






This race, in a nutshell, was simply this: get to Chilov, round it to port, get back to Start.

2019 SRQ4

(before Caspian)

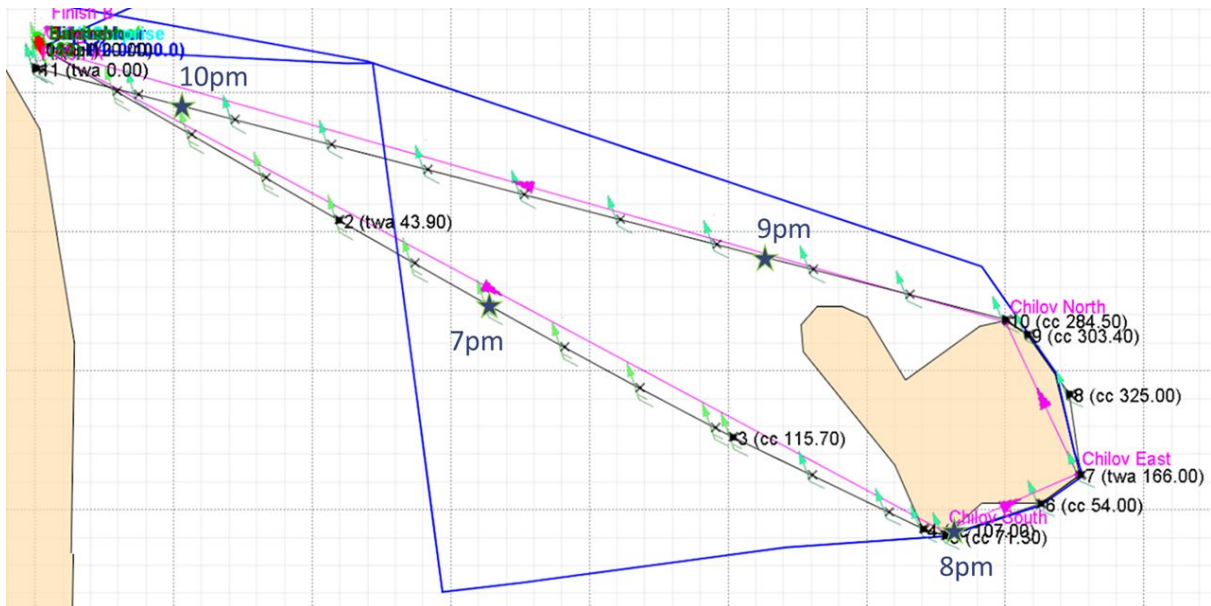
Rank	Name	Points
1	 bonknhoot	7
2	 WINSTON_4	9
3	 calmxy	14
4	 Wolff	29
5	 brandystrega	37

Prior to this race, the standings for the SRQ4 were as follows. Even if non-SYC members were also to be ranked in the SRQ4, they wouldn't affect the top 10.

I would have been on the podium of SRQ3, except that I joined SYC around two weeks too late, causing the Agage sprint to count as DNC and hence getting 15th (122 points) for that series instead of 2nd (42 points).

Here we would see bonknhoot and Winston_4 fight it out for the plaque. I simply wanted to avoid losing out on the final podium place for the SRQ4. A finish of rank #15 for this race would be sufficient to guarantee being on the SRQ4 podium. I believed that a reasonable effort that didn't BBQ would easily clear this goal.

That is, until I started setting up the DCs for this race.



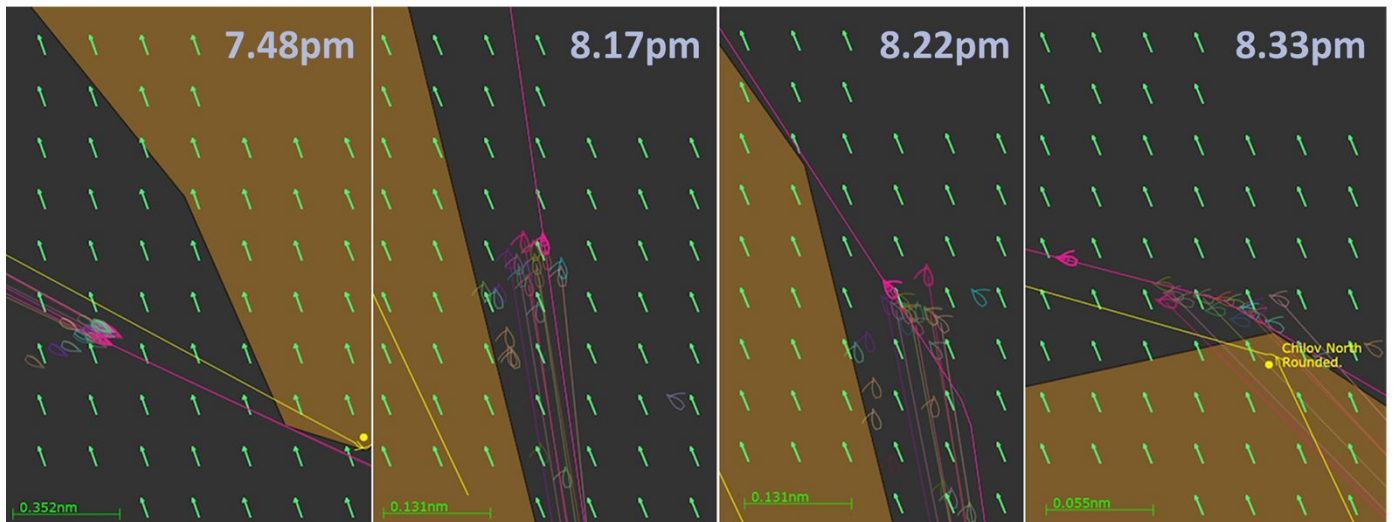
Note that these DCs were set up on the 10.30am Wx, but the changes to the DCs were relatively minimal going into the 4.30pm Wx.

From what I observed, the rhumb lines to and from Chilov Island both seemed totally viable. Naturally, the eastern half of Chilov Island's coast had to be rounded as close as possible without BBQing on the island itself (with an exception right after the Chilov East mark due to wind direction).

However, much as the rhumb lines were viable, other routes had to be considered. The rhumb lines can sometimes be the best, but with careful tweaking of DCs, it may be possible to find a better path. These can be difficult to find if the time saved is very small.

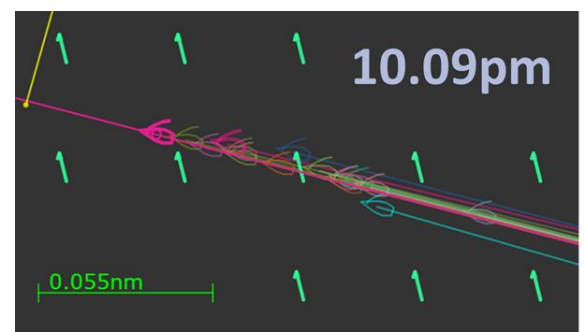
For the Gurgan-Chilov South leg, setting commands around TWA 45.36° would result in time savings of around 7 seconds. Doesn't seem like much, but when the results are expected to look similar to [this](#), it could literally mean a difference of 10+ positions, possibly enough for Wolff to claim the SRQ4 podium. For the Chilov North-Gurgan leg, it was found after much testing that the rhumb line to the south tip of the Finish line was indeed the fastest.

For this race, I could set all the DCs knowing that the Wx would only change after the race was finished (unlike those sprints starting at 4pm UTC). I actually went to sleep except for the 45 mins where we were right alongside the Chilov coast. Well, you know how those DC'd Practice Races go... that is, on the occasion that I manage to round everything correctly and reach the finish.



Approaching Chilov South, I was 9th and my earlier DCs had worked as intended. I paid close attention to each of the next 7 turns, delaying the respective DC by 30 seconds (so that it would still fire in case I forgot) then typing the same command into the steer tab and waiting for the boat to update so that sending the command would not result in a BBQ. Some corners of Chilov were rounded better than others, depending on when the server decided to update my boat position. Most other boats had similar boat traces as mine, except for a few BBQs along Chilov's coasts and, perhaps more surprisingly, a handful of boats following the coastline right after Chilov East! Were they trying to reduce performance loss? Unfortunately, it did not pay off and they lost ~15 seconds to the leaders.

Having rounded Chilov Island, I quickly checked to ensure that my COG command was set accurately and would enable me to finish. I next checked back around the race finish time. I saw myself ranked #4 as of race finish... then it updated to rank #6, as the server decided that both Winston_4 and knockando60 had reached the finish just before me. Indeed, the finish in general was really close, with me just 12 seconds behind sassy63 (1st) and 21 seconds ahead of rafa (15th).



Well done to all for the exciting race, and glad that I didn't miss the SRQ4 podium!

2019 SRQ4

(after Caspian)

Rank	Name	Points
1	bonknhoot	10
2	WINSTON_4	14
3	calmxy	20
4	Wolff	38
5	brandystrega	61

Rank	Boat Name	Finish Time (UTC)
1	sassy63	2019-12-14 22:10:11
2	Henrys	2019-12-14 22:10:13
3	bonknhoot	2019-12-14 22:10:17
4	knockando60	2019-12-14 22:10:22
5	WINSTON_4	2019-12-14 22:10:23
6	calmxy	2019-12-14 22:10:23
7	Frangipani	2019-12-14 22:10:31
8	robert1	2019-12-14 22:10:34
9	Wolff	2019-12-14 22:10:35
10	Lunch	2019-12-14 22:10:35
11	trew55	2019-12-14 22:10:35
12	Chipspitter	2019-12-14 22:10:40
13	RainbowChaser	2019-12-14 22:10:40
14	sail76	2019-12-14 22:10:41
15	rafa	2019-12-14 22:10:44