Lab 1 - Arithmetic and Logic Unit (ALU)

For this lab you are expected to build an ALU that supports 8 arithmetic operations. The ALU should be designed in such a way that the user can specify the operation's width without modifying the VHDL code. In addition to the ALU you are also expected to build a test-bench that sufficiently verifies it's correctness.

ALUs are hardware circuits that perform the arithmetic computations within a processor. They support multiple operations like addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, square roots, etc. The hardware logic to perform these operations can vary widely based on the approach used (Carry-Lookahead vs Ripple-Carry adder) or the data types supported (Integer, Float, Double). An ALU could even supply multiple version of the same operation. They are not limited to only arithmetic operations. They can support bit-wise operations, like AND OR and NOT, as well.

Input data and control bits are sent to the ALU. The control bits specify an operation, and the ALU redirects the inputs to the corresponding functional circuit. When the computation completes the result is output along with extra data about the operation (overflow, underflow, carryouts, etc.)

Before starting this lab you should be familiar with:

- Two's complement representation
- The Xilinx ISE Tutorial (ilearn: \Lab Material\Lab0)
- The VHDL Examples ((ilearn: \Lab Material\Lab0)

Deliverables

- The entity name should be named "my_alu"
- The entity should use a generic, called "NUMBITS", that specifies the operation's width
- The entity should have input/output ports with the EXACT names listed below
- The entity should support the operations listed below

Port Name:	Size:
A	N-bit Input
B	N-bit Input
opcode	3-bit Input
result	N-bit Output
carryout	1-bit Output
overflow	1-bit Output
zero	1-bit Output

Operation:	Opcode:
unsigned add	000
signed add	001
unsigned sub	010
signed sub	011
bit-wise AND	100
bit-wise OR	101
bit-wise XOR	110
Divide A by 2	111

The **carryout** port is the MSb's (Most Significant Bit's) carry out.
The **zero** port should be '1' when the result port is all zeros.
The **overflow** port should be '1' when the available bits are not enough to represent the result. It occurs in the following situations.

	A	**B**	**Result**
signed add	>= 0	>= 0	< 0
	< 0	< 0	>= 0
signed sub	>= 0	< 0	< 0
	< 0	>= 0	>= 0
unsigned add	MSb's carryout is '1'		
unsigned sub	MSb's carryout is '0'		

Turn-In:

Each group should turn in one tar file to iLearn. The contents of which should be:

A README file with the group members names, and any incomplete or incorrect functionality

A VHDL file with the ALU design

A VHDL file with the test cases