A photograph of a park in Philadelphia during autumn. The foreground shows a paved path covered in fallen leaves. To the left, a person sits at a small garden plot enclosed by a metal fence. In the background, several people walk along a path lined with large trees whose leaves are变黄了. A red brick building is visible behind the trees. A sign on a post reads "Park".

# Mapping the Relationship Between Vegetation and Poverty & Race in Philadelphia

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Qiu, Xinyi | CPLN 503 | Project 1 Data Preparation

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# PROJECT INTRODUCTION

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# Project Background and Objectives

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## Background

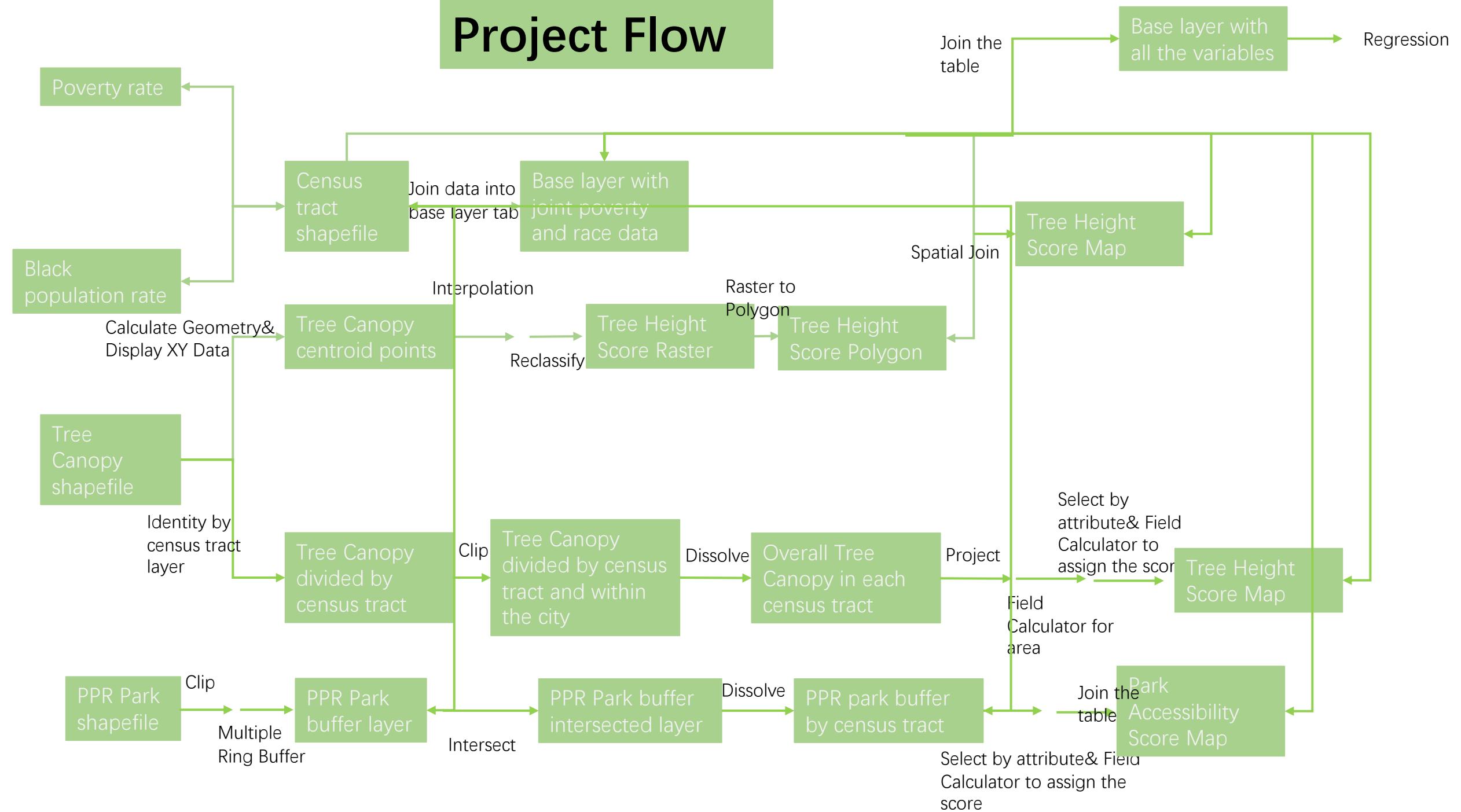
Abundant research proved that access to greenspace varies highly based on income, level of education, gender, race, age and other socioeconomic and personal characteristics differences. A common finding is that income and level of education are positively correlated with a greater accessibility to greenspace, while low-income, racial minorities and other vulnerable groups in the city have less access to vegetation.

According to the reports, this situation is happening in Philadelphia, especially the lack of trees in poor neighborhood. We need to ensure if it is true and where exactly demand for more trees.

## Objectives

- I. Identify the characteristics of poverty status in Philadelphia, and stress the importance on race differences;
- II. Identify the characteristics of tree canopy in Philadelphia, including the area and height;
- III. Explore the relationship between tree canopy and poverty in Philadelphia

# Project Flow





# **PART I DATA PREPARATION**

---

# Project Data

Data Catalogue	Data Items	Data Source
Socioeconomic Data	Poverty Population	
	White Poverty Population	
	Black Poverty Population	<a href="https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml">https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml</a>
	Black Population	
Vegetation Data	White Population	
	Tree Average Height	<a href="https://www.opendataphilly.org/dataset/ppr-tree-canopy">https://www.opendataphilly.org/dataset/ppr-tree-canopy</a>
	Tree Canopy Coverage	<a href="https://www.opendataphilly.org/dataset/ppr-properties">https://www.opendataphilly.org/dataset/ppr-properties</a>
Base Map	Philadelphia PPR Park	
	Philadelphia Census Tract Map	<a href="https://www.opendataphilly.org/dataset/census-tracts">https://www.opendataphilly.org/dataset/census-tracts</a>

# Part I Data Preparation-Vegetation

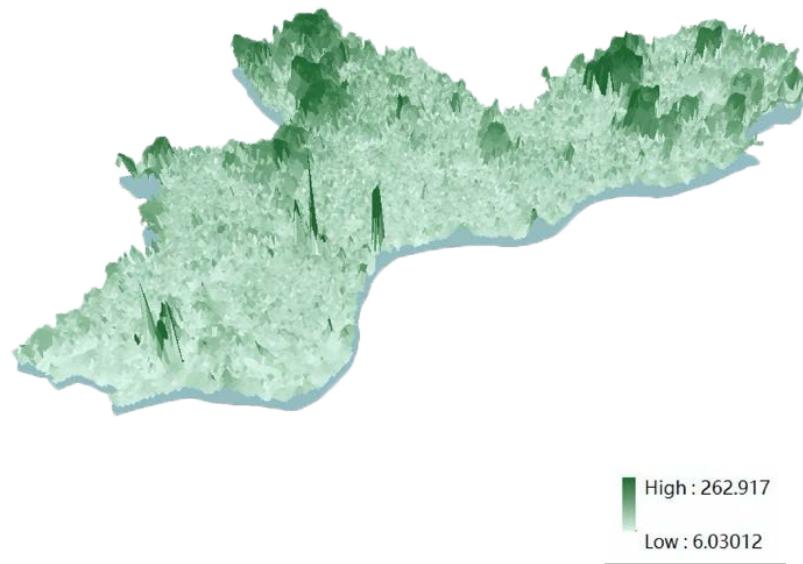


Figure 1.1 Average Tree Height in Philadelphia

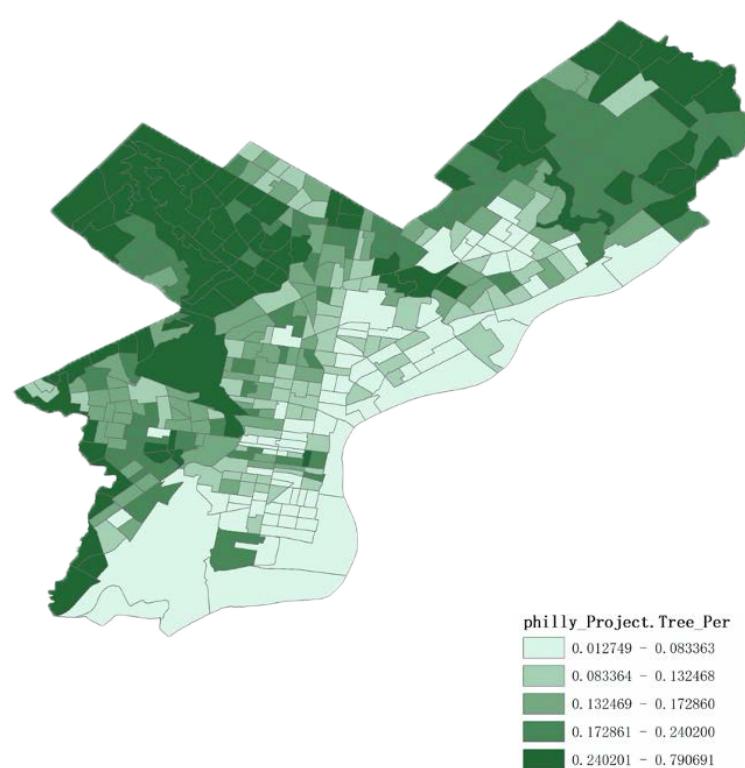


Figure 1.2 Percentage of Tree Canopy Area by Census Tracts in Philadelphia

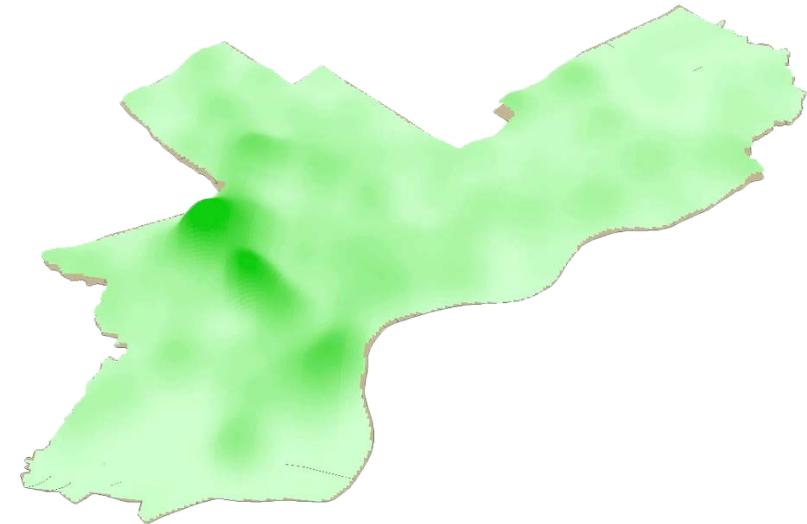
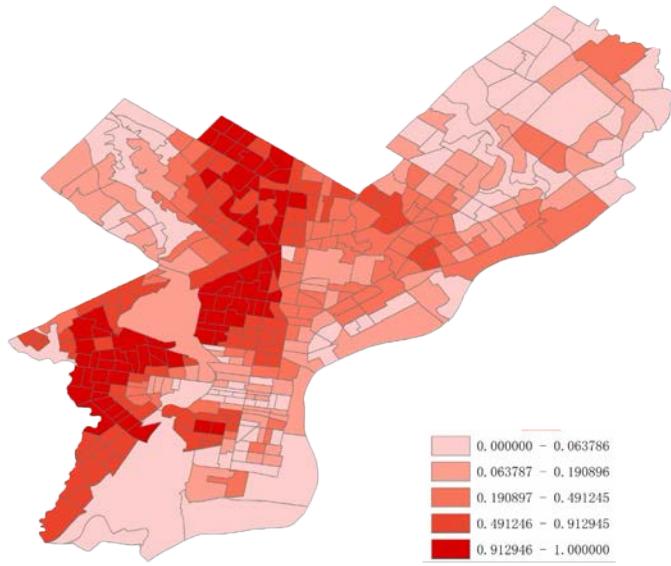
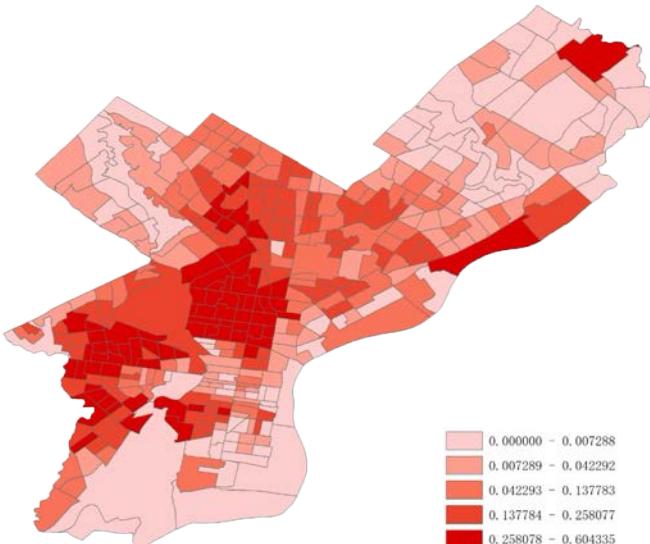


Figure 1.3 PPR Park Location in Philadelphia

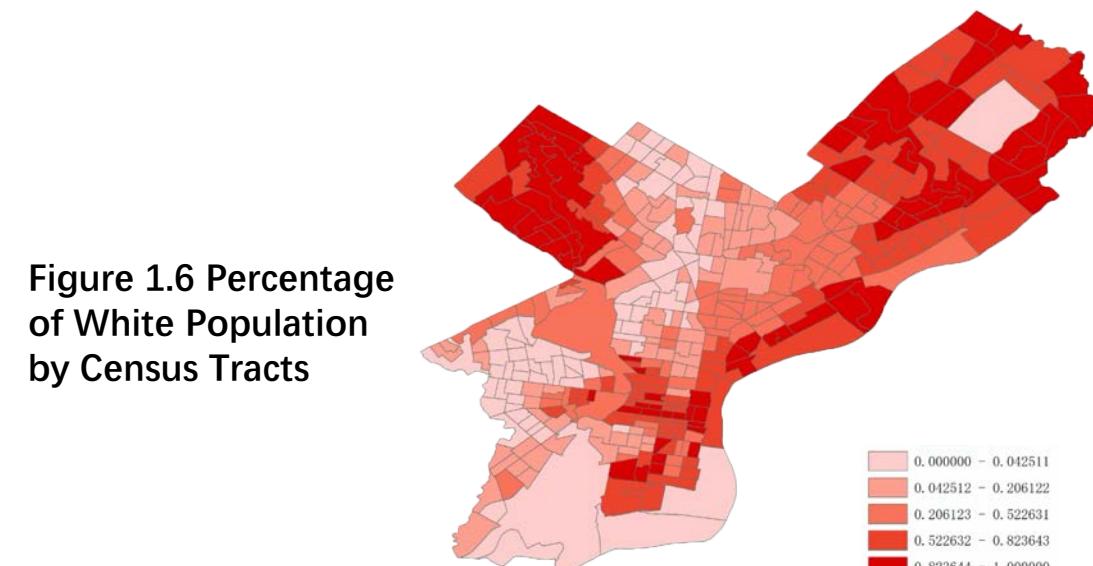
# Part I Data Preparation-Population & Poverty



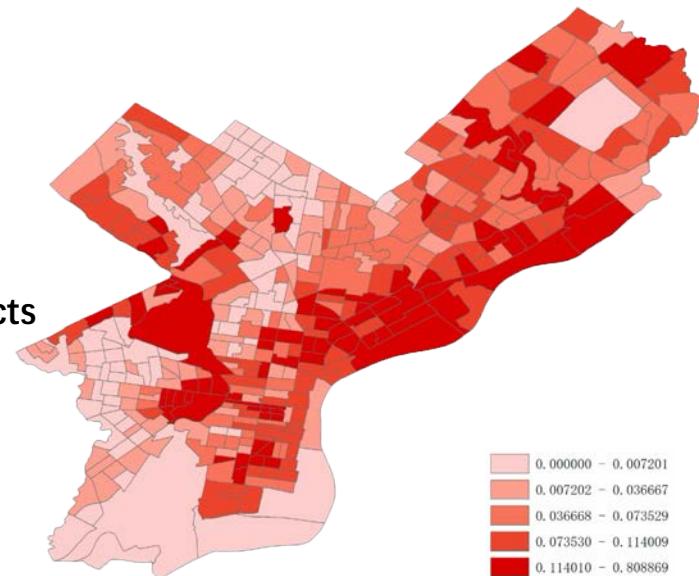
**Figure 1.4 Percentage of Black Population by Census Tracts**



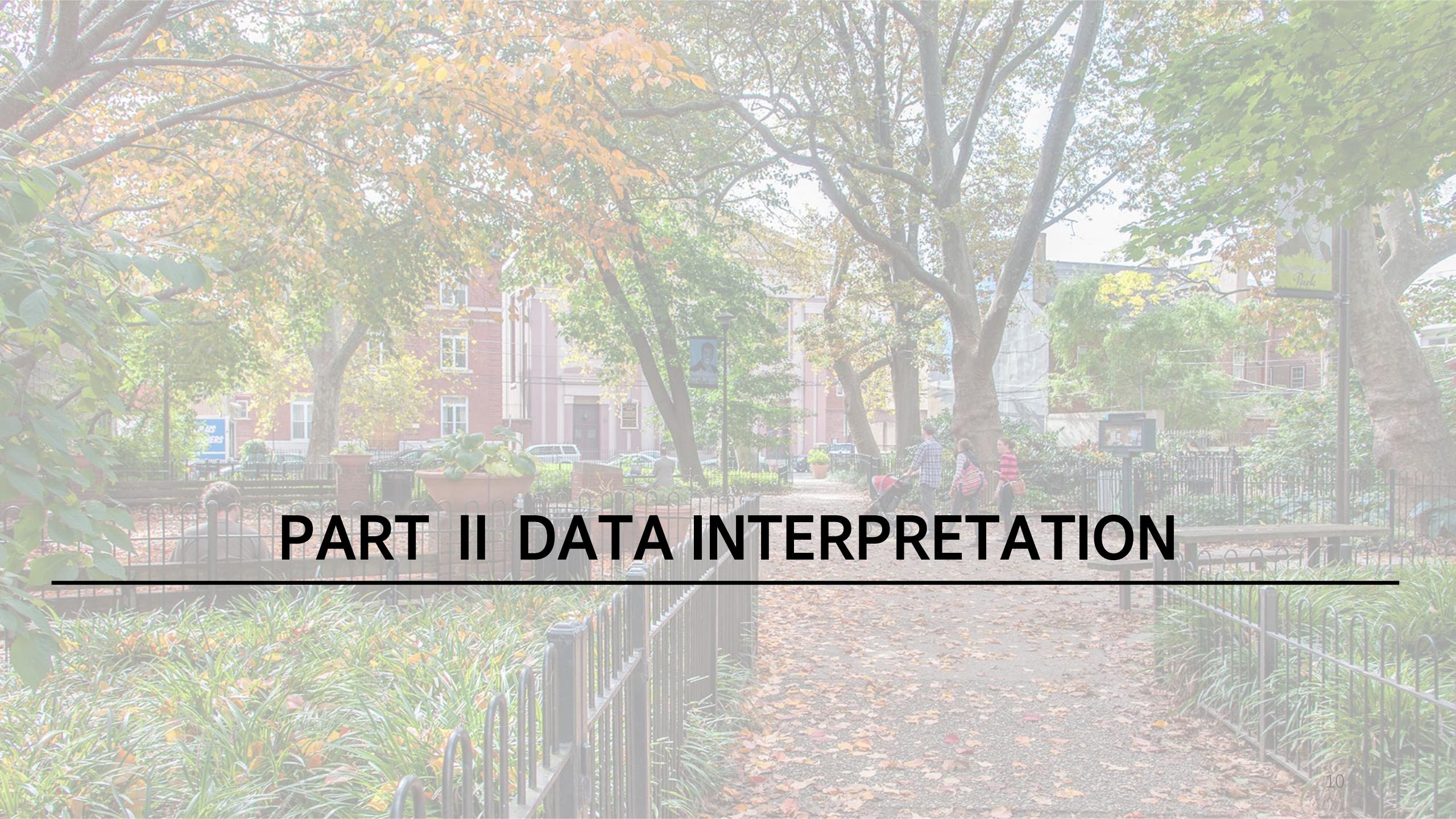
**Figure 1.5 Black Population Poverty Rate by Census Tracts**



**Figure 1.6 Percentage of White Population by Census Tracts**



**Figure 1.7 White Population Poverty Rate by Census Tracts**

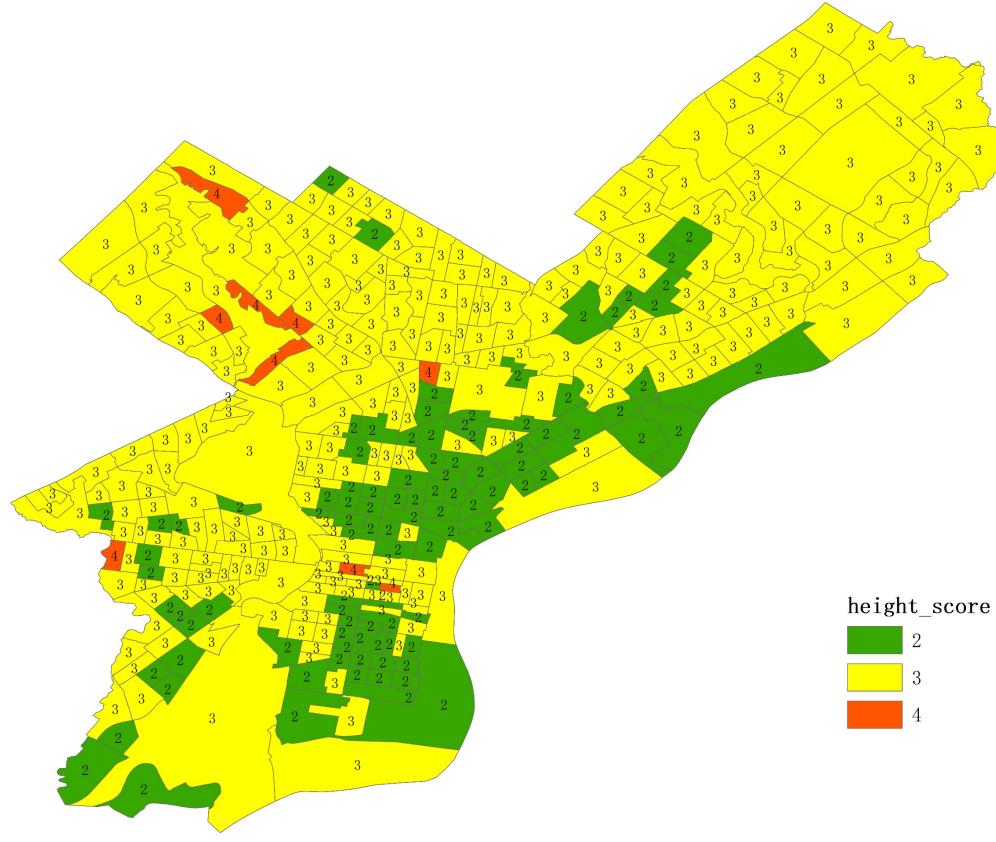
A wide-angle photograph of a park path during autumn. The path is paved and covered with fallen leaves. Large trees with yellow and green foliage line both sides. In the background, there are brick buildings, a blue bus stop sign, and a person sitting on a bench. In the foreground, a man sits on a bench on the left, and a group of three people walks away from the camera on the right.

## PART II DATA INTERPRETATION

---

## Part II Data Interpretation-Evaluating the vegetation in Philadelphia

### 1.-Evaluating tree height



4 2 0 4 Miles

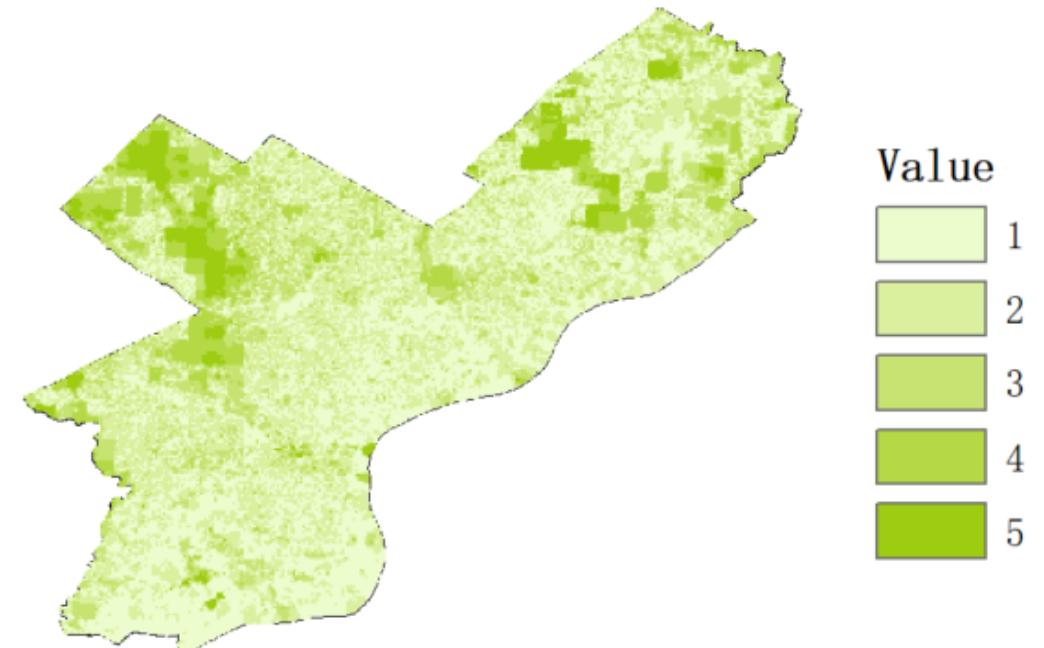
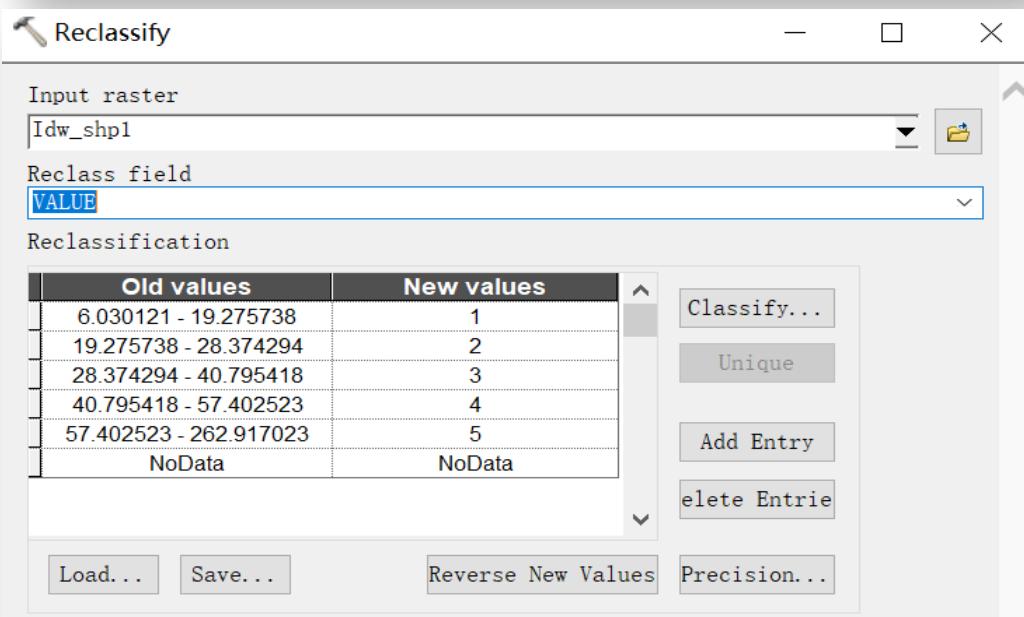
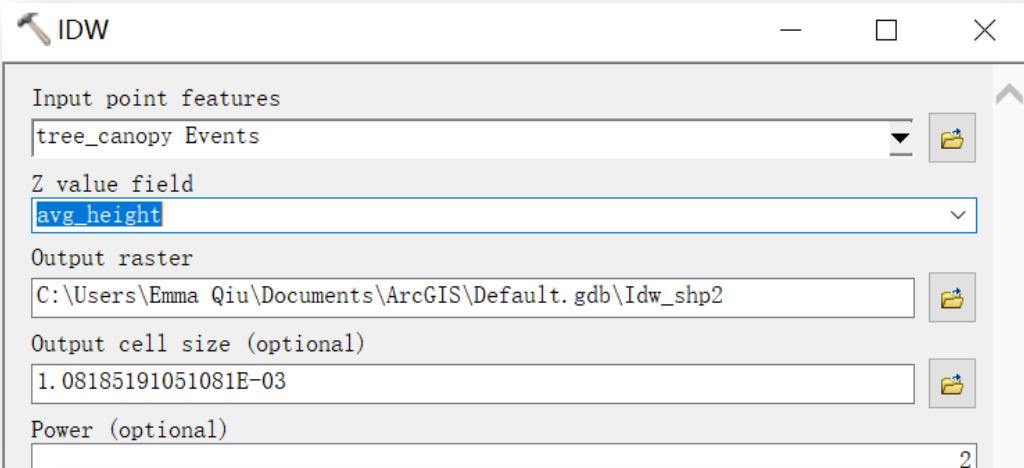
1



In data preparation, centroid points of each tree canopy has been displayed

## Part II Data Interpretation-Evaluating the vegetation in Philadelphia

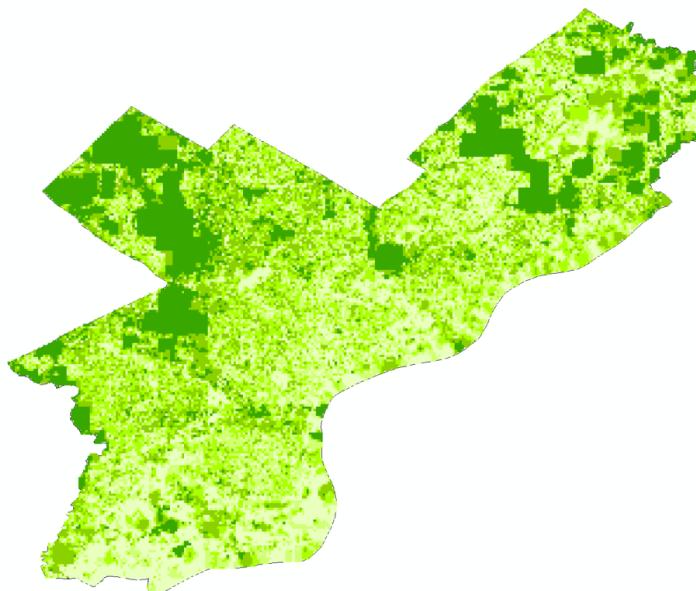
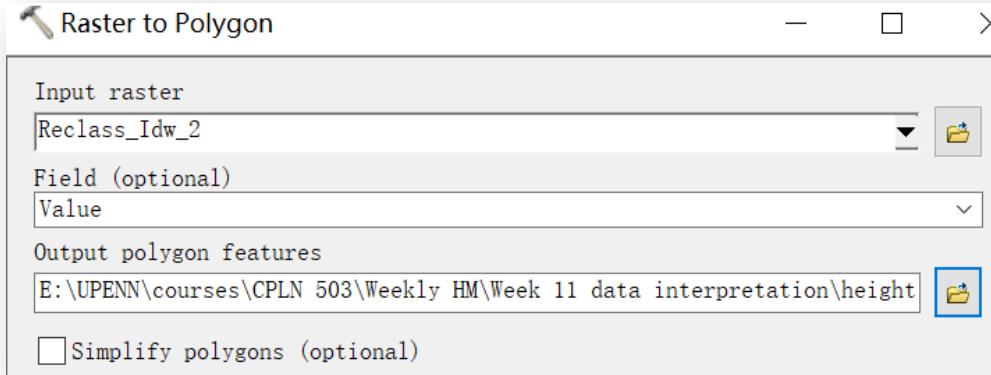
### 1.-Evaluating tree height



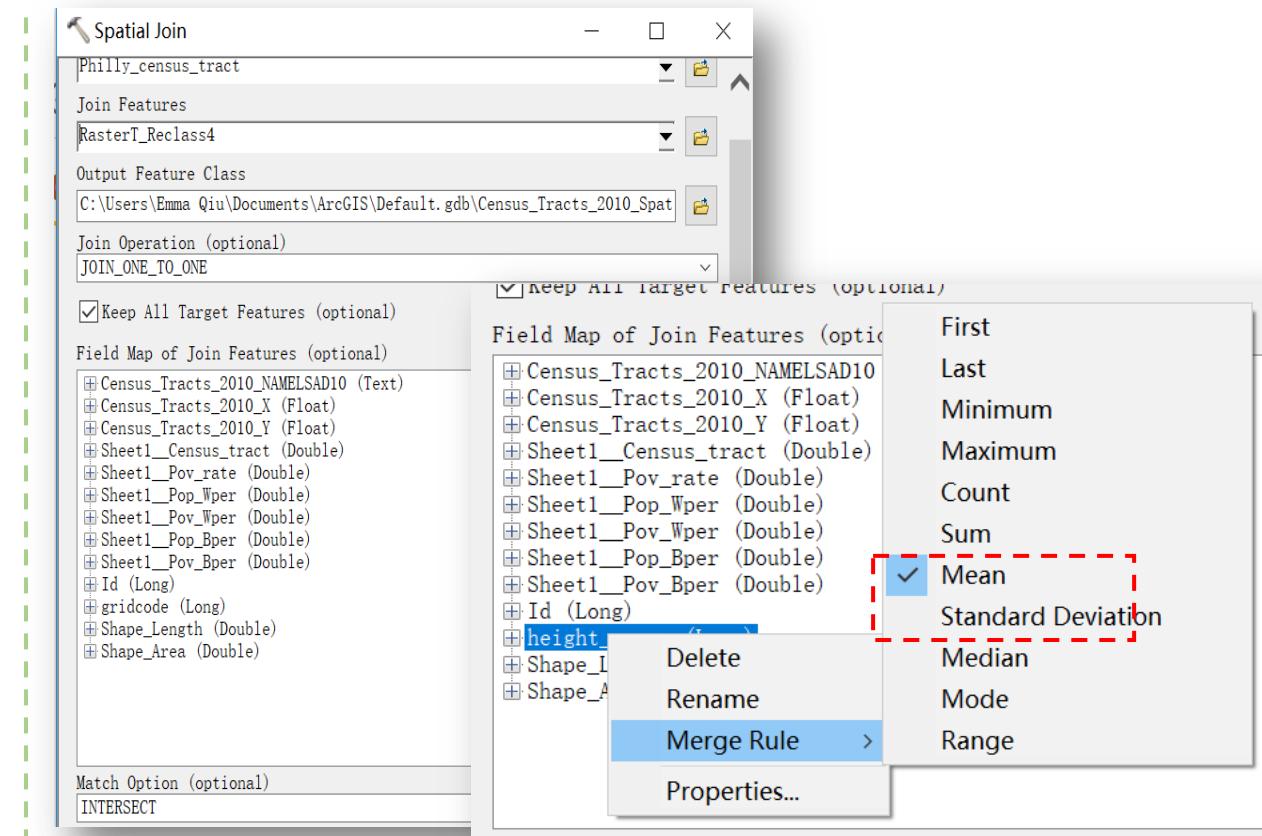
Since the centroids of tree canopy has been prepared in the data preparation report, use **Spatial analyst tools-interpolation-IDW** to interpolate the tree height within the city; And then use **Spatial Analyst Tools-Reclass-Reclassify** to attribute the score to different classes by “Quantile” classification method

# Part II Data Interpretation-Evaluating the vegetation in Philadelphia

## 1.-Evaluating tree height



Use Conversion Tool-  
From Raster-Raster to  
Polygon to transform  
the IDW raster into  
polygon for further  
data interpretation



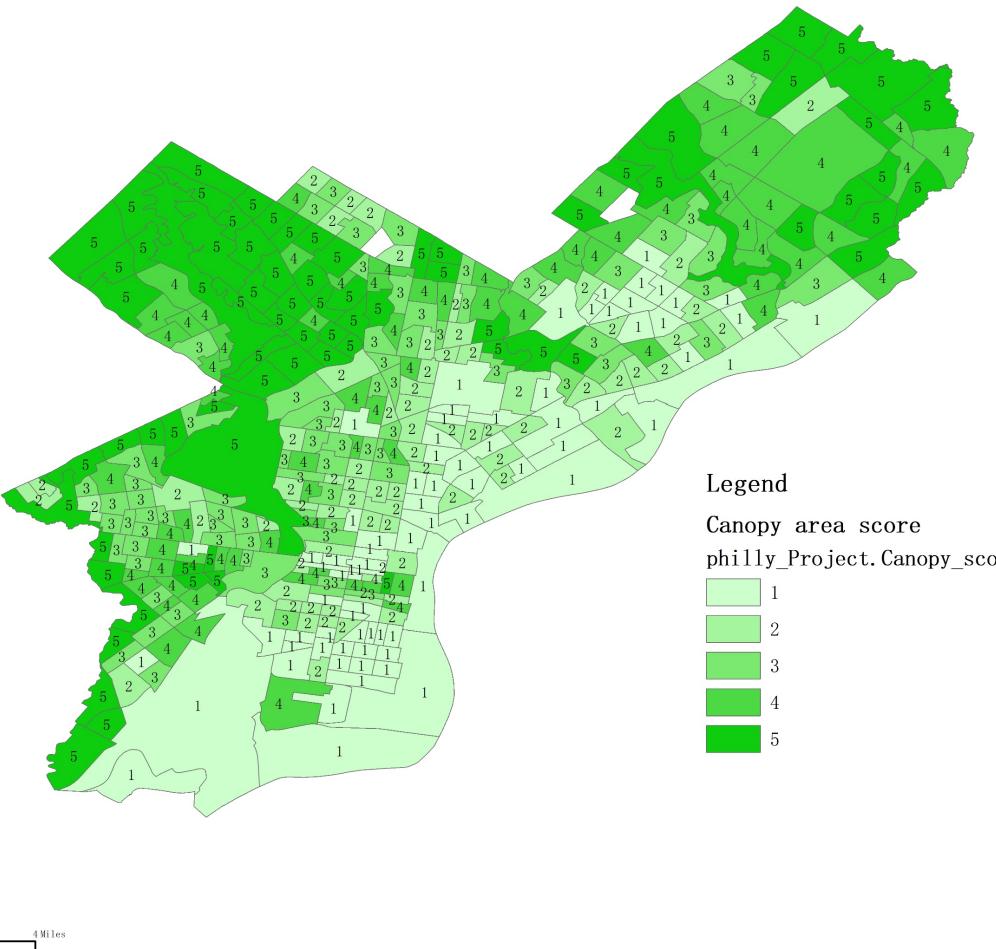
Use Analysis Tools-Overlay-Spatial join to join the reclassified interpolated tree height layer to the census tract layer. It should be noted that the merge rule must be Mean when doing the spatial join, so that we can get the average tree height score of each census tracts.

# Part II Data Interpretation-Evaluating the vegetation in Philadelphia

## 2.-Evaluating tree canopy coverage

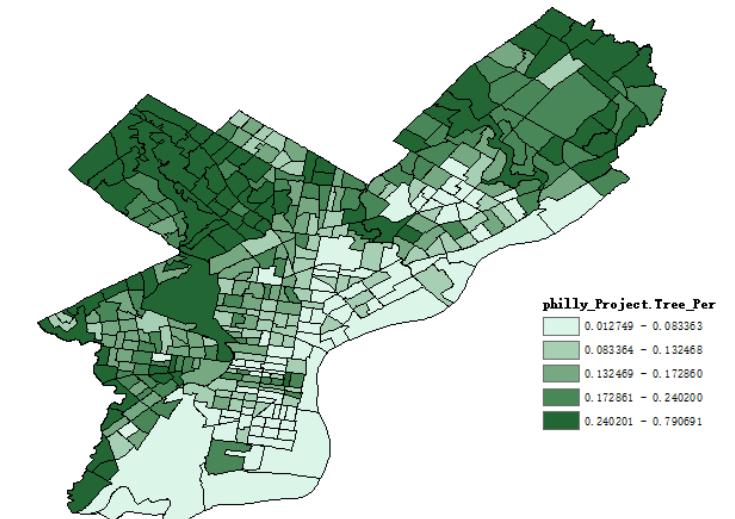


### Tree Canopy Covergae score map



In the data preparation report, I used Identity, Dissolve, Project, Calculate Geometry and Field Calculator tools to obtain the tree canopy coverage rate map.

What to do next is to assign the score to different Quantile intervals.



# Part II Data Interpretation-Evaluating the vegetation in Philadelphia

## 2.-Evaluating tree canopy coverage

Select by Attributes

Enter a WHERE clause to select records in the table window.

Method : Create a new selection

Dissolve\_Clip\_identity\_tree\_Tree\_Area  
philly\_Project.Cen\_Tr\_Are  
philly\_Project.Tree\_Per  
philly\_Project.Shape\_Length  
philly\_Project.Shape\_Area  
Dissolve\_Clip\_identity\_tree\_OBJECTID

= < > Like  
> >= And  
< <= Or  
- % () Not  
Is In Null Get Unique Values Go To:

SELECT \* FROM philly\_Project\_Dissolve\_Clip\_identity\_tree\_WHERE:  
philly\_Project.Tree\_Per >0.012749 AND philly\_Project.Tree\_Per  
<0.083363  
philly\_Project.Tree\_Per >0.083364 AND philly\_Project.Tree\_Per  
<0.132468  
philly\_Project.Tree\_Per >0.132469 AND philly\_Project.Tree\_Per  
<0.172860  
philly\_Project.Tree\_Per >0.172861 AND philly\_Project.Tree\_Per  
<0.240200  
philly\_Project.Tree\_Per >0.240201 AND philly\_Project.Tree\_Per  
<0.790691

Field Calculator

Parser: VB Script Python

Fields: philly\_Project.Shape\_Length, philly\_Project.Shape\_Area, philly\_Project.Tree\_Per, philly\_Project.Canopy\_score, Dissolve\_Clip\_identity\_tree\_OBJECTID, Dissolve\_Clip\_identity\_tree\_Census\_tract, Dissolve\_Clip\_identity\_tree\_Tree\_Area, Dissolve\_Clip\_identity\_tree\_Shape\_Area

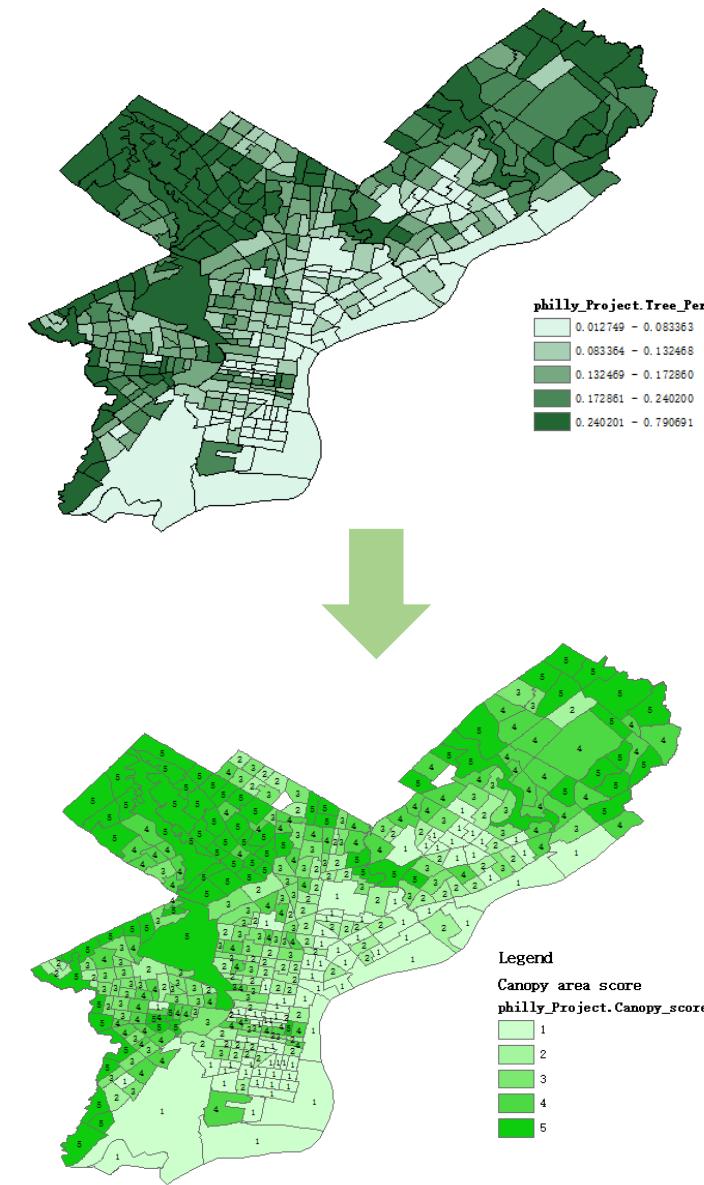
Type: Number String Date

Functions: Abs(), Atn(), Cos(), Exp(), Fix(), Int(), Log(), Sin(), Sqr(), Tan()

Show Codeblock

philly\_Project.Canopy\_score =  
1  
philly\_Project.Canopy\_score =  
2  
philly\_Project.Canopy\_score =  
3  
philly\_Project.Canopy\_score =  
4  
philly\_Project.Canopy\_score =  
5

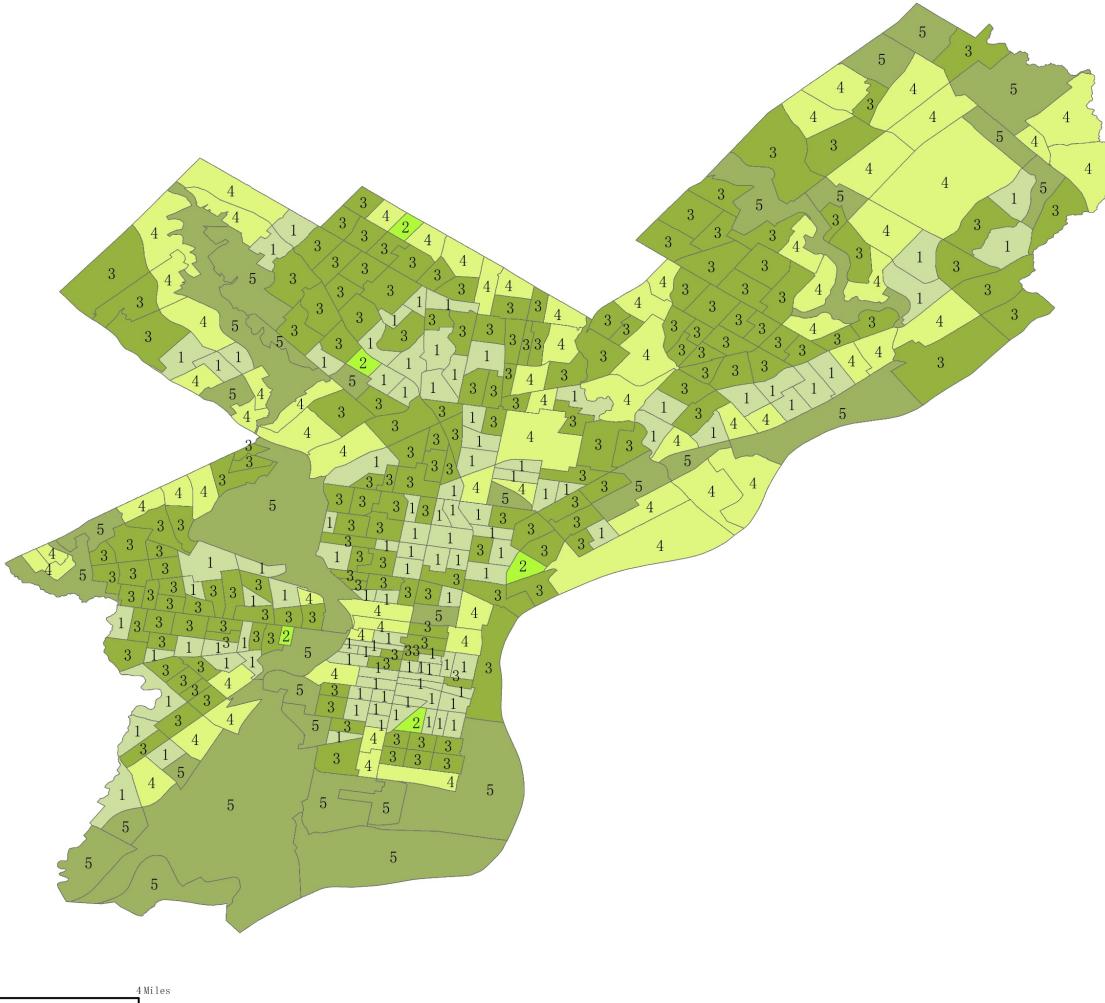
Use **Select by Attributes** to select census tracts in different tree canopy coverage intervals one by one and use **Field Calculator** to assign the score to the selected census tract from 1 to 5.



## Part II Data Interpretation-Evaluating the vegetation in Philadelphia

### 3.-Evaluate the accessibility of parks in Philadelphia

Parks' accessibility score map



Assume that the less distance away from the park, the better living experience the residents will have. So evaluate the accessibility of parks by the distance from the boundary of the parks in Philadelphia

# Part II Data Interpretation-Evaluating the vegetation in Philadelphia

## 3.-Evaluate the accessibility of parks in Philadelphia

### Step 1- BUFFER

Multiple Ring Buffer

Input Features: Clip\_Park

Output Feature class: C:\Users\Emma Qiu\Documents\ArcGIS\Default.gdb\Clip\_Park\_MultipleRingB

Distances: 500, 1000, 1500, 2000, 2500

Buffer Unit (optional): Meters

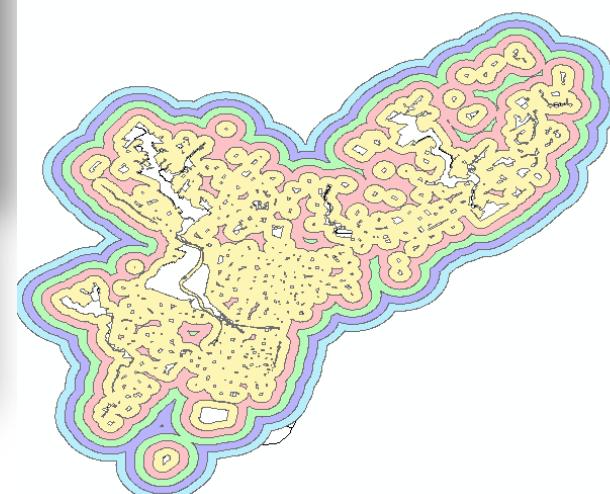
Field Name (optional): distance

Dissolve Option (optional): ALL

Outside Polygons Only (optional): checked

distance	Shape_Length	Shape_Area	park_score
500	2642059.415164	2733124371.494181	5
1000	1610357.85487	1159087645.56213	4
1500	949845.116341	746352431.796468	3
2000	803667.783245	660701256.93267	2
2500	763675.13451	623887484.534334	1

Use **Analysis Tools-Proximity-Multiple Ring Buffer** to find the areas which are 500 meters, 1000 meters, 1500 meters, 2000 meters and 2500 meters away from the park. The Multiple Ring Buffer helps to dissolve the circles by distance intervals instead of using dissolve and erase tool later when using buffer tool.



### Step 2- INTERSECT

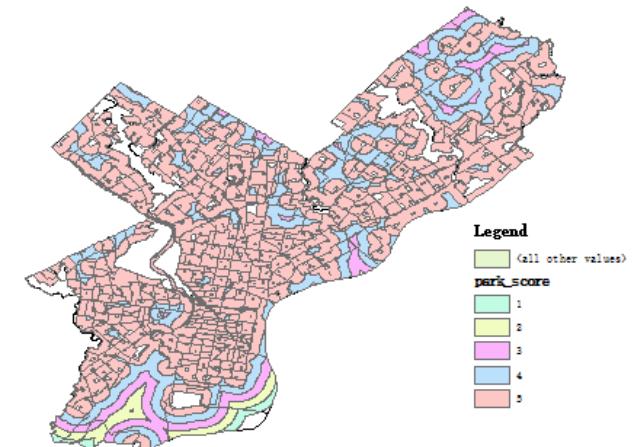
Intersect

Input Features: Clip\_Park\_MultipleRingBuffer, Philly\_census\_tract1

Features: Clip\_Park\_MultipleRingBuffer, Philly\_census\_tract1

park_score	Census_Tra
5	Census Tract 101
4	Census Tract 101
5	Census Tract 102
4	Census Tract 102
5	Census Tract 103
5	Census Tract 104
4	Census Tract 104

Use **Analysis Tools-Overlay-Intersect**, we can intersect the buffer layer with the base layer and obtain a layer with combined attributes. Besides, the buffer are divided by the census tract boundary, so that I can calculate the sum score of each census tract



# Part II Data Interpretation-Evaluating the vegetation in Philadelphia

## 3.-Evaluate the accessibility of parks in Philadelphia

### Step 3- Dissolve

Dissolve

Input Features: intersect\_buffercensus

Dissolve Field(s) (optional): park\_score

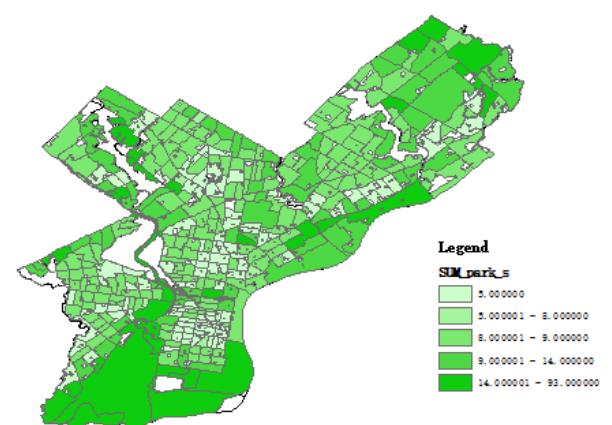
Statistics Field(s) (optional): park\_score SUM

Frequency Distribution

SUM_park_s	Count_SUM_park_s
5	103
7	20
8	30
9	174
10	18
12	24
13	4
14	24
15	7
17	4
18	4
19	4
21	1
22	2
23	2
24	1
27	1
29	1
30	1
36	2
45	1
93	1

Use Data Management Tool-Generalization-Dissolve tool to dissolve the intersected layer by census tract and sum the park score by census tract.

Then use Quantile classification to define five level of parks' accessibility in Philadelphia



### Step 4- Select by Attributes and assign the score

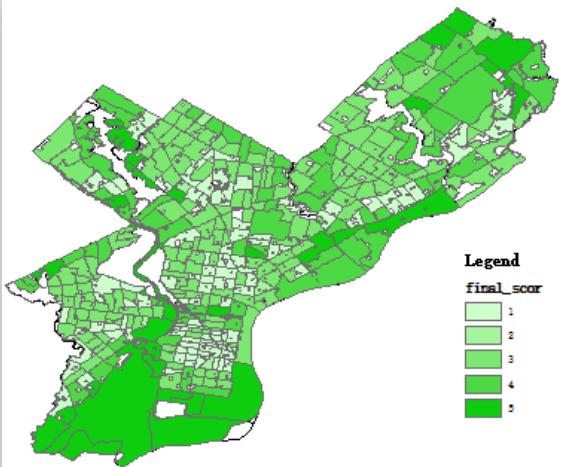
Select by Attributes

Method: Create a new selection

'FID'  
'Census\_Tra'  
'SUM\_park\_s'

= < > Like  
And <= Or  
Not (%)  
Is In Null Get Unique Values Go To:

SELECT \* FROM accessibility score WHERE:  
"SUM\_park\_s"=5.000000



Field Calculator

Parser: VB Script

Fields: FID, Shape, Census\_Tra, SUM\_park\_s, final\_scor

Type: Number

Functions:

- Int()
- Log()
- Sin()
- Sqr()
- Tan()

Show Codeblock

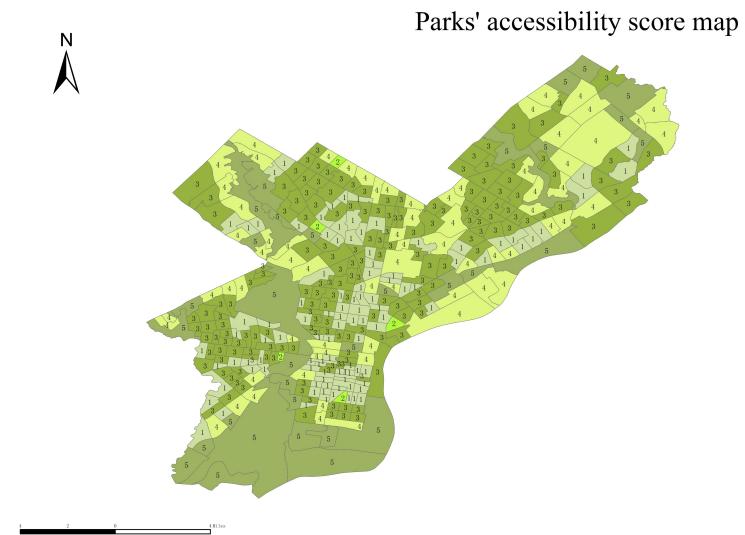
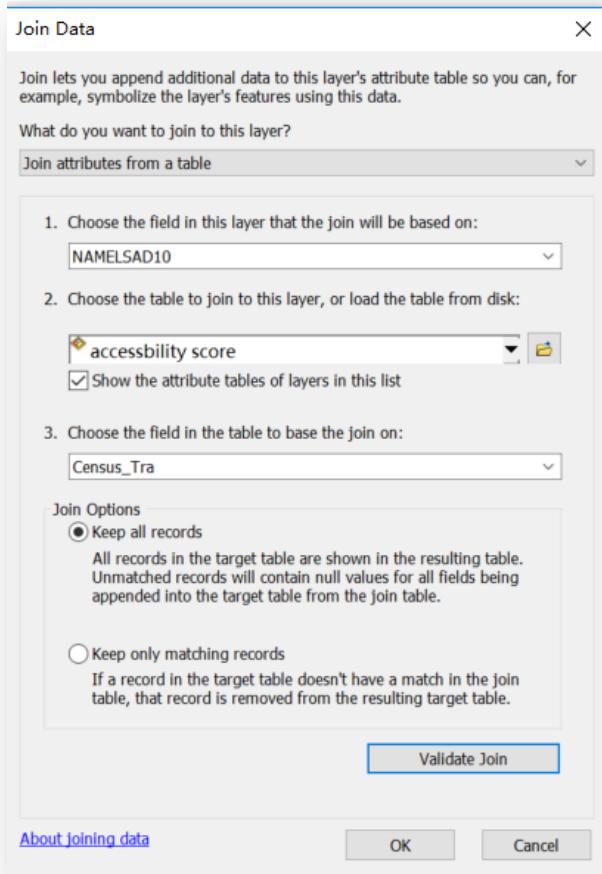
final\_scor = Int(SUM\_park\_s / 5)

Use Select by Attributes and Field Calculator to assign the score from 1 to 5 to the sum scores' intervals.

# Part II Data Interpretation-Evaluating the vegetation in Philadelphia

## 3.-Evaluate the accessibility of parks in Philadelphia

### Step 5- Join the table and Display



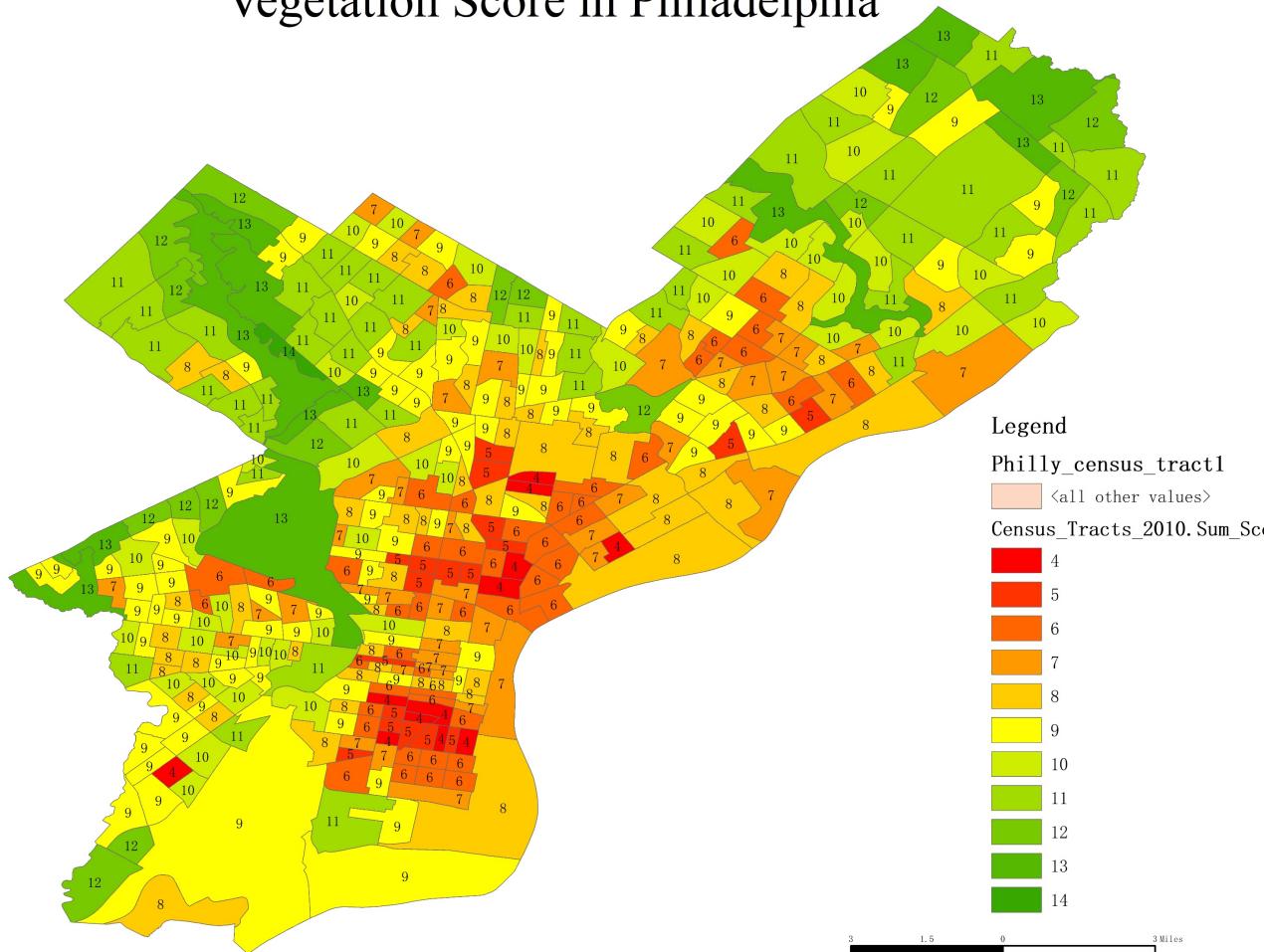
Join the table of the intersected layer with the base layer and display the distribution of parks' accessibility in the base map.

# Part II Data Interpretation-Evaluating the vegetation in Philadelphia

## 4.-Sum the total score of the vegetation



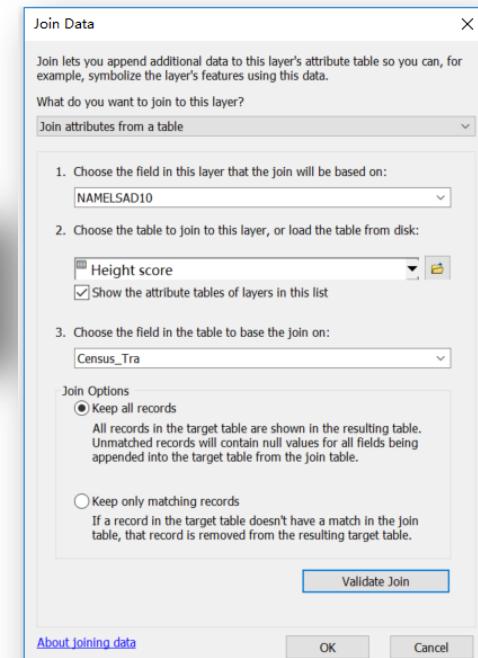
Vegetation Score in Philadelphia



**Vegetation Score**= Tree Height Score+ Tree Canopy Area Score+ Park Accessibility Score

Step 1- Join the table

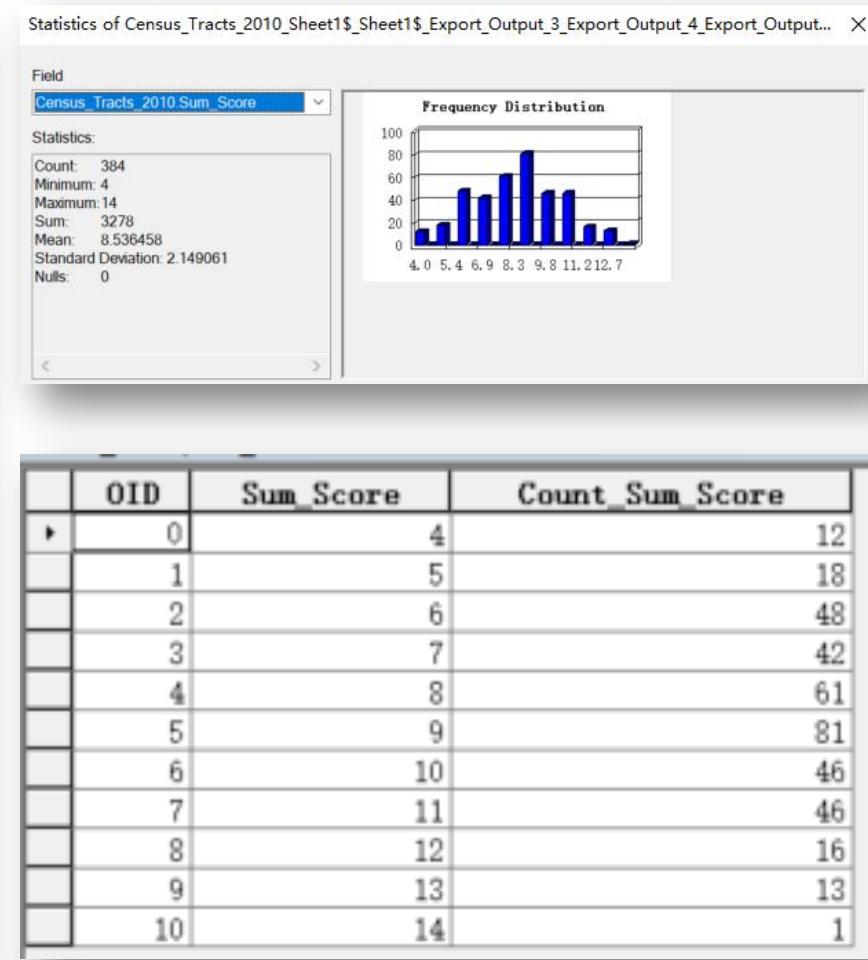
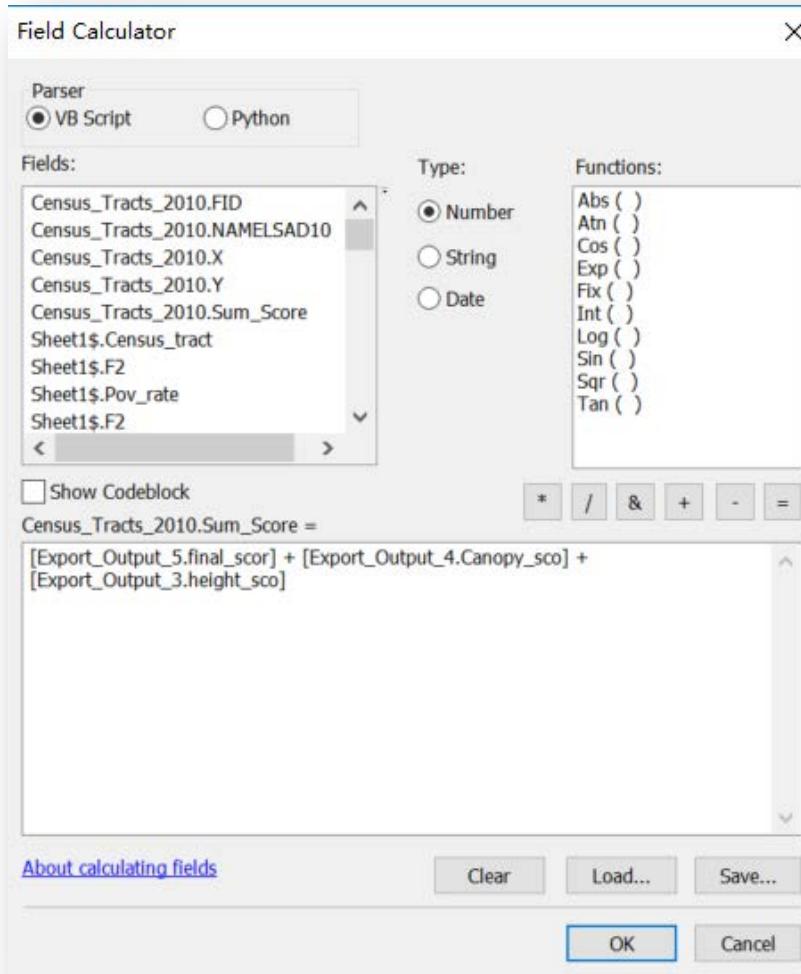
- Export\_Output\_2
- Height score
- Canopy Area score
- park accessibility score



Export all the score layers' data into dbf. File, and join them into the base layer to calculate the final score later

## Part II Data Interpretation-Evaluating the vegetation in Philadelphia

### 4.-Sum the total score of the vegetation

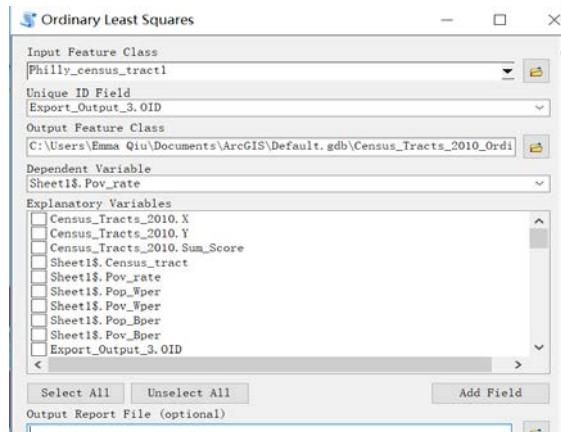


### Step 2- Field Calculator

Use Field Calculator to calculate the total score of vegetation in Philadelphia. The Statistics shows that the minimum score is 4, and the maximum score is 14. Most census tracts are between 6 and 11 score interval.

## Part II Data Interpretation- Explore the relationship

### 1.-examine the relationship between vegetation and poverty

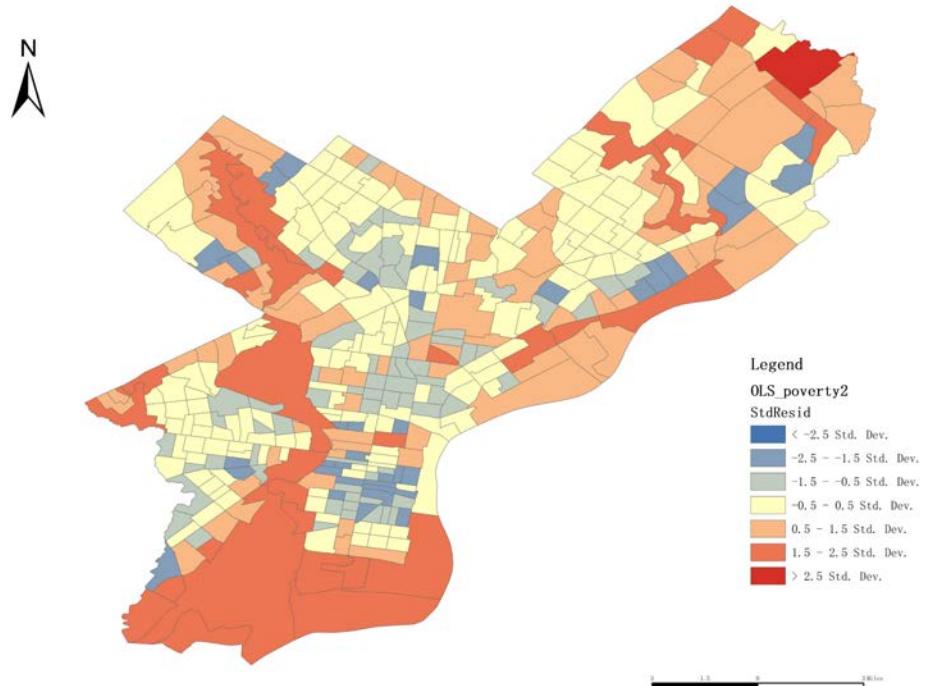


Summary of OLS Results							
Variable	Coefficient [a]	StdError	t-Statistic	Probability [b]	Robust SE	Robust_t	Robust_Pr [b]
Intercept	3.146409	0.114434	27.495321	0.000000*	0.125077	25.155781	0.000000*
EXPORT OUTPUT 4.POV RATE							
	-1.388129	0.382611	-3.628045	0.000336*	0.453509	-3.060863	0.002373*

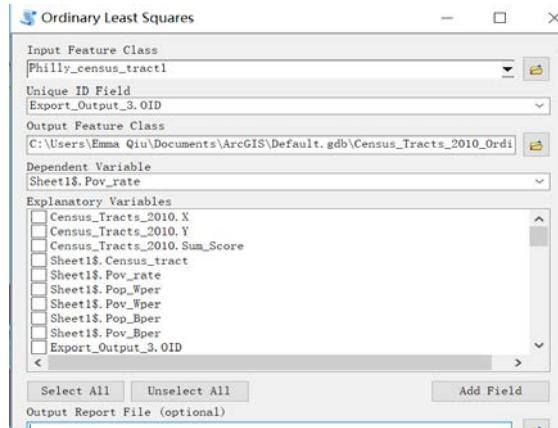
Input Features:	Philly_census_tract1	OLS Diagnostics	EXPORT_OUTPUT_5.FINAL_SCOR
Number of Observations:	384	Akaike's Information Criterion (AICc) [d]:	1253.891665
Multiple R-Squared [d]:	0.033310	Adjusted R-Squared [d]:	0.030779
Joint F-Statistic [e]:	13.162707	Prob(>F), (1.382) degrees of freedom:	0.000324*
Joint Wald Statistic [e]:	9.368880	Prob(>chi-squared), (1) degrees of freedom:	0.002207*
Koenker (BP) Statistic [f]:	2.717229	Prob(>chi-squared), (1) degrees of freedom:	0.099270
Jarque-Bera Statistic [g]:	10.300461	Prob(>chi-squared), (2) degrees of freedom:	0.005798*

Use Spatial Statistics Tools- Modeling Spatial Relationships- Ordinary Least Squares to build the relationship between vegetation and poverty. Although the R-square is small, the overall model is significant according to the Joint F-Statistic. And, the poverty rate is significantly related to the vegetation. According to the summary of OLS result, when the poverty rate is higher, there is supposed to be less vegetation.



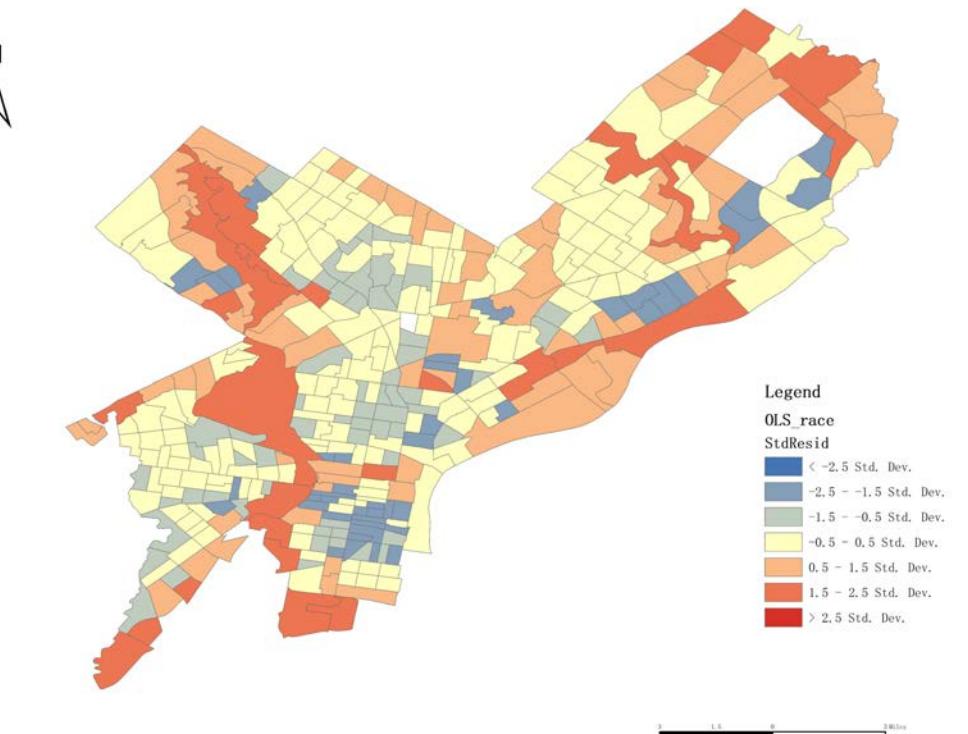
# Part II Data Interpretation- Explore the relationship

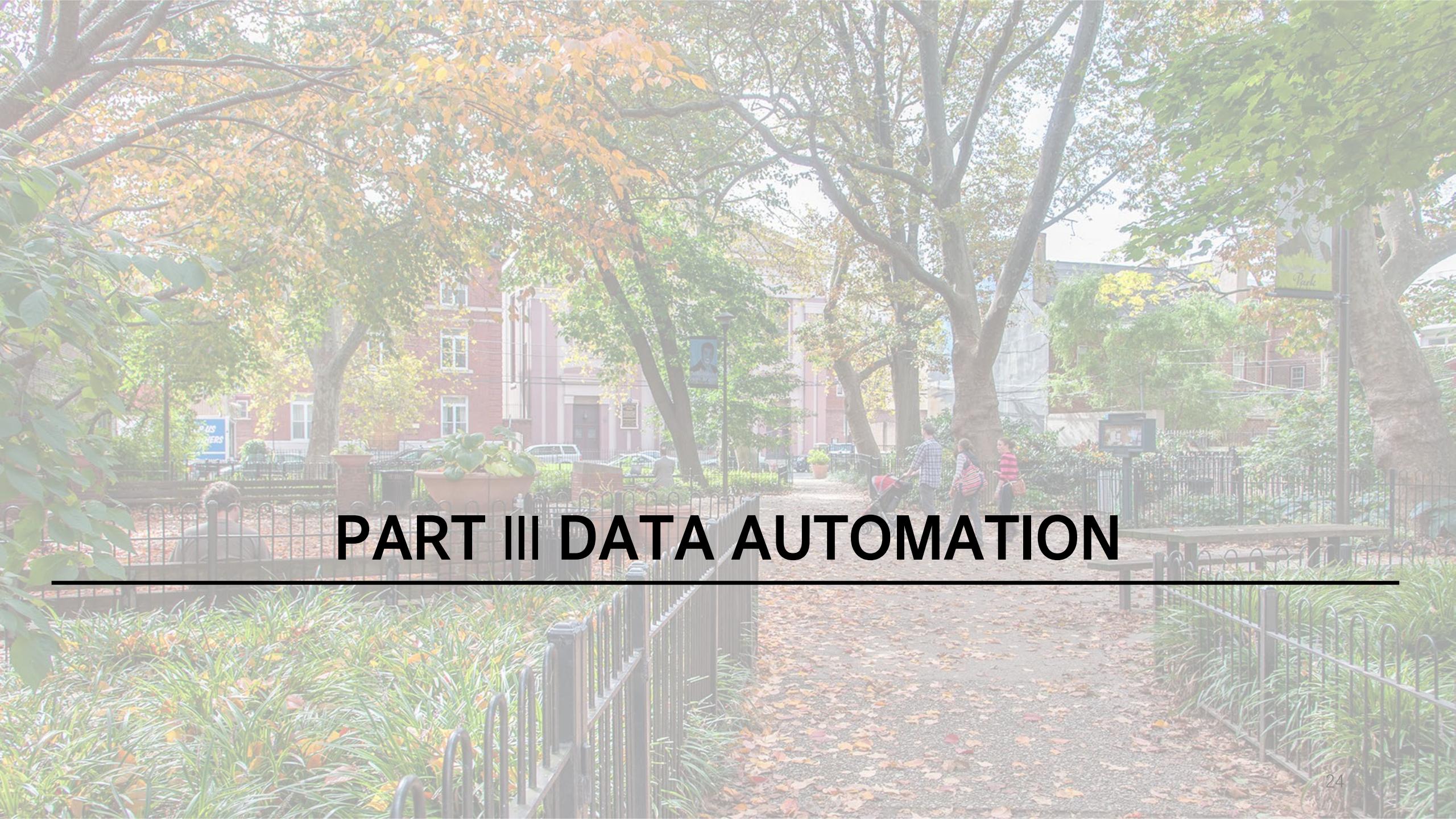
## 2.-examine the relationship between vegetation and race



Summary of OLS Results - Model Variables							
Variable	Coefficient [a]	StdError	t-Statistic	Probability [b]	Robust_SE	Robust_t	Robust_Pr [b]
Intercept	2.963465	0.099030	29.924824	0.000000*	0.101981	29.058955	0.000000*
SHEET1\$.POP_	-0.430970	0.171894	-2.507183	0.012582*	0.161599	-2.666918	0.007982*
Input Features:		Dependent Variable:		EXPORT_OUTPUT_5.FINAL_S			
Number of Observations:		377		Akaike's Information Criterion (AICc) [d]:			
Multiple R-Squared [d]:		0.016486		Adjusted R-Squared [d]:			
Joint F-Statistic [e]:		6.285969		Prob(>F), (1,375) degrees of freedom:			
Joint Wald Statistic [e]:		7.112450		Prob(>chi-squared), (1) degrees of freedom:			
Koenker (BP) Statistic [f]:		6.075476		Prob(>chi-squared), (1) degrees of freedom:			
Jarque-Bera Statistic [g]:		16.003797		Prob(>chi-squared), (2) degrees of freedom:			

Use Spatial Statistics Tools- Modeling Spatial Relationships- Ordinary Least Squares to build the relationship between vegetation and race. Same as the previous explanation, although the R-square is small, the overall model is significant according to the Joint F-Statistic. And, the Black population percentage is significantly related to the vegetation. According to the summary of OLS result, when there are more Black race in the census tract, it is likely to have less vegetation.

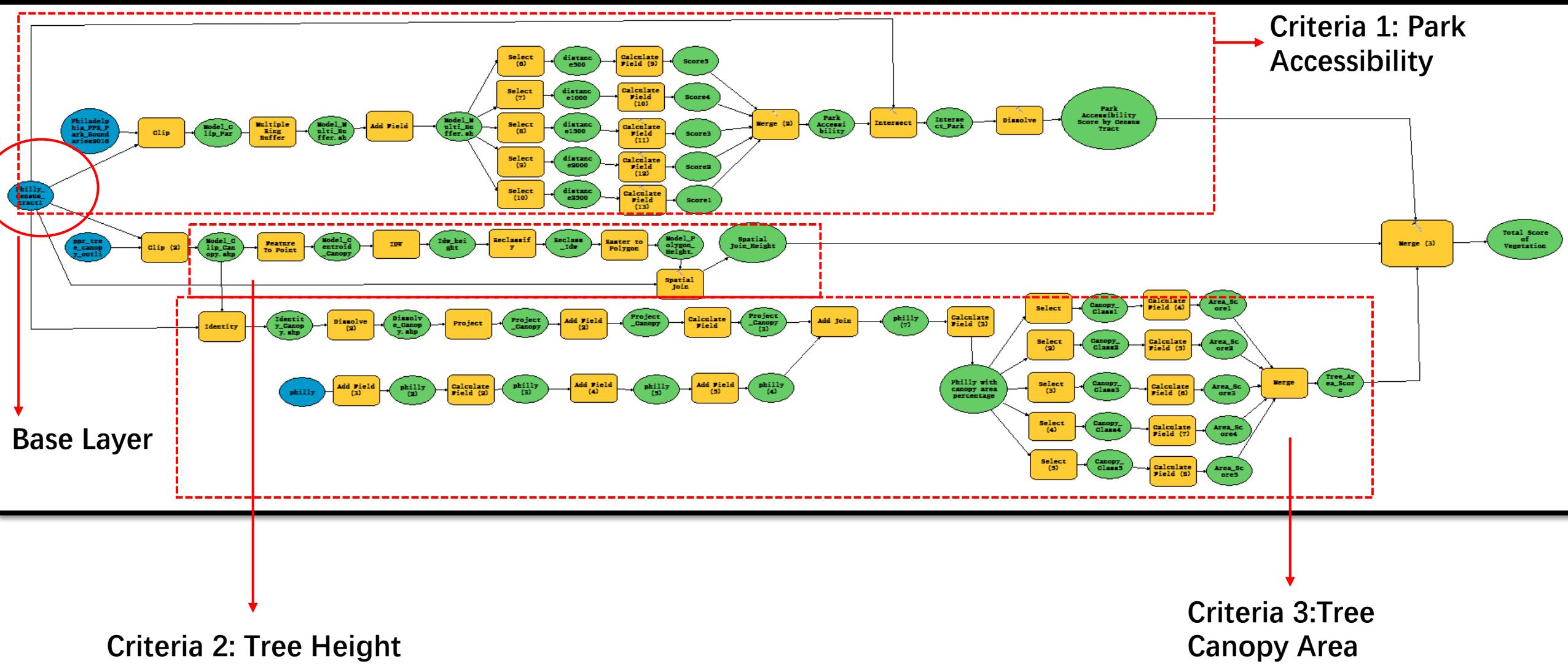


A photograph of a park during autumn. The trees have yellow and orange leaves. A paved path leads through the park, where several people are walking. In the foreground, there's a metal fence and some green plants. A blue sign on the left says "US MAIL".

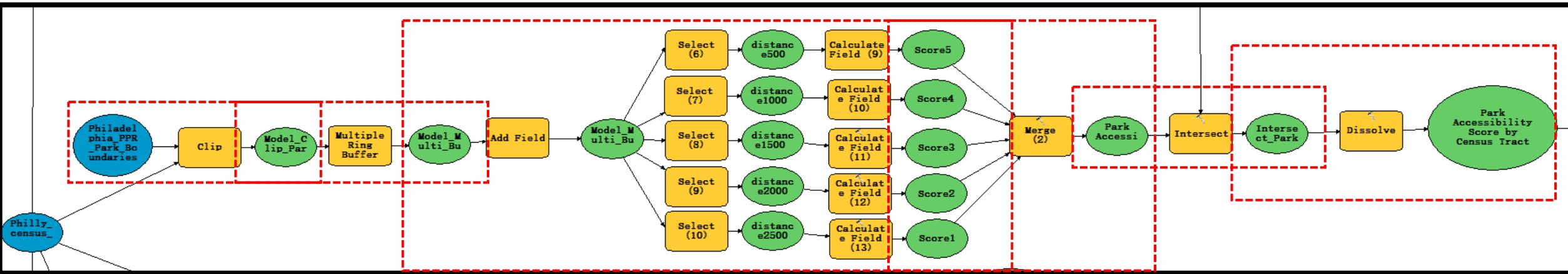
## PART III DATA AUTOMATION

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# Overview



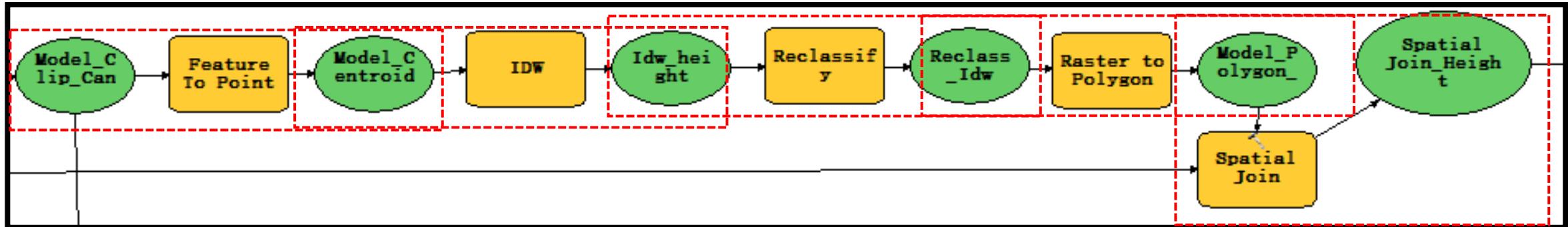
# Criteria 1\_ Park Accessibility



- First, clip the park within the boundaries of Philadelphia;
- Second, create multiple ring buffer;
- Third, after adding a field named “score” , use select and calculate field to assign the score from 1 to 5 to different distances;
- Fourth, merge the five buffers into one shapefile
- Fifth, intersect the merged shapefile with the base layer;
- Sixth, dissolve the park by census tracts, and sum the total score of each census tracts’ park accessibility

Distance from Park	Score
500 meters	1
1000 meters	2
1500 meters	3
2000 meters	4
2500 meters	5

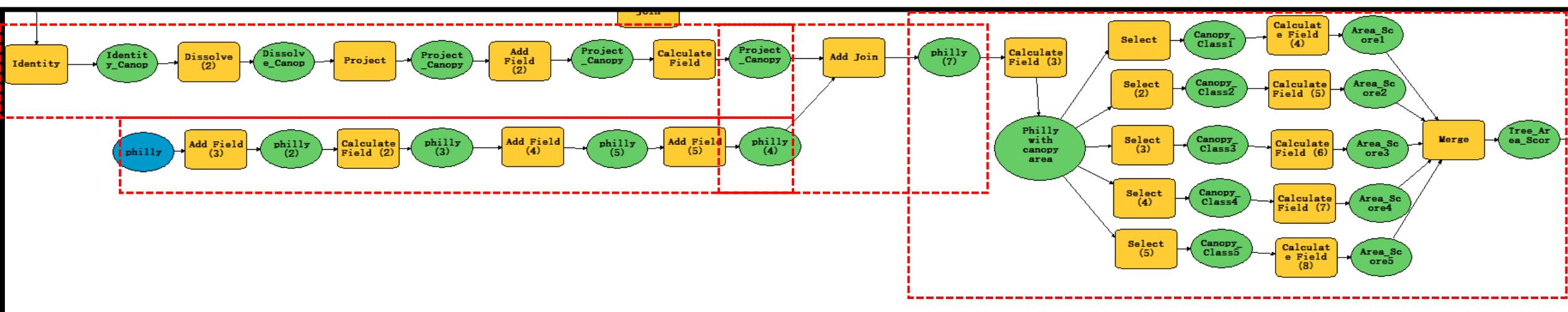
## Criteria 2\_ Tree Height



- After clipping the tree canopy outlines within Philadelphia, first, use feature to point to display centroid of each tree canopy;
- Second, use IDW to interpolate the tree height;
- Third, use reclassify to reclass the quantile classification to score 1 to 5;
- Fourth, transfer the raster to polygon for the further spatial join;
- Fifth, join the clipped canopy with the interpolated tree height shapefile to get the score of tree height in Philadelphia

Tree Height	Score
6.030121 – 19.275738	1
19.275738 – 28.374294	2
28.374294 – 40.795418	3
40.795418 – 57.402523	4
57.402523 – 262.917203	5

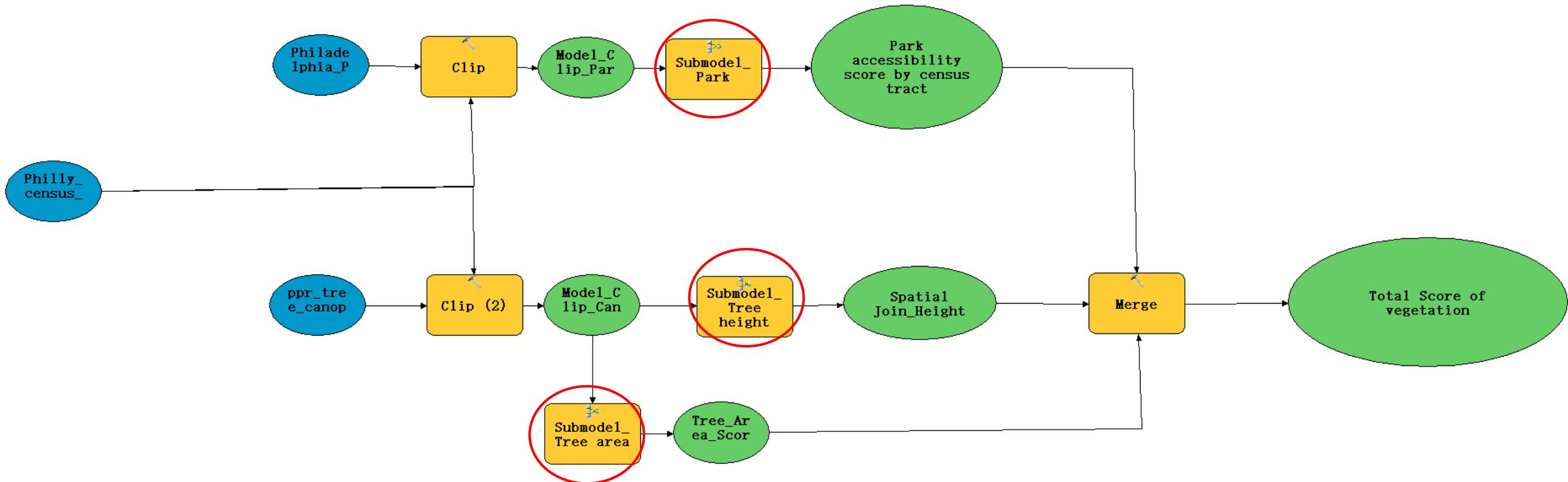
# Criteria 3\_ Tree Canopy Area



- Use the same base layer as the second criteria, the clipped tree canopy shapefile
- First, use identity, dissolve, project, add field and field calculator to calculate the sum area of each tree canopy in the census tracts;
- At the same time, calculate the area of each census tracts;
- Second, calculate the percentage of the area of tree canopy in different census tract;
- Third, use select and calculate field to assign the different score to different quantile level;
- Finally, merge the five score shapefiles into one, it is the tree area score shapefile.

Tree Canopy area %	Score
0.012749 – 0.083363	1
0.083364 – 0.132468	2
0.132469 – 0.172860	3
0.172861 – 0.240200	4
0.240201 – 0.790691	5

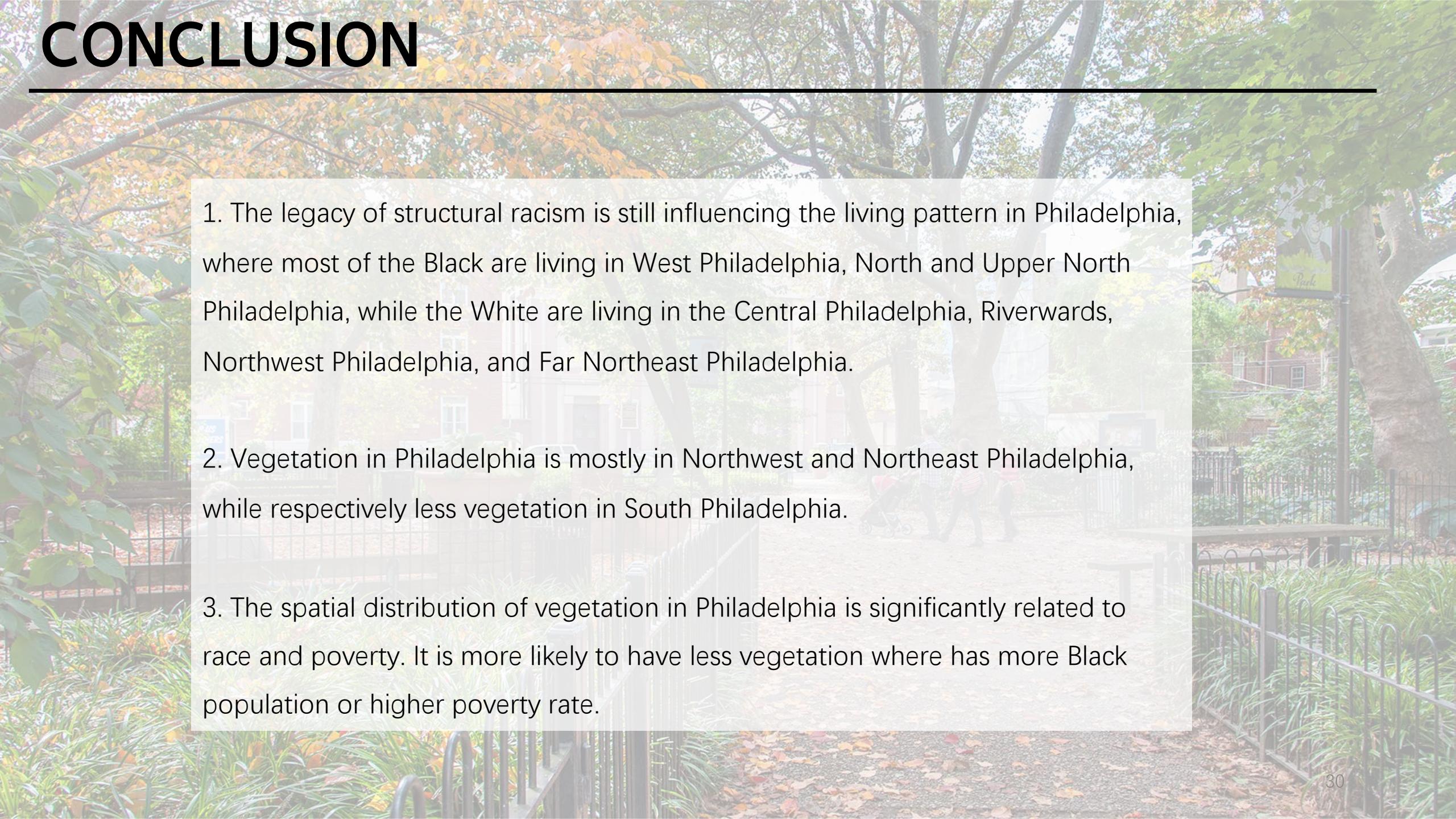
# Submodel



- To make the model more clearly, create three sub models about three criteria

# CONCLUSION

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1. The legacy of structural racism is still influencing the living pattern in Philadelphia, where most of the Black are living in West Philadelphia, North and Upper North Philadelphia, while the White are living in the Central Philadelphia, Riverwards, Northwest Philadelphia, and Far Northeast Philadelphia.
  2. Vegetation in Philadelphia is mostly in Northwest and Northeast Philadelphia, while respectively less vegetation in South Philadelphia.
  3. The spatial distribution of vegetation in Philadelphia is significantly related to race and poverty. It is more likely to have less vegetation where has more Black population or higher poverty rate.