



# Dynamic Order Sourcing Optimization for Online Retail with Deep Reinforcement Learning

Master Thesis

by

### Marcus Ritter

Matriculation number: 11004061

January 17, 2018

SRH University Heidelberg
School of Information, Media and Design
Degree course "Applied Computer Science"
Major field "Business Computing"

Reviewers

Professor Barbara Sprick

Doctor Owen Hickey

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Submitted to the School of Information, Media and Design on January 17, 2018, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in Applied Computer Science

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### **A**ffidavit

### Herewith I declare:

- that I have composed the chapters for the Master Thesis for which I am named as the author independently,
- $\bullet\,$  that I did not use any other sources and additives than the ones specified,
- that I did not submit this work at any other examination procedure.

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### Acknowledgement

First and foremost, I would like to thank all my colleagues at SAP with whom I was working in the Retail Omni-Channel Consumer Industries department and especially the manager Simona Dumitru who gave me the opportunity to work on this project. I would also like to thank Owen Hickey and Baris Yalcin for their supervision during the project. I truly appreciate their willingness to answer all my questions, provide input and discuss the project. In addition I would like to thank Professor Barbara Sprick and Professor Gerd Moeckel for their assistance and suggestions throughout the course of this study. It was a pleasure for me to work with all these people.

### Abstract

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# Contents

1	Intr	oducti	on												-
<b>2</b>	Cha	pter2													•
	2.1	section	ı1		 										 
		2.1.1	subsection1		 										
		2.1.2	subsection2		 										 
	2.2	section	$12 \dots 12$												 
3	Cha	pter3													(
	3.1	section	ı1		 										 . (
		3.1.1	subsection1		 										 . (
		3.1.2	subsection2		 										 . (
	3.2	section	$12 \dots 12$								 •				 ,
$\mathbf{A}$	App	oendix													(
	A.1	Section	n1												 . (
	A.2	Section	n2		 										 . (
		A.2.1	Subsection1		 										 
		A.2.2	Subsection2												 10
		A.2.3	${\bf Subsection 3}$		 										 10
Re	efere	nces													13

# List of Figures

2.1	List of Figures Text															4
2.2	List of Figures Text	•													•	5
3.1	List of Figures Text															8

# List of Tables

2.1	Even better looking table using booktabs	•					•	•			5
3.1	Even better looking table using booktabs										7

# Listings

## Chapter 1

## Introduction

#### TODO:

- 1. Hinführung zum Thema / Praktische, Wissenschaftliche Motivation
- 2. Problemstellung
- 3. Eingrenzung der Problemstellung / was ist Teil der Arbeit und was nicht
- 4. Zielsetzung
- 5. Methoden und Vorgehen / Welche Methodik wird eingesetzt um die Ziele zu erreichen
- 6. ML einführen
- 7. Beiträge der Arbeit
- 8. Wie die Lösung evaluiert wird
- 9. Wie man zur Lösung kommt (Inhalt der einzelnen Chapter)

### Chapter 2

## Chapter2

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$$Q(s_t, a_t) \leftarrow (1 - \alpha) \cdot Q(s_t, a_t) + \alpha \cdot \left(r_t + \gamma \cdot \max_{a} Q(s_{t+1}, a)\right)$$
(2.1)

As shown in Equation (2.1) the Q-Learning features a quite fancy formula. Though the equation is very useful solving logistic problems like the sourcing optimization. At the same time Figure (2.1) shows a very nice picture of Mars (Mnih et al., 2015, p.150ff). Now we will take a look at some listings and available options.

```
'Choose maximum q value action and validate it'
       def choose_action_maxq(self, S):
           # choose an action according to the max q value
           action_names = []
           S = S.observation
           S_np = np.array(S)
           S = S_np[np.newaxis, :]
           action\_values = \mathbf{self}.sess.run(\mathbf{self}.q\_eval\,, \ feed\_dict = \{\mathbf{self}.s \colon S\})
           for i in range(len(self.ACTIONS_INDEX)):
                temp \ = \ \mathbf{self} . ACTIONS\_INDEX [\ i\ ] \ [\ 0\ ]
10
                temp2 = action_values[0][temp]
11
                action\_names.append([self.ACTIONS\_INDEX[i][0], self.
12
      ACTIONS_INDEX[i][1], temp2])
           action_names.sort(key=self.getListKey, reverse=True)
           # check if the actions is valid, if not choose the next best one
14
           for j in range(len(action_names)):
15
                action = action_names[j][1]
16
                action_id = action_names[j][0]
17
                valid_action , out_of_stock = self.validate_action(action)
18
                if(valid_action == True):
19
```

20 break
21 return action\_id

Listing 2.1: Some Caption for the Listing, Source: (Mnih et al., 2015).

Above you can see the Listing (2.1) with a nice formatting that fits the Python language.

#### 2.1 section1

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#### 2.1.1 subsection1

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#### 2.1.2 subsection2

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#### 2.2 section2

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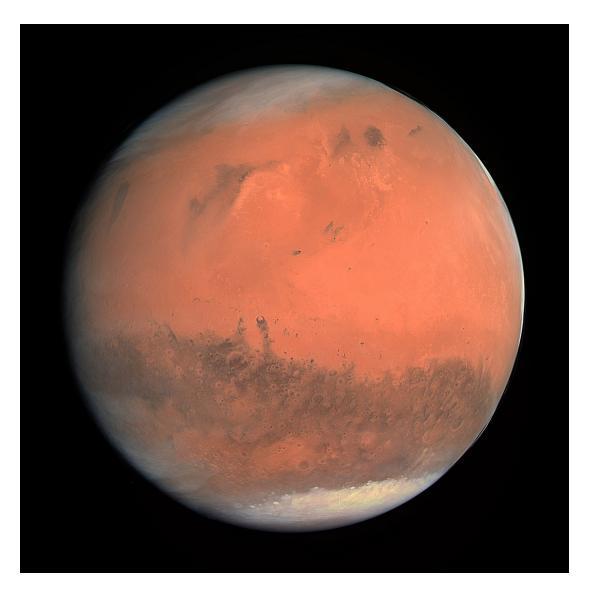


Figure 2.1: Caption Text Source: ?.

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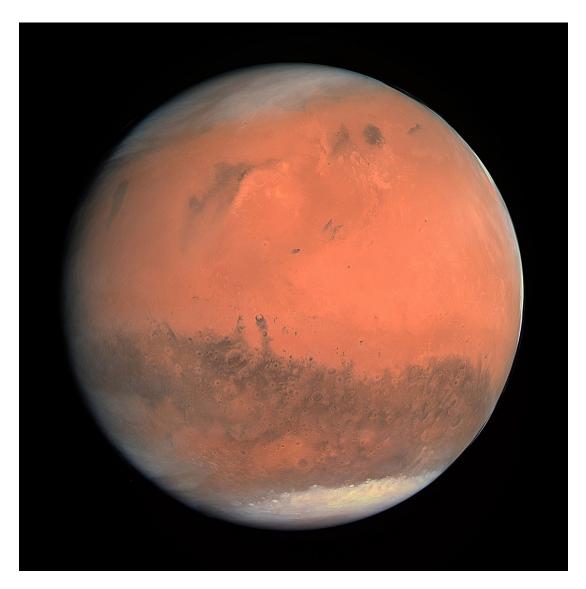


Figure 2.2: Caption Text2 Source: (Silver et al., 2016).

Table 2.1: Even better looking table using booktabs

Dental measurement	Spec	ies I	Speci	es II
	mean	SD	mean	SD
I1MD	6.23	0.91	5.2	0.7
I1LL	7.48	0.56	8.7	0.71
I2MD	3.99	0.63	4.22	0.54
I2LL	6.81	0.02	6.66	0.01
CMD	13.47	0.09	10.55	0.05
CBL	11.88	0.05	13.11	0.04

### Chapter 3

## Chapter3

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#### 3.1 section1

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#### 3.1.2 subsection2

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### 3.2 section2

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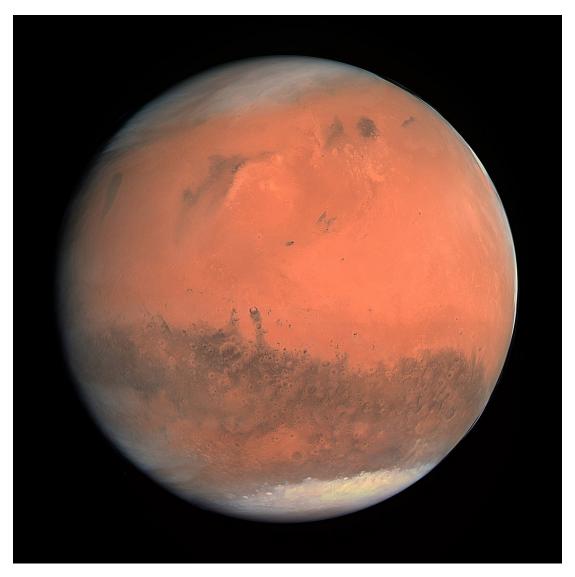


Figure 3.1: Caption Text Source: Some Source .

### Appendix A

# **Appendix**

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### A.1 Section1

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#### A.2 Section2

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#### A.2.1 Subsection1

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#### A.2.2 Subsection2

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#### A.2.3 Subsection3

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