

2007 Paper 6 Question 3

Digital Communication I

- (a) Define the term *flow control* as used in communication networks. [4 marks]
- (b) Describe on-off flow control, window-based flow control, and flow control used in circuit switching. [9 marks]
- (c) Consider a channel of capacity b and delay τ , over which packets of size p are sent. Compare the performance of window-based flow control protocols having:
- (i) a window size of one packet;
 - (ii) a window size of two packets; and
 - (iii) a window size of one packet, but with a packet size of $2p$.

[7 marks]