



Tactical Evolvment in the Modern Game



Tactical Evolvment - Overview



- Review modern trends.
- The birth of Gegenpressing
- Verticality
- Provoking the opposition



Tactical Evolvement in the Modern Game

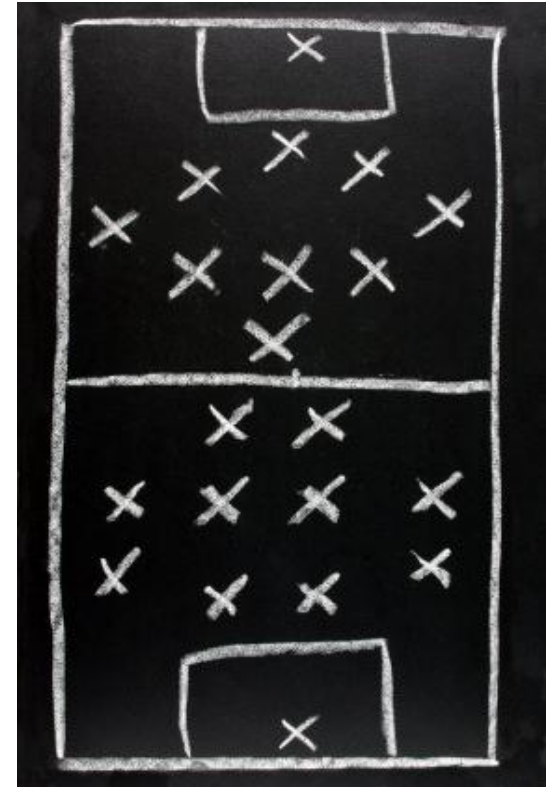


Modern Trends



Modern Trends

- Review the current trends in football
- Examine the favoured systems of play
- The influence of styles in the development of tactics – Gegenpressing & Verticality
- What does a top team do?



UEFA Champions League Analysis: WHY?



- Standards
- Trends
- Details
- Ideas
- Coaching implications
- Inspiration



Group Task – 5 minutes



Which technical aspects are increasing/ decreasing in top level football today?



Modern Trends: More



- Short Passing
- Combinations
- Fast Breaks
- Screening Players
- Match Intensity
- One Striker
- Defending 4-5-1
- Attacking 4-4-3/ 4-2-3-1



Modern Trends: More

- Tactical Flexibility
- M/Front Attacker
- Finishing Efficiency
- Long Diagonals
- Technical Quality
- Wing Variations
- Individual/ Soloist
- Advanced Pressing



Modern Trends: Less



- Space/ Time
- Predictable Movement
- Defenders on the posts
- Set Play Frequency
- Twin-striker play
- Offside Decisions



Statistics – UCL Goals Scored



	08/09	12/13	Difference
Set Plays	26%	20%	+6%
Combinations	8%	13%	+5%
Crosses	24%	16%	-8%
Cut-backs	5%	10%	+5%
Diagonals	2%	4%	+2%
Soloist	2%	5%	+3%
Long Range Shots	12%	13%	+1%
Forward Passes	16%	14%	-2%
Defensive Errors	3%	2%	-1%
Own Goals	3%	2%	-1%
Total	329	368	+39



Review of Modern Trends - Styles



- 16 Teams in KO stage (UCL) played Zonal back 4
- Structural variations of a 4-3-3 (4-5-1)
- Structural variation of a 4-4-2
- Universal use of defensive screen



Review of Modern Trends - Styles



- Building from the back
- Short, quick passing movements
- Incisive pass
- Third man run
- Quick combination play
- Angled passing
- Solo play



Review of Modern Trends – Intense Pressing



“The trend is to bring opponents into the defensive block and then aggressively press the ball”

Gerard Houllier

- Offside Rule
- Defending Deep
- High pressure in own half
- Limited space behind
- Channelling play



Review of Modern Trends – Countering Mentality



Transitions in Play

- High incidence of fast counters
- Speed of transition
- Before teams can recover
- Implications in attack – balance
- In defence – the ability to attack



“Balance is number one”

Marcello Lippi



Countering the Counter



“ With counter-attacking becoming increasingly important, countering the counter has become the main trend ”

Arsene Wenger



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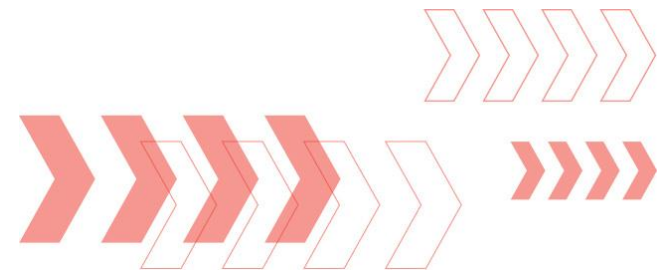


The Birth of Gegenpressing





- Football is cyclic
- Dynamic change
- Domination of Barcelona (tiki-taka style)
- Borussia Dortmund & Bayern Munich



Pressing: A Major Feature



- The value of possession football
- Disrupt the opposition's play
- It's about pressing



The Birth of Gegenpressing



- Jurgen Klopp (2008)
- High-octane approach
- Simple tactical approach
- Win the ball as quickly as possible



Gegenpressing is the German term for a tactic that involves playing a high defensive line and putting as much pressure on the opponent when they're in possession as possible, trying to win the ball back and restrict the amount of time they have to pass.



How Gegenpressing works

- Pressing aggressively in unison
- Minimising space
- Co-ordinated pressing movements
- Intelligent positioning
- Defenders as attackers
- Ask questions / disrupt build up



“Gegenpressing”

“Gegenpressing is the best playmaker in the world. The best moment to win the ball is immediately after your team just lost it. The opponent is still looking for orientation where to pass the ball while your players are already hunting the ball again”

Jurgen Klopp



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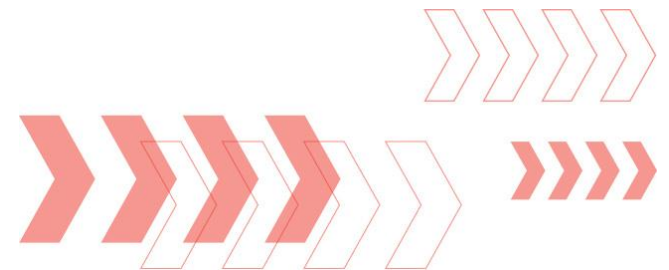
Bayern Munich: Kings of Europe





“ Bayern go about football in the same way that the Chinese go about industry. They look at what the others are doing, and then they copy it with other people and more money. And then they overtake you ”

Jurgen Klopp



Bayern Munich – The Base of the Coaches Manual



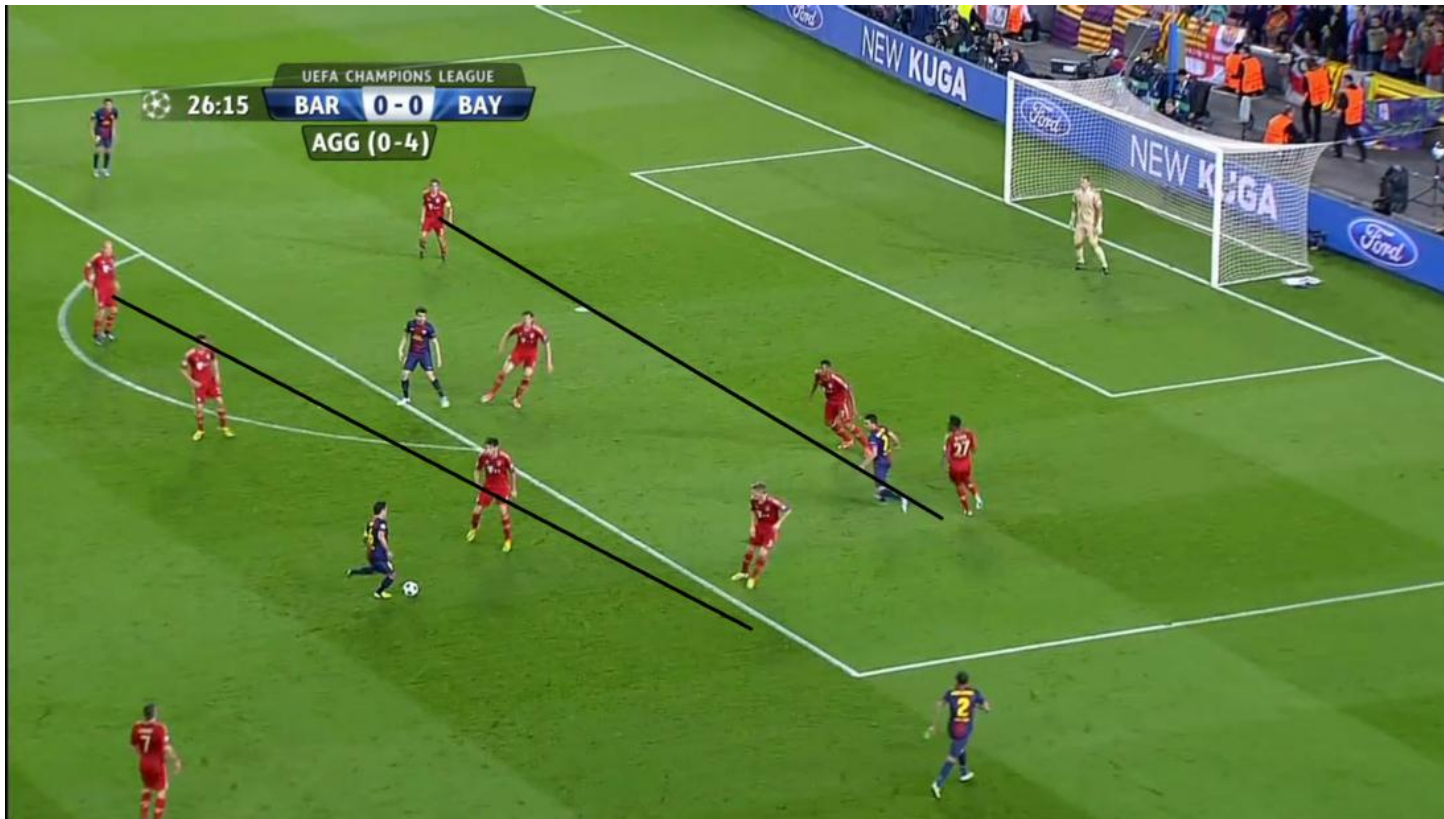
- Attack
- Defence
- Transitions
- Set Pieces
- Fitness



Arrigo Sacchi – AC Milan



Total Defending



The interchange between man-marking and zonal marking as the situation demands.



Total Defending

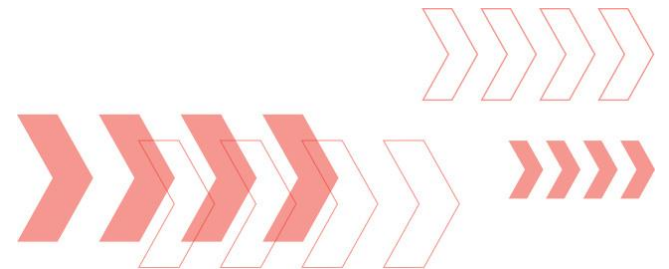
- Reduce space in a vertical sense
- Reduce distances between players
- Compact space centrally
- Interchange between man-marking/zonal marking
- Role of No.9





“We have improved this season, we are better defensively and at switching play. The thing that pleases me is that every player has to realise that they have to defend and attack”

Jupp Heynckes





“We play as a team, not just going forward but, more importantly, defensively. We are very well organised and everyone knows their job. Don't give them space and, first and foremost, be organised”

Arjen Robben



Tactical Flexibility



- The best tactic
- High press/ pure zonal/ man to man defending
- Total defending is the most efficient way of defending



Tactical Evolvement in the Modern Game



Transitions



Counter Attacks: Key Requirements



- Transition Speed
- Strategy to launch attack
- Balance of the team



The Collective

The Classic

Counter Attacks

The Solo

The Advanced





“The quick transition is the most important aspect – quickly restructuring to defend, or exploiting the opponent with speed when the ball is regained”

Jose Mourinho





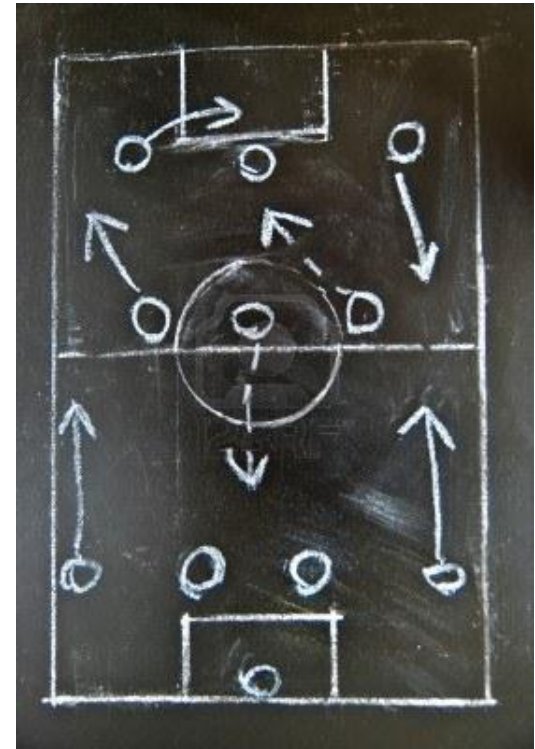
Verticality



Verticality



- A Style of play
- Back to front as quickly as possible
- Short passing combinations
- Discourage – Slow, possession based build up
- Direct, quicker build up
- Ball travels forward/ side to side



Verticality



“Once we have the ball, we try and find a way of getting forward as quickly as possible, in a vertical direction if you like. But we don’t get frustrated if we can’t get it forward immediately, we aim to be comfortable on the ball, and if its not a case of going forward straight away, we keep it.”

Marcelo Bielsa



Borussia Dortmund & Bayern Munich



- Adaptability
- A combination of possession and counter attack
- The problem with possession
- Provoking the opposition



Provoking the Opposition



“There are more spaces in football than people think. Even if you play against a low block team, you immediately get half of the pitch. And after that, in attacking midfield, you can provoke the opponent with the ball, provoke him to move forward or sideways and open up a space”

Andre Villas Boas



Provoking the Opposition

“The idea is one of continuous circulation, one side to the other, until the moment that, when you change direction, a space opens up inside and you go through it”



Louis Van Gaal



Provoking the Opposition



“The centre backs provoke the opponent, invite them forward then, if the opponent applies quick pressure the ball goes to the other central defender, and this one makes a vertical pass”

Pep Guardiola



Borussia Dortmund & Bayern Munich Success



- Growing influence of Gegenpressing
- Role of verticality
- Balance still a key factor
- Ability to interchange between systems
- The true success has been total defending and verticality





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