

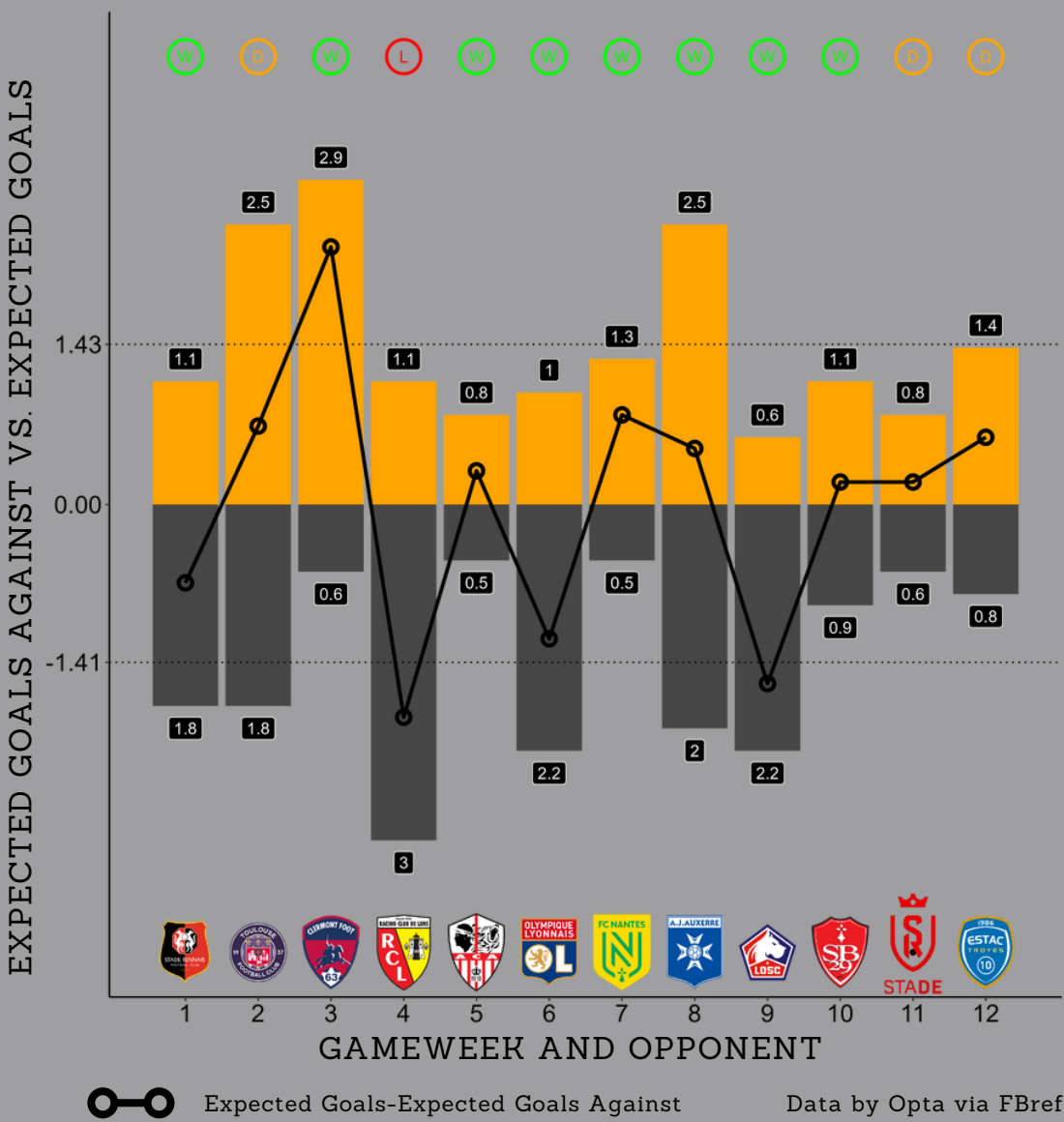


LORIENT

2022/2023 PERFORMANCE



IS LORIENT OVERPERFORMING? COMPARISON OF EXPECTED GOALS AND EXPECTED GOALS AGAINST



In the current 2022/2023 season, Lorient seems to be the dark horse of french Ligue 1 campaign. as for now (end of October) they are occupying spots that guarantee participation in European competitions in the upcoming season, even though they were rather expected to fight for omitting relegation.

Lorient managed to beat most of their opponents in spite of not being always the dominant side during matches. The great examples are clashes with potent rivals such as Olympique Lyon or LOSC Lille. It's also worth mentioning how Lorient manages to secure their wins in balanced matches, like the ones with Ajaccio, Auxerre or Brestois.

Lorient does not present Barcelona-type dominant style of play with high control of the ball, they would rather leave it for their rivals. Nonetheless, they score way more goals than they should according to the expected goals model. That may indicate they are clinical when it comes to finishing their actions

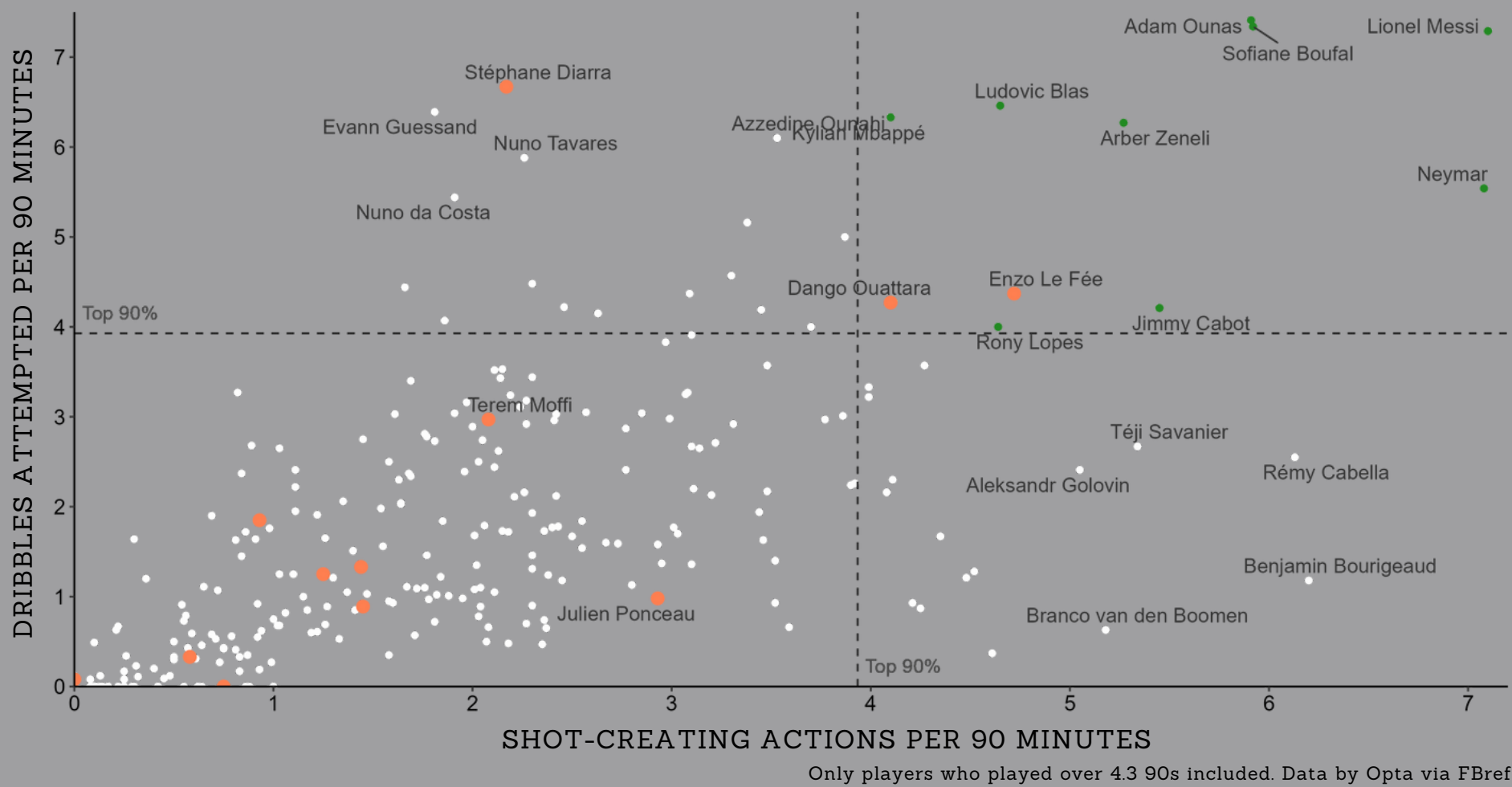
WHAT DO EXPECTED GOALS MEAN?

Expected goals indicator (or xG) measures the quality of a chance by calculating the likelihood that it will be scored from a particular position on the pitch during a particular phase of play. This value is based on several factors from before the shot was taken

LIGUE 1: RELATION BETWEEN BALL POSSESSION AND SCORING EFFICIENCY



LIGUE 1: DRIBBLE ATTEMPTS VS CONTRIBUTION TO SHOT-CREATING ACTIONS



The fact that Lorient turns out to be third from the end team in terms of ball possession leaves us with assumption that probably individual decisions of Lorient players have more importance than slowly built, well designed actions.

Scatter plot on the right yields us the perspective on players who enjoy taking on 1v1 duels and who are prolific in terms of creating shooting opportunities. Appearance of Lionel Messi or Neymar as leaders in both categories is not a surprise for anyone, but in the elite cluster of footballers who exceed 90th percentile there are present also two Lorient players: Enzo Le Fée and Dango Ouattara.

In case of Le Fée what amazes is the fact that he's a midfielder, yet succeeds in the categories dominated by forwards and wingers with his dynamic style of play (as for midfielder player).

Lorient winger, Stéphane Diarra, tops the league in terms of dribble attempts, however, this does not translate into tangible results as he's involved into slightly more than 2 shot creating actions per match.

ENZO LE FÉE PERCENTILE COMPARISON TO ALL MIDFIELDERS IN TOP 5 EUROPEAN LEAGUES



The player who excels on the greatest amount of surfaces is already mentioned Enzo Le Fée. Taking a closer look at his performance depicts how much he stands out in comparison with position peers from top 5 strongest european leagues.

His impact on creating chances for his teammates reaches the top level as he places himself in 98th percentile both in terms of producing key passes as shot-creating actions. Models for advanced statistics tell us Le Fée's expected offensive contribution is relatively high as sum of his expected non-penalty goals and expected assists sets him in 85th percentile in that category.

As Lorient's number 10 performance is game-changing in terms of offensive play, the defensive aspects of the game are not being neglected either. Le Fée is a prolific defender ranking high both in tackles made and pressures on rival players.