from 2VAR. 2VAR is then adjusted so that the meter M3 reads zero. This yields a rate of return which may be determined from the scales on 2VAR for the number of years life of the equipment for alternative II. 1VAR, 2VAR and 3VAR may then be adjusted so that a more accurate value of the rate-of-return is ultimately obtained.

While certain specific embodiments of this invention have been disclosed herein, it is understood that many modifications thereof are feasible. This invention then is not to be restricted except insofar as is necessitated by the spirit of the prior art.

I claim as my invention:

1. A computer particularly for computing economic data from an equation expressible as the algebraic sum of a plurality of terms equated to zero, at least one of said terms being the product of at least two factors, one of the factors of said one term being a variable parameter derivable by solving said equation, said computer comprising conductors for supplying an alternating potential, a plurality of transformers each having primary winding means and secondary winding means, at least one of said transformers being of the variable type, each of said secondary winding means corresponding to one of said terms and the secondary winding means of said variable transformer corresponding to said one term, means connecting said primary winding means to said conductors, a variable resistor corresponding to each of said terms, means connecting each of said variable resistors to the corresponding secondary winding means so that the voltage of each secondary winding means is impressed across the corresponding resistor, a meter, and means connecting in a series network said variable resistors and said meter, each of said variable resistors being poled in said network so that its potential has a polarity corresponding to the sign of the corresponding term in said equation, the turns of the primary and secondary winding means of each transformer being so related that the potential of each secondary winding means corresponds to the range of magnitudes of the corresponding terms and the potential of the secondary winding means of said variable transformer corresponds to the range of magnitudes of said one factor, said secondary winding means of said variable transformer and its corresponding variable resistor being so related that said one factor is registerable on said secondary winding means and the other factor on said last-named variable resistor.

2. A computer particularly for computing economic data from an equation expressible as the algebraic sum of a plurality of terms equated to zero, at least one of said terms being the product of the algebraic sum of at least two parameters and a third parameter, the said computer including conductors for supplying an alternating potential, at least one variable transformer means having primary winding means and at least a pair of secondary winding means, said variable transformer means corresponding to said one term, and each of said secondary winding means corresponding to one of said two parameters, means connecting said primary winding means to said conductors, means connected to said conductors for deriving a potential corresponding to each term other than said one term, a variable resistor corresponding to each of said two parameters, and means connecting each of said resistors to be supplied from the

corresponding secondary winding means, the number of turns of said secondary winding means being so related to the number of turns of said primary winding means over its range of settings that the potentials of said secondary winding means over the range of settings of said transformer cover the range of variation of said parameters.

3. A computer particularly for computing economic data from an equation expressible as the algebraic sum of a number of terms equated to zero, at least one of said terms including a parameter CR1 which is a function of at least two other parameters $n1$ and i and at least another of said terms including a further parameter CR2 which is a like function of $n2$ and i, $n2$ being different than $n1$, the said computer comprising conductors for supplying an alternating potential, a plurality of variable electrical components, each component corresponding to one of said terms, means connecting said conductors to said components to impress potentials thereon, a meter, selective means having a first position and a second position, a first network including said selective means in said first position, said meter and the components corresponding to the terms of said equation including the components corresponding to said one term and said other term so connected as to be capable of introducing potentials of different magnitudes into said network corresponding to said one term and said other terms, and a second network including said selective means in said second position, said meter and the components corresponding to the terms of said equation including the component corresponding to said one term only, said last-named component to be so connected as to be capable of introducing potentials of equal magnitudes into said second network corresponding to said one term and said other term.

4. In combination, in a computer, a first variable transformer, a second variable transformer, a first variable impedance, a second variable impedance, a selective means having a first position and a second position, means including said selective means in said first position connected to said impedances and to said transformers for connecting said first transformer to supply said first impedance and said second transformer to supply said second impedance, and means including said selective means in said second position connected to said impedances and said first transformer for connecting said first transformer to supply both said impedances.

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