
Subject: Commutativity of multiplication

Posted by [Sven Geier](#) on Wed, 25 Oct 2006 20:24:45 GMT

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There's something odd afoot with ULONG variables (in 6.3) that isn't clear to me:

```
IDL> help,f,g,h
F      LONG   =      500
G      ULONG   =      1
H      FLOAT   =    1.00000
IDL> help,f*h,h*f
<Expression>  FLOAT   =    500.000
<Expression>  FLOAT   =    500.000
IDL> help,f*g,g*f
<Expression>  LONG   =      500
<Expression>  ULONG   =      500
```

Is this a bug? A feature? Well-known gotcha? Obscure property? Recently added functionality? Vestigial peculiarity?

- S

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<http://www.sgeier.net>

My real email address does not contain any "Z"s.
