HOW THE TACTICAL ANALYSIS WAS PRODUCED FOR THIS BOOK

Athanasios Terzis has a great skill of analysing games tactically and watched every Juventus game in the 2013-14 season. This book is made up of over 1000 hours of extensive research and analysis of Antonio Conte’s side.

The Steps of Research and Analysis

1. Terzis watched the games, observing Juventus’ patterns of play and making notes.
2. Once the same phase of play occurred a number of times (at least 10) the tactics would be decoded and more detailed notes were written down, often separated according to the phases of the game and the various different tactical situations.
3. The positioning of each player on the pitch is studied in great detail, including their body shape.
4. Each individual movement with or without the ball was also recorded in detail.
5. Once all conceivable phases of play had been studied and analysed, SoccerTutor.com’s Tactics Manager Software was used to create all of the diagrams in this book.
6. Finally, the key aspects of Juventus’ tactics were assessed and are explained clearly with notes and detailed descriptions.

How the Tactical Analysis is Used to Create Full Training Sessions

1. Athanasios Terzis is a UEFA ‘B’ coach and has provided a full and extensive analysis of Antonio Conte’s Juventus team, as explained above.
2. This analysis has been divided into specific tactical situations and has been used to create 64 practices including:
   • Exploiting Space Between the Centre Back and Wing Back On the Weak Side
   • Creating and Exploiting Space With Collaboration of Movement Between the Forwards
   • Creating and Exploiting a Numerical Advantage Near the Sideline in a Functional Practice
   • Quick Combination With a Lay Off Pass and Finishing in a Small Sided Game
   • Indirect Counter Attack With a Switch of Play in a Transition Game
3. Have you got the Defending part of this Book Set?
   The full analysis and training sessions are included for the Defensive Phase.
During the 2011-12 season, Antonio Conte’s Juventus not only won the Italian Championship (Scudetto), but also managed to finish unbeaten. They played 38 matches and scored 68 goals (1.79 per match).

During the 2012-13 season, Antonio Conte’s Juventus won the Scudetto by scoring 71 goals (1.87 per match). During this two year period Juventus managed an incredible unbeaten run of 49 consecutive league games.

During the 2013-14 season, Antonio Conte’s team won their third consecutive Scudetto with an outstanding record of 102 points during which Juve scored 80 goals (2.10 per match). The manager Antonio Conte mainly used the 3-5-2 formation during these three seasons.

During the 2014-15 season Juventus appointed Massimiliano Allegri as their new manager. Allegri retained the 3-5-2 together with the 4-3-1-2 as his basic options for Juventus’ formation. Juventus reached the Champions League final against Barcelona in this season.

Many think that the 3-5-2 is an old fashioned formation, but it has been very popular amongst Italian teams during recent years. The 3-5-2 formation was also used by many teams during the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. The application of the 3-5-2 formation by Juventus is said to be the most successful of this formation in modern football.

The purpose of this book set (including the defending part) is to provide coaches with all the necessary information about how Juventus used the modern 3-5-2 formation in all four phases of the game. There is information about how to attack and how to defend against various formations based on Juve’s tactics. This book set also shows in detail how the transition phases were carried out. Finally, the book contains many practices which can help coaches to train their players in order to apply the 3-5-2 formation successfully during all the phases of the game.

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THE ATTACKING PHASE

In order for Antonio Conte's Juventus to achieve their aim (to score a goal) they had to:

- Take advantage of the benefits of their 3-5-2 formation against the opposition's formation.
- Take advantage of the available spaces, such as the space on the left/right of the central zone against the 3-4-1-2 formation.
- Create superiority in numbers in certain parts of the pitch e.g. the 3 (+1) v 2 situation at the back against the 4-4-2. This was in order to find time on the ball, make successful passes and create scoring chances.
- Utilise the individual actions of the forwards and the attacking midfielders.
- Use attacking combinations or synchronised movements no matter what the opposition's formation was in order to create scoring chances; between the forwards, and between the forwards and the attacking midfielders.

Playing Style

- As Juventus had 3 defenders together with the defensive midfielder (Pirlo) creating a diamond shape at the back, they would usually outnumber their opponents against almost every formation.
- Juventus preferred a patient approach when building up from the back. With this playing style they tried to gradually push more players into advanced positions.
- The wing backs moved into advanced positions near the sidelines with one of them in a more advanced position.
- The attacking midfielders usually moved between the lines and on many occasions, they took over the positioning and role of a centre forward.
- Juventus usually attacked with 5 or 6 players and at least 3 or 4 players inside the penalty area for potential crosses.
**Goalkeeper:** Buffon (1) is one of the top European goalkeepers of the last decade.

**Centre Backs:** The three centre backs Barzagli (15), Bonucci (19) and Chiellini (3) were very strong and capable defending in the air and on the ground. These three formed an extremely effective defence.

**Wing Backs:** The wing backs were full of energy and able to contribute in the defensive phase and the attacking phase. Lichtsteiner (26), Isla or Caceres on the right were more defensive minded. Asamoah (22), Giaccherini or De Ceglie who played on the left, were more attack minded.

**Midfielders:** Pirlo was the playmaker. He has great passing accuracy and dictated the rhythm of the games. Marchisio or Pogba played on the left. Vidal played on the right, taking over the role of the attacking midfielder (and scored many goals from 2011-2014). All of them were very flexible players with good contributions to the defensive and attacking phases.

**Forwards:** Matri, Del Piero, Borriello, Vucinic, Quagliarella, Tevez (10) and Llorente (14) played as forwards. They formed different partnerships, but all of them fitted perfectly into the system.
COACHING FORMAT

1. **Tactical Situations and Analysis of Antonio Conte’s Juventus Team**

2. **Practices for the Tactical Situation**
   - Technical and Functional Unopposed Practices
   - Tactical Opposed Practices
   - Objective and Full Description
   - Restrictions, Progressions, Variations & Coaching Points (if applicable)

**KEY**

- **BALL MOVEMENT**
- **PLAYER MOVEMENT**
- **MOVEMENT WITH BALL**

Created using SoccerTutor.com Tactics Manager
CHAPTER 1
ATTACKING AGAINST THE 3-4-3

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THE 2 FORWARDS COMBINING IN THE CENTRE
d) Receiving Between the Lines and Quick One-Two Combination Between the Forwards

The left centre back Barzagli (15) receives the ball and moves forward. Tevez (10) drops back to receive and the white defender (3) follows his movement. As the opposition’s wing back (11) on the strong side is in an advanced position, space is created behind No.3.

Tevez (10) passes first time to Llorente (14) and then attacks the created space. Llorente (14) also passes first time back into Tevez’s path (one-two combination). Llorente (14) and Marchisio (8) make runs into the penalty area to attack Tevez’s cross and try to score.

**ASSESSMENT:**

This combination play was usually carried out near the sidelines where there was more space available, especially in situations when the opposing wing back was in an advanced position.
SESSION FOR THIS TACTICAL SITUATION (3 Practices)

1. Receiving Between the Lines and Quick One-Two Combination Between the Forwards (Unopposed)

Objective
The players work on receiving between the lines and then playing a quick one-two combination to get in behind.

Description
In a 40 x 50 yard area we position the cones and the 2 mini goals as shown. We work with 7 players and there is 1 forward inside each of the 2 blue areas (8 x 8 yards). The distance between the 2 areas is about 15 yards.

No.19 starts the practice and the 3 players at the back pass the ball to each other. As soon as one of the 2 more advanced players (15 or 3) decides to move forward with the ball and towards the cone gate, the forward on the strong side (No.14 in diagram) drops back out of the blue area to receive the pass in front of the mannequin. At the same time the forward on the weak side (10) moves across to the strong side.

When the man in possession (No.3 in diagram) moves through the cone gate, he passes the ball to the forward (14) who plays a quick one-two combination with the other forward (14) and receives the pass back in the blue area. The pass is made into his path so he can receive on the run and score in the mini goal.
Learn Antonio Conte's 3-5-2 System of Play, Tactics, Each Player’s Responsibilities, Positioning & Movement With Every Possible Phase of Play

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