

NAME

`time` — time a command

SYNOPSIS

`time` *command* [*args* ...]

DESCRIPTION

The *command* is executed with arguments *args*; after it completes, the following report is printed on the standard output:

real	<i>rtime</i>
user	<i>utime</i>
sys	<i>stime</i>
breads	<i>nbreads</i>
bwrites	<i>nbwrites</i>

rtime: Total elapsed clock time during execution of *command*.

utime: Time spent in *user* mode during execution of *command*.

stime: Time spent in *system* mode during execution of *command*.

breads: Number of block device reads (e.g., disk, magtape, etc.) caused by *command*.

nwrites: Number of block device writes during execution of *command*.

The execution time can depend on what kind of memory the program happens to land in; the user time in MOS is often half what it is in core.

BUGS

Notice that:

```
time who >x
```

puts the timing information into *x*. If it desired to put the output from *who* into file *x* the following command line will serve:

```
time sh -c who >x
```

Elapsed time is accurate to the second, while the CPU times are measured to the 60th second. Thus the sum of the CPU times can be up to a second larger than the elapsed time.