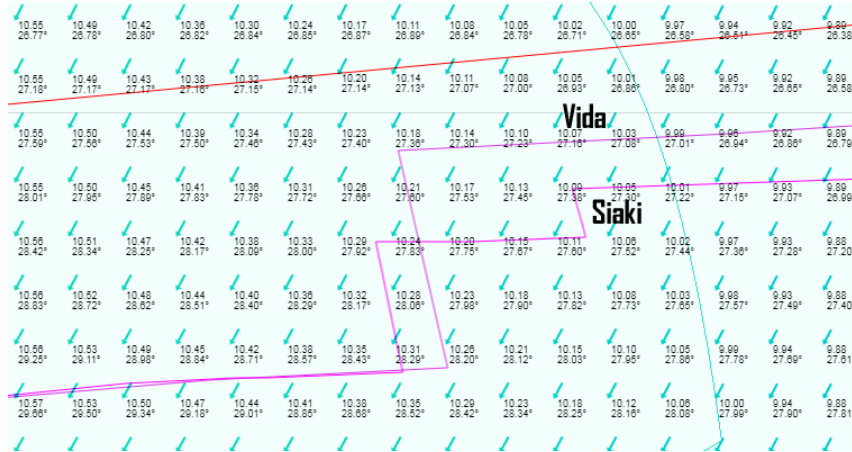


What a race!! Sailed to the decimals all the way. The final sector required extra care and I wasn't sure I could keep the position from the great Patrick's come back. The key of the race for me has been to stay on a northern route during the Indian Ocean crossing; after leaving the Gulf of Aden I dropped offboard the light machine gun, as protection from the pirates, and sailed the plan. I found Vida with the same idea and I used him as a reference.

There weren't many manoeuvrers to perform on the crossing so my task was just not too loose contact from him while staying above the main fleet. I managed it quite well despite delaying the night wx updates few hours every night (except the last one) but the one illustrated below costed me some ground. I wouldn't say that I could have won the race but probably I could have given him little more hard time toward the finish line. The battle with Patrick was a great one, wasn't easy at all to stay ahead but the initial plan of staying high worked well and was able to cross the finish line few decimals in front.



After a long period of inactivity, to come back racing with my best SOL performance in the shape of a second place is very rewarding! I want to dedicate this podium to Tyger and Captain Jack.

Giac