timer — Time sections of code by recording and reporting time spent

Description

timer starts, stops, and reports up to 100 interval timers. Results are reported in seconds.
timer clear resets timers to zero.
timer on begins a timing. timer off stops a timing. A timing may be turned on and off repeatedly without clearing, which causes the timer to accumulate.
timer list lists the timings. If # is not specified, timers that contain zero are not listed.

Syntax

Reset timers to zero

```
timer clear [#]
```

Turn a timer on

```
timer on #
```

Turn a timer off

```
timer off #
```

List the timings

```
timer list [#]
```

where # is an integer, 1–100.

Remarks and examples

timer can be used to time sections of code. For instance,

```
program tester
  version ...
  timer clear 1
  forvalues repeat=1(1)100 {
    timer on 1
    mycmd ...
    timer off 1
  }
  timer list 1
end
```
Stored results

`timer list` stores the following in `r()`:

Scalars

- `r(t1)` value of first timer
- `r(nt1)` # of times turned on and off
- `r(t2)` value of second timer
- `r(nt2)` # of times turned on and off
- ...
- ...
- `r(t100)` value of 100th timer
- `r(nt100)` # of times turned on and off

Only values for which `r(nt#) ≠ 0` are stored.

`r()` results produced by other commands are not cleared.

Also see

[P] `rmsg` — Return messages