

Algorithm 3 – highest common factor

This algorithm calculates the highest common factor of two numbers – that is, the highest value which can be divided into two given numbers without leaving a remainder. For example, with the numbers 12 and 16, the highest common factor will be 4.

```
1 num1 = int(input("Value 1: "))
2 num2 = int(input("Value 2: "))
3 while num1 != num2:
4     if num1 > num2:
5         num1 = num1 - num2
6     else:
7         num2 = num2 - num1
8 print(num1)
```

Trace the values of num1 and num2 through the algorithm when the values 15 and 39 are entered.

num1	num2
15	39

What will happen if a prime number is entered in either (or both) of num1 or num2?
Why does line 8 only need to print one of the numbers?