

This fails:  $a = \alpha ? = ? ? = ?$

However, this is OK (unicode directly inserted):  **$a a$**

This is small but the math remains unscaled and displays questionmarks:  $a = \alpha ? = ? ? = ?$

This is big and math font is also big and displays correctly:  **$a = \alpha a = \alpha$**   
 **$a = \alpha$**

This is normal (`\tfa\tfx!`) but the math remains big and displays ok:  **$a = \alpha a = \alpha$**   
 **$a = \alpha$**