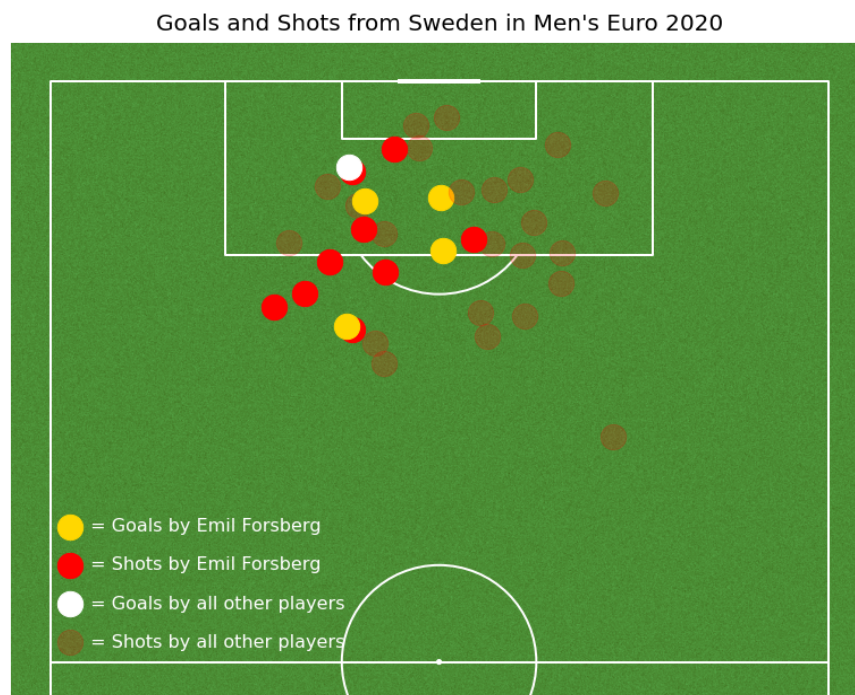


## Assignment 1 - Plotting Actions

In this paper, we will explore the performance of Emil Forsberg in Men's Euro 2020. To do this, we will go through two plots related to his actions taken in the championship. The first will show his involvement in shots and goals in comparison to other players in the Swedish National Team. The second will show his interaction with other players in the form of a passing network from their round of 16-match versus Ukraine. This paper will demonstrate that Emil Forsberg was instrumental to Sweden's performance in Men's Euro 2020.

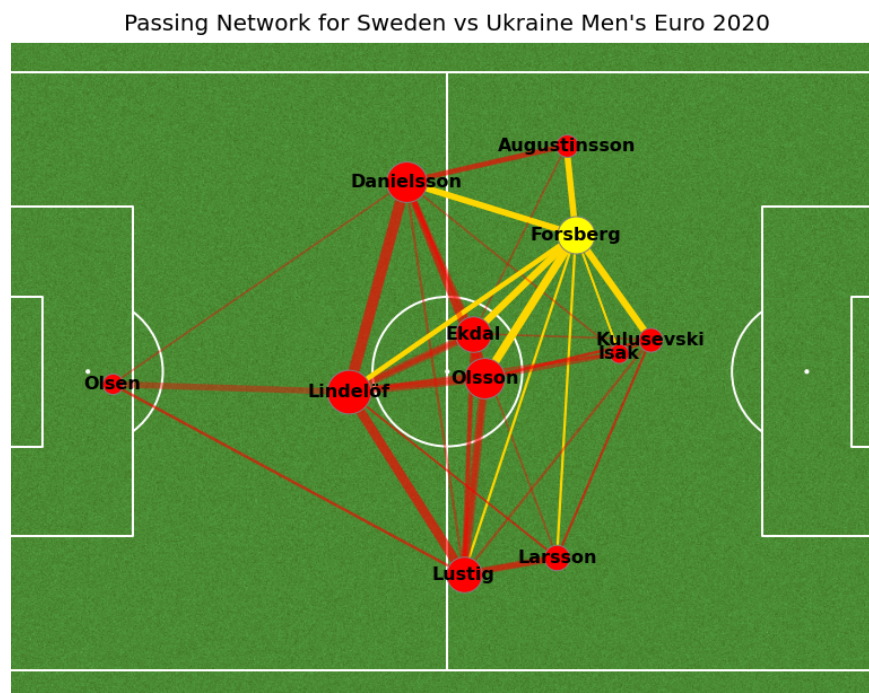
The Swedish National Team played four matches in total of the Men's Euro 2020. They faced the following teams in chronological order: Spain, Slovakia, Poland, and Ukraine. The first match (Spain) is an outlier in the statistics where Sweden only had 15% of possession and 4 shots in total (0 shots on target), whereas the following matches had more equal possession (42%, 33%, 46%) and was able to take more shots (12, 11, 13), and even score a few goals (1, 3, 1). Figure 1 shows that Emil Forsberg was a big part of the Swedish attack; with his 13 shots, where 7 shots were from the box, and 4 goals.

As has been discussed in the course lectures, shots converted to goals are more likely to happen from the box. In Figure 1, one can see that Emil Forsberg almost always cuts in from the left side into the box to shoot with his dominant foot (right), which further increases the likelihood of goal conversion. His ability to find opportunities to shoot and specifically convert them to goals, demonstrates that he was instrumental to Sweden's goal performance in Men's Euro 2020.



*Figure 1: Visualization of goals and shots from Emil Forsberg compared to the other players of the Swedish National Team in Men's Euro 2020*

Furthermore, his significance in the team's passing network vs Ukraine, shown in Figure 2, demonstrates that he was part of the build-up going from the middle third entering the final third. A takeaway from the visualization in Figure 2 is that Sweden tends to build up their attack in the center or left side of the pitch, where Emil Forsberg plays a central role in taking the shot or delivering the key pass to the striker Dejan Kulusevski. This can be compared to the right side of the pitch where they had more challenges at finding passes to the other striker, Alexander Isak. Therefore, Emil Forsberg's involvement contributed more to the attacking progression of the match. Similar performance can be observed in the other matches of the tournament.



*Figure 2: Visualization of passing network with Emil Forsberg in focus in the round of 16th-game versus Ukraine in Men's Euro 2020*

Before beginning my analysis of Emil Forsberg's performance in Men's Euro 2020, it was my assumption that he did not do enough to enable other players' involvement for Sweden's progress in the tournament. However, this analysis proves the contrary. Emil Forsberg was in fact instrumental in the performance of the Swedish national team. This is exemplified through his goal conversion illustrated in Figure 1, as well as his passing involvement illustrated in Figure 2.