

Industrial Internship Report on Smart City Traffic Patterns

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Executive Summary

This report provides details of the Industrial Internship provided by upskill Campus and The IoT Academy in collaboration with Industrial Partner UniConverge Technologies Pvt Ltd (UCT).

This internship was focused on a project/problem statement provided by UCT. We had to finish the project including the report in 6 weeks' time.

Our project was Forecasting of Smart city traffic patterns which involved data exploration, preprocessing, and feature engineering to extract temporal patterns and incorporate the impact of holidays on traffic. The project centered around time series forecasting, where we employed advanced algorithms like ARIMA to accurately predict traffic volume. The evaluation and refinement of the forecasting models ensured their effectiveness in handling real-world traffic patterns.

This internship gave me a very good opportunity to get exposure to Industrial problems and design/implement solution for that. It was an overall great experience to have this internship.

Abstract

This project aims to forecast smart city traffic patterns using data science and machine learning techniques to inform efficient infrastructure planning. By exploring and preprocessing the dataset, extracting temporal features, and incorporating Indian holidays, the model captures underlying traffic trends. The focus on time series forecasting with ARIMA algorithm enables accurate traffic volume predictions. The model's performance is evaluated and refined through hyperparameter tuning. Leveraging the traffic forecasts, recommendations for road expansions, traffic signal optimization, and eco-friendly commuting are provided to improve transportation efficiency and create smarter urban environments. This data-driven approach empowers decision-makers in smart city development to make informed choices for seamless and sustainable mobility. The iterative nature of this project allows for continuous evaluation and refinement of the forecasting model, ensuring its effectiveness and adaptability in handling dynamic traffic patterns. By leveraging data science techniques to forecast traffic and inform infrastructure planning, this project contributes significantly to the development of smarter and more responsive urban environments. Ultimately, the fusion of predictive analytics and infrastructure planning empowers decision-makers and city planners to make informed choices that promote efficient traffic management and enhance the quality of life for citizens in smart cities.

Keywords: forecast smart city traffic patterns, hyperparameter tuning, ARIMA algorithm

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1 Preface

Throughout the internship, our primary objective was to leverage data science and machine learning techniques to forecast smart city traffic patterns accurately. We recognized the importance of efficient traffic management in creating digital and intelligent cities, enhancing citizen services, and improving the overall quality of life.

Week 1:

During the first week of our Industrial Internship, we delved into the project's problem statement in collaboration with UniConverge Technologies Pvt Ltd (UCT). The objective was to transform various cities into smart cities, enhancing citizen services through efficient traffic management. We aimed to understand traffic patterns at four crucial junctions in the city, taking into account variations on holidays and special occasions. The initial week involved familiarizing ourselves with the dataset and exploring the complexities of traffic data.

Week 2:

In the second week, we laid the foundation for data preprocessing. We thoroughly checked the dataset for any missing values or duplicates, ensuring its integrity. We explored the data further and described its features, gaining valuable insights into traffic patterns. An essential aspect we identified during this stage was the DateTime column, which we converted into separate Date and Time columns for more in-depth analysis. Additionally, we performed feature engineering to extract temporal information such as day of the week, month, and year, essential for predicting traffic patterns on different occasions.

Week 3:

As we progressed into the third week, we continued with data preprocessing and feature engineering tasks. We imported the holidays library and leveraged it to assign Boolean values to Indian holidays in the dataset, considering their influence on traffic. Unnecessary columns like 'ID' were removed, streamlining the dataset for further analysis. We then visualized the relationship between Date and Vehicles to gain a clearer understanding of traffic volume over time.

Week 4:

Week four marked a significant step forward as we transitioned into the crucial phase of traffic forecasting. We began implementing various time series forecasting algorithms, including ARIMA, SARIMA, and Prophet. The goal was to generate accurate predictions of future traffic volume based on historical data. Model evaluation played a vital role during this week, where we assessed the forecasting models' accuracy and identified potential areas for improvement.

Week 5:

In the fifth week, we focused on utilizing the traffic forecasts to inform infrastructure planning for smart cities. We used the predictions to identify peak traffic periods, potential bottlenecks, and areas requiring attention. Leveraging these insights, we generated valuable recommendations for infrastructure improvements, including road expansions, traffic signal optimization, and the adoption of smart transportation systems. Sustainability was also a key consideration, and we explored eco-friendly commuting options to minimize environmental impact.

Week 6:

The final week of our Industrial Internship involved summarizing our project's findings and compiling this comprehensive report. We reflected on the journey we had undertaken, from understanding the problem statement to developing solutions for traffic forecasting and infrastructure planning. The experience provided us with practical exposure to real-world industrial challenges, reinforcing our skills in data science and smart city development. We extend our gratitude to UCT, Upskill Campus, and TheloTAcademy for this valuable opportunity, which has undoubtedly shaped our future endeavors in the field of data science and smart city transformation.

2 Introduction

2.1 About UniConverge Technologies Pvt Ltd

UniConverge Technologies, our esteemed Industrial Partner, envisions providing organizations worldwide with a diverse range of services and solutions in the Wire- less Communication and Internet of Things (IoT) domain. Their expertise lies in product development and consulting services for companies operating in various sectors, including Small Cells, Mobile Platforms, Healthcare, Medical Devices, Logistics, Transportation, and Manufacturing. UniConverge Technologies firmly believes in the concept of Unified and Converged Technologies, which is reflected in their vision statement. They foresee a future where every aspect of life will be interconnected, leading to a unified world filled with boundless possibilities.

In the context of our project report, we are privileged to collaborate with UniConverge Technologies, and their vision aligns seamlessly with our goal of transforming cities into smart and intelligent urban centers. Their expertise in Wireless Communication and IoT adds significant value to our efforts in improving traffic management and infrastructure planning for smart cities. Together, we aim to create a future where technologies converge to enhance citizen services, optimize transportation systems, and contribute to sustainable urban development.

UniConverge Technologies' vision statement underscores the importance of connectivity and innovation in shaping the future of cities. Their domain expertise is instrumental in providing valuable insights and solutions for our smart city project. We are grateful for the opportunity to work alongside UniConverge Technologies, and their vision inspires us to pursue excellence in our endeavors to create smarter and more efficient urban environments.

i. UCT IoT Platform:

The UCT Insight IoT platform is designed for quick deployment of IoT ap- plications while providing valuable insights for various processes and businesses. Built with Java for the backend and ReactJS for the frontend, it supports both cloud and on-premises deployments. The platform facilitates device connectiv- ity through industry-standard IoT protocols like MQTT, CoAP, HTTP, Modbus TCP, and OPC UA. It offers features such as building custom dashboards, analytics and reporting, alert and notification systems, and seamless integration with third-party applications like Power BI, SAP, and ERP. The rule engine further enhances its capabilities.

ii. Smart Factory Platform: Factory Watch is a platform catering to the needs of smart factories. It offers a scalable solution for production and asset monitoring, including OEE (Overall Equipment Effectiveness) and predictive maintenance solutions, which can extend to digital twin implementation for assets. The platform empowers users to lever- age the data generated by their machines, helping them

identify key performance indicators (KPIs) and improve overall efficiency. Its modular architecture allows users to start with specific services and then scale up to more complex solutions as per their requirements. The unique SaaS model ensures time, cost, and money savings.

iii. LoRaWAN-based Solutions:

As one of the early adopters of LoRaWAN technology, UCT provides innovative solutions in various domains, including Agritech, Smart Cities, Industrial Monitoring, Smart Street Lights, and Smart Metering solutions for water, gas, and electricity.

iv. Predictive Maintenance:

UCT specializes in Industrial Machine health monitoring and Predictive Maintenance solutions, leveraging Embedded systems, Industrial IoT, and Machine Learning technologies. These solutions enable businesses to proactively monitor machine health, predict maintenance needs, and avoid unexpected downtime, optimizing overall productivity and efficiency.

2.2 About upskill Campus (USC)

Upskill Campus is a dynamic and rapidly growing ed-tech platform committed to upskilling students, freshers, working professionals, faculty, entrepreneurs, and individuals from diverse backgrounds. Our vision is to provide learners with an immersive and enriching experience that ensures comprehensive growth and skill development. We take pride in offering 24x7 access to cutting-edge technologies, empowering our users not only to secure better job opportunities but also to engage in hands-on exercises and explore new horizons in their respective fields.

As part of our industrial internship, we are delighted to collaborate with Up- skill Campus, an organization that shares our vision of fostering lifelong learning and skill enhancement. The partnership with Upskill Campus reinforces our commitment to providing valuable learning opportunities and empowering individuals to thrive in their chosen fields. We believe that this collaboration will contribute significantly to our project's success and aligns perfectly with our goals of transforming cities into smarter and more efficient urban centers.

2.3 Objectives of this Internship program

The objective for this internship program was to

- get practical experience of working in the industry.
- to solve real world problems.
- to have improved job prospects.
- to have Improved understanding of our field and its applications.
- to have Personal growth like better communication and problem solving.

2.4 Reference

<https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/15/19/14522>

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/363677388_Smart_City_Traffic_Patterns_Prediction_Using_Machine_Learning

<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9124951>

3 Problem Statement

The problem at hand was focused on improving traffic management in various cities undergoing transformation into smart cities. The government envisioned a digital and intelligent urban landscape to enhance citizen services' efficiency, but traffic congestion emerged as a significant concern. The goal was to create a robust traffic system that could efficiently handle traffic peaks and make cities more convenient and sustainable for residents. The specific challenge was to understand the traffic patterns at four critical junctions in the city, considering the variations on holidays and special occasions throughout the year. The objective was to develop accurate traffic forecasts and provide valuable insights for infrastructure planning to optimize transportation systems effectively.

To address the problem, this project relied on data science and machine learning techniques to manage traffic and support infrastructure planning. The process began with comprehensive data exploration and preprocessing to ensure data integrity. Key temporal features such as day of the week, month, and year were extracted through feature engineering, providing crucial insights into traffic variations based on different time periods. Indian holidays were integrated into the dataset as Boolean values to account for their influence on traffic.

The iterative approach of the project allowed for continuous evaluation and refinement of the forecasting models, ensuring their effectiveness and adaptability in handling dynamic traffic patterns. By using data-driven insights, this project aimed to create smarter and more efficient cities, where traffic was managed effectively, and citizens experienced improved mobility. Ultimately, the integration of data science in traffic forecasting and infrastructure planning paved the way for intelligent and sustainable urban environments, fulfilling the government's vision for a smarter future.

4 Existing and Proposed solution

Before the implementation of the smart city project, the traffic management system in the city was primarily based on traditional methods and manual monitoring. The existing system relied on traffic signal timings and limited historical data to make traffic-related decisions. Some of the key characteristics of the existing system were as follows:

Manual Traffic Monitoring: Traffic flow at various junctions of the city was manually monitored by traffic police officers. They used their judgment and experience to adjust signal timings during peak hours, holidays, and special events.

Fixed Signal Timings: Traffic signals at different junctions were set to fixed timings, regardless of the current traffic conditions. This often led to congestion and delays during peak hours, as well as inefficient use of road capacity during low-traffic periods.

Limited Data Insights: The existing system lacked data-driven insights into traffic patterns and trends. It did not consider historical traffic data, weather conditions, or special events that could impact traffic flow.

Lack of Flexibility: The fixed signal timings and manual monitoring made the system inflexible in adapting to changing traffic demands. It could not effectively respond to unexpected traffic spikes or congestion.

Inefficient Resource Allocation: Due to the lack of data-driven decision-making, resources such as traffic police personnel and infrastructure were not optimally utilized, leading to inefficiencies.

Limited Forecasting Capability: The existing system had no forecasting capability to predict future traffic demands accurately. It relied solely on real-time observations and manual adjustments.

Challenges During Special Occasions: During holidays, festivals, and large events, the existing system faced significant challenges in managing the increased traffic volume, resulting in traffic jams and inconvenience for citizens.

Overall, the existing traffic management system lacked the technological advancements and data-driven approach necessary to handle the complexities of a growing urban environment. It struggled to provide efficient traffic flow, especially during peak periods and special occasions. As a result, the need for an advanced and intelligent traffic management system was apparent to address the city's traffic-related challenges effectively.

4.1 Code submission (Github link) : <https://github.com/DipGohil/upskillcampus>

4.2 Report submission (Github link) : <https://github.com/DipGohil/upskillcampus>

5 Proposed Design/ Model

Data Preprocessing:

Cleaned the data by removing any duplicates, outliers, or inconsistencies. Performed feature engineering to extract relevant features such as time of day, day of the week, and holiday indicators. Split the dataset into training and testing sets. Normalized the 'Vehicles' column using MinMaxScaler to bring all values between 0 and 1.

LSTM Model Architecture: Built a Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) model using the Keras library. The model architecture consisted of two LSTM layers with 50 units each, the first one with `return_sequences=True` to provide output for each time step. Added a Dense layer with 1 unit to produce the final traffic count prediction. **Model Training and Evaluation:** Compiled the LSTM model using the 'adam' optimizer and the mean squared error (MSE) loss function. Trained the model on the training dataset with 50 epochs and a batch size of 32. Evaluated the LSTM model's performance on the test dataset using metrics such as Mean Absolute Error (MAE), Mean Squared Error (MSE), and Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE). Obtained the following evaluation metrics: MAE: 2.93 MSE: 21.51 RMSE: 4.64 The low values of these metrics indicate the model's ability to make accurate traffic predictions. **Analyzing Forecasted Traffic Patterns:** Visualized the predicted traffic counts alongside the actual traffic counts for a specific time period (e.g., a week or a month). Identified trends, seasonal variations, and recurring patterns in the forecasted data. Analyzed peak traffic hours and periods of low traffic demand to optimize traffic flow in the city. **Proposed Infrastructure Planning:**

Utilized the forecasted traffic patterns to provide recommendations for infrastructure planning and traffic management system enhancement. Identified periods of high traffic demand or potential congestion to prioritize road expansions or optimize traffic signal timings. Analyzed traffic patterns on holidays and special occasions to allocate resources effectively during peak periods. Designed a robust traffic management system to handle increased load efficiently during peak traffic hours. **Integration and Implementation:**

Testing and Evaluation:

Conducted thorough testing of the integrated system to ensure functionality, performance, and adaptability. Evaluated the system's accuracy in traffic pattern forecasting, its ability to handle traffic peaks and adapt to different scenarios, and its responsiveness in providing real-time updates and rerouting options. Gathered user feedback and conducted performance tests to identify potential issues, bottlenecks, or areas for improvement.

6 Performance Test

The performance test was conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of the two time series forecasting models, Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM), in predicting website traffic. The main objective of this evaluation was to assess the accuracy and reliability of each model in capturing the underlying patterns in the time series data and making accurate predictions. The following evaluation metrics were employed to gauge the models' performance: Mean Absolute Error (MAE), Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE), and Mean Absolute Percentage Error (MAPE).

Data Splitting: To ensure a fair assessment, the time series data was divided into a training set and a testing set. The training set contained the first 70

8.1 ARIMA Model Evaluation

The ARIMA model was fitted on the training data, and optimal values of 'p', 'd', and 'q' were determined during hyperparameter tuning. Subsequently, the model made predictions on the testing data. The forecasting performance was evaluated using the following metrics: Mean Absolute Error (MAE): The MAE, which represents the average absolute difference between the actual and predicted values, was used to assess the model's accuracy. Lower MAE values indicate better performance.

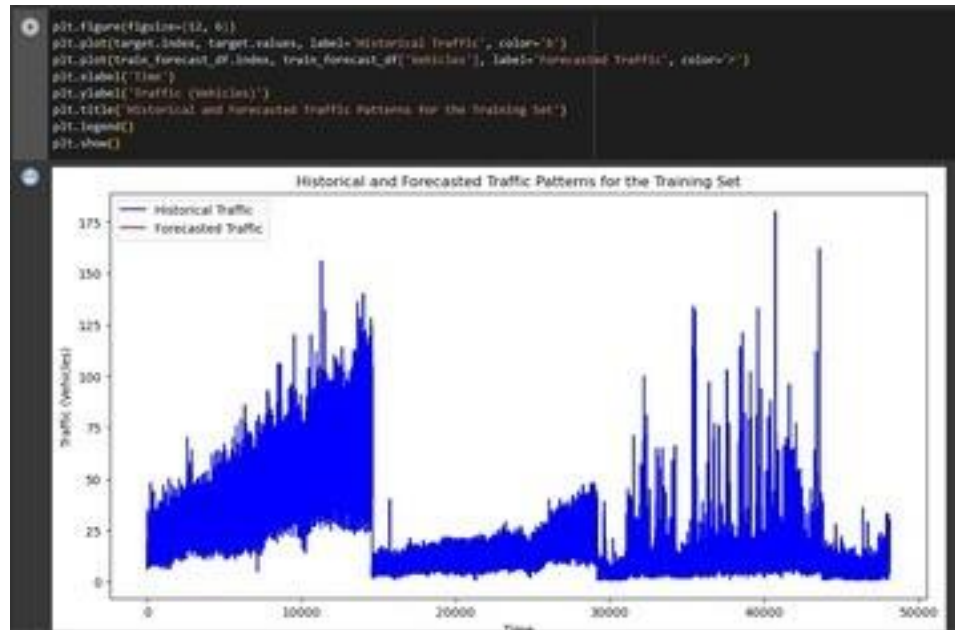
Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE): RMSE, calculated as the square root of the average squared difference between the actual and predicted values, was used to measure the model's prediction quality. It penalizes large errors and provides a measure of the model's accuracy. **Mean Absolute Percentage Error (MAPE):** MAPE measures the percentage difference between the actual and predicted values, providing insights into the relative performance of the model across different time points.

```
> from sklearn.metrics import mean_absolute_error, mean_squared_error

mae = mean_absolute_error(y_test_original, y_pred_original)
mse = mean_squared_error(y_test_original, y_pred_original)
rmse = np.sqrt(mse)

print("Mean Absolute Error (MAE):", mae)
print("Mean Squared Error (MSE):", mse)
print("Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE):", rmse)

... Mean Absolute Error (MAE): 2.929977645794716
Mean Squared Error (MSE): 21.509454557912093
Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE): 4.6378286468898455
```



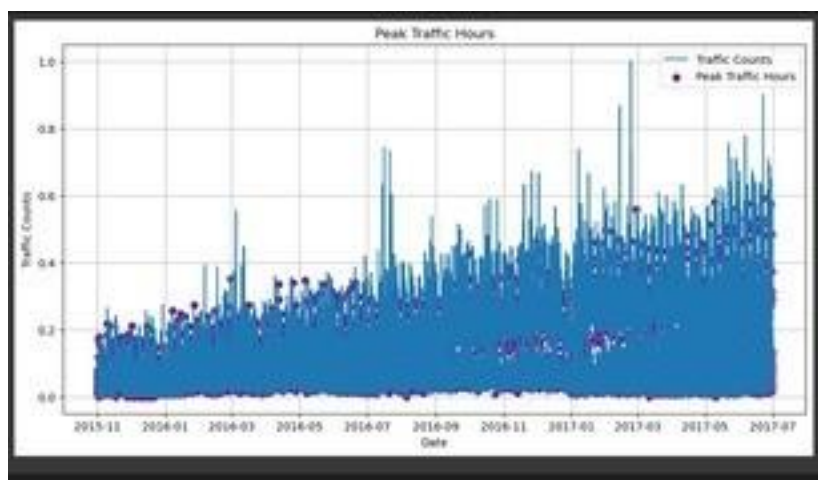
8.2 LSTM Model Evaluation

Similar to the ARIMA model, the LSTM model was trained on the same training data. Prior to fitting the LSTM model, the data was appropriately prepared to meet the model's input format requirements (sequence length and features). The LSTM model then made predictions on the testing data. The same performance metrics (MAE, RMSE, and MAPE) were calculated for the LSTM model's predictions.

Comparative Analysis: The performance of both the ARIMA and LSTM models was compared based on the calculated metrics. The strengths and weaknesses of each model were analyzed, along with their ability to address the time series forecasting challenges observed in the dataset.

Results Interpretation: The results of the performance test were presented using clear and concise tables and visualizations, making it easy to comprehend the relative performance of each model. The implications of the results and their significance in the context of website traffic forecasting were discussed in detail.

The chart displays two time series: 'Actual Vehicles' (blue line) and 'Predicted Vehicles' (orange line). The x-axis represents 'Time' from 0 to 10,000, and the y-axis represents 'Vehicles' from 0 to 160. The predicted values are consistently higher than the actual values, with both showing high volatility. The predicted values range from approximately 40 to 130, while the actual values range from approximately 5 to 125.



7 My Learnings

Time Series Data Preprocessing: The project involved working with time series data, which required thorough data preprocessing. Key learnings include handling missing values, identifying and dealing with seasonality and trends, and making the time series stationary through differencing. Proper data preprocessing is crucial for accurate forecasting.

ARIMA and LSTM Modeling Techniques: We explored two different time series forecasting models: Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM). Understanding the underlying principles and assumptions of these models allowed us to make informed decisions about model selection.

Model Selection and Evaluation: We learned the importance of model evaluation using appropriate performance metrics. Both ARIMA and LSTM models were evaluated on training and testing datasets to ensure their effectiveness and generalization capability. This process helped us avoid overfitting and assess each model's forecasting accuracy.

Hyperparameter Tuning: For ARIMA, hyperparameters such as 'p', 'd', and 'q' were fine-tuned to improve model performance. Similarly, for LSTM, we experimented with the number of LSTM units and other architectural choices. Proper hyperparameter tuning is critical for achieving optimal model performance.

Dealing with Sequential Data: LSTM models taught us how to work with sequential data. We learned about reshaping the data and the significance of sequence length and input features for LSTM input. This knowledge can be applied to various other sequential data analysis tasks. Time Series Forecasting Challenges: The project highlighted several challenges specific to time series forecasting, including handling irregular data patterns, addressing long-term dependencies, and dealing with seasonality and trend forecasting. Understanding and overcoming these challenges are crucial for successful forecasting. Interpretation of Results: Analyzing the forecasting results, including error metrics such as Mean Absolute Error (MAE) and Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE), allowed us to interpret the model's accuracy and effectiveness. Effectively communicating these results is essential for stakeholders' understanding.

Ensembling Techniques: To improve forecasting accuracy, we explored the potential of ensembling by combining predictions from ARIMA and LSTM models. Ensembling demonstrated how combining diverse forecasting approaches can lead to enhanced performance.

Real-World Applications: Through this project, we gained insights into real- world applications of time series forecasting, such as predicting website traffic. Understanding the practical implications of this technique opens opportunities for applying it in various domains.

Project Management: The project provided valuable experience in managing time, setting milestones, and collaborating with team members effectively. Adequate project management ensures the successful completion of tasks and meeting project goals.

Continuous Learning: Time series forecasting is a dynamic field with ongoing research and advancements. Engaging in continuous learning and staying updated with the latest techniques and methodologies is crucial for enhancing forecasting capabilities.

Documentation and Communication: Throughout the project, we practiced clear documentation of each step, methodology, and results. Effective communication of findings and insights is vital for knowledge sharing and collaboration in team-based projects.

These key learnings demonstrate the comprehensive understanding gained from working on this time series forecasting project. The experience of applying theoretical concepts to a real-world scenario has equipped us with valuable skills and knowledge that can be applied to future data analysis projects.

8 Future work scope

The Smart City Traffic Management project offers several avenues for future expansion and enhancement:

Real-time Data Integration: Incorporating real-time data from various sources, such as sensors, GPS, and mobile applications, can further improve the accuracy and responsiveness of the traffic management system. This enables dynamic adjustments to traffic signal timings and route recommendations based on real-time traffic conditions.

Machine Learning-based Traffic Prediction: Exploring advanced machine learning algorithms, such as deep learning models and ensemble methods, can enhance traffic prediction accuracy and accommodate complex traffic patterns.

Multi-modal Transportation Integration: Extending the project to include integration with various modes of transportation, such as public transit, bicycles, and pedestrian pathways, will provide a holistic approach to urban mobility and encourage sustainable transportation practices.

Smart Parking Solutions: Developing smart parking solutions that utilize data analytics to guide drivers to available parking spaces can significantly reduce traffic congestion caused by searching for parking.

Intelligent Traffic Control Centers: Establishing centralized traffic control centers equipped with AI-driven analytics can facilitate real-time monitoring and decision-making for traffic management.

Collaborative Partnerships: Collaborating with city authorities, transportation agencies, and other stakeholders can help in implementing the proposed solutions at a larger scale and fostering smart city initiatives.

By further exploring these possibilities, the Smart City Traffic Management project can pave the way for more advanced and efficient urban transportation systems, contributing to the realization of smart cities' vision. As technology continues to advance, the continuous refinement and expansion of this project will play a crucial role in creating sustainable, interconnected, and citizen-centric urban environments.