



ISSN Print: 2664-7281  
ISSN Online: 2664-729X  
Impact Factor: RJIF 8  
IJSEPE 2023; 5(2): 89-92  
[www.sportsjournals.net](http://www.sportsjournals.net)  
Received: 16-05-2023  
Accepted: 21-07-2023

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## The percentage of the contribution of convergent thinking to the level of tactical behavior performance of goalkeepers of Premier League football clubs

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.33545/26647281.2023.v5.i2b.52>

### Abstract

The research included four chapters, as the first chapter contained the introduction and the importance of the research, as thinking in the sports field is considered the main basis for making the appropriate decision in dealing with the variables that face the player in competition, especially that the football game is one of the games that attracts the attention of millions of people around the world. It enjoys the elements of suspense and excitement in addition to building the physical and healthy side and the ability to think in the most difficult circumstances by isolating many variables that occur during the game and focusing on performing the skill, such as delivering the ball correctly to his teammates, and thus it robbed the minds of its viewers and fans to be one of the most important influences society in different countries of the world.

As for the research problem, it lies in the psychological pressures that occur in the football game, including physical, skillful, tactical, cognitive and psychological, on the players during the course of the match, and this is reflected in their thinking when executing the game plans, which have a role in resolving the situation, especially if those plans are well thought out, being guards Goalkeepers are responsible for implementing these plans in a manner that is consistent with the variables of the state of play, and that their exposure to these pressures leads to a lack of tactical behavior affecting reaching the right decisions. Goalkeepers require them to have the appropriate time to go out and deal with the ball and the attacker on the one hand, and to act tactically according to what is appropriate with the movement of the defenders which must be coordinated in order to keep the goal on the other hand.

As for the goal of the research, it is to identify the percentage of the contribution of convergent thinking to the tactical behavior of the goalkeepers of the Premier League in football for the 2021/2022 sports season, and the researcher assumed that there is a high percentage of statistically significant contribution between the convergent thinking and the tactical behavior of the goalkeepers under study. The third chapter was the methodology and procedures of the research in the field the researcher chose the descriptive approach. The research sample consisted of soccer goalkeepers for Premier League clubs, who numbered (80) guards distributed over (20) clubs, where each club represented (4) Goalkeepers or Conclusions The conclusions were the most important of which is the presence of a significant impact of convergent thinking on the tactical behavior of the goalkeepers of the Premier League clubs.

**Keywords:** Premier League football, contribution of convergent, performance of goalkeepers

### 1. Introduction

Thinking is considered the main focus for making the appropriate decision in dealing with the variables facing the goalkeeper. Through thinking, he deals with those stimuli, especially that football is one of the games that attracts the attention of millions of people around the world because of its elements of suspense and excitement, in addition to building the physical and healthy aspect. And the ability to think in the most difficult circumstances by isolating many variables that occur during the game and focusing on performing the skill, such as delivering the ball correctly to his teammates, and thus robbed the minds of its viewers and fans to be one of the most important social influences in various countries of the world. What gave its tactical performance a distinctive character for the game, which developed and became an identity that characterizes many countries of the world?

Through convergent thinking, the application of which falls on the shoulders of the players and the goalkeeper, who have an important and decisive role in appropriate tactical behavior,

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which is a sign of the enjoyment of football and its correct application. This comes through choosing the appropriate tactical behavior that is compatible with the playing situations, its variables, and football. It is one of the sports games that depends on thinking in general and convergent thinking in particular in matches that are characterized by strong competition between the two teams in particular and the tournament in general. And the various gaming situations that result from it, which require players and goalkeepers to deal with these variables with convergent thinking, and what is meant is that mental activity that is directed to solving a specific problem, and it represents the situation in which there is one response or one correct result through which the player must reach that result. The correct and appropriate tactical performance according to their knowledge of the tactical behavior and its implementation in a convergent thinking style, provided that it is in harmony with the tactical behavior in implementation according to the course of the situation to maintain the balance of the game levels by the goalkeepers. During the matches, and to be in a controlled and non-random manner, despite the external and internal circumstances facing the goalkeeper, and according to the course of the match, the goalkeepers have a responsibility to protect the goal, which requires them to think convergently in dealing with offensive situations that may occur when penetrating the defending players, who must act tactically according to the playing situations, and this behavior is through tactical coordination between the playing centers in a close and regular manner. Players can communicate with each other through the application of tactical knowledge.

Which suits the cases in which the player is and acts on the basis of it and according to the pre-drawn plans stored in the brain, which are summoned at the appropriate time and implemented according to his knowledge of the plans that were built in the brain in advance, and here lies the importance of research through knowledge of convergent thinking, which is considered logical and traditional thinking that leads the individual to practicing it to reach one answer, that is, that mental activity that is directed to solve a specific problem, and the situation in which one response or one result is correct, that is, knowing the extent of the relationship of convergent thinking to the appropriate tactical behavior during the game, because the goalkeeper implements according to what he thinks of the tactical behavior appropriate and consistent with the state of play and its developments.

### 1.1 Research problem

It is the mental processes through which we can deal with the variables of life in all its fields because it is the main source for dealing with these variables through what we plan for and develop solutions that are compatible with the situation that we are exposed to in our surroundings in which we live and this comes through God's gift to human beings and it is the mind that distinguished us from all others. Other creatures, in the football game, many psychological pressures, including physical, skillful, tactical, cognitive and psychological, occur on the players during the course of the matches, and this is reflected in their thinking when implementing the game plans which has a role in resolving the situation, especially if those plans are elaborately studied. This gives aesthetics and control over the course of those matches. Goalkeepers require them to

have the right time to go out and deal with the ball and the attacker on the one hand, and act tactically according to what is appropriate with the movement of the defenders, which must be coordinated. In order to keep the goal on the other hand, and because the researcher is a former player and a technical analyst for the Iraqi football league matches currently, he noticed that there is a lot of fluctuation in the tactical behavior in the unbalanced implementation of most goalkeepers in the Premier League football in Iraq, and this is what prompted the researcher in the current study to focus on thinking factors in mental processes that require convergence in tactical behavior in solving problems and depend in essence on selective solutions and reaching a final result for one correct solution. For each problem and give an appropriate result that is in line with the course of the game, because tactical knowledge is a key factor in determining that situation.

### 1.2 Research objectives

1. Identify the level of convergence thinking of Premier League soccer goalkeepers for the 2021/2022 sports season.
2. Identify the level of tactical behavior of the Premier League soccer goalkeepers for the 2021/2022 sports season.
3. Identifying the level of the relationship between the convergent thinking and the tactical behavior of the Premier League soccer goalkeepers for the 2021/2022 sports season.
4. Identify the percentage of the contribution of convergent thinking to the tactical behavior of the Premier League goalkeepers in football for the 2021/2022 sports season.

### 1.3 Research hypotheses

1. There is a statistical correlation between the convergent thinking and the tactical behavior of the Premier League soccer goalkeepers for the 2021/2022 sports season.
2. There is a statistically significant contribution ratio between the convergent thinking and the tactical behavior of the Premier League soccer goalkeepers for the 2021/2022 sports season.

### 1.4 Research areas

1. **The human field:** Goalkeepers for Premier League football clubs for the 2021/2022 sports season.
2. **Time range:** For the period from 1/12/2021 to 4/28/2022
3. **The field and the place:** The stadiums of the Premier League clubs.

## Chapter II

### 2. Research methodology and field procedures

#### 2.1 Research Methodology

The researcher relied on the descriptive approach using the survey method and the correlational relations due to its suitability to the nature of the problem as the most appropriate and easiest method to achieve the objectives of the study.

#### 2.2 The research community and its sample

The researcher chose the research community from the goalkeepers of the Premier League clubs for the 2021/2022

sports season, whose number is (20) clubs, where the original community reached (80) goalkeepers registered with the Central Football Association, and (8) guards were excluded for the purposes of the reconnaissance experiment, and then they were excluded from the experiment. The main sample, where the application sample became (72) guards.

### 2.3 Research Tools

Research tools are the means through which the researchers can collect data and solve the problem to achieve the research objectives, whatever those tools are of data, samples and devices (11:218). The researcher has used the following means and devices:

#### 2.3.1 Data collection methods

Arabic and foreign sources and references:  
The International Network (Internet).

#### 2.3.2 Devices and tools used in the research (auxiliary means)

The researcher used the following devices and tools:

- Calculator number (5) type hp.
- Closed hall.

### 2.4 Determine the search tests

The researcher determined the test of convergent thinking and tactical behavior after presenting it to a group of experts and specialists in football, measurement and evaluation.

#### 2.4.1 Convergent Thinking Test (1:133)

The researcher used the Convergent Thinking Behavior Scale, which contains (80), requires the tester to have one

correct answer, and the highest score for the test is (80), and the lowest score is zero).

#### 2.4.2 Schematic Behavior Test (4: 187)

The researcher used the tactical behavior scale which consists of (35) cases of tactical behavior for goalkeeping, requiring the tester to get one correct answer, and the highest score for the test is (35) and the lowest score is zero). The researcher used the scientific basis for the scale.

### 2.5 Exploratory experience

The researcher conducted an exploratory experiment on 12/10/2021 on a sample of (8) goalkeepers, and after conducting the experiment, they were excluded from the sample. Taking its results. The aim of the experiment was:

1. Ensure the validity of the test.
2. Identify the expected errors and obstacles in the implementation of the test.
3. Ensure that the computers used are valid.
4. Know the time it takes to take the test.

### 2.6 The main and basic experience of the research

The researcher conducted the main experiment on 12/25/2021 on goalkeepers of Premier League football clubs for the 2021/2022 sports season.

### 2.7 The statistical methods used in the research

The researcher used the ready-made program (SPSS) in the statistical bag to process the data and obtain the results.

## The fourth chapter

### 3. Presentation, analysis and discussion of results

#### 3.1 Show the statistical description of the variables

**Table 1:** Shows the statistical description of the metrics

Variants	Arithmetic mean	Median	Standard deviation	Torsion modulus
Convergent thinking	55.13	56.50	12.54	- 0.10
Schematic action	22.53	23.12	6.25	- 0.07

### 3.2 Presentation and discussion of the results of the relationship between convergent thinking and tactical behavior of goalkeepers

**Table 2:** Shows the relationship between convergent thinking and tactical behavior of goalkeepers

Statistical parameters	Variants		Pearson	Sig	Contribution percentage	Indication
Convergent thinking	Mean	55.13	**0.81	0.01	0.65	Moral
	Deviation	12.54				
Schematic action	Mean	22.53				
	Deviation	6.25				

With a level of significance (0.05)

### 3.3 Discuss the results

It is clear from Table (2) that there is a correlation between convergent thinking and the tactical behavior of the goalkeepers, which the researcher attributes to the effectiveness of the measures used in our current study, and that the content of the axes and paragraphs had a significant effect on the results of the research sample, which are appropriate according to the capabilities and capabilities of the goalkeepers. The goalkeeper is able to perform the tactical behavior without having the ability to think closely, depending on the mental abilities, especially during the tactical behavior in implementing the performance of the goalkeeper, he senses and realizes the variables during the game, which leads him to an appropriate skillful

performance, and this is confirmed by (Sabhan Mahmoud Ahmed) Mental abilities play a distinct role in the individual's assimilation and acquisition of information, and among these capabilities is the kinesthetic perception, which is responsible for kinetic emotions, their interpretation, and their implementation through identifying the surroundings and the environment through which the movement is intended to work (2: 130), and the results came The study is identical to the study of (Abdul Hadi Muhammad Musa) (3:133). Through the availability of a correlation between the tactical behavior and the application of skills in the football game. In light of the above, it was found that the thinking process, especially convergent thinking, which is based on scientific foundations as it gives positive results

for the correlations between developing and improving the tactical behavior of goalkeepers, and this is confirmed by The results of the current study show that there is a correlation between convergent thinking and tactical behavior among goalkeepers and their ability to understand cognitive processes.

(Kazim Karim Al-Jabri and Maher Muhammad Al-Amiri) that "the ability to understand cognitive processes and employ them in an automatic manner and with a high level of proficiency and without fatigue or stress and under all circumstances and without the occurrence of any error, by analyzing the processes and sequencing them with steps that end with understanding each step and mastering it in a good way that is not achievable Errors can be retrieved easily and with understanding (5: 116).

As for the percentage of the contribution of convergent thinking to the tactical behavior, the results showed a high rate of (82%). To benefit from training on a wide range of mental actions that are likely to improve his mental level, and that training agreed upon leads to a large degree of improving thinking. Experimental studies in which individuals were trained or given special exercises with the aim of increasing their efficiency in using language, remembering, naming speed, colors and objects, solving mathematical problems, and understanding perceptions showed improvement and agreement in their performance on performance tests at the end of the experiment on their colleagues who did not receive this training, and this confirms the possibility of training And teach individuals how to think and improve the intellectual level if increased care in training in the development of mental abilities

#### 4. Conclusions

1. The existence of a correlation between convergent thinking and tactical behavior of goalkeepers of Premier League clubs for the 2021/2022 sports season
2. There is a positive relationship between convergent thinking and the tactical behavior of goalkeepers of Premier League clubs for the 2021/2022 sports season.

#### 5. Recommendations

1. The need to use the scale of convergent thinking and tactical behavior in the current study by the coaches periodically during the season to know the development of the guards
2. The need to apply the paragraphs of the scale of convergent thinking with the tactical behavior of goalkeepers for the youth category.

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