

analytical study of the importance of the transition defensive players to the attack phase for football players

"A field study on the Algerian national team at the Qatar Arab Cup 2021"

دراسة تحليلية لأهمية انتقال لاعبي الدفاع إلى مرحلة الهجوم عند لاعبي كرة القدم

"دراسة ميدانية على المنتخب الجزائري في كأس العرب قطر 2021"

Abdelmalek Boufrida

University of Souk Ahras (Algeria), a.boufrida@univ-soukahras.dz

Received: 12/08/2023

Accepted: 26/02/2024

Published: 16 /03/2024

Abstract:

This study aims to know the importance of the transition of defense players to the offensive phase (the offensive transition). for the Algerian national team players participating in the Qatar Arab Cup 2021, The research community was selected from the players of the Qatar Arab Cup 2021, The sample of the study was the players of the Algerian national team in the quarter-final match against the Moroccan national team, Where the researcher used the descriptive approach with the analytical method because it is the most appropriate method for the nature of this research, And to collect data, use the platform(instat scout football), The statistical methods represented in the percentage and the sufficient squared test were used, The most important results reached were as follows:

- There is a statistically significant difference in the offensive transition according to the three sides (right, left, middle).
- There is no statistically significant difference in achieving goal chances according to the three sides (right, left, middle).
- There is no statistically significant difference in the role of the attackers when switching from attack to defense to build the defensive block against counter-attacks according to the three sides (right, left, middle).

Keywords: Defensive skills; Offensive skills; Offensive transition; football.

Introduction:

Modern football has witnessed remarkable development in recent years in terms of physical, skill, tactical and psychological aspects, That is why the modern player of various international teams and teams was characterized by speed, strength and flexibility in accurate technical performance, This is due to the interest of international coaches in the good formation of players at the level of various aspects to develop all techniques that have great effectiveness for competitions according to studied scientific approaches. (Hassan, 1988, p. 25).

Football performance is nowadays increasingly complex so that individual or collective success depends on a number of variables such as aerobic and anaerobic physical performance, speed, body composition, style of play, team tactics as well as psychological factors. (Arafa, 2023)

Football is about repeated and multiple shifts between attack and defense in order to threaten the opponent's goal, score goals and win the match, This game is considered an integrated system consisting of several elements, each of which affects the other in transfers from defense to attack or vice versa. Each coach has a method of building defense and plans to advance to the attack and how the defenders move during the attack, That is, support and support in offensive pressure on the opponent, or their only mission is defense, Defensive organization is the basis that drives any team to progress in work, reaping positive results, and this progress does not come until after we provide the base on which any defensive organization is based, The defense area of the football field is also one of the influential areas, so the defensive organization is among the main parameters that the coach takes into account and one of the most important criteria for judging the extent of the efficiency of the defense. The way and organization of play also determines the personality of the team. (Zahran, 1999, p. 65)

In this context, Taha Ismail and others mention the year 1993 AD, It is when the team takes possession of the soccer ball that all players become attackers, and whoever does not possess the ball moves away to an empty place or moves without the ball to a place that attracts the attention of the competitor and thus clears an empty space that his teammates can benefit from and reach the opponent's goal. (Ismail, 1993, p. 71)

On the other hand, when the ball is lost, the attackers must switch to defense and appropriate positioning, and put pressure on the ball carrier in order to take possession of it, according to the plans set by the coach and the method relied upon to enter the match and how to move from defense to attack and vice versa, As we noticed in the last Arab Cup in Qatar, held in 2021, that the Algerian team in the Algeria-Morocco match had many transfers and attacks that greatly affected the merits of the match and how to switch to defense, The method of analyzing football matches is considered one of the most important scientific aspects of research because it is "an effective tool in determining, in an objective manner, the condition of each team, whether in training or matches. Another correct scientific evaluation, and the importance of analysis increases with the great benefit that teams obtain (Boudina Bilal, 2023, p. 02).

By watching all the matches of the national football team in the Arab Cup Qatar 2021, we decided to focus attention on them in our research, And to investigate the defensive and

offensive performance of the Algerian national team by relying on the analysis of the matches in this session, and this is what led to the general question that is raised.

« Is there an effective role for the importance of the transition of defense players to the attack phase for the players of the Algerian national team? »

1. Partial questions:

- Do the defense players have an effective role in switching from defense to attack to build the team's various attacks (right side, left side, middle) ?
- Does the transfer of defenders in the offensive transition phase have a role in the effectiveness of the attack and the achievement of goal opportunities ?
- Is there an effective role for the attackers when switching from attack to defense to build the defensive block against counter-attacks?

1.2 Study hypotheses:

1.2.1 general hypothesis:

- There is an effective role for the importance of the transition of defensive players to the attacking phase of football players.

1.2.2 Partial Hypotheses:

- Defense players have an effective role in switching from defense to attack to build the team's various attacks (right side, left side, middle).
- the defenders to transfer in the offensive transition phase, has a role in the effectiveness of the attack and the achievement of goal opportunities.
- There is an active role for the attackers when shifting from offense to defense to build up the defensive block against counter-attacks.

1.3 Objectives of the study:

- Knowledge how to switch from defense to attack in building the various team attacks (right side, left side, middle).
- Knowledge how defenders transfer into attack and create goal chances.
- Knowledge how to transition from offense to defense to build up a defensive block against counter-attacks.

1.4 the importance of studying:

- Demonstrating the effective role played by the defense players during the offensive transition.
- Demonstrating the ratio of repetitive defense-to-offensive transitions.
- Know the importance of tactical compatibility between defense and attack.

1.5 Define the terminology of the study:

1.5.1 Defensive skills:

The concept of defensive basic skills can be defined through the concept of defensive basic skills. These are the movements necessary to implement the requirements of the defensive part in football, which are performed within the legal framework. (Mufti, 1994, p. 252).

1.5.2 Offensive skills:

It is an offensive implementation between two or more players who move in good agreement by carrying out a set of technical measures in the direction of the opponent's goal

with the aim of disrupting his defense and finding a loophole from which a goal can be scored. (Al-Sayed, 2001, p. 176).

1.5.3 Defensive transition :

Football consists of frequent and multiple shifts between attack and defense and vice versa, and the team that succeeds in using the appropriate plans (defensive and offensive) and agrees to implement them accurately and accurately wins the match. (Al-Waqqad, 2003, p. 199).

1.5.4 Offensive transition :

The attack means that it is a tactical situation in which the team is present in the event of possession of the ball, which makes it able to determine the events of the game in a large way, and it begins first with possession of the ball and then ends with losing it, and all the players of the team are considered involved in the events of the game in this situation. (Djaballi, 2001, p. 187).

1.5.5 football :

Football is, first of all, a team game played between two teams, each with eleven players, including a goalkeeper. Four referees supervise the arbitration matches distributed as follows: one in the middle of the field, two assistant referees on the sidelines, and the fourth referee is a reserve. (Al-Dailami, 1997, p. 08)

2. Previous and similar studies :

2.1 The first study:

Mohamed Ibrahim Salem, titled "The Relative Impact of Offensive and Defense Plans in African Football (An Analytical Study), Ph.D. Thesis, Faculty of Physical Education, Zakazik University, 1994.

The aim of the study:

Identify the attack and defense plans and the skills most performed by the research sample teams and determine the degree of effectiveness and the differences in performance and the quality of the relationship between the degree of effectiveness of the performance of the offensive and defensive plans and skills of the joint teams and their final arrangement in the tournament and determine the most areas of play for performance and implementation.

The method used: The method is descriptive.

Study sample: All matches of the joint teams in the African Cup of Nations (1992).

The most important results:

The plan for creating free space and exploiting it by controlling the ball with cross front running is the most performing plan for creating individual and collective free space for the teams. The research sample plans for indirect shooting at the goal (plans for fixed positions) are the most performing free kick positions and that coverage is the most performance defensive plan. Passing is the most basic skill performance and shooting in a specific corner of the goal is the most performance of the research sample teams.

2.2 Second study:

Serage edddin Mohamed AbdelMoneim, entitled "Assessing the Offensive and Defensive Tactical Performance and its Relationship to the Results of Matches in the 1998 World Cup of Football", Ph.D., Faculty of Physical Education, Alexandria, 2000.

The aim of the study:

analytical study of the importance of the transition defensive players to the attack phase for football players

Knowledge about the most important tactical, offensive and defensive performances of the 1998 World Cup.

The method used:

The method used by the researcher is the descriptive method.

Study sample:

It is a fifty-one match for 12 teams representing the three world schools European Latin African.

The most important results:

A proposed training program is one of the most prominent tactical, offensive and defensive performances, and was applied to the 18-year-old team at the Alexandria Olympic Club.

2.3 The third study:

Ayman Ibrahim Obaid, entitled "An Analytical Study of Some Offensive Tactical Performances in the Offensive Third of the First Saudi National Team and Some High-Level Teams in the 1994 World Cup Football," Master's thesis, Faculty of Physical Education, Alexandria University, 2001.

The aim of the study: to identify the offensive tactical performances in the offensive third of the Saudi national team and the high-level teams.

The method used: The method used by the researcher is the descriptive method.

The study sample: 12 matches for the Saudi national team, and the four- and final round matches for high-level teams.

The most important results: The most important offensive tactical performances of the Saudi national team in the long pass from the back and the most and the plans of fixed positions for corner kicks

3.The Systematic Procedures:

3.1 the Exploratory study

It is the first step that helps the researcher in collecting information about the aspects of the field study for his research. The exploratory study aims to ensure the appropriateness of the research study and to ensure the validity of the tool used to collect information and to know the appropriate time to conduct the study.

3.2 The Study variables: In our study, this contains only one independent variable, which is the transfer of defensive players

3.3 The Study Community:

In our study, the study population consisted of the Arab Cup teams in Qatar 2021, which numbered 22 Arab producers.

3.3 The study sample:

The study sample included the players of the Algerian national team for the locals in the Arab Cup tournament in Qatar 2021, the senior category, the quarter-final match between Algeria and Morocco.

3.4 The Fields of Study:

time frame:

This study was conducted (from March 10, 2022 to March 30, 2022) on the quarter-final match between Algeria and Morocco, which was held on Saturday, December 11, 2021 at seven o'clock GMT.

spatial domain:

This study was conducted in the state of Souk Ahras, University of Mohamed Cherif Musaedia, on the match that was held in Al Thumama Stadium between Algeria and Morocco in Doha, the capital of Qatar.

Human Field:

Players of the Algerian national team for the locals participating in the Arab Cup in Qatar 2021.

3.5 Data collection tools:

The global football match analysis platform football.instatscuot.com was used

3.6 The Statistical methods:

- percentage
- Sufficient squared test

4-Results analysis and discussion:

4.1 The Presentation of the Results Related to the First Hypothesis:

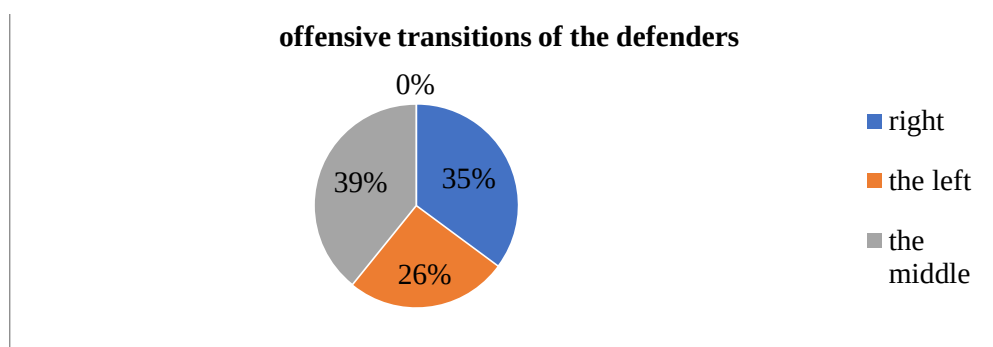
4.1.1 The first hypothesis: Defense players have an effective role in switching from defense to attack to build the team's various attacks (right side, left side, middle).

Table No. (01): Displaying the results of the difference in the offensive transition between the three sides (right / left / center).

offensive transition	iterations	Percentage	K2	significance level	Sig	degrees of freedom	Statistical estimate
the right	26	%35.13	2.14	$\alpha=0,05$	0,34	n-1 =2	significant
the left	19	%25.68					
the middle	29	%39.19					

We notice from Table No. (01) that the value of χ^2 calculated at the degree of freedom (2) was equal to (2.14) and since the degree of moral probability is equal to (sig = 0.34) and is greater than the level of significance ($\alpha = 0.05$), there is no difference Statistically significant in the offensive transformation according to the three sides (right/left/center), and this is because the offensive transformation is close between the right side with (26) attempts at a rate of (35.13%) and the center with (29) attempts at a rate of (39.19%), while the left side scored less An offensive conversion estimated at (19) attempts, at a rate of (25.68%).

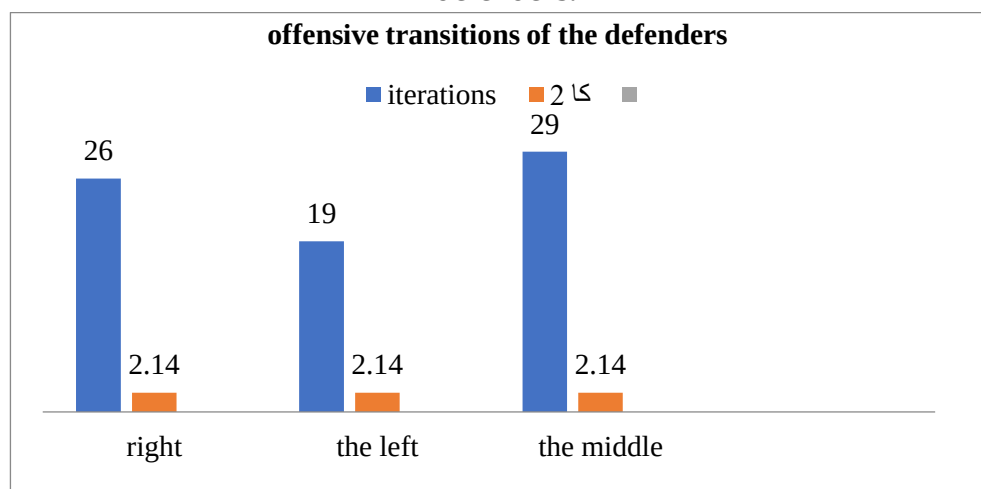
Figure No. (01): The relative circular representation of the offensive transitions of the defenders.



Source:

The source of this relativistic circuit is the current study

Figure No. (02): It shows the iterative representation of the offensive transitions of the defenders.



Source: The source of this figure is the current study

4.2 The Presentation of the Results Related to the second Hypothesis:

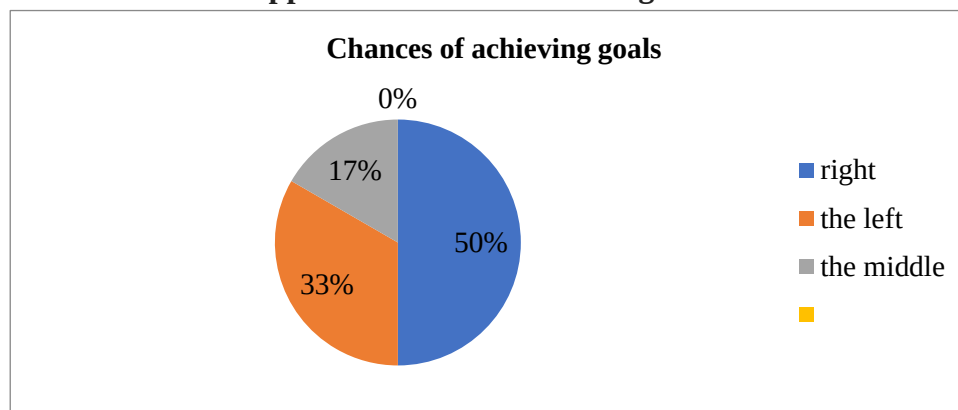
4.2.1 The second hypothesis: the defenders to transfer in the offensive transition phase, has a role in the effectiveness of the attack and the achievement of goal opportunities.

- **Table No. (02):** The display of the results shows the difference in achieving the goal opportunities between the three parties (right / left / center)

offensive transition	iterations	percentage	K2	significance level	Sig	degrees of freedom	Statistical estimate
the right	3	%50	1	$\alpha=0,05$	0.61	n-1 =2	is statistically significant
the left	2	33.33%					
the middle	1	16.67 %					

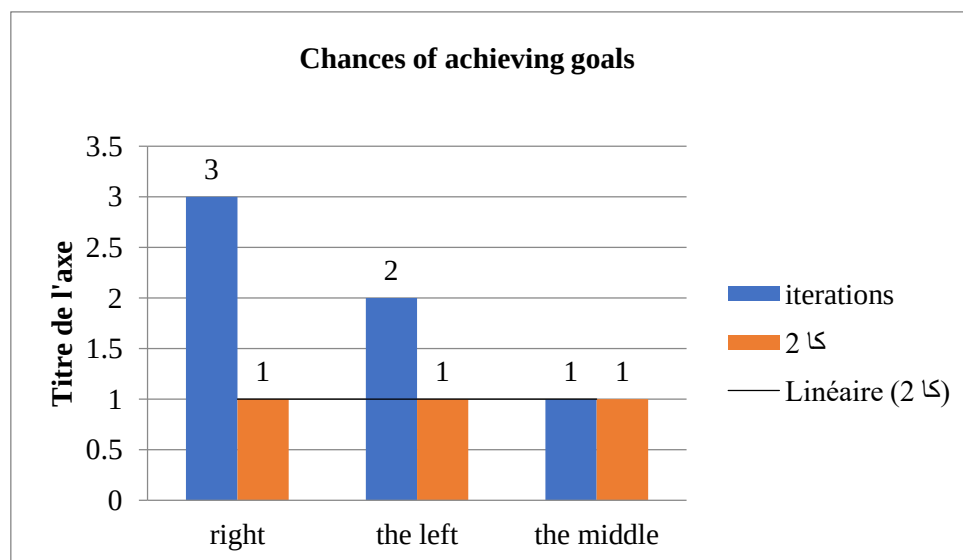
We notice from Table No. (02) that the value of χ^2 calculated at the degree of freedom (2) was equal to (1), and since the degree of moral probability is equal to ($\text{sig} = 0.61$) and is greater than the level of significance ($\alpha = 0.05$), there is no difference Statistically significant in achieving the chances of goals according to the three sides (right/left/center), and this is due to the convergence of achieving chances between the right side with (3) attempts at a rate of (50%), while the left scored (2) attempts at a rate of (33.33%) The mean is B (1) attempt, with a rate of (16.67%).

Figure No. (03): shows the proportional circular representation of the percentage of opportunities to achieve the goals



Source: The source of this relativistic circuit is the current study

Figure No. (04): Iterative representation of opportunities to achieve goals



Source: The source of this figure is the current study

4.3 The Presentation of the Results Related to the Third Hypothesis:

4.3.1 The third hypothesis: There is an effective role for the attackers when transfer from attack to defense to build a defensive block against counter-attacks

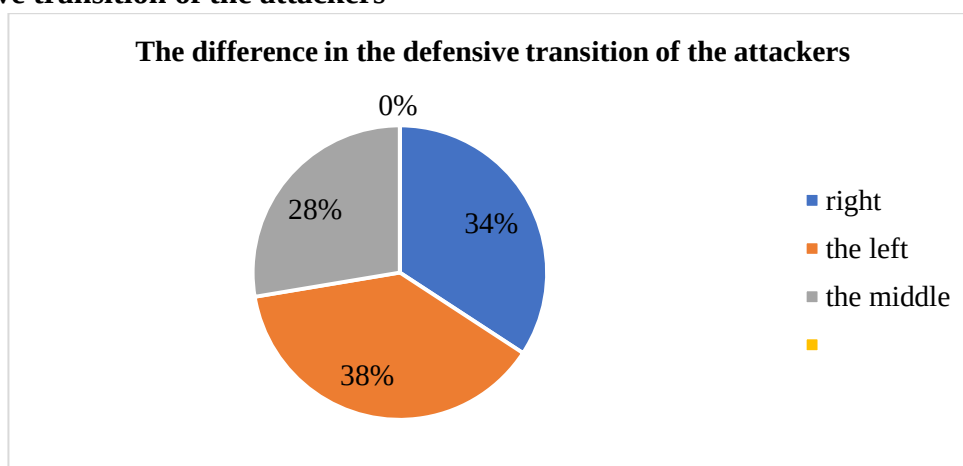
analytical study of the importance of the transition defensive players to the attack phase for football players

- **Table No. (03):** Displaying the results of the difference in the defensive transition of the attackers for the three sides (right / left / center)

offensive transition	iterations	percentage	K2	significance level	Sig	degrees of freedom	Statistical estimate
the right	26	%34.21	1.29	$\alpha=0,05$	0.53	n-1 =2	is statistically significant
the left	29	%38.16					
the middle	21	%27.63					

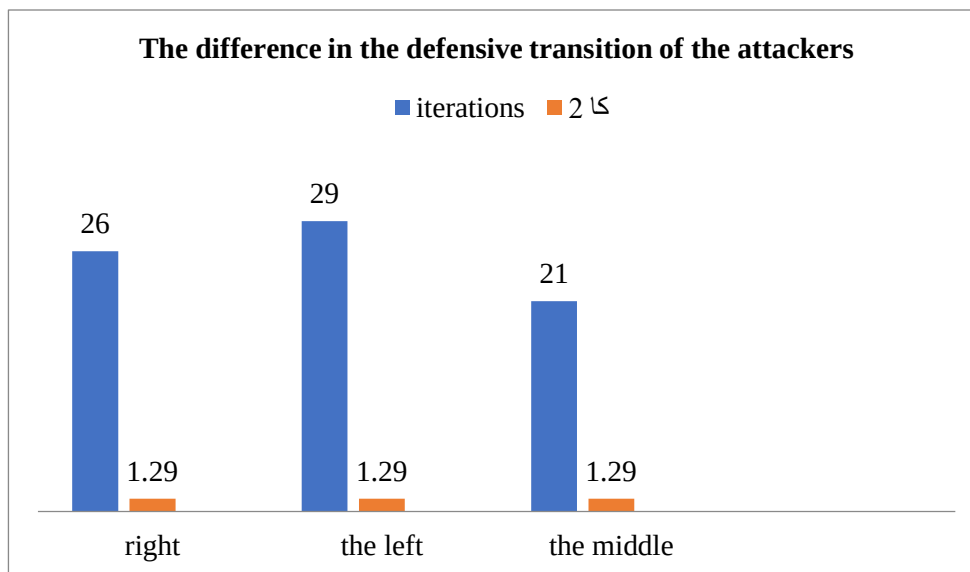
We notice from Table No. (03) that the value of χ^2 calculated at a degree of freedom (2) was equal to (1.29) and since the degree of significant probability is equal to ($\text{sig} = 0.53$) and is greater than the level of significance ($\alpha = 0.05$), it is not There is a statistically significant difference in the defensive transformation according to the three sides (right/left/center). In the middle, with (21) attempts, with a rate of (27.63%).

Figure No. (05): shows the proportional circular representation of the difference in the defensive transition of the attackers



Source: The source of this relativistic circuit is the current study

Figure No. (06): shows the iterative representation of the difference in the defensive transition of the attackers



Source: The source of this figure is the current study

4.4 Discussing the results of the research hypotheses:

4.4.1 Discussing the results of the first hypothesis:

- Defense players have an effective role in switching from defense to attack to build the team's various attacks (right side, left side, middle).

Through the statistical treatment of the results reached, and as required by the course of the research to ensure the validity of the hypothesis, as the researcher reached through the results obtained in Table No. (1), it was found that there is a statistically significant difference in the offensive transition according to the three sides, so that we find that on the right The number of repetitions was 26 repetitions, the rate of 35.13%, and in the middle, it was 29 repetitions, the rate of 39.19%.

This is due to the whole of the coach's plans and the excellence of the players on the right side, so that Hussein bin Ayada, Badran and the defender Sufyan bin Dabkeh were on the right side and in the middle with high skills and capabilities in removing balls from a third of the defensive field to a third of the offensive field, and the coach focused on benefiting from those skills and capabilities in His offensive schemes, and this led to an increase in the percentage of repetitions from the right and the middle on the left side, and this indicates the convergence of the offensive shift between the right and the center, while the left was the least offensive shift recorded, and from it, as Taha Ismail and others (1993) say: "The attack tactic The team depends to a large extent on the individual capabilities that are considered the basis for cooperation among the team players, which requires the integration of individual movements into the collective performance of the team, and the importance of the capabilities and capabilities of individual players to attack has increased. (Ismail, 1993, p. 55)

Hussein Abu Abdo (2001) mentions: The individual offensive plans are the art of using the player's basic movements and skills on his own to participate in the implementation of the team's collective offensive play plans. (Al-Sayed, 2001, p. 180)

Our study corresponds to the findings of the study (Ayman Ibrahim 2001), which was titled: "An analytical study of some offensive tactical performances of the Saudi national team and some high-level teams in the World Cup (1994), where it aimed to identify the

offensive tactical performances of the Saudi national team. The results were as follows: The most important offensive tactical performances of the Saudi national team in the long pass from behind (defenders) and the stance plans are fixed for corner kicks, and it may also agree with the study of Abdel Basset Mohamed Abdel Halim, Raed Helmy Ramadan (2002) which was under the title: "An Analytical Study For the offensive forms implemented in the different playing areas during the 2001 FIFA World Youth Championship matches in Argentina, which aimed to identify the offensive forms implemented in the different playing areas during the match that was analyzed, it is the attack by dividing the stadium into two parts longitudinally.

4.4.2 Discuss the results of the second hypothesis :

the defenders to transfer in the offensive transition phase, has a role in the effectiveness of the attack and the achievement of goal opportunities.

Through the statistical equation of the results reached as required by the course of the research to ensure the validity of the hypothesis, as the researcher reached through the results obtained in Table No. (3) it was found that there is no statistically significant difference in achieving the chances of goals according to the third parties, as the probability value Sig It is equal to 0.61 and greater than the level of significance of α , which is equal to 0.05, and this is due to the convergence of the shift in the number of opportunities, so that we find on the right 3 by 50% and on the left 2 by 33.33% greater than on the middle side by 1 by 16.67%, and this is due to the coach's plans for skillful performances and the capabilities that they have to penetrate The opponent's defense is from the wings, and that is the fullness of Blayli and Miziani, and with the help of defenders Elias Sheti and Hussein Bin Ayada in the offensive participation and their possession of high physical capabilities to carry out these tasks and plans on the part of the coach, unlike the midfield, as it is a single hypothesis that is the penalty kick that was executed by Brahimi, as for the other opportunities he missed Miziani had three chances, Zerrougui had a good chance, and Youssef blaili scored a goal from the left, This was confirmed by Ashraf Ali Jaber, Rifai Mustafa Hussein 1996 Recently, highlighting goals has become a problem facing workers in the field of football training, whether at the local or international level, as the number of goals scored by players has decreased as a result of the development of playing methods and the diversity of defensive plans. (Hussein, 2005, p. 346)

This is consistent with the study (Lima 1999) titled Analytical Study of the Attack Methods Used in Scoring Goals in the 16th World Cup Championship held in France 1998, where it aimed to identify the most important attacking methods used in scoring goals in the 16th World Cup Championship. It yielded the following results. 171 goals in the tournament, most of the goals were scored during the first and last third of the first and second half.

The study of Bin Bouzid Abdel Karim 2020 came under the title Comparing the effectiveness of scoring in the 2019 African Cup of Nations, and the most prominent goals were the extent of scoring effectiveness in the first round of the 2019 African Cup of Nations in Egypt, and identified the scoring differences between the first and second rounds, and it resulted in the following results,

Lack of experience, limited level for some teams and running back and counterattacking for most teams.

4.4.3 Discuss the results of the third hypothesis

There is an active role for the attackers when shifting from offense to defense to build up the defensive block against counter-attacks.

During the table, it was found that: There is no statistically significant difference in the role of the attackers when switching from attack to defense to build the defensive block against counter-attacks according to the three sides (right, left, middle), as the probability value Sig is equal to 0.53, which is greater than the level of significance α , which equals 0.05, and this is due to the convergence of a defensive shift between the right, whose number of repetitions was 26 repetitions, at a rate of 34.21%, while the left is estimated at 29 repetitions at a rate of 38.16%, so we note that the percentages are close in relation to the middle side, which was with 21 transformations at a rate of 27.63%, which is the least defensive transformation due to the defensive plans of the coach, the skills and defensive capabilities of the players in the wings, their high physical capabilities in defense, and the rapid transition from attack to defense and support in Transformation of pivot players and arcade players. This study coincided with the findings of the study of Mohamed Ibrahim Salem 1994 entitled: The Relative Effect of Attack Plans on African Football, which aimed to identify the attack and defense plans and the skills that most perform the research sample teams and determine the degree of its effectiveness and the differences in performance and the quality of the relationship between the degree of effectiveness and the performance of the plans The offensive and defensive skills of the participating teams and their final arrangement in the tournament and determining the most areas of play for performance and implementation, as it yielded the following results: The plan to create the free space is to exploit it by controlling the ball by running across the front.

It also agreed with the study of Serageldin Muhammad Al-Moneim under the title: Evaluation of the tactical, offensive and defensive performance according to the results of the matches in the 1998 FIFA World Cup, aiming to identify the most important defensive and offensive tactical performances for the World Cup. Defensive and offensive tactics, and applied to the team for 18 years.

4.5 General Hypothesis Discussion:

The general hypothesis stated through the discussion of the partial hypotheses that there is an effective role in the transition of defense players to the offensive stage of the local Algerian team for the Arab Cup in Qatar 2021 and the analysis of the Algeria-Morocco match, where there was a role for the defenders in the offensive and defensive shifts during the match and the role in achieving opportunities To achieve goals, and goals were not achieved due to the lack of concentration of the attackers, and this is what makes the role of defense players in offensive and defensive transitions better than the average in general.

5. Conclusions and Suggestions:

5.1 Conclusions:

Defensive and offensive transition in matches depend on the skills and capabilities of the players and the plans set by the coach, and he prepares for them to develop the offensive and defensive performance of the team, so the defender must have a high physical ability in order to transition from attack to defense or vice versa.

- There is a statistically significant difference in the offensive transition according to the three sides, so that we find that on the right the number of repetitions was 26 repetitions, which was 35.13%, and in the middle it was 29 repetitions, the rate of 39.19%, as it was close opposite to the left side, so the number of repetitions was less, estimated at 19 repetitions, at a rate of 25.68 %
- There is no statistically significant difference in achieving the chances of goals according to the third parties, as the probability value Sig is equal to 0.61 and greater than the level of significance α , which is equal to 0.05. The mean is 1, with a rate of 16.67%.
- There is no statistically significant difference in achieving the chances of goals according to the three sides, as the probability value Sig is equal to 0.53, which is greater than the level of significance α , which is equal to 0.05.

In light of the findings of our study and through the hypotheses put forward, we can conclude that there is an effective role for defenders during the transition from defense to attack in the attack phase, so coaches must plan well for offensive and defensive shifts in order to cover the defense and attack with the largest possible number of players, and of course It is based on the principle of several defenders, so the offensive transformations, with the support of the defenders, help the attackers reach the opponent's goal and achieve goal opportunities.

5.2 suggestions

- Developing defensive and offensive plans for the team players and developing the offensive tendency of the players.
- The need for coaches to pay more attention to knowing the levels of their players in order to benefit from their capabilities in offensive and defensive transition
- Interests in developing tactical information and knowledge and the ability to analyze matches and players' playing situations.
- The possibility of scientifically using positions and defensive and offensive transformations through actual application in the field.
- Holding forums and study days to introduce more importance to offensive and defensive planning and different playing positions.
- Carrying out similar studies and research in this field on the topic of defensive and offensive transitions, extensive and in-depth
- More exercises for defensive and offensive transitions.
- Conduct studies and research on the most important skills that are used in defensive and offensive transitions.

k6. The List of Sources and References

1. Al-Dailami, L. A.-H. (1997). *Football*. Mostaganem: Higher School of Physical Education and Athletic Professors.
2. Al-Sayed, A. A. (2001). *Modern trends in planning and training in football*. Alexandria: Radiation Press.
3. Al-Waqqa, u. R. (2003). *Football Talk Planning, First Edition*. House of happiness for printing.
4. Arafa, M. (2023). Comparaison des performances techniques selon le niveau de pratique et les périodes de la saison chez les jeunes footballeurs algériens. *the challenge*, 522.
5. Boudina Bilal, M. M. (2023). Some Defensive and offensive tactical indicators between the Algerian national team 2019 and the Senegalese national team 2021. *The challenge*, 2.

Corresponding author: Abdelmalek Boufrida , E-mail: a.boufrida@univ-soukahras.dz

6. Djaballi, e. Z. (2001). *Handball, first edition*. Ammaan Jordan.: Dar Al-Kutub, Printing and Publishing, Dar Al-Diyaa for Publishing and Distribution.
7. Hassan, A. e. (1988). *football*. House of knowledge for millions.
8. Hussein, R. M. (2005). *The Fundamentals of Football Training*. Mansoura: World of Printing and Publishing.
9. Ismail, T. (1993). *Team football play*. Cairo: Al-Ahram Commercial Press.
10. Mufti, I. (1994). *Defense to build offense in soccer*. Cairo: Arab Thought House.
11. Zahran, S. A. (1999). *Defense and Midfield in Soccer, Second Edition*. irak: Dar Al-Kitab for printing and publishing, Mosul.