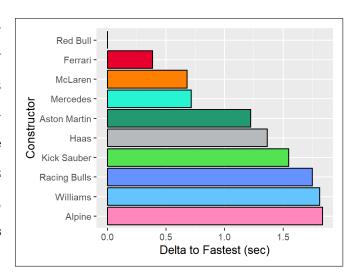
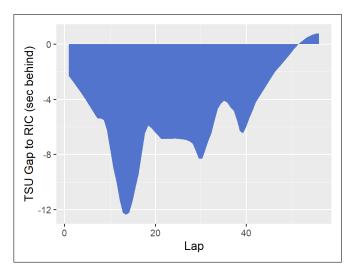
## **Bahrain Grand Prix**

Qualifying at the Bahrain Grand Prix saw Verstappen secure another pole position over Leclerc by 0.226 seconds. With the flood lights lit throughout the race, Verstappen led from lights out to the chequered flag, completing his fifth grand slam. The Red Bull duo secured a one-two finish, while Sainz settled for P3. No safety cars disrupted the race, allowing Verstappen to take the win by 22 seconds and begin his bid for the 2024 title.





Outqualifying his teammate by three positions, Tsunoda initially held the upper hand in the Grand Prix. However, since their strategies diverged over the race, Tsunoda opted to end on the hard tire, while Ricciardo ran a ended on the softs. This gave Ricciardo fresher rubber in the closing stages, allowing him to overtake Tsunoda. Despite Tsunoda's initial lead, it was Ricciardo who secured P13, one spot ahead of his teammate in P14. Post-

race, despite Ricciardo's noticeable pace advantage, Tsunoda found himself frustrated with team orders after being instructed to allow his teammate to pass in the team's fight for P12 with Magnussen.

While limited track evolution occurred throughout the Grand Prix, tyre degradation on the Sakhir circuit played a significant role with an evolution of -0.060 sec/lap. A majority of the teams opted for two-stop strategy, with hard tires offering durability but sacrificing pace, while softer compounds delivered quicker lap times but wore out faster. There weren't any significant or abnormal lap times outside of pit-stop-induced fluctuations.

