Subject: Re: Basic Math: I _hope_ this is a stupid question Posted by btt on Mon, 25 Apr 2005 12:44:46 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

```
David Fanning wrote:
> Ed Hyer writes:
>
>
>> IDL> print,288*180
>> -13696
>> IDL> print,long(288*180)
      -13696
>>
>> IDL> print,ulong64(288*180)
>> 18446744073709537920
>> IDL> print,288.*180
>>
      51840.0
>>
>> I just want to multiply two integers! Is that so wrong?
 Here are a couple of articles for you:
>
    http://www.dfanning.com/math_tips/sky_is_falling.html
>
>
    http://www.dfanning.com/math_tips/double.html
>
> Where you see "double" you should read "long integer", and where
  you see "float" you should read "integer".
>
> Basically, casting a short multiplication (288*180) to a
> long *after* you do the arithmetic, doesn't gain you
> anything. You have to do it *before* you to the arithmetic. :-)
>
Hi,
You might also consider using the COMPILE OPT compile flag DEFINT32 at
the beginning of your routines. I have taken Mark Hadfield's
recommendation to heart and now use COMPILE OPT IDL2 pretty much everywhere.
```

Cheers, Ben