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The Roles of Different Design Techniques in Learning Tactical Scenes of Play through Dynamic Visualizations: A Brief Review

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The Roles of Different Design Techniques in Learning Tactical Scenes of Play through Dynamic Visualizations: A Brief Review

Abstract: Dynamic visualizations have been developed to exchange information that transforms over time across a broad range of professional and academic contexts. However, these visual tools may impose substantial demands on the learner's cognitive resources that are very limited in current knowledge. Cognitive load theory has been used to improve learning from dynamic visualizations by providing certain design techniques to manage learner cognitive load without adding any oral/written explanations. This systematic review examined a series of experimental studies assessing the roles of these design techniques in learning tactical scenes of play through dynamic visualizations. Electronic databases PubMed and Google Scholar were used to search relevant articles. Eleven studies were eventually included for the systematic review based on the eligibility criteria. The present review revealed that adapting design techniques to the level of learners' expertise, type of depicted knowledge, and level of content complexity is a crucial part of effective learning.

Keywords: Cognitive load theory, Dynamic visualizations, Design techniques, Learning, Team sports.

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1. Introduction

1.1. Learning from dynamic visualizations

Dynamic visualizations are external representations that change over time and represent a non¬-stop flow of perceptual information, yielding an illusion of movements [1, 2]. These instructional visualizations could be as animations used for communicating descriptive information/knowledge [3, 4], or as video clips used for presenting motor knowledge/skills [5, 6]. The use of dynamic visualizations in a learning environment can present numerous benefits. *Firstly*, they seem to be the most natural visual tool to convey dynamic properties (e.g., translation, transformation) that are tricky to describe verbally [7]. *Secondly*, they can depict dynamic information in an explicit and continuous way, which may help the observer to establish appropriate internal representation [8]. *Thirdly*, they can show the micro-steps of the dynamic phenomenon, while offering a concrete and global view [9], and avoiding the process of mental inference [10]. *Fourthly*, recent findings indicated that using dynamic visualizations in instructional contexts could be relevant for improving learners' attitudes such as motivation and engagement [11-13].

Despite the advantages of dynamic visualizations in learning, the Cognitive Load Theory (CLT: [14, 15]) argued that dynamic visualizations may impose substantial demands for the learner's cognitive resources that are very limited in both capacity and duration, which might hinder learning [16]. The CLT is a theory that considers how visual information impacts on working memory (WM) and learning. According to this theory, learning from dynamic visualizations depends specifically on two categories of cognitive load. The first category is "*the intrinsic cognitive load*" which is dependent upon the levels of content complexity. From a cognitive load viewpoint, dealing with simple dynamic visualization (i.e., content with a little number of interactive elements) consumes less WM resources and leads to easier learning. In contrast, dealing with complex dynamic visualization (i.e., content with

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an excessive number of interactive elements) consumes large amounts of WM resources and makes learning difficult [17]. The second category is "*the extraneous cognitive load*" which is related to the designed instructional materials that interfere with schema acquisition. In this framework, it is suggested that the transient nature of information is responsible for the increase of extraneous cognitive load when learning from dynamic visualizations (the transient information effect) [15, 18]. Indeed, videos or animations provide a transient, non-permanent stream of information that vanishes from the computer screen [14]. Consequently, learners are obliged to process current information while simultaneously trying to maintain the previously given information and integrate it with novel information in long term memory [3, 19]. Overall, to improve learning from dynamic visualizations, a number of design techniques have been proposed to manage learner cognitive loads (intrinsic and extraneous cognitive loads) without adding any oral/written explanations.

1.2. Dynamic visualizations and design techniques

On one hand, research within cognitive load theory suggested two design techniques which effectively enable the control/management of intrinsic cognitive load [14].

The first technique is to *employ sequential presentation* [e.g., 20]. This instructional strategy recommends presenting information depicted in dynamic visualization serially rather than concurrently. This method may be relevant for learning as it provides learners with less information to be concurrently treated in working memory and thus, facilitates the integration of information in long term memory [21, 22]. In addition, the sequential presentation of the dynamic visualizations' components in a defined order could refer to a form of temporal cueing, facilitating the building of ordered knowledge in long term memory [20].

The second technique is the *prediction method*. This strategy pushes learners to anticipate/predict future macro/micro steps of dynamic visualizations. This mental process is supposed to improve learning from dynamic representations as it encourages learners to activate their acquired knowledge of the system and/or help them to realize what they do not know about the system and stimulate a greater focus [10].

On the other hand, researches in the scope of cognitive load theory suggested five design techniques (without adding any oral/written explanations) which effectively enable the reduction of extraneous cognitive load caused by the transient nature of dynamic visualizations [14, 15].

The first technique is the *use of static visualizations* [e.g., 2, 13, 23, 24]. This method consists of replacing videos or animations with a series of static pictures or with a static diagram, describing the essential states of the dynamic system. This instructional strategy may decrease the extraneous cognitive load investment by allowing learners to benefit from sufficient time to identify and process relevant information and effectively integrate it in long term memory [25, 26]. Moreover, using static visualizations, compared to dynamic representations, offer the possibility to revise and compare different parts of the display as frequently as desired [27].

The second technique is to *employ segmentation* [e.g., 28, 29]. The segmentation of videos/animations corresponds to an insertion of pauses or time breaks between the key segments/steps of the dynamic phenomenon. This strategy provides learners with supplementary time to process and assimilate information received in the previous segments without having to simultaneously attend the next incoming information [29]. Moreover, this method could be referred to as temporal cueing, because it allows learners to distinguish between macro/micro dynamic events in the display [30].

The third technique is the *incorporation of cues/signals* [e.g., 31, 32]. This instructional strategy can be applied either by "adding elements" such as arrows, lines, and thick frames, or "without adding elements" via coloring, flashing and zooming [1]. According to the cognitive load theory, using cues or signals, especially without adding elements, in dynamic visualizations may improve learning because they are able to highlight the crucial information elements and thereby, to direct the learner's attention towards it [33, 34].

The fourth technique is the *decrease of presentation speed* [e.g., 17, 35]. This method consists of reducing the number of frames per second. Decreasing presentation speed of dynamic visualizations may provide learners with additional time to achieve the required cognitive processing in WM, while reducing the probability that key information is missing [36]. Moreover, such design technique is beneficial as it reduces the perceptual/cognitive demands by allowing learners to build a mental representation of local parts (i.e., micro/macro dynamic events), which then can be integrated into a coherent mental model [17, 37].

The fifth technique is the *use of learner-control* [e.g., 38, 39]. This instructional design allows learners to control the dynamic display through interactive features such as stopping, replaying, reversing or changing speed. Using this method in computer-based learning environments allows learners to repeat and process the missed part of the display. Furthermore, this user-control give an additional time for learners to process, consolidate and transfer information into long term memory before proceeding to the next segment/step [39].

1.3. The present study

A synthesis of the literature about how dynamic visualizations should be designed may be helpful for coaches and Physical education teachers in order to guarantee an effective learning of tactical scenes of play. However, a literature review about this topic has not been published until today. This paper reviews a series of experimental studies examining the roles of certain design techniques without adding any oral/written explanations in learning game systems through dynamic visualizations.

2. Method

This systematic review was conducted and reported in accordance with the guidelines of the preferred reporting items for systematic reviews and/or meta-analysis (PRISMA) [40].

2.1. *Search strategy*

Scholarly electronic databases (PubMed and Google Scholar) were searched without applying any time limits or filters; the final search being completed on August 27th, 2020. Moreover, we performed manual searches of relevant journals and reference lists obtained from published articles. Electronic databases were searched using a range of combinations between the following descriptors: "animation", "video", "dynamic visualization", "dynamic representation", "design techniques", "instructional design", "team sports", "tactical learning", "recall accuracy", "decision making", "comprehension", "performance". Two researchers (G.R. and Y.B.) independently considered each of the located articles for its appropriateness for inclusion. In case of uncertainty, discussion with a third researcher (M.J.) determined the final inclusion or exclusion of the article.

2.2. *Inclusion criteria*

To be suitable for inclusion, studies had to fulfill the following selection criteria: (a) studies focused solely on the role of design techniques on learning tactical scenes of play through any type of dynamic visualization (i.e., video or animation); (b) studies recruiting male and female subjects at any age category and competitive level in sports; (c) studies based on purely visual learning environment (i.e., without adding any oral/written explanations) in order to avoid the occurrence of modality effect (for this point see [41, 42]); (d) studies involving cognitive load and/or learning measurements; (e) original studies written in English and published in peer-reviewed journals.

2.3. *Exclusion criteria*

Studies not meeting with the following criteria were excluded: (a) studies based on multimedia learning environment (i.e., combination of visual and oral/written explanations); (b) proceedings, conference papers, thesis, reviews, book chapters, books, expert interviews,

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meta-analysis, or commentary articles; (c) articles not written in English; (d) articles not published in peer-reviewed journals.

3. Results

3.1. Study selection

The search strategies yielded a preliminary pool of 253 possible papers. Subsequently, 39 duplicate articles were removed. The full text of 48 articles were retrieved and assessed for eligibility based on the inclusion criteria. After a careful review of their full texts, 37 articles were excluded and the remaining 11 articles (published between 2013 and 2020 in peer-reviewed journals) were eligible for inclusion in the review (Figure 1).

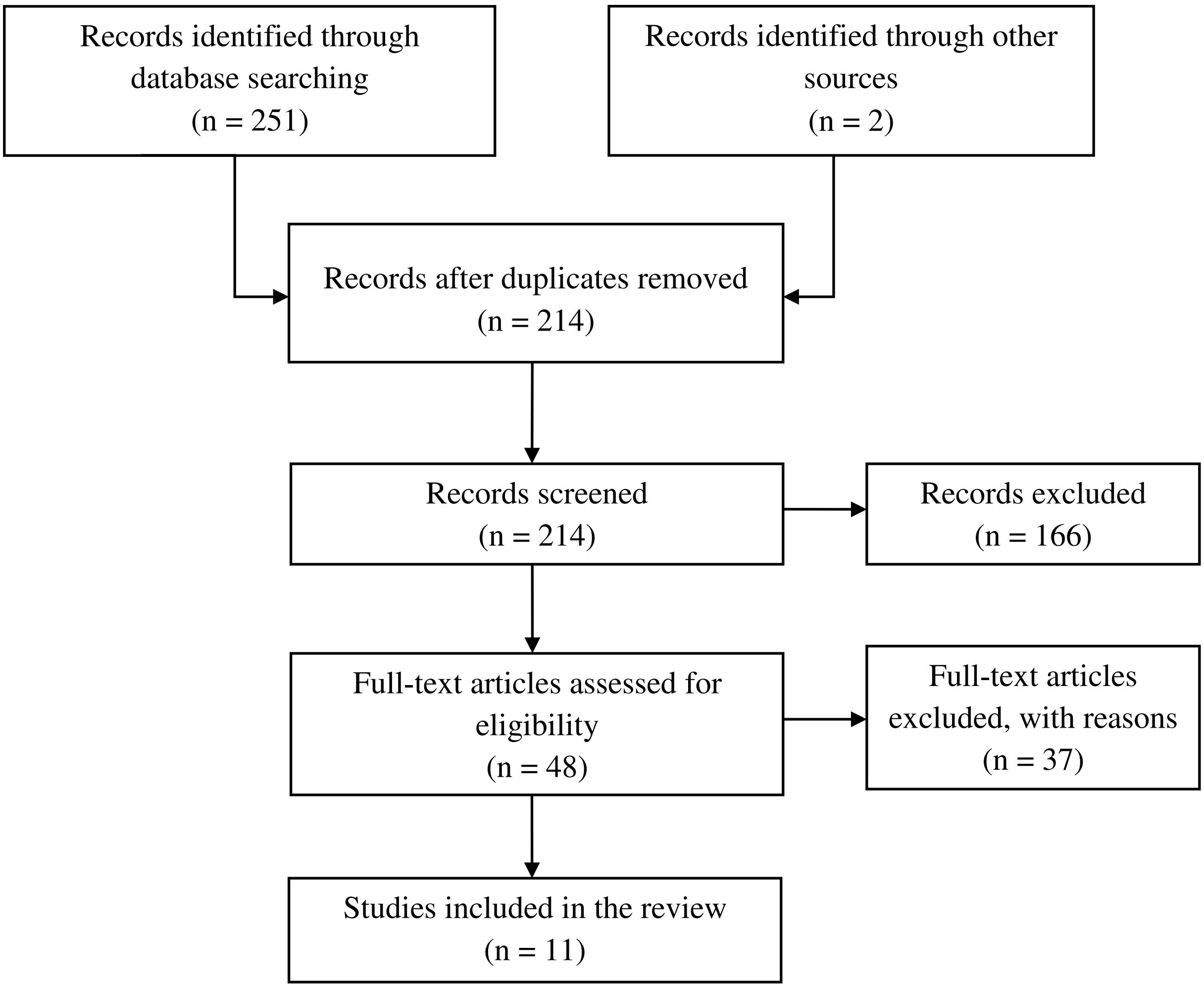

Figure1. Flowchart illustrating the different phases of the search and study selection

A total of 11 articles fulfilled the eligibility criteria.

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These papers are focused, particularly, on the roles of four design techniques in learning tactical scenes in basketball [2, 13, 65], soccer [17, 20, 24, 28, 35, 43, 44], and Australian football [66] through dynamic visualizations. One study [20] examined the effect of employing sequential presentation. Six studies [2, 13, 24, 35, 43, 44] tested the effect of using static visualizations. Four studies explored the effect of decreasing presentation speed [17, 35, 65, 66], and one study [28] examined the effect of using segmentation. These investigations were conducted within physical education or sports coaching domains. Most of these studies were designed to evaluate the effect of these design techniques on cognitive load, comprehension/recall accuracy (through a paper/pencil task), and game performance (during realistic situation) in order to obtain an indication of learning efficiency. The participants of three studies [2, 13, 65] were novices students (males and females) recruited from secondary school classes. They were aged between 15 and 16 years old. The participants of six studies [20, 24, 28, 35, 43, 44] were novices students (males) recruited from undergraduate university classes (aged between 22 and 29 years old), and experts players (aged between 24 and 29 years old) engaged with varied professional and semi-professional soccer football clubs located in French. The participants of one study [17] were sub-experts players (aged between 13 and 14 years old) engaged with teams from the second division of the Tunisian football league. The participants of one study [66] were novices (M_{age} = 22.68 years, SD = 4.05), sub-experts (M_{age} = 20.34 years, SD = 3.44) and experts (M_{age} = 22.19 years, SD = 3.10) Australian footballers (males).

Table 1 lists the type of design technique, authors and year of publication, domain, type of dynamic visualizations, type of depicted knowledge, study sample, dependent variables, and study outcomes.

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Table1. Roles of design techniques in learning tactical scenes of play through dynamic visualizations: overview of the analyzed papers

Design techniques	Source	Domain	Dynamic visualization	Depicted knowledge	Sample	Dependant variables	Study outcomes
Sequential presentation	Khacharem et al. [20]	Soccer	Animation	Descriptive	Novices Experts	Recall accuracy	*For Novices* Sequential > concurrent *For experts* Sequential = concurrent
						Mental Effort	*For Novices* Sequential < concurrent *For experts* Sequential > concurrent
						Number of repetition	*For Novices* Sequential = concurrent *For experts* Sequential = concurrent
						Learning Efficiency	*For Novices* Sequential > concurrent *For experts* Sequential < concurrent
Static visualizations	Khacharem et al. [43]	Soccer	Animation	Descriptive	Novices Experts	Mental Effort	*For Novices* Series of pictures > Animation > Combined *For Experts* Animation < Series of pictures < Combined
						Recall-Performance	*For Novices* Animation = Series of pictures < Combined

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						For Experts Animation > Series of pictures > Combined
					Number of repetitions	*For Novices* Series of pictures > Animation > Combined *For Experts* Animation < Series of pictures < Combined
					Learning Efficiency	*For Novices* Series of pictures > Animation > Combined *For Experts* Animation > Series of pictures > Combined
Khacharem et al. [44]	Soccer	Animation	Descriptive	Novices Experts	Recall accuracy	*For Novices* Animation < Series of pictures without tracing < Series of pictures with tracing *For experts* Animation = Series of pictures without tracing = Series of pictures with tracing
					Mental Effort	*For Novices* Series of pictures with tracing < Animation = Series of pictures without tracing *For experts* Animation < Series of pictures without tracing = Series of pictures with tracing

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					Number of Repetitions	*For Novices* Series of pictures with tracing < Animation = Series of pictures without tracing *For experts* Animation = Series of pictures without tracing = Series of pictures with tracing
					Learning Efficiency	*For Novices* Animation < Series of pictures without tracing < Series of pictures with tracing *For experts* Animation > Series of pictures without tracing = Series of pictures with tracing
Khacharem et al. [35]	Soccer	Animation	Descriptive	Novices Experts	Recall accuracy	*For Novices* Animation = Picture *For Experts* Animation > Picture
					Time on immediate recall test	*For Novices* Animation > Picture *For Experts* Animation = Picture
					Mental Effort	*For Novices* Animation > Picture *For Experts* Animation < Picture
					Number of repetitions	*For Novices* Animation > Picture

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						For Experts Animation < Picture
					Learning Efficiency	*For Novices* Animation < Picture *For Experts* Animation > Picture
					Delayed recall accuracy	*For Novices* Animation < Picture *For Experts* Animation > Picture
					Time on delayed recall test	*For Novices* Animation > Picture *For Experts* Animation = Picture
Khacharem et al. [24]	Soccer	Animation	Descriptive	Novices	Performance	*For low content complexity* Animation = diagram *For high content complexity* Animation < diagram
					Mental Effort	*For low content complexity* Animation < diagram *For high content complexity* Animation = diagram
					Learning Efficiency	*For low content complexity* Animation > diagram *For high content complexity* Animation < diagram
Rekik et al. [2]	Basketball	Video	Motor skills	Novices	Cognitive load	Video < Series of pictures

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						Comprehension	Video > Series of pictures
						Game performance	Video > Series of pictures
	Rekik et al. [13]	Basketball	Video	Motor skills	Novices	Cognitive load	*For low content complexity* Video = Series of pictures *For medium/high contents complexity* Video < Series of pictures
						Comprehension	*For low content complexity* Video = Series of pictures *For medium/high contents complexity* Video > Series of pictures
						Game performance	*For low content complexity* Video = Series of pictures *For medium/high contents complexity* Video > Series of pictures
Segmentation	Khacharem et al. [28]	Soccer	Animation	Descriptive	Novices Experts	Recall accuracy	*For Novices* Continuous = Macro-step = Micro-step *For experts* Continuous < Macro-step < Micro-step
						Mental Effort	*For Novices* Continuous > Macro-step > Micro-step *For experts* Continuous > Macro-step = Micro-step

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						Number of repetition	*For Novices* Continuous > Macro-step > Micro-step *For experts* Continuous > Macro-step = Micro-step
						Learning Efficiency	*For Novices* Continuous < Macro-step < Micro-step *For experts* Continuous < Macro-step = Micro-step
Decreasing presentation speed	Lorains et al. [66]	Australian football	Video	Motor skills	Novices Sub-Experts Experts	Decision accuracy	*For Novices and Sub-Experts* low speed = Normal speed < high speeds *For Experts* high speeds > Normal speed = low speed
	Khacharem et al. [35]	Soccer	Animation	Descriptive	Novices Experts	Recall accuracy	*For Novices* High speed = Normal speed < low speed *For Experts* High speed = Normal speed = low speed
						Time on immediate recall test	*For Novices* High speed > Normal speed > low speed *For Experts* High speed < low speed = Normal speed

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Mental Effort	*For Novices* High speed > Normal speed > low speed *For Experts* High speed = Normal speed < low speed
Number of repetitions	*For Novices* High speed > Normal speed > low speed *For Experts* High speed = Normal speed = low speed
Learning Efficiency	*For Novices* High speed < Normal speed < low speed *For Experts* High speed = Normal speed > low speed
Delayed recall accuracy	*For Novices* High speed = Normal speed < low speed *For Experts* High speed = Normal speed = low speed
Time on delayed recall test	*For Novices* High speed = Normal speed < low speed *For Experts* High speed < Normal speed = low speed

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Jarraya et al. [65]	Basketball	Video	Motor skills	Novices	Mental Effort	*For low content complexity* Normal speed = low speed *For medium/high contents complexity* Normal speed < low speed
					Game performance	*For low content complexity* Normal speed = low speed *For medium/high contents complexity* Normal speed < low speed
					Learning Efficiency	*For low content complexity* Normal speed = low speed *For high content complexity* Normal speed < low speed
Rekik et al. [17]	Soccer	Animation	Descriptive	Sub-Experts	Mental Effort	*For low content complexity* Normal speed = low speed *For high content complexity* Normal speed > low speed
					Comprehension	*For low content complexity* Normal speed = low speed *For high content complexity* Normal speed < low speed
					Learning Efficiency	*For low content complexity* Normal speed = low speed *For high content complexity* Normal speed < low speed

3.2. Main findings

Firstly, the reviewed articles revealed that the effectiveness of the four identified design techniques depend upon the level of learners' expertise when learning soccer scenes through animations showing descriptive knowledge. Indeed, it was observed that using static visualizations, employing sequential presentation, using segmentation, and decreasing presentation speed are effective only for less knowledgeable learners (i.e., novices), but they become ineffective for more knowledgeable learners (i.e., experts). *Secondly*, the present literature review showed that the effectiveness of using static visualizations, as design technique, instead of dynamic visualizations showing tactical scenes depend upon the type of the depicted knowledge (i.e., motor knowledge or descriptive knowledge), particularly for novice learners. In fact, it has been observed that replacing animations portraying descriptive knowledge with a series of static pictures or diagrams induce positive effects when learning soccer scenes among less knowledgeable learners. Conversely, using a series of static pictures instead of realistic videos portraying motor skills induce negative effects when learning basketball scenes among novice secondary school students. *Thirdly*, the reviewed papers demonstrate that the effectiveness of certain design techniques (i.e., using static visualizations, and decreasing presentation speed) depend upon the level of content complexity, especially for novice learners. In this context, it has been established that replacing a soccer animation with an arrows-based diagram induce positive effects on learning complex soccer scene of play (i.e., with high content complexity), but negative effects on learning simple soccer scene of play (i.e., with low content complexity). Moreover, using a series of static pictures instead of realistic videos portraying motor skills in basketball induce similar effects on learning when the content complexity was low, and negative effects on learning when the content complexity was medium and/or high. Furthermore, it was found that the instructional benefits of decreasing presentation speed of animations showing

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descriptive knowledge in soccer or realistic videos showing motor skills in basketball were present only when studying medium or high levels of content complexity.

Table 2 provides a summary of the suggested design techniques in order to improve learning tactical scenes of play through dynamic visualizations, as a function of these moderator factors.

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Table2. Suggested design techniques to improve learning of tactical scenes of play through dynamic visualizations

Type of dynamic visualization	Type of depicted knowledge	Level of content complexity	Suggested design technique	Addressed to
Animation	Descriptive	High	Sequential presentation	Novices
			Static visualizations	Novices
			Decreasing presentation speed	Novices / sub-Experts
			Segmentation (Micro-step)	Novices
			Segmentation (Macro-step)	Novices / Experts
Video	Motor skills	Medium / High	Decreasing presentation speed	Novices

4. Discussion

This paper reviews a series of experimental studies examining the roles of different design techniques (without adding any oral/written explanations) in learning tactical scenes of play through dynamic visualizations. The literature search strategies yielded a final pool of eleven possible papers. These articles are interested to the role of four design techniques (using static visualizations, employing sequential presentation, using segmentation, and decreasing presentation speed) on tactical learning in basketball, soccer, and Australian football. Overall, research into the instructional and/or cognitive effects of these design techniques has obtained discrepant results. In fact, the roles of these design techniques in learning tactical scenes from dynamic visualizations depends/varies as a function of the level of learners' expertise, type of depicted knowledge, and level of content complexity.

4.1. Level of learners' expertise

The current state of the literature indicated that learner prior knowledge is a significant factor that could moderate the effectiveness of all identified design techniques (i.e., using static visualizations, employing segmentation, using sequential presentation, and decreasing presentation speed) when learning tactical scenes of play through dynamic visualizations, especially via animations showing descriptive knowledge.

In this framework, Khacharem et al. [20] found that the effect of using sequential presentation was moderated by the level of players' expertise when learning soccer drill from an animation. In this study, participants were invited to complete a recall-reconstruction test and to rate their invested mental effort after studying a concurrent or sequential presentation of a soccer animation. For novice players, the sequential presentation produced better learning outcomes. Conversely, expert players performed better after studying the concurrent presentation.

Moreover, the effective use of the segmentation technique was also moderated by the level of learners' expertise when studying complex soccer scenes from animations. Khacharem et al. [28] tested the effect of two types of segmentation (macro-step and micro-step) on learning soccer attacking drills. Even though results demonstrated positive effect of the macro-step segmentation among all players, novices benefited more from micro-step segmentation than from macro-step segmentation, while experts performed at the same level with both forms of segmentation.

Furthermore, Khacharem et al. [43, 44] investigated the effects of expertise on perceived cognitive load and performance resulting from studying soccer scene either through an animation or via a series of static pictures. The results showed that novice players achieved higher performance outcomes after studying static pictures. However, expert players performed better after studying instructional animations. Similarly, Khacharem et al. [35] found an interaction between levels of learner expertise and the usefulness of replacing an animation with a static picture in studying a soccer playing system. According to this study, displaying a static picture to novice players is more helpful for learning than displaying an animation. Conversely, learning from a continuous animation is more beneficial for expert players: they attained the higher level of performance with the same time on the immediate recall-test, needed lower number of repetitions, and invested less mental effort.

Additionally, it was established that learners' prior knowledge should be taken into consideration when decreasing animation speed. For example, Khacharem et al. [35] examined the effect of three presentation speed (high vs. normal vs. low) on learning soccer scene among novices and expert players. The study reported mixed effects for the use of these animations, when considering the level of learners' expertise. Indeed, novice players achieved higher recall scores, needed a lower number of repetitions and invested less mental effort when the animations were played at a low speed than when they were played at a normal or

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high speed. However, expert players had to invest less mental effort to attain the same level of performance with the same number of repetitions, when the animations were displayed at a high or normal speed than when they were displayed at a low speed.

According to these studies, the interaction between the effectiveness of design techniques and the levels of learners' expertise when learning from dynamic visualizations is mainly due to "*the expertise reversal effect*" [for a review, see 45-48]. Accordingly, learning from animations depends not only on how the information is presented, but also on the quantity of the learner prior knowledge in the domain. It is well known that prior knowledge is stored in long term memory as cognitive schemas, through experience and deliberate practice [44, 49]. The development of domain-specific knowledge can effectively reduce WM overload by assembling a large amount of information elements into a single unit. As a result, experienced learners were able to deal with complex dynamic visualizations, by identifying the crucial aspects and ignore the unimportant ones [50-52]. Consequently, design techniques that are optimal and effective for less knowledgeable learners may become ineffective and hinder learning for more knowledgeable learners, and vice versa [35, 45, 46, 47].

4.2. Type of depicted knowledge

It has been established that the type of knowledge depicted in dynamic visualizations (i.e., motor knowledge or descriptive knowledge) could moderate the effectiveness of one of the above-mentioned design techniques (i.e., using static visualizations) when learning tactical scenes, particularly for novice learners.

On one hand, Khacharem and colleagues [43, 44] found that replacing animations with a series of static pictures is an effective strategy for learning soccer attacking drills, especially for novice soccer players. Similarly, it was established that using a static picture representing three key stages of a soccer animation is more beneficial for learning: novice players attained the same level of performance with less time on the immediate recall-test, with lower number

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of repetitions, and with lower investment of mental effort [35]. In the same vein, Khacharem et al. [24] investigate the instructional effectiveness of using a soccer animation in comparison to using a static diagram. The results demonstrated that novice players benefited more from studying a static presentation than from studying an animated presentation: they achieved the same level of comprehension with lower investment of mental effort. As mentioned in the introduction, using static instead of dynamic visualizations may decrease the extraneous cognitive load investment by allowing learners to benefit from sufficient time to identify and process relevant information and effectively integrate it in long term memory [25, 26]. Moreover, using static visualizations, compared to dynamic representations, offer the possibility to revise and compare different parts of the display as frequently as desired [27].

One the other hand, evidence of positive effects of using static visualizations were not proved in comparison with using dynamic visualizations among novice learners, when it was about learning motor knowledge/skills. In this context, Rekik et al. [2] explored the effectiveness of video versus a series of static photographs on learning basketball tactical actions within physical education domain. Immediately after the learning phase, students were asked to indicate their cognitive load investment. Next, they were invited to perform a game understanding task and a game performance task. For all indicators, the results showed that learning from the video was more effective than learning from a series of photographs. These results are consistent with previous researches carried out in non-sporting domains, demonstrating the cognitive and instructional value of dynamic visualizations (as opposed to statics) involving various motor skills that require hand manipulations such as performing an emergency procedure [9], making origami shapes [53], constructing 3D Lego figures [54], and tying knots [5, 6, 55, and 56].

Following the neuroscience literature, the superiority of dynamic visualizations over statics when learning motor knowledge/skills is mainly due to the activation of the Mirror-

Neuron System [57-60]. This system is originally identified in primates. It is a neuro-physiological circuit distributed across the pre-motor cortex that is automatically activated when someone is observing another person performing an action [58, 60]. Moreover, as humans' actions are part of primary knowledge such as face recognition, learning from others, and language, their acquisition is very easy and requires little cognitive effort [61]. Hence, watching dynamic visualizations involving motor skills does not require excessive cognitive resources, because humans are biologically evolved to effectively acquire such kind of knowledge. The phenomenon of learning motor skills from dynamic visualizations compared to statics was called "the human movement effect" [61].

4.3. Level of content complexity

Analysis of the selected articles showed that the level of content complexity (i.e., the number of interactive information elements) is a significant factor that could modulate the effectiveness of some design techniques (i.e., using static visualizations, decreasing presentation speed) when learning tactical game systems through dynamic visualizations, particularly for novice learners. The term "complexity" used in these experimental studies referred to the internal complexity of the playing systems that was associated with the intrinsic cognitive load [62]. In fact, the more complex scene of play is the situation that involves more players and more interactions between them [63, 64].

It was established that replacing an animation with an arrows-based diagram was efficacious only when studying complex soccer scene of play (i.e., with high content complexity). Indeed, novice players achieved the same level of comprehension with lower investment of mental effort. By contrast, participants learned more efficiently from the animation than from the static diagram when it is about a simple soccer scene [see 24]. Moreover, Rekik et al. [13] found that using a series of static pictures or a video had similar effects among novice participants when learning basketball scenes with low content

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complexity. However, for medium and high content complexity, the dynamic format had a clear advantage over the static format in terms of cognitive load investment and learning outcomes.

In addition, it was found that the instructional benefits of decreasing presentation speed of animations showing descriptive knowledge or videos showing motor skills were also affected by the level of content complexity. Rekik et al. [17] examined the effect of content complexity on learning from soccer animations presented either at normal or low speeds (i.e., 0.5 and 1.0 times normal speed). Their results revealed that while the decrease of presentation speed had no advantages when learning low-complexity content, sub-expert players profited more from the low than the normal presentation speed when learning high complexity content (based on the combination of comprehension and cognitive load scores). The same pattern of results was obtained when learning basketball tactical actions through videos [see 65]. Authors found that both speeds of presentation have similar effects when learning low content complexity. Conversely, for medium and high complexity contents, novice participants exposed to the slow-presentation speed learned more efficiently than those exposed to the normal-presentation speed.

These researchers referred usually to the cognitive load theory [14, 15] in order to explain the interaction between the effectiveness of design techniques and the levels of content complexity when learning from dynamic visualizations. Indeed, dynamic formats displaying contents with low levels of complexity led to easier learning, because learners had to consume less perceptual-cognitive resources to deal with both the transient nature of information and few numbers of interactive information elements. As a result, learners were not forced to integrate and maintain excessive information elements in working memory. Consequently, novice learners could benefit from videos or animations showing tactical scenes of play without running the risk of a potential cognitive overload. By contrast, dealing

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with more complex dynamic visualizations made learning difficult and consumed a large amount of perceptual-cognitive resources, as learners were asked to deal with the transient nature of information and to spatially split their attention among the excessive number of interactive elements [14]. Therefore, the use of the above-mentioned design techniques (except the use of static visualizations when learning motor skills; due to the human movement effect) might reduce these cognitive processing demands and improve novices' performance when learning tactical scenes of play through dynamic visualizations.

5. Strengths and weaknesses

As a first initiative, the present study offers a comprehensive coverage of the available literature and the careful appraisal of its quality, via the utilization of a wide range of key words (related to the relationships between dynamic visualizations, design techniques, and learning tactical scenes of play) searched through two globe databases. The current review demonstrated important practical implications for both coaches and physical education teachers using either animations or realistic video clips to communicate/explain tactical scenes. Indeed, the present review shows that adapting design techniques to the level of learners' expertise, type of depicted knowledge, and level of content complexity is a crucial part of effective learning. However, certain limitations should be kept in mind. First, the current review paper focused solely on experimental studies based on purely visual learning environment (i.e., without adding any oral/written explanations). Although this requirement was applied in order to avoid the occurrence of modality effect [41, 42], it would be worthwhile in future review to include studies based on multimedia learning environment. Second, the present literature review was interested specifically on tactical learning in team sports. More review papers are required to explore the roles of design techniques in learning from dynamic visualizations portraying actions/events in individual sports, such as gymnastic or weightlifting.

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