Concept Question 9-4: Why is the corner frequency also called the half-power frequency?

Corner frequency ω_c

The corner frequency ω_c is defined as the angular frequency at which $M(\omega)$ is equal to $1/\sqrt{2}$ of the *reference value* M_0 ,

$$M(\omega_{\rm c}) = \frac{M_0}{\sqrt{2}} = 0.707 M_0. \tag{9.5}$$

Since power is proportional to M^2 , at the corner frequency the power is at 50% of its value at the frequency at which M_0 is defined.