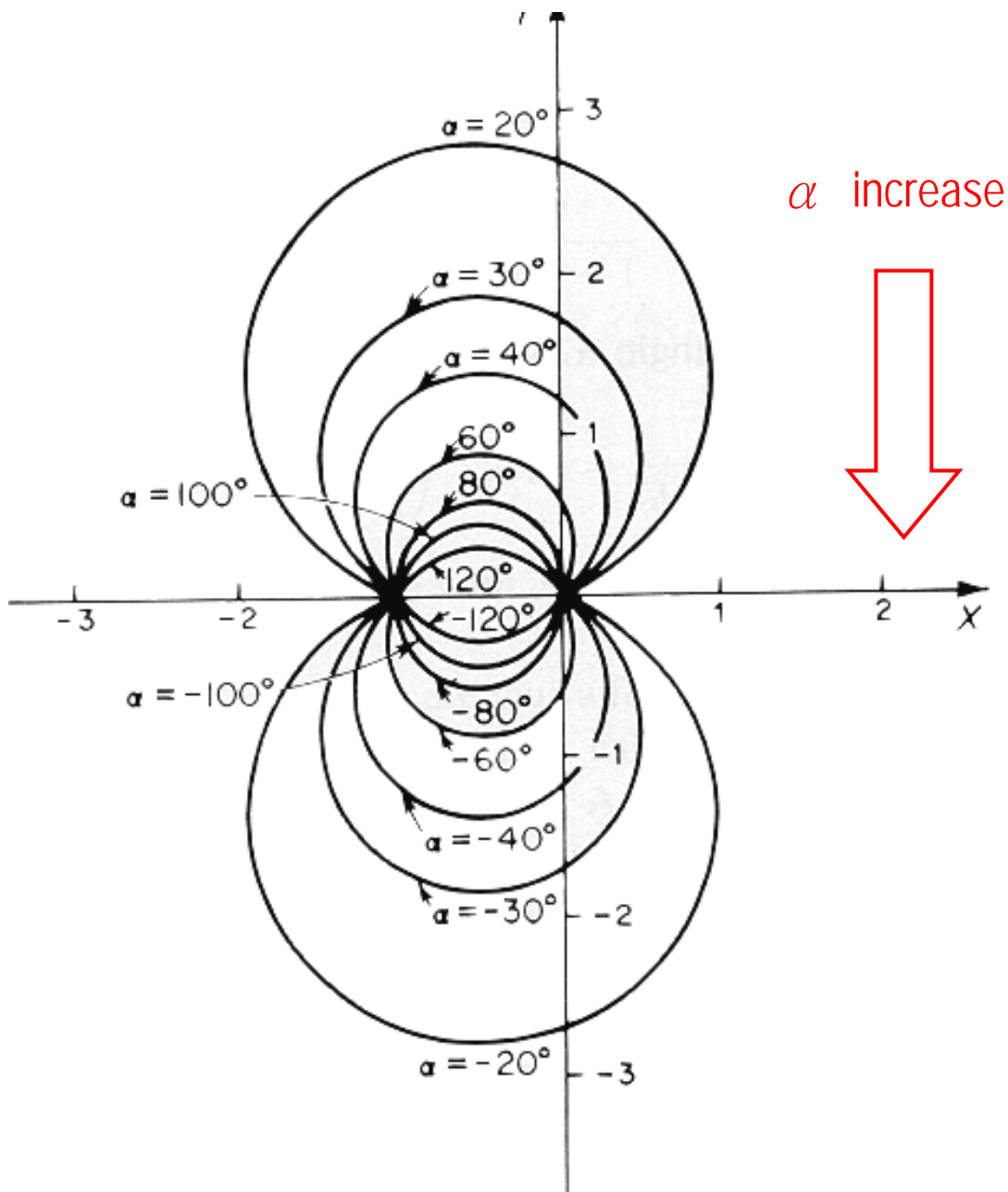
Similarly, it can be shown that the phase of  $T(j\omega)$  be

$$\alpha \triangleq \angle T(j\omega) = \tan^{-1} \left[ \frac{Y}{X} \right] - \tan^{-1} \left[ \frac{Y}{1+X} \right]$$

Define  $N \triangleq \tan \alpha = \tan(\angle T(j\omega))$

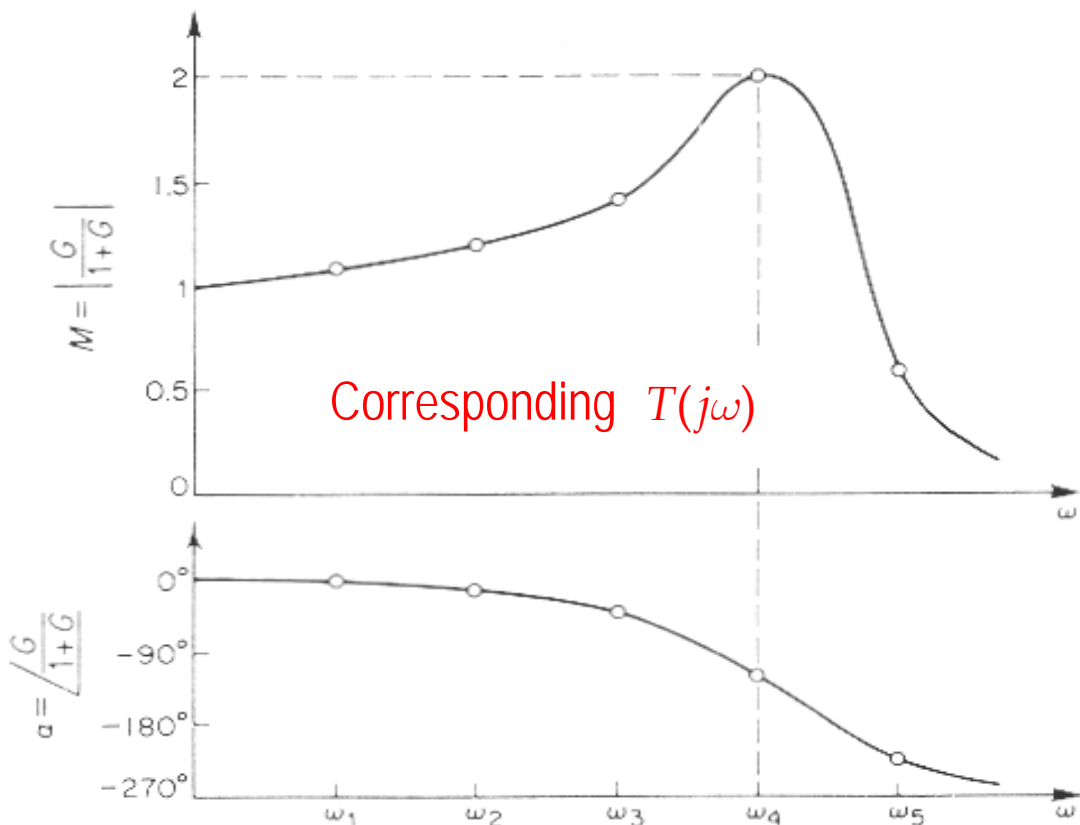
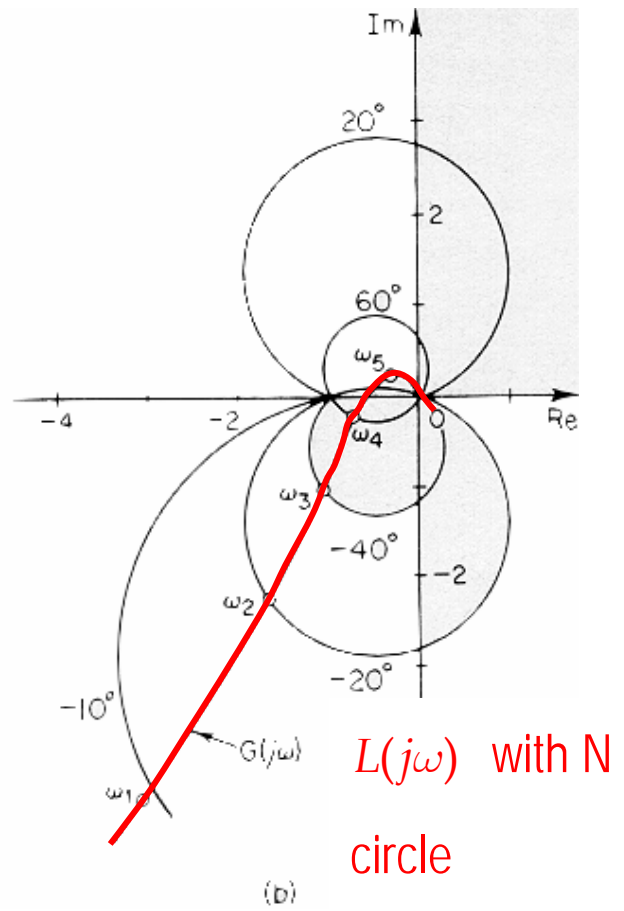
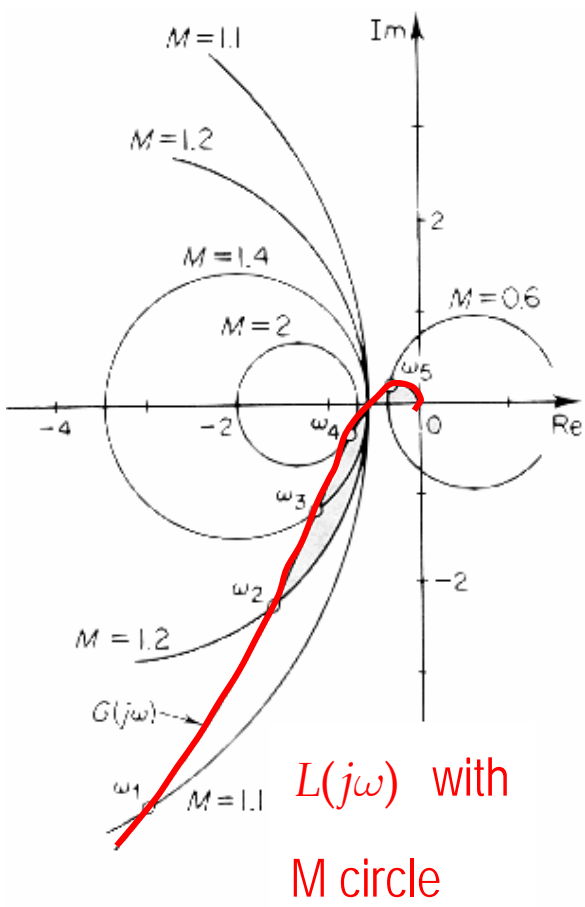
It can be shown that all (X, Y) pair which corresponds to the same constant phase of T (i.e., constant N) forms a circle on the complex plane as shown below.

$$\left[X + \frac{1}{2}\right]^2 + \left[Y - \frac{1}{2N}\right]^2 = \frac{1}{4} + \left[\frac{1}{2N}\right]^2$$



Constant N (phase angle  $\alpha$ ) circle

Example : Nyquist plot of  $L(j\omega)$ , and M-N circles of  $T(j\omega)$

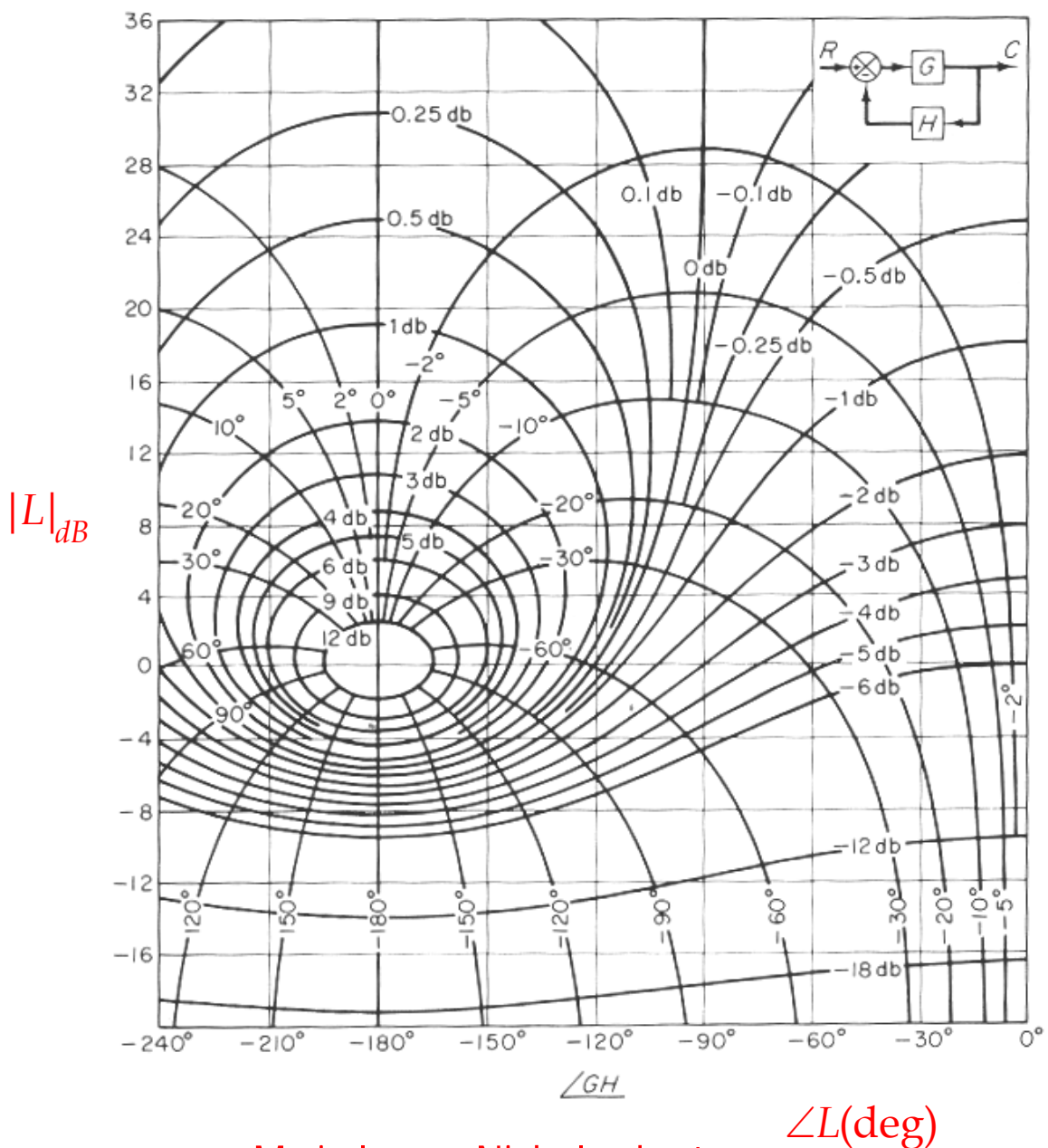


## §Nichols Chart

The Nyquist plot of  $L(j\omega)$  can also be represented by its polar form using dB as magnitude and degree as phase.

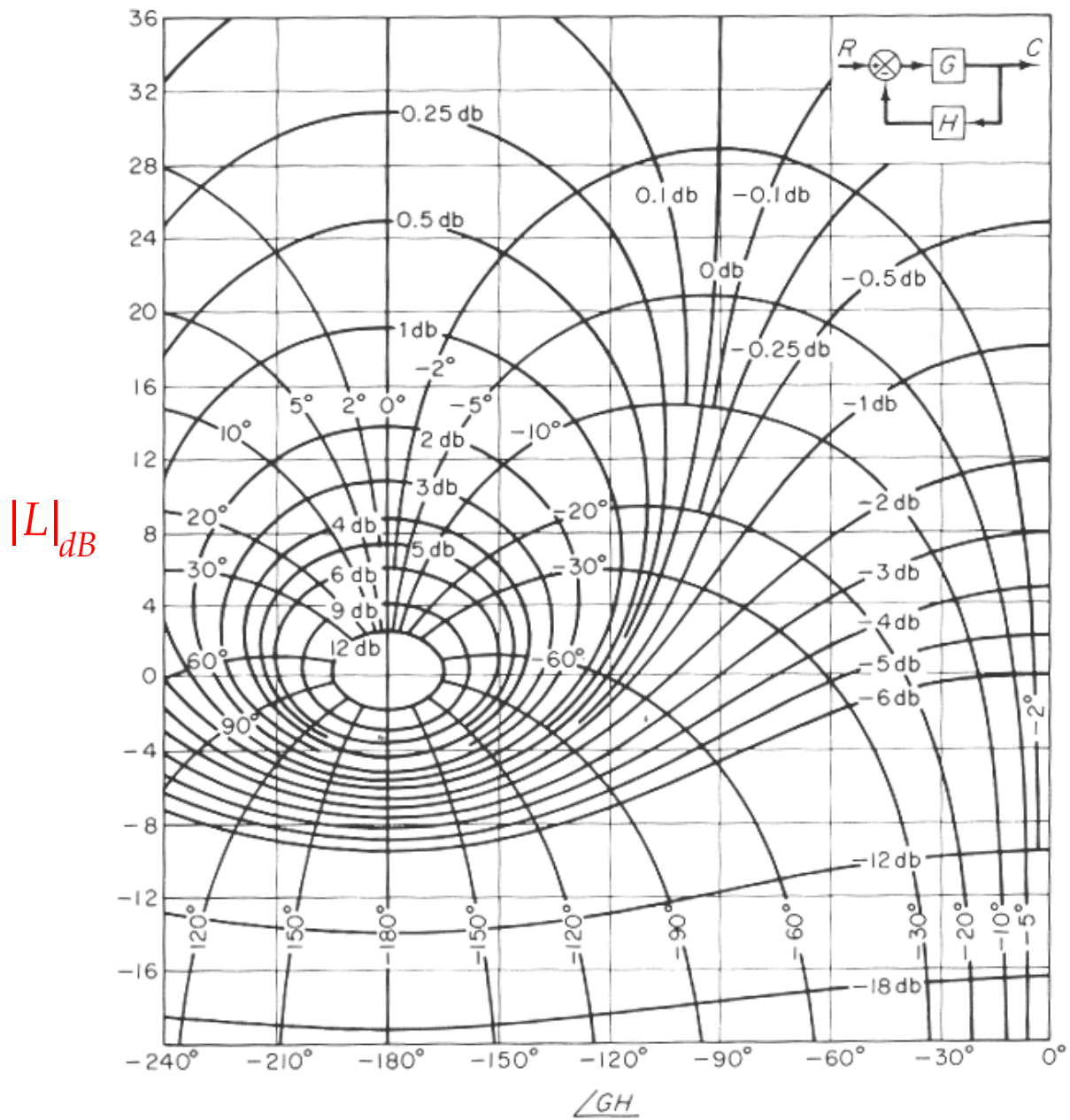
$$L(j\omega) = |L|_{dB} e^{j\alpha}$$

All  $L(j\omega)$  which corresponds to a constant  $|T(j\omega)|$  can be drawn as a locus of M circle on this plane as shown below



M circles on Nichols chart

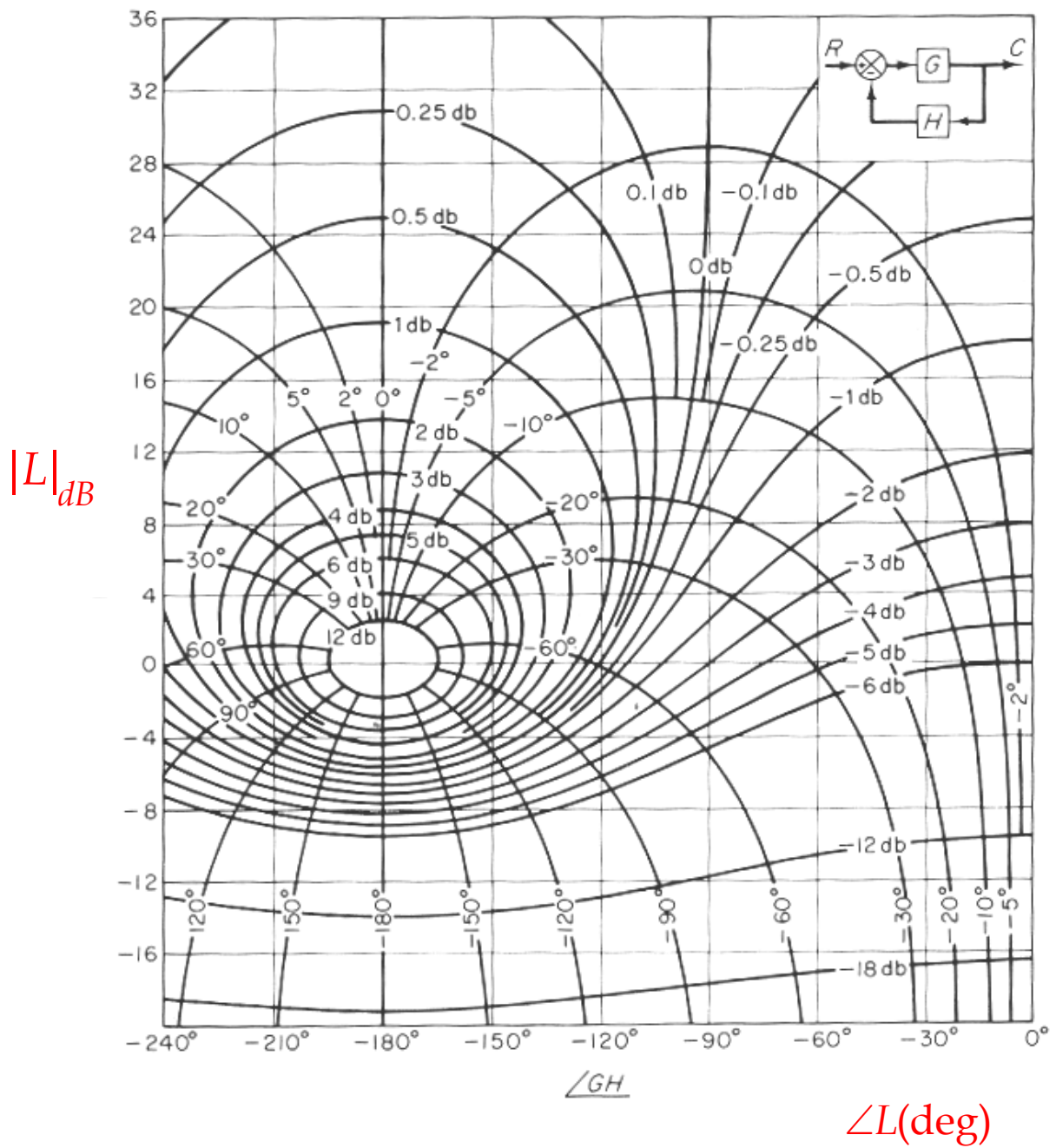
And if  $L(j\omega)$  which corresponds to a constant  $\alpha(j\omega)$  can be drawn as a locus of M circle on this plane as shown below



N circles on Nichols chart

$\angle L(^{\circ})$

Combining the above two groups of M circles and N circles, we have the **Nichols chart** as shown below



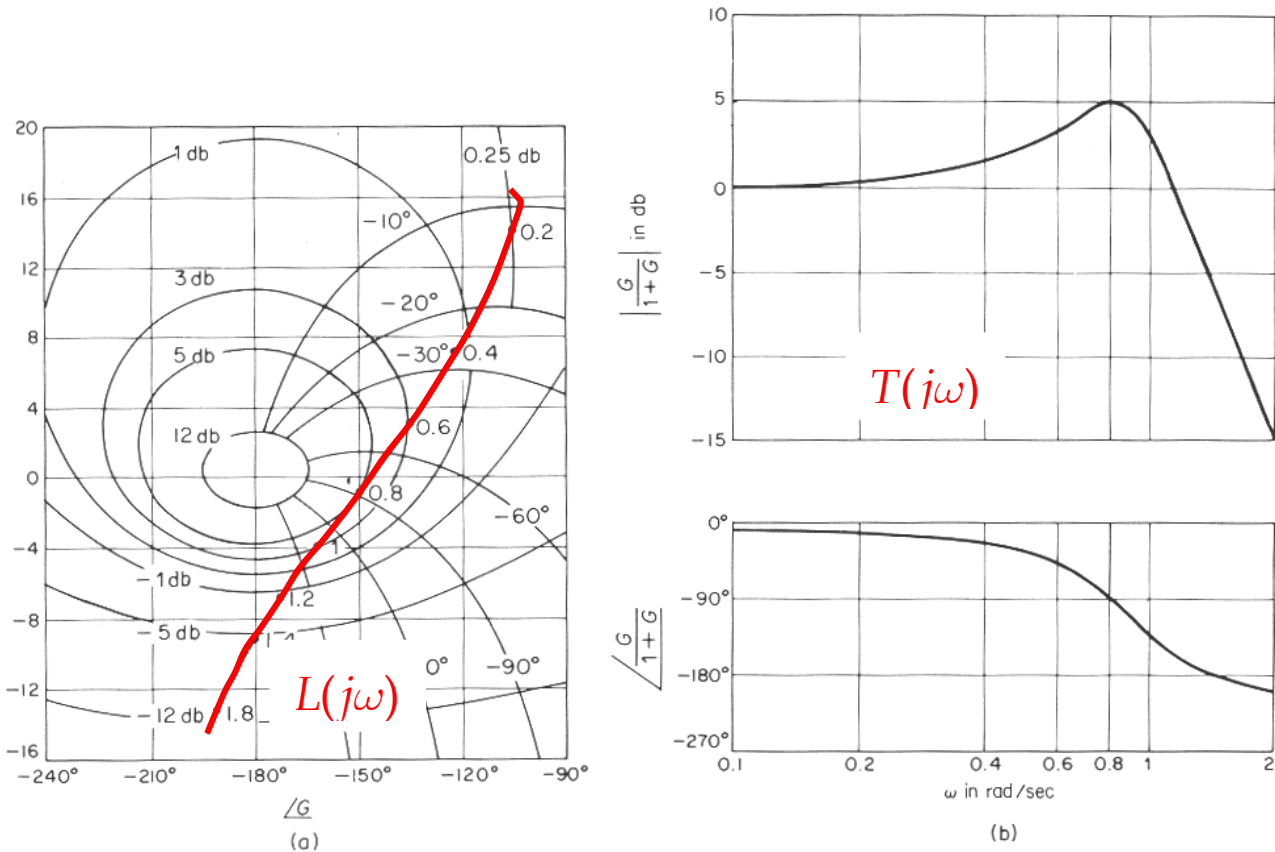
M circles and N circles on Nichols chart

## Example 1

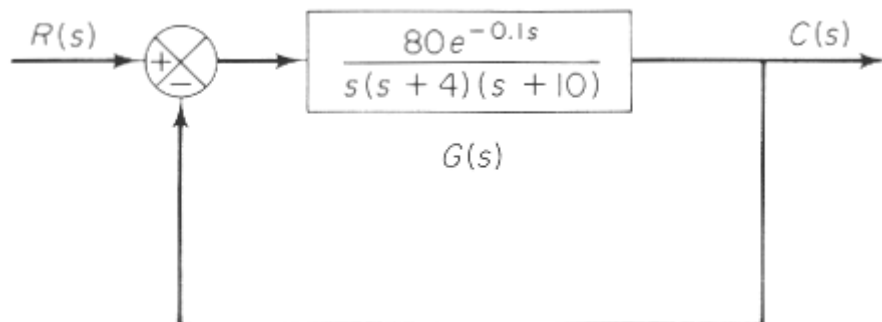
Given  $L(j\omega)$  and a Nichols chart,

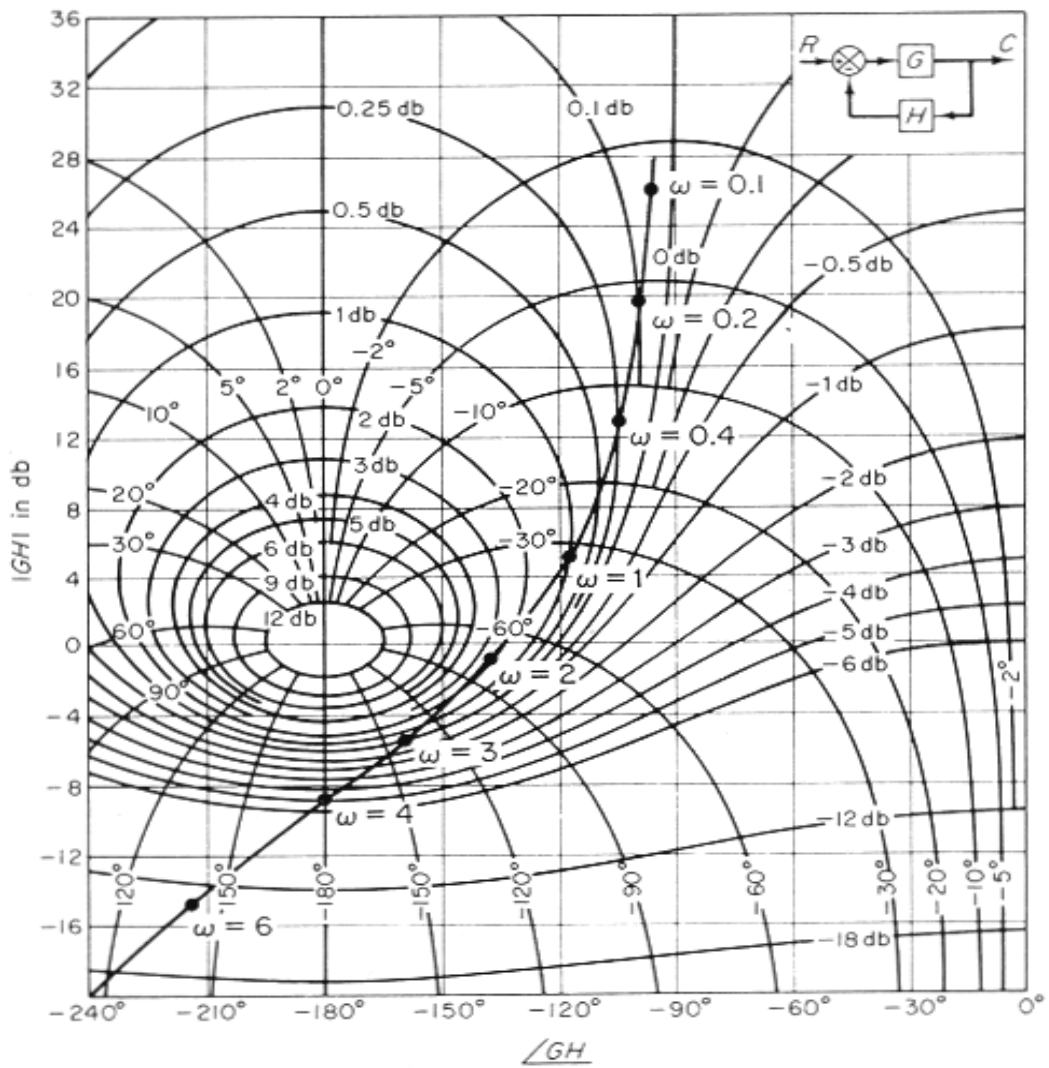
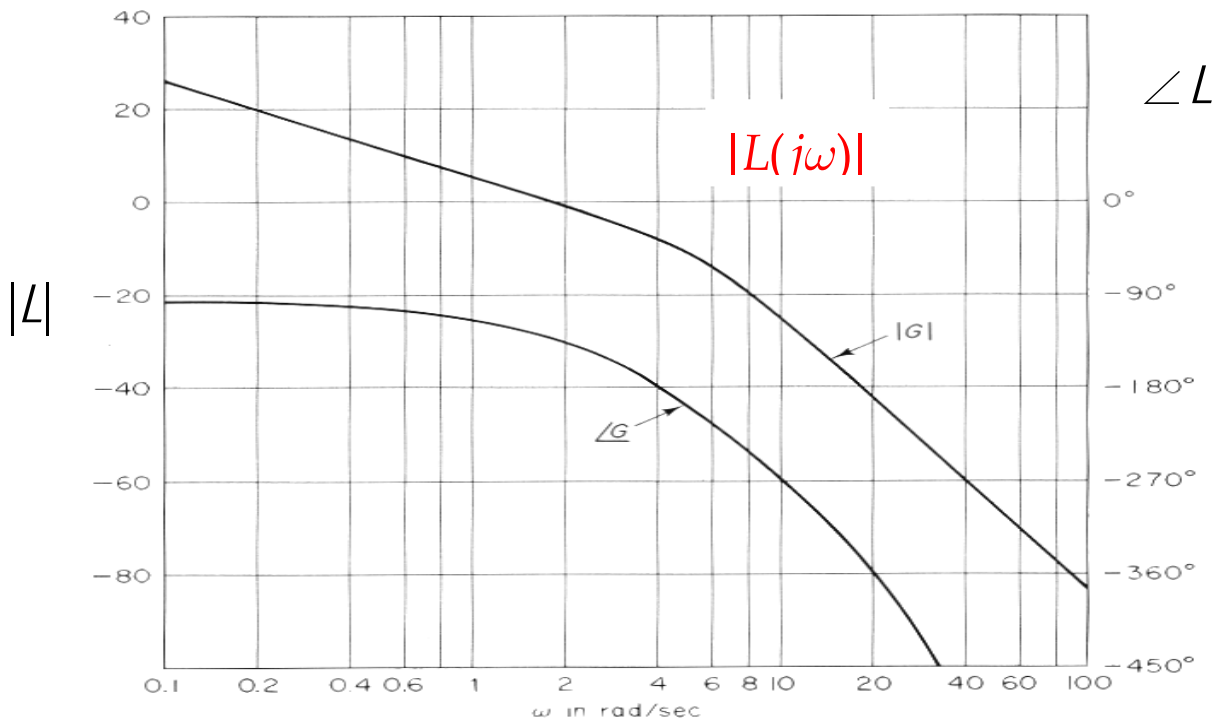
(1) Draw  $L(j\omega)$  on Nichols chart frequency point by freq. point.

(2) Read  $\text{Max } |T(j\omega)| = 12\text{dB}$  at  $\omega = 0.8\text{rad/sec}$  from the chart.

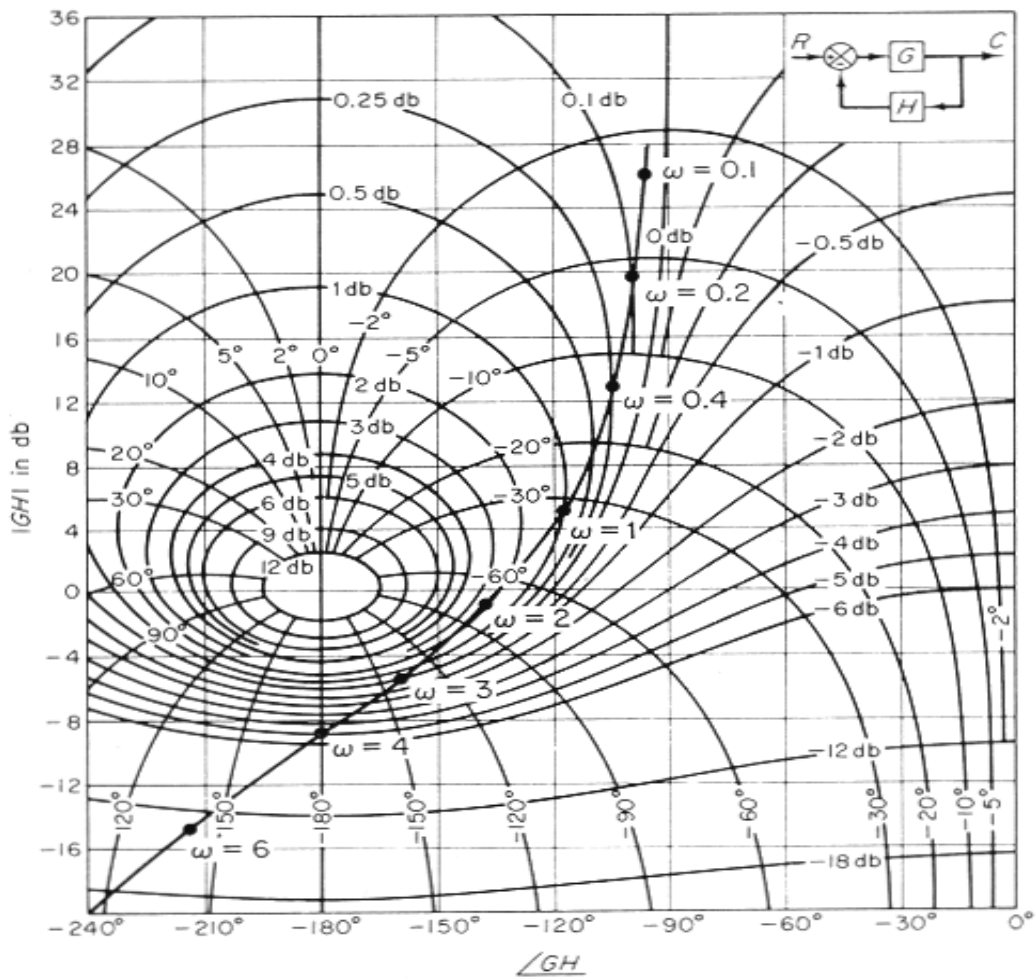
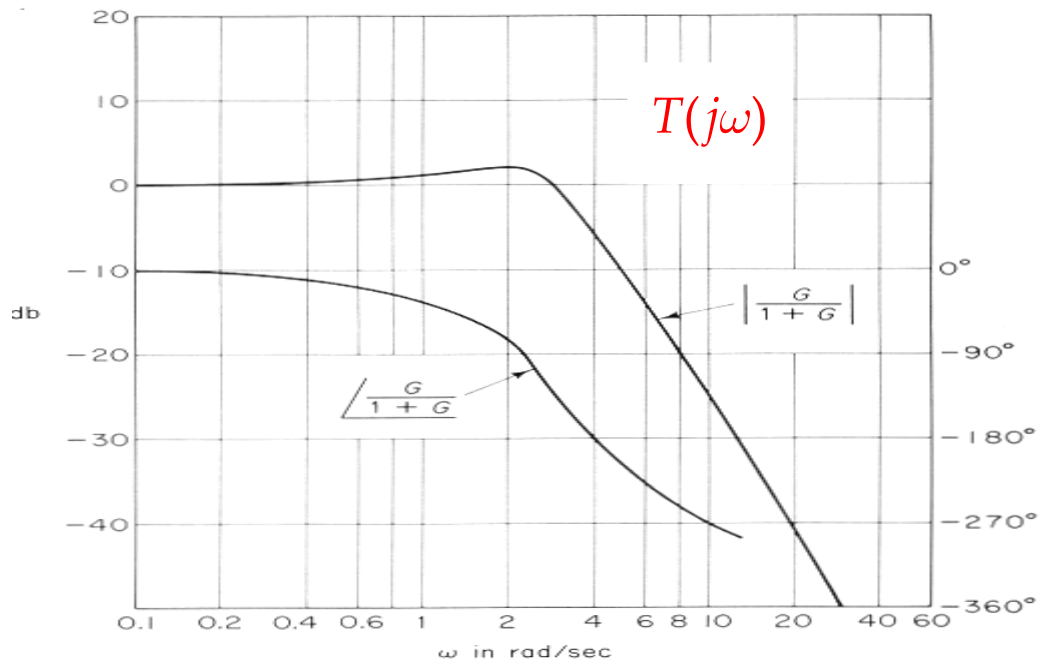


## Example 2





and the resultant close-loop system has the following Bode plot



## §Performance and stability of uncertain plant

A. Design on Bode plot

$$G(j\omega) = G_O(j\omega)\Delta(j\omega) \quad \text{where}$$

$$|\Delta(j\omega)| \in [0.2, 3], \quad \angle\Delta(j\omega) \in [-20^\circ, 30^\circ]$$

Then

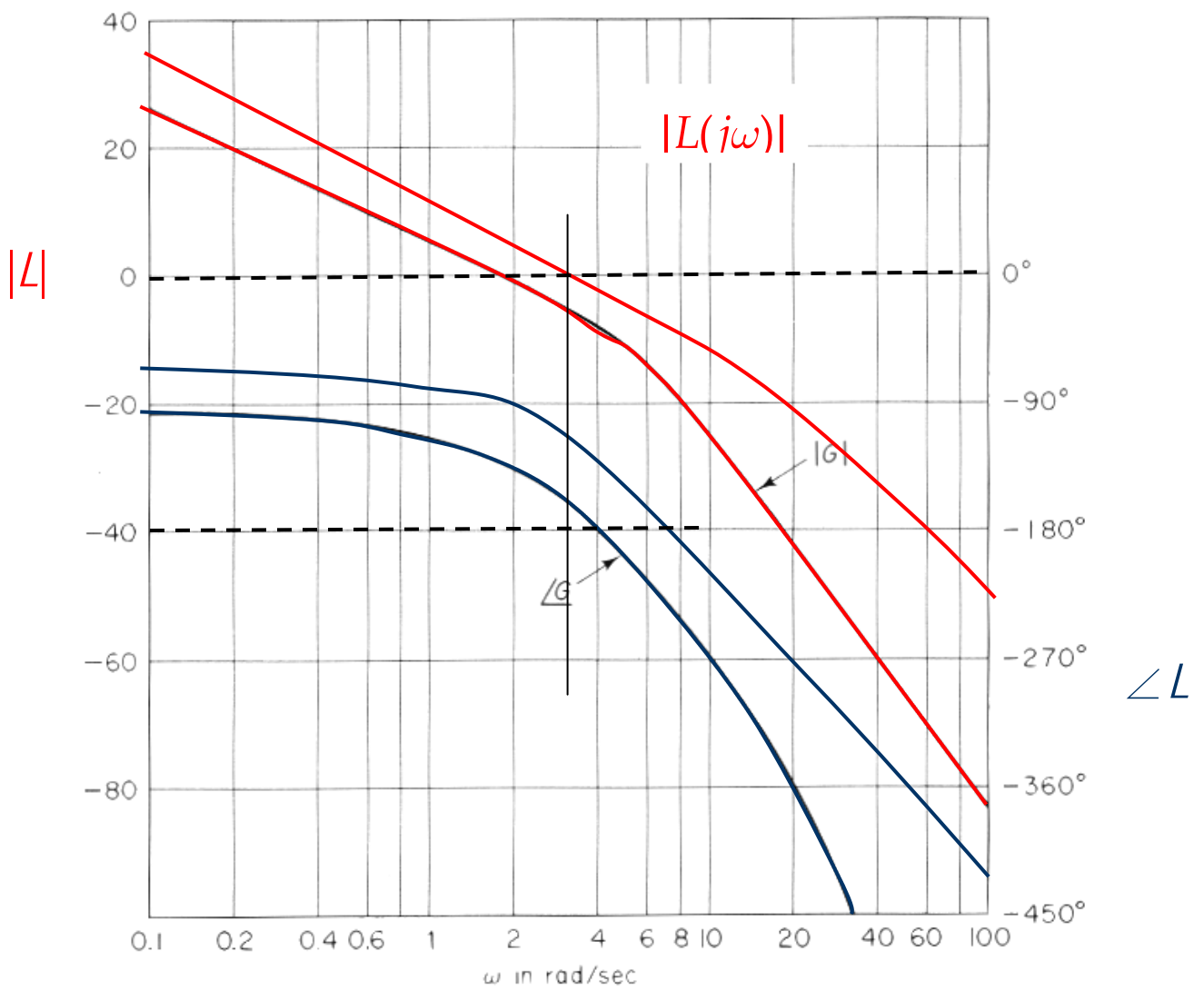
$$\begin{aligned} L(j\omega) &= G_O(j\omega)D(j\omega)\Delta(j\omega) \\ &= L_O(j\omega)\Delta(j\omega) \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} |G(j\omega)|_{dB} &= |G_O(j\omega)|_{dB} \pm |\Delta(j\omega)|_{dB} \\ \angle G(j\omega) &= \angle G_O(j\omega) \pm \angle\Delta(j\omega) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} |L(j\omega)|_{dB} &= |L_O(j\omega)|_{dB} \pm |\Delta(j\omega)|_{dB} \\ \angle L(j\omega) &= \angle L_O(j\omega) \pm \angle\Delta(j\omega) \end{aligned}$$



## B. Design on Nichols chart

