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 $\tau$, 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]