

Exercise: gcd recur

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5.0 points possible (graded)

ESTIMATED TIME TO COMPLETE: 6 minutes

The greatest common divisor of two positive integers is the largest integer that divides each of them without remainder. For example,

- $\text{gcd}(2, 12) = 2$
- $\text{gcd}(6, 12) = 6$
- $\text{gcd}(9, 12) = 3$
- $\text{gcd}(17, 12) = 1$

A clever mathematical trick (due to Euclid) makes it easy to find greatest common divisors. Suppose that `a` and `b` are two positive integers:

- If $b = 0$, then the answer is a
- Otherwise, $\text{gcd}(a, b)$ is the same as $\text{gcd}(b, a \% b)$

[See this website for an example of Euclid's algorithm being used to find the gcd.](#)

Write a function `gcdRecur(a, b)` that implements this idea recursively. This function takes in two positive integers and returns one integer.

```
1 def gcdRecur(a, b):
2     '''
3     a, b: positive integers
4
5     returns: a positive integer, the greatest common divisor of a & b.
6     '''
7     # Your code here
8
```



Press ESC then TAB or click outside of the code editor to exit
