

IEC-IEEE Task Force Meeting on Impulse Tests Procedure

A Comparison of Procedure **B** and Procedure **C**

Paris, France 2004-11-29



Procedure B versus Procedure C

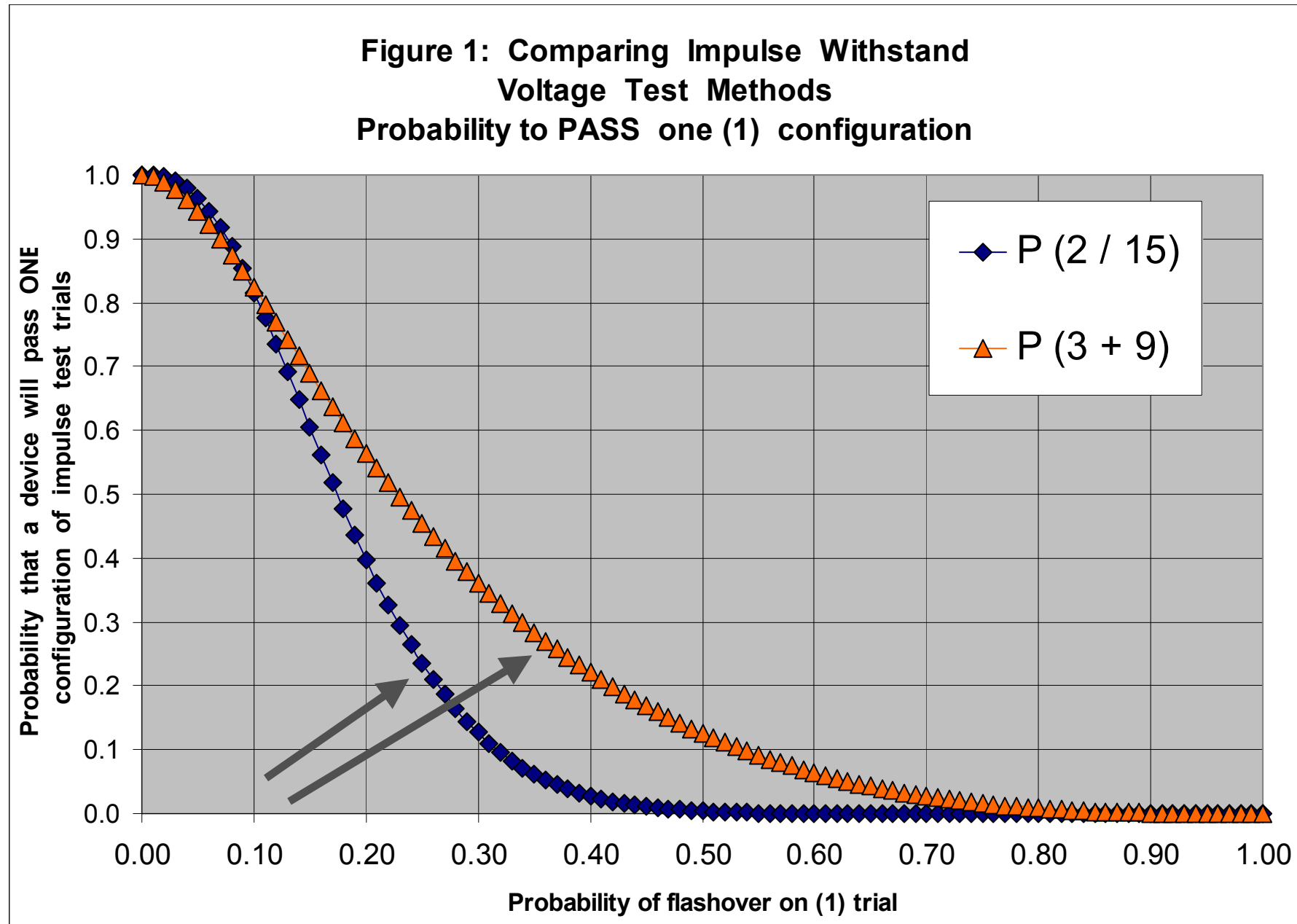
- ▶ Assumption: Both users and manufacturers want what is best for all electricity users
- ▶ Type-tests for new equipment designs
- ▶ Routine tests in the factory
- ▶ Tests after delivery and installation (commissioning)
- ▶ Focus on the Impulse Withstand Voltage Type-tests

Procedure B versus Procedure C

- ▶ Unlike short-circuit tests or temperature-rise tests, impedance withstand voltage tests are not “deterministic”, “statistical” in nature, and therefore require a different approach, such as Procedure B or Procedure C.
- ▶ Through the following series of figures comparing Procedure B, or the “2 / 15” test method with Procedure C, or the “3+9” test method, we hope to see some reasons why the experience with the so-called “3+9” method has been successful in North American applications.

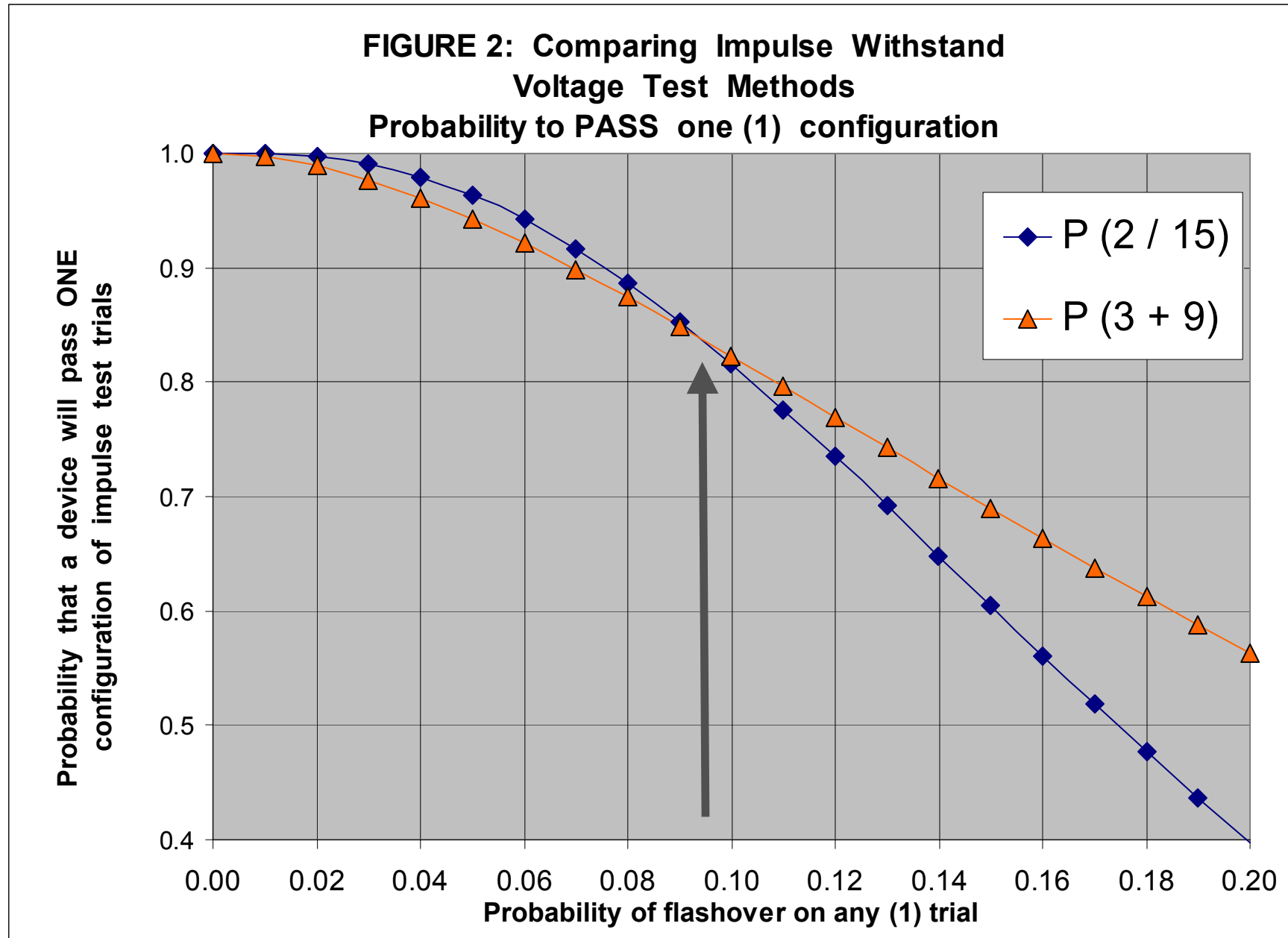
Procedure B versus Procedure C

Figure 1: Trials for One Test Configuration



Procedure B versus Procedure C

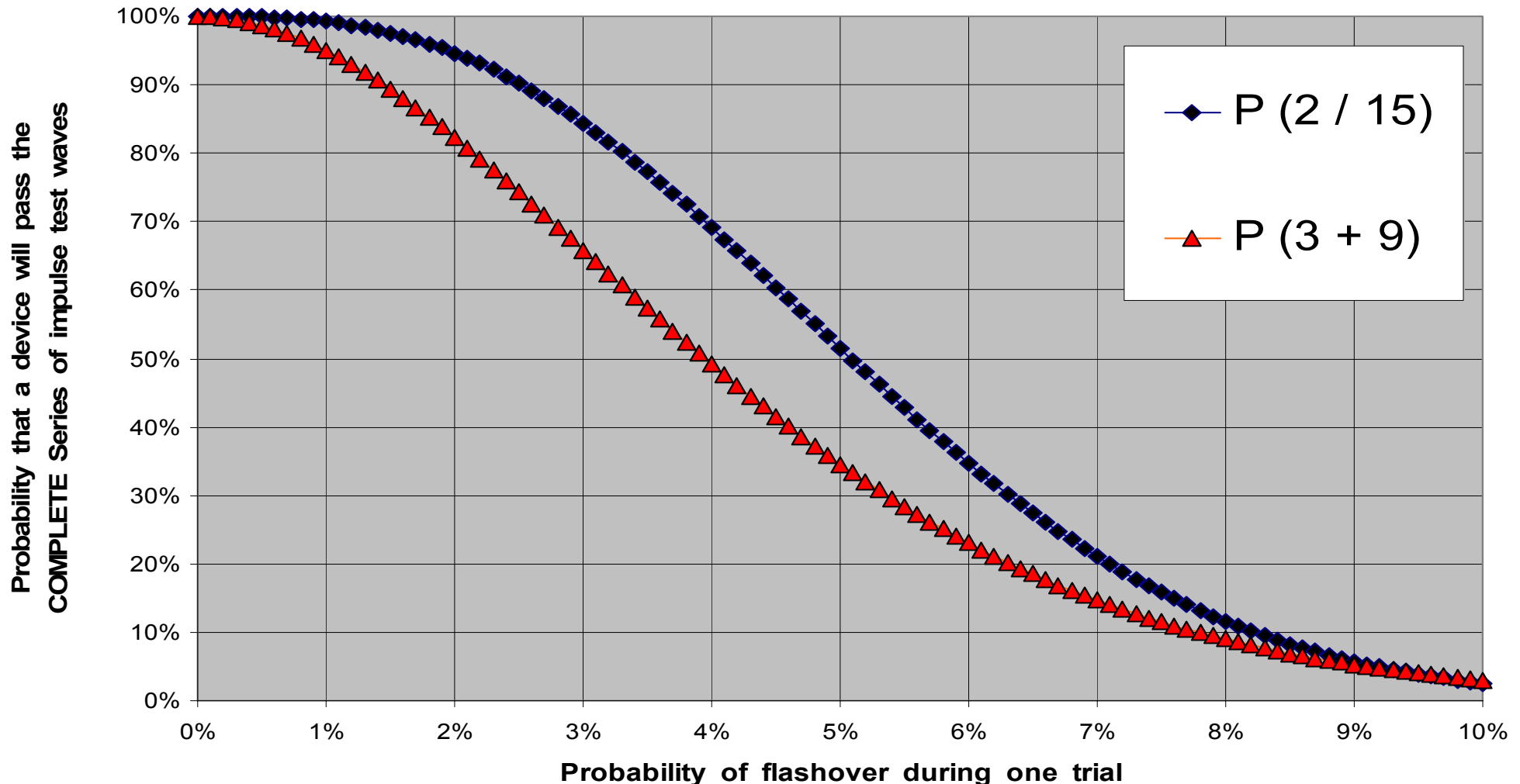
Figure 2: Trials for One Test Configuration



Procedure B versus Procedure C

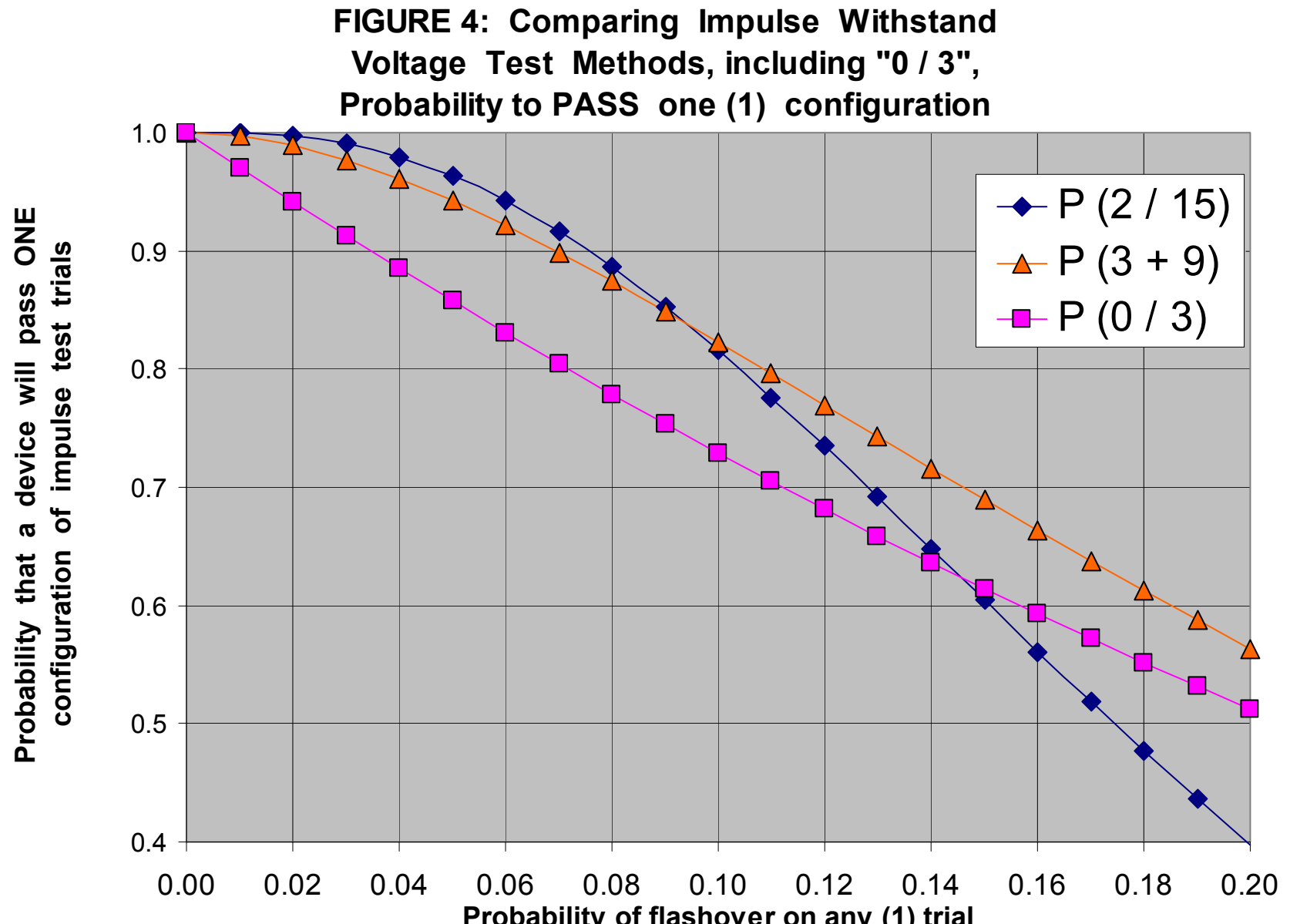
Figure 3 The Complete Series of Trials

FIGURE 3 - Cumulative Probability that a device will pass a COMPLETE series of 18 sets of trials, including 9 Configurations, and both "+" and "-" polarity impulse test waves



Procedure B versus Procedure C

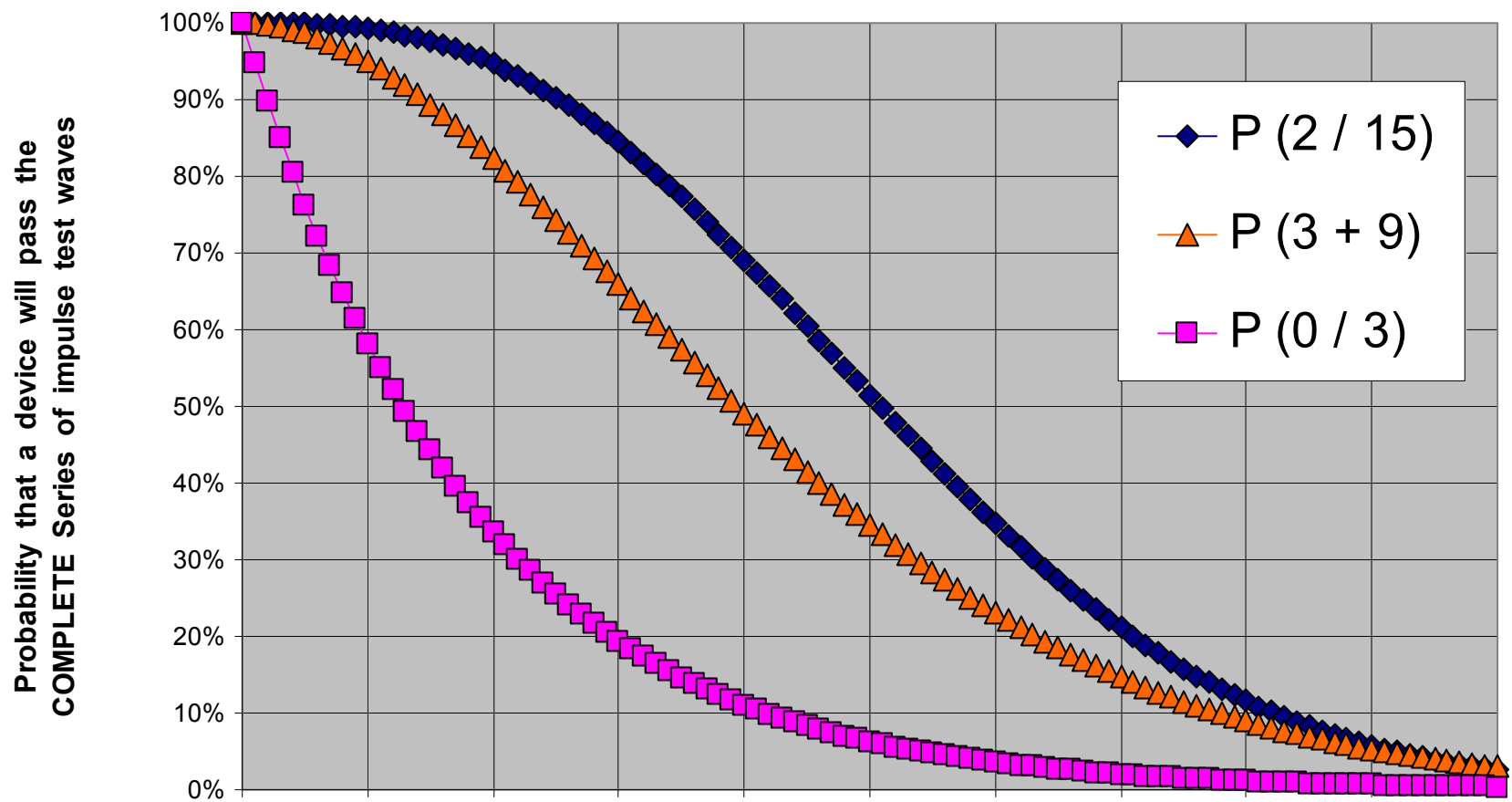
Figure 4 The First Three Trials



Procedure B versus Procedure C

Figure 5 The First Three Trials and the Complete Series of all Configurations

FIGURE 5 - Consider the First Three Trials and the Cumulative Probability that a device will pass a COMPLETE series of 18 sets of trials, including all 9 Configurations, and both "+" and "-" polarity impulse test waves



Procedure B versus Procedure C

► Conclusions:

- At first Figure 1 seems to show the “2 / 15” method more discriminating over all.
- However, Figure 2 shows that there is a region where “3 + 9” method is more discriminating.
- Figure 3 shows that this is really important when the impulse withstand test series is considered. In fact in region where the probability of failure is low, the “3 + 9” method appears to have an advantage.

Procedure B versus Procedure C

► Conclusions:

- Furthermore, Figure 3 also shows that when cumulative probability of the complete series of imp trials is considered, both methods are very good detecting a device with unacceptable performance.
- Figure 4 shows that the “0 / 3” first part of the “3 method can be very effective. In my opinion, the reason it has been effective is that no additional flashovers allowed, not one.
- Test engineers will tell you that in many cases, the trials in the series are the more likely to cause a flash

Procedure B versus Procedure C

► Conclusions:

- Figure 5 shows that in order to have a better than chance of passing a complete series of impulse withstand tests by performing the first three trials, “0 / 3”, in all configurations, a device would have to have a probability of flashover during a single trial of less than 1.3%.
- Margins are built into the insulation coordination procedures.
- Both the “2 / 15” method (Procedure B) and the “3 / 15” method (Procedure C) remain effective ways of proving the rated impulse withstand voltage of a device.
- It would be a mistake to remove Procedure C. It should remain in 62271-1 and in also 62271-100 and 62271-101.

Procedure B versus Procedure C

Conclusions:

I believe it would be a mistake to remove Procedure

Procedure C should remain an acceptable impulse withstand voltage test procedure in 62271-1 and also in 62271-100 and 62271-20