Stopwatch facility for calculators

A calculator with a "constant" facility can also be used as a stopwatch. The method will vary between different types of calculator and on a Sinclair Cambridge Memory, if the "+.1" is keyed in and the "=" key is pressed at 10Hz, the calculator will act as a stopwatch.

This function is achieved by wiring a thyristor across the "=" contacts and triggering it from a 10Hz multivibrator. The thyristor will automatically turn off in the absence of a gate pulse because the i.c. sequentially strobes the keys. Accuracy of this multivibrator is adequate for most stopwatch applications over a few minutes.

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