

Analyze the tactical offensive principles of the Algerian national football team in the
finals of the Nations of Africa 2019

تحليل بعض المبادئ التكتيكية الهجومية للمنتخب الوطني الجزائري لكرة القدم في نهائيات أمم إفريقيا
2019

Boulahia Mohamed ¹, Mehidi Mohamed ²

¹ University of Science and Technology Oran, Algeria, bm25@live.fr

² University of Science and Technology Oran, Algeria, mehidi7930@yahoo.fr

Received: 01/01/2021

Accepted: 04/05/2021

Published: 01/06/2021

Abstract :

The study aims to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the Algerian national football team with regard to some of the tactical offensive principles of the 2019 African Nations. The researchers used the descriptive approach based on the observation and analysis of the Algerian team's matches in this round. An analysis form comprising 07 offensive tactical principles has been prepared as a data collection tool. The results indicated that the success rate of the support attempts, switch play, switching Positions, creating spaces, and the crossing was good which exceeded to 70%. The success rate of infiltration attempts was moderate (57.86%), while the success rate of the attempts depth mobility was lower than the average (41.51%).

Keywords: analysis; Algerian national team; tactical offensive principles; football.

المخلص :

تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى التعرف على نقاط القوة والضعف لدى المنتخب الوطني الجزائري لكرة القدم فيما يخص بعض المبادئ التكتيكية الهجومية في دورة أمم إفريقيا 2019. استخدم الباحثان المنهج الوصفي المبني على أساس ملاحظة و تحليل مباريات المنتخب الجزائري في هذه الدورة. تم إعداد استمارة تحليل تضم 07 مبادئ تكتيكية هجومية كأداة لجمع البيانات. أشارت النتائج إلى أن نسبة نجاح محاولات كل من المساندة، تغيير اتجاه اللعب، تبادل المراكز، خلق المساحات، التقاطع كانت جيدة و تجاوزت 70%. كانت نسبة نجاح محاولات مبدأ الاختراق متوسطة (57.86%)، في حين كانت نسبة نجاح محاولات التحرك في العمق أقل من المتوسط (41.51%).

- الكلمات المفتاحية : تحليل، المنتخب الجزائري، المبادئ التكتيكية الهجومية، كرة القدم.

1. Introduction:

The tactical principles defined as a set of standards around the game that provide players with the possibility of quickly achieving tactical solutions to problems that arise from the situations they face (Garganta, 1994, p, 115). Due to these features, tactical principles must be understood and present in the game's game behavior, so they could be easily applied to achieve goals that lead to scoring or avoiding goals, by better controlling the game, maintaining possession of the ball, and changing the game's pace, And embodying the tactical actions that aim to break the balance of opponents, and thus score the goal more easily. These cases are clear in the football game so that the coach can observe tactics by spatial organization of players in the field under match conditions in relation to ball movements, colleagues and team players (Duprat, 2007, p, 26). These requirements are even more obvious if we know first: Most actions occur when players are not in direct contact with the ball, second: Players with limited skills can play football if they have a reasonable level of tactical understanding (Bin Abdurrahman, 2019, p, 39), third: Weak tactical knowledge can reduce the effective performance of technical skills (Costa, 2011, p, 83). This form of understanding tactics gives particular emphasis to movement and positioning within the field, highlighting the players' ability to occupy and/or create empty spaces according to the tactical principles most suited to that moment. The application of technology in football has also contributed to a greater understanding of tactical problems, both from training staff and players, and to an attempt to find understandable field solutions, as video game analysis provides, for example, a means of identifying and improving the characteristics of individual or group performance in terms of sports, technology and tactical (Benboudellah, 2016, p, 15). It also allows for in-depth statistical studies, database development, and performance models to

provide indicators of their respective strengths and weaknesses and help to select the workforce (Carling, 2012, p, 389). Generally positive sports result in international journals highlight the evolution of the offensive tactical level of modern football by collecting data in short time thanks to the use of contemporary and modern analytical tools in sports training. The new styles advanced with the needs of preparing performance and tactics, which explains the maximum abilities of professional players in the performance of attack (Baroudi, 2014, p, 44), as the African Cup in 2019 scored 102 goals in 52 matches, reflecting the tendency of African football to play offensive. The Algerian team that crowned the tournament was the most scored for the goals by 13 goals, And the most shots are on goal, unlike the rest of the African teams, whose players' shots were mostly from open play centers and from the borders of the penalty area, and most of them were outside the goal frame(Merniz & Saoudi, 2019, p, 457) .In addition to providing good levels throughout the session, researchers are required to study the various aspects that led to his being crowned with the cup in order for other teams to benefit from this data. Moreover, the confederation of African football did not develop a technical report for the tournament like what is in place in the international federation of football (Van Basten el al., 2019, p, 2), the European union of football and the Asian football confederation, and it was satisfied with placing superficial information on its website directed to the public and not to the technical crews (10 events). In addition, the lack of studies that have focused on studying the Algerian national team, especially in terms of analyzing matches in its offensive side, and this is what prompted the researchers to study this topic by knowing the strengths and weaknesses points of the Algerian national football team with regard to some principles Offensive tactics in Africa Cup of Nations 2019.

2. Methodology of the study:

2.1. Study Sample:

The study sample was chosen in a way that consisted of 23 Algerian players who participated in the African Nations Finals for the Egypt 2019 Championship.

2.2. Tools:

2.2.1. Analysis form for some tactical offensive principles questionnaire:

After a series of studies on offensive tactical principles in football (Costa, 2009; Leon, 2013; Nagy, 2018). A sample analysis of some Tactical Offensive Principles has been prepared, which includes 09 Tactical Offensive Principles. Then a form was submitted to a group of soccer experts to verify the content was correct. The final version contained 07 principles after removing two of the principles that had been in place prior to the arbitration.

2.2.2. Analysis Method:

The researchers relied on descriptive analysis by analyzing the performance of the African Nations Cup 2019 national team players through observation using an analysis form of some tactical offensive principles and video recording, which is the most common method used by coaches and researchers today. Video allows unrestricted access to everything that happens on the pitch, and the monitor controls time limits where data are not analyzed in real time; delay in recording display is to allow for rewind or even slow motion. In general, this method is to record maximum data, facilitate the observer's task, and remember that even if video recordings make it possible to see the progress of the game multiple times, thereby providing more precision to perform analytics by increasing the number of actions to be analyzed, To insert data that is recorded later from video recording (Bekraouia, 2010, p, 181).

2.2.3. Tactical offensive Principles:

The researchers analyzed the following variables:

2.2.3.1. Support:

Support is considered successful if the player in possession of the ball hands it over to a colleague who takes an appropriate angle, and the attempt is considered unsuccessful if the ball is interrupted by the opposing team's players (Nagy, 2018, p, 54).

2.2.3.2. Switch play:

The attempt is successful if the player can hand the ball to another partner on the opposite side of the ball-taking player, and the attempt is unsuccessful if one of the rival players receives it or goes out of the field (Nagy, 2018, p, 54).

2.2.3.3. Switching Positions:

The attempt is considered successful if one of the players exchanges positions with one of his teammates and during this process the ball is received by another teammate, and the attempt is considered a failure if the ball is delivered to one of the opposing team's players (Nagy, 2018, p, 54).

2.2.3.4. Create spaces:

The attempt is considered successful if a fellow player pulls a player from the opposing team away from his teammate who has the ball, and an attempt is considered unsuccessful if the other player is unable to pull a player from the opposing team away from his teammate on the team that has the ball (Nagy, 2018, p, 55).

2.2.3.5. Crossing:

The attempt is considered successful if one of the players runs against the fellow player in possession of the ball in the attacking area of the opposing team. The attempt is considered unsuccessful if one of the players does not run against the direction of the fellow player in possession of the ball in the attacking area of

the opposing team or if the ball is lost when making the cross (Costa, 2009, p, 666).

2.2.3.6. Depth mobility:

The principle of depth mobility is linked to the initiative of the attacking player(s) without having the ball to find the optimal positions for receiving the ball. The attempt is considered successful if the player manages to deliver the ball to the teammate who moved in the rear or to another player who occupies the space created by the player who moved in the deep behind the last defensive line, and the attempt is considered unsuccessful if the ball is cut by the opponent's players (Costa, 2009, p, 661).

2.2.3.7. Infiltration:

The attempt to infiltrate if the unbelted player hitches the ball and the progress that reduces the distance between the ball-taking player and the opponent team goal, allowing for accidental scrolling or deep in the opponent's penalty area, or the competing player(s) evasive. This allows space saving, directing the football-winning player toward the goal and evoking the competitor(s), thereby allowing the player who owns the ball to scroll/support so that the team colleague can continue playing or paying the goal. Or if the football player is in a face-to-face position against the opponent goalkeeper (Costa, 2009, p, 661), the attempt is a failure if the ball is cut by the opponent team players.

2.2.4. Exploratory study:

Subsequent the application was arbitration; the researchers analyzed the latest official match of the Algerian national team against the Gambian team within the qualification for the African Nations Cup finals in Egypt 2019, to find out the difficulties we can face during the main experiment to be deal with in advance.

2.2.5. The main study:

The researchers analyzed all the Algerian national team matches in the African Nations Football finals of Egypt 2019 tournament, which number reached 07 matches without calculating extra strokes (Algeria, Cote d'Ivoire). Based on the form for some tactical offensive principles using a laptop and a DVD of the 7 that contain the target games in the analysis

The analysis process took (14) days to analyze one match every two days, as the first day analyzed the match and on the second day the match itself was analyzed, with the calculation of the rate of successful and failed attempts for each principle to achieve more accurate results in the analysis process

3. Results:

Table 1 shows the successful and unsuccessful attempts of some of the tactical offensive principles of the Algerian national football team in the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations.

Table1. The values of the arithmetic averages (x), standard deviations (S) and percentages (%) of successful and unsuccessful attempts at some of the tactical offensive principles of the Algerian national team in the 2019 African Nations Cup

Variables	Successful attempts			Failed attempts		
	X	S	%	x	S	%
1- Support	174,857	82,735	87.05	26	6,879	12.95
2- Switch play	12,285	5,186	78.89	3,285	2,497	21.11
3- Switching Positions	14,571	3,505	76.69	4,428	3,207	23.31
4- Create spaces	10,142	4,525	88.75	1,285	1,253	11.25
5 - Crossing	5	2,449	72.91	1,857	1,069	27.09
6- Depth mobility	8,571	3,154	41.51	14.142	6,866	58.49
7- Infiltration	13	5,291	57.96	9,428	4,197	42.04

Through the data shown in Table (1), we note that the highest success rate was for the principle of support (88.75%), the success rate of each fiducially, switch play, switching Positions, creating spaces, the crossing was good and

exceeded 70%. The success rate of infiltration attempts was moderate (57.86%), while the success rate of the Depth mobility attempts was lower than the average and the lowest result compared to the rest of the principles (41.51%).

4. Discussion:

The results of the current study show the strength of the Algerian national team in terms of the tactical offensive aspect in general. Tactical principles are under consideration, since they based on deep play through rapid transformation of the ball between the three lines, and diversification in play mode, allowing the recording of targets from different tactical positions (04 from rapid attacks, 07 from counter attacks). These data are not very consistent with the results of **Dreissi** Study (2009), which considers that the Algerian ball has a great tendency to use only one attack method (speed attack), and has a clear lack of organized attack (Baroudi, 2014, p, 44). In addition to applying high pressure well by pushing the ball mount, steering and forcing the cannons to play the ball in a specific direction with the scroll angle closed to quickly restore the ball. The team has been able to make the opponent lose their defense balance and has contributed to increasing the number of attempts to infiltrate and move in depth after creating favorable positions in the spatial and numerical terms that allow the attackers to move to a region that poses a danger to the opponent's goal (Carling, 2012, p, 389). Most of the offensive attempts that posed a threat to the opponent's goal or ended with a goal came after at least two players applied an offensive tactical principle at the same time with the speed of execution, especially in the presence of a defensive block for the opposing team. The successful sequence of attempts in offensive tactical principles such as switching Positions especially between a defensive midfielder and the left wing player on one side and the middle offensive field, and the right wing on the other side is intended to be a repetitive pattern in nearly all games

that have created spaces, either in depth or in the periphery, which was used to destabilize the opponent's defense. This is what **Castillo** says that "compliance with these tactical principles of the team allows for favorable time and place for the task, i.e. increasing the number of players in the "play center", greater ease of implementation of tactical technical offensive measures and more possibilities of creating instability in the defense organization of the opponent" (Castelo, 1994, p, 33). The frequent attempts of the principle of depth mobility indicate the intensity of the offensive work of the Algerian national team. However, the success rate of applying this principle does not reflect the real level of the attackers, as there is a high probability of losing the ball in such situations due to the defense coverage of the opponent, offside cases and other situations in which the team can lose the ball.

The results of this study can be explained by:

1- Diversifying the offensive style of play for the Algerian national team by creating spaces in the preparation zone and accelerating the match in third offensive position, in addition to counter-attacks in response to the demands of modern football.

2- The presence of 22 professional players, including 07 players, active in the three best European championships, in addition to most of them receiving professional training in French football schools, this matter helped them to carry out their offensive tactical duties effectively.

3- Creating clear playing patterns by the coach of the Algerian national team, allowing players to apply them frequently and effectively.

5. Conclusion:

In the light of the results of this study, the researcher found:

– Video analysis allows providing the provision of individual and team performance data on the technical and tactical levels, by highlighting the

strengths and weaknesses of football for the purpose of making adjustments in training (technical and tactical).

- The Algerian national football team applies the tactical offensive principles in question to a good standard.
- The good professional training of the majority of the Algerian national football team players in European football schools contributed to their tactical maturity.

References:

- 1- Ahmed Bin Abdurrahman Al-Haramleh. (2019). Cognitive failure and its relationship to tactical knowledge and the performance of some complex skills among football players. *Sports Creativity Journal*, 10 (1), 21-40. <https://www.asjp.cerist.dz/en/article/92081>
- 2- Bekraouia. N, Cazorlab.G, Lége.L. (2010).Les systèmes d'enregistrement et d'analyse quantitatifs dans le football. *Science & Sports*, 25, 177—183. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scispo.2010.03.006>
- 3- Benbouabdellah Mustapha. (2016). Analyse du jeu effectif (Réel) et de la possession de balle des trois championnats Européens de Football (France, Espagne et Italie). *Revue Scientifique Spécialisée en Sciences du Sport*. (06), 11-17. <https://www.asjp.cerist.dz/en/article/97820>
- 4- Carling, C., Bloomfield, J., NELSON, LEE, & Reilly, T. (2012). The role of motion analysis in elite soccer: Contemporary performance measurement techniques and work rate data. *Sports Medicine*, 38 (10), 389. <https://doi.org/10.2165%2F00007256-200838100-00004>
- 5- Castelo, J. (1994). Futebol: modelo técnico-tático do jogo: identificação e caracterização das grandes tendências evolutivas das equipas de rendimento superior.
- 6- Costa, I. T., Garganta, J., Greco, P. J., & Mesquita, I. (2009). Tactical Principles of Soccer: Concepts and Application (Princípios Táticos do Jogo de Futebol: conceitos e aplicação). *Revista Motriz*, 15(3), 657-668.

- 7- Costa. I.T, Garganta J, Greco .P.J. Greco, Mesquita . I, Maia. J. (2011). System of tactical assessment in Soccer (FUT-SAT): Development and preliminary validation. *Motricidade*, 7(1), 69-83. do Porto: Rainho & Neves Lda, (1), 95-136.
- 8- Drissi, B. (2009). Football concepts et méthodes, Office des Publication Universitaires, Alger.
- 9- DUPRAT, E. (2007). Enseigner Le Football en milieu scolaire (Collèges, Lycées) et au club. Editions ACTIO. Paris.
- 10- GARGANTA. J, PINTO. J. (1994). O ensino do futebol. In: A. Graça e J. Oliveira (Ed.). O ensino dos grandes tendências evolutivas das equipas de rendimento superior. Lisboa: Faculdade de jogos desportivos Faculdade de Ciências do Desporto e de Educação Física da Universidade
- 11- Léon Teodorescu. (2013). Principes pour l'étude de la tactique commune aux jeux sportifs collectifs et leur corrélation avec la préparation tactique des équipes et des joueurs. *eJRIEPS* [En ligne], 28, 99-117. <https://doi.org/10.4000/ejrieps.2934>
- 12- Marco Van Basten et al. (2019). RAPPORT TECHNIQUE COUPE DU MONDE DE LA FIFA RUSSIE 2018. Fédération Internationale de Football Association. Zurich. <https://img.fifa.com/image/upload/vnyavkozqgllkj1omdao.pdf>
- 13- Mohamed Amine BAROUDI.(2014). L'analyse vidéo de la tactique offensive en football Etude du cas de l'équipe nationale algérienne cadets (U17). *Revue Sciences et Pratiques des Activités Physiques Sportives et Artistiques*. (6). 40-46. <https://www.asjp.cerist.dz/en/article/16316>
- 14- Mohamed Amine BAROUDI. (2015). L'expertise vidéo et l'analyse tactique offensive en football. these doctorat. University Abdelhamid Ibn Badis. Mostaganem. Algeria.
- 15- Nagy Kazim Ali. (2018). Analytical study of some of the offensive plans of the Iraqi national team that participates in the Asian finals qualifying for the 2018

Analyze the tactical offensive principles of the Algerian national football team in the finals of the Nations of Africa 2019

- World Cup. Journal of the College of Mathematical Education, 30(4), 152-163. <https://www.iasj.net/iasj?func=article&ald=162636>
- 16- Osama Merniz, Ayoub Saudi. (2019). Analyzing the skill of shooting on the goal in the first round of the African Nations Cup for Soccer Egypt 2019. Sports Creativity Journal, 10 (5), 445-460. <https://www.asjp.cerist.dz/en/article/102992>
- 17- WORTHINGTON, E. (1974). Learning & Teaching Soccer Skills. North Hollywood: Wilshire Book.