Fiscal Output Data Produces Versatile Graphic-Numeric Charts

The problem:
To develop a third-generation computerized system that would be compatible with a new budget and forecasting system and would increase fiscal-output plotting detail (at lower costs) for a more comprehensive analysis.

The solution:
A refined computerized plotting system which produces low-cost graphic-numeric charts that illustrate fiscal data, such as budgets, actuals, and variances, on a monthly incremental or cumulative basis, or both.

How it’s done:
Financial data, which is processed first, is prepunched on cards or tape for input to the computer. The output is a magnetic tape which is processed by a cathode ray tube printer-plotter and other graphic equipment to produce the required graphs on graphic-numeric masters suitable for reproduction.

The system can plot variable summary charts, sequenced charts in any order, incremental and/or cumulative fiscal data (with the data rounded off to 1000, 100, or 10), and up to 34 different cost elements. Various title options are available, and 480 plots per computer run are possible.

The output can be in the form of hard copy or microfilm, or visual-aid transparencies prepared from the hard copy for rapid management status presentations.

Notes:
1. This program is written in COBOL, FORTRAN IV, and ASSEMBLER languages for use on the IBM-360/65 computer. Peripheral equipment required includes four 2400 magnetic-tape drives, a 2540 card reader, a 1403 printer, a 1443 printer console and a CRT high speed printer/plotter.
2. Inquiries may be directed to:
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Patent status:
No patent action is contemplated by AEC or NASA.

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