

# QGIS plugin: Dynamic flow

[https://plugins.qgis.org/plugins/dynamic\\_flow/](https://plugins.qgis.org/plugins/dynamic_flow/)

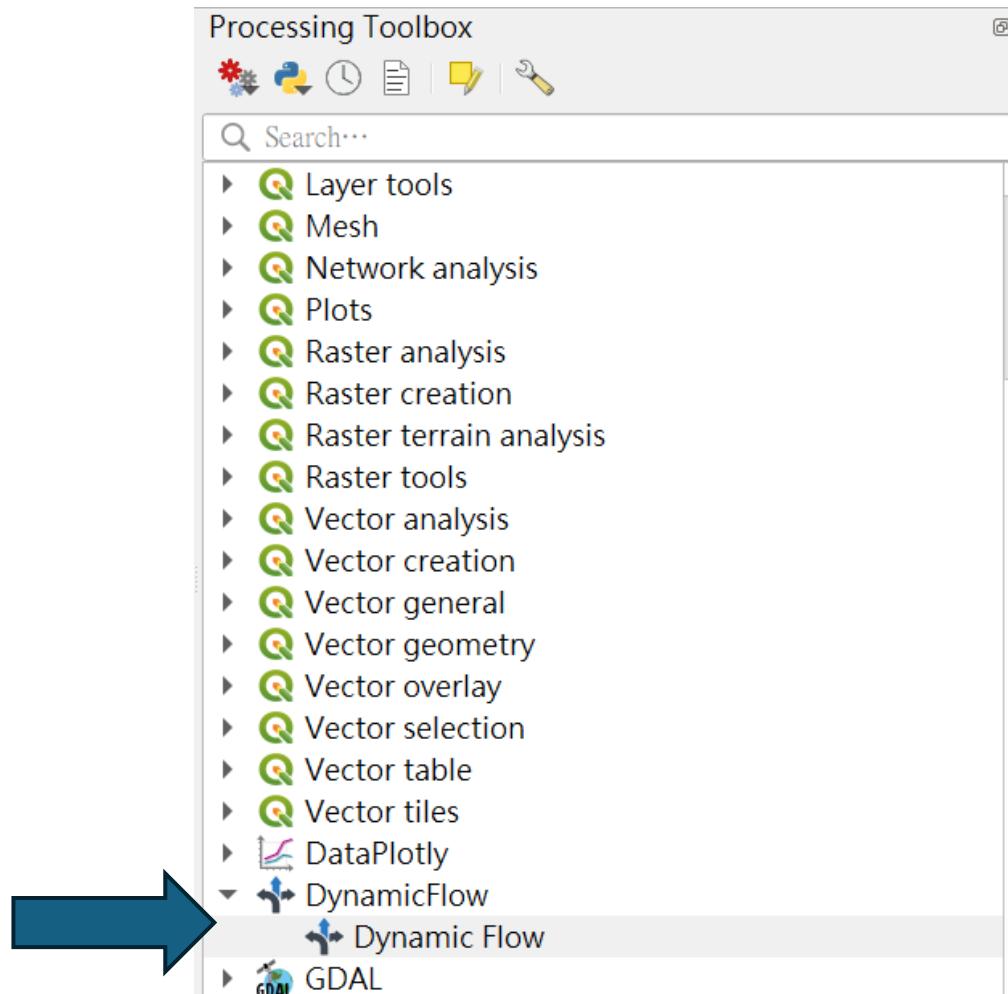
The screenshot shows the QGIS Plugin Manager interface. On the left, there's a sidebar with icons for All, Installed, Not installed, Upgradeable, Install from ZIP, and Settings. A search bar at the top has 'Dy' typed into it. The main area displays the 'Dynamic Flow' plugin details. The title 'Dynamic Flow' is bolded. Below it is a description: 'Dynamic Flow is a qgis plugin to estimate the spatio-temporal 3D gradient flow from the point observation of the attributes values such as aggregated cell-phone mobility data.' To the right of the description is a blue icon with three arrows pointing in different directions. Below the description is a detailed text block about the algorithm's methodology and its application in estimating population mobility. It also mentions the introduction of the algorithm by Bo-Cheng Lin, Ta-Chien Chan\*, 2022, and the tutorial data by Bergroth et al., 2022. The plugin has a rating of 1 star and 37 downloads. It is categorized under Analysis and has tags for python and flow. The author is listed as Bo-Cheng Lin, Chen-Yu Liu, and Ta-Chien Chan. The installed version is 0.1 and the available version (stable) is 0.1, updated at 週五 三月 29 10:36:41 2024 GMT. At the bottom, there are buttons for Upgrade All, Uninstall Plugin, Reinstall Plugin, 開關 (Close), and 說明 (Description).

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# The “Dynamic Flow” plugin will be shown in the Processing Toolbox



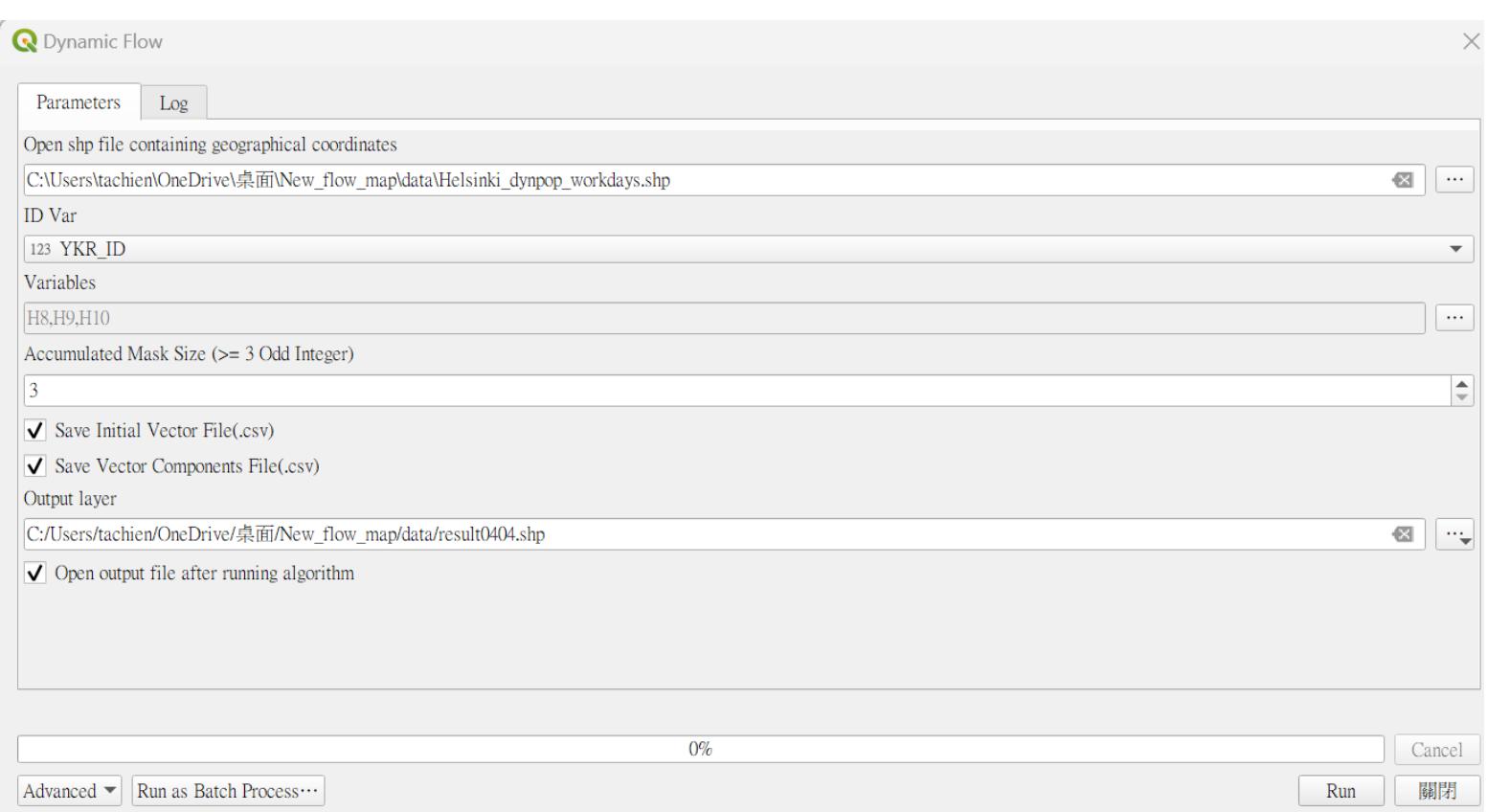
# The introduction of the algorithm

- Bo-Cheng Lin, Ta-Chien Chan\*, 2022,  
“Visualizing Population Mobility from Spatio-temporally Aggregated Mobile Phone Data via a 3D Gradient Approach”, TRANSACTIONS IN GIS, <https://doi.org/10.1111/tgis.13008>

# The tutorial data can be download from the website

The tutorial data: Bergroth, C., Järv, O., Tenkanen, H., Manninen, M., Toivonen, T., 2022. A 24-hour population distribution dataset based on mobile phone data from Helsinki Metropolitan Area, Finland. *Scientific Data* 9, 39.

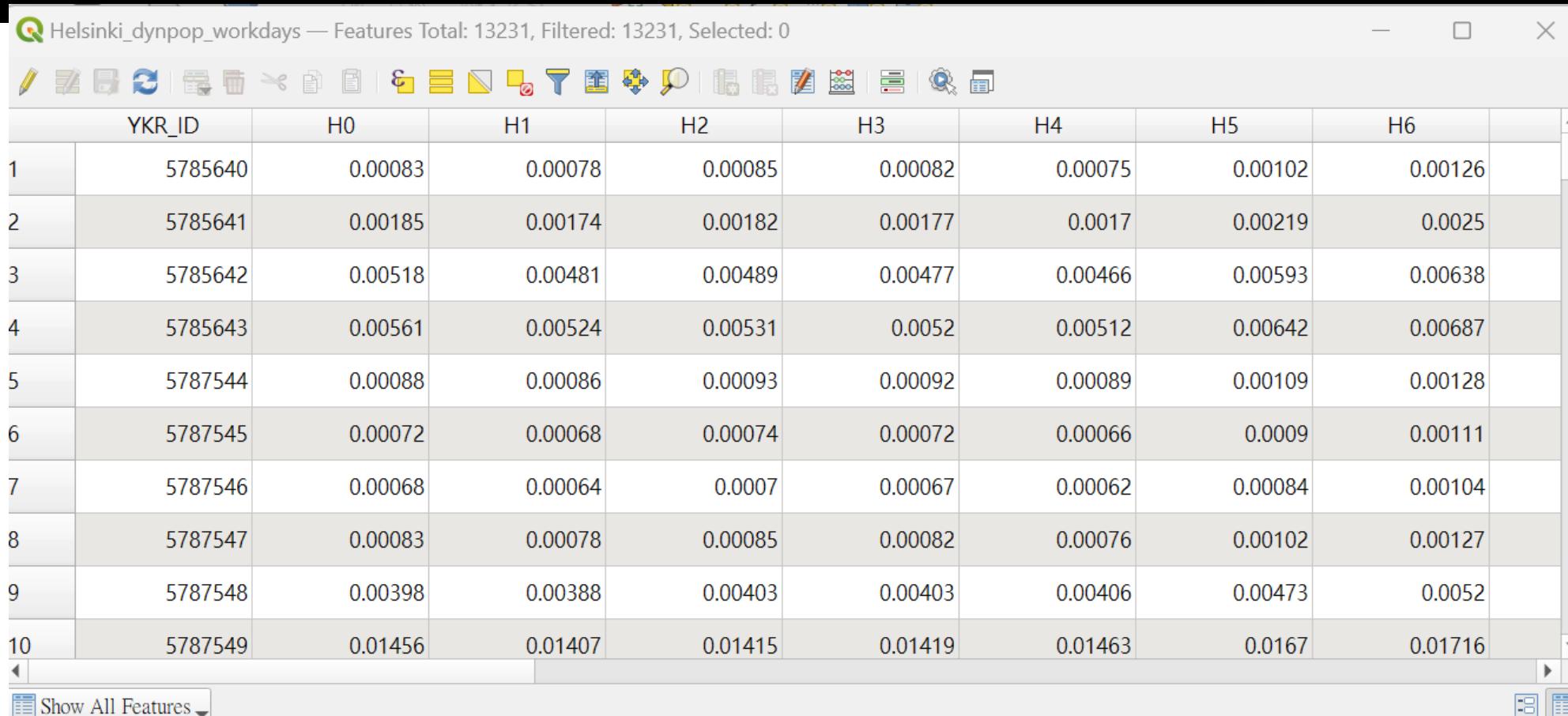
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-021-01113-4>  
[\(https://zenodo.org/records/4726996\)](https://zenodo.org/records/4726996)



**Step 1: Load the shapefile and select at least three population observation time periods (e.g.: H8, H9, H10)**

1. Select the dynamic flow in Processing Toolbox and execute it
2. Open the SHP file: Select the SHP file to import.
3. Grid ID: Enter the name of the grid number field
4. Time period: Select at least 3 consecutive times
5. Accumulated Spatial Mask Size: Accumulated spatial range (set the size of the square mask window, the value must be an odd number)
6. Output Initial Vector File: Whether to output the initial flow result of each time (.csv)
7. Output Vector Components File: Whether to output the components of each initial gradient vector (.csv)
8. Output layer: Output the file name containing the folder location

# Preview the data in the shapefile

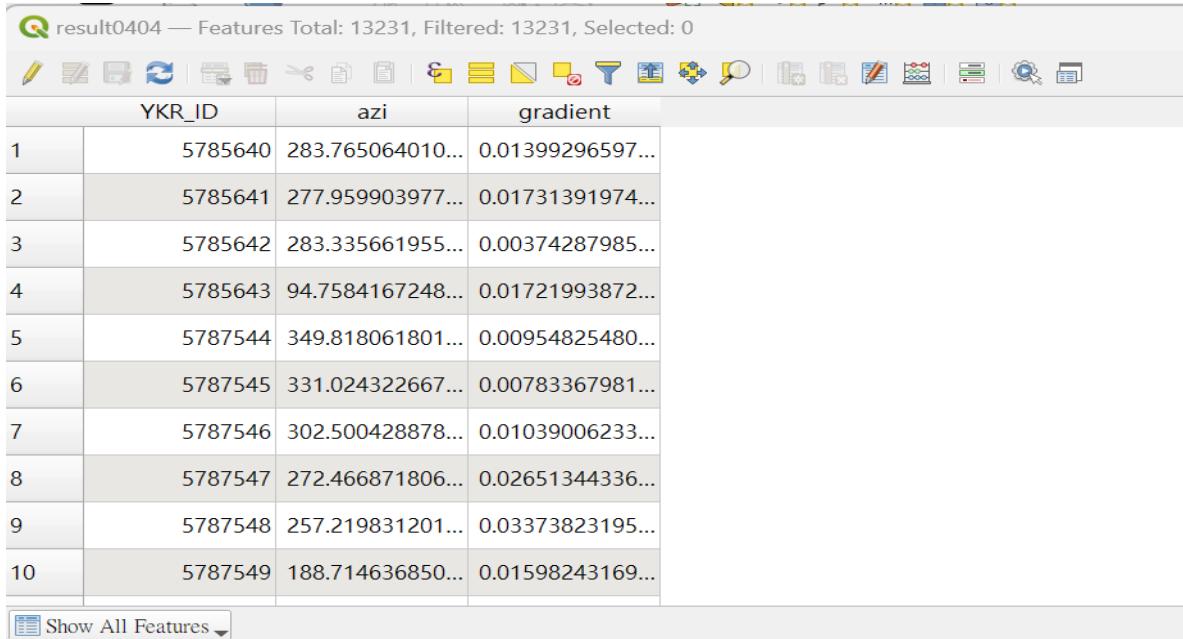


The screenshot shows the QGIS attribute table interface for the 'Helsinki\_dynpop\_workdays' layer. The table has 13231 features, all of which are currently selected. The columns represent various time periods (YKR\_ID, H0, H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6). The YKR\_ID column contains unique identifiers for each feature, while the H0 through H6 columns contain numerical values representing data for those specific time periods.

	YKR_ID	H0	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	
1	5785640	0.00083	0.00078	0.00085	0.00082	0.00075	0.00102	0.00126	
2	5785641	0.00185	0.00174	0.00182	0.00177	0.0017	0.00219	0.0025	
3	5785642	0.00518	0.00481	0.00489	0.00477	0.00466	0.00593	0.00638	
4	5785643	0.00561	0.00524	0.00531	0.0052	0.00512	0.00642	0.00687	
5	5787544	0.00088	0.00086	0.00093	0.00092	0.00089	0.00109	0.00128	
6	5787545	0.00072	0.00068	0.00074	0.00072	0.00066	0.0009	0.00111	
7	5787546	0.00068	0.00064	0.0007	0.00067	0.00062	0.00084	0.00104	
8	5787547	0.00083	0.00078	0.00085	0.00082	0.00076	0.00102	0.00127	
9	5787548	0.00398	0.00388	0.00403	0.00403	0.00406	0.00473	0.0052	
10	5787549	0.01456	0.01407	0.01415	0.01419	0.01463	0.0167	0.01716	

When importing a SHP file into a grid space (point or area), its attributes must include the grid number (unique identification code, YKR\_ID) and data for at least three time periods.

# Preview the output layer



The screenshot shows a QGIS attribute table titled "result0404". The table has three columns: "YKR\_ID", "azi", and "gradient". The first column contains grid numbers (e.g., 5785640, 5785641, 5785642, etc.). The second column contains azimuth values (e.g., 283.765064010..., 277.959903977..., 283.335661955..., etc.). The third column contains gradient values (e.g., 0.01399296597..., 0.01731391974..., 0.00374287985..., etc.). A toolbar with various icons is visible at the top of the table window.

result0404 — Features Total: 13231, Filtered: 13231, Selected: 0			
	YKR_ID	azi	gradient
1	5785640	283.765064010...	0.01399296597...
2	5785641	277.959903977...	0.01731391974...
3	5785642	283.335661955...	0.00374287985...
4	5785643	94.7584167248...	0.01721993872...
5	5787544	349.818061801...	0.00954825480...
6	5787545	331.024322667...	0.00783367981...
7	5787546	302.500428878...	0.01039006233...
8	5787547	272.466871806...	0.02651344336...
9	5787548	257.219831201...	0.03373823195...
10	5787549	188.714636850...	0.01598243169...

1. SHP file: fields include grid number, azimuth (azi) and gradient value (gradient)

# Preview the output CSV file

Q flowestimated\_h7toh12\_initvec — Features Total: 13231, Filtered: 13231, Selected: 0

Inivec.csv

	field_1	YKR_ID	centroid	A2	G2	A3	G3
6	5	5787545	POINT (38137...	348.27331767...	0.0147725827...	345.01974287...	0.0115602897...
7	6	5787546	POINT (38162...	323.03527676...	0.0232604471...	323.71261018...	0.0168280480...
8	7	5787547	POINT (38187...	295.20935485...	0.0398583592...	290.06258764...	0.0296348359...
9	8	5787548	POINT (38212...	278.26626846...	0.1106015985...	275.03908798...	0.0955133095...
10	9	5787549	POINT (38237...	291.62923570...	0.0496766585...	277.38833654...	0.0345770950...
11	10	5787550	POINT (38262...	91.614457806...	0.1340250853...	94.512551035...	0.1152315421...

Q flowestimated\_h7toh12\_vcomp — Features Total: 13231, Filtered: 13231, Selected: 0

vcomp.csv

	field_1	YKR_ID	centroid	v_2_x	v_2_y	v_2_z	v_3_x
6	5	5787545	POINT (38137...	0.1854787380...	-0.893547205...	-0.408865539...	0.2534538539...
7	6	5787546	POINT (38162...	0.5623279696...	-0.747191140...	-0.354249424...	0.5811725751...
8	7	5787547	POINT (38187...	0.8409779191...	-0.395901896...	-0.368805949...	0.9175012837...
9	8	5787548	POINT (38212...	0.9583948279...	-0.139238493...	-0.249182655...	0.9890768150...
10	9	5787549	POINT (38237...	0.6244381352...	-0.247601194...	-0.740790566...	0.9211300134...
11	10	5787550	POINT (38262...	-0.982129574...	0.0276813850...	-0.186159180...	-0.995126836...

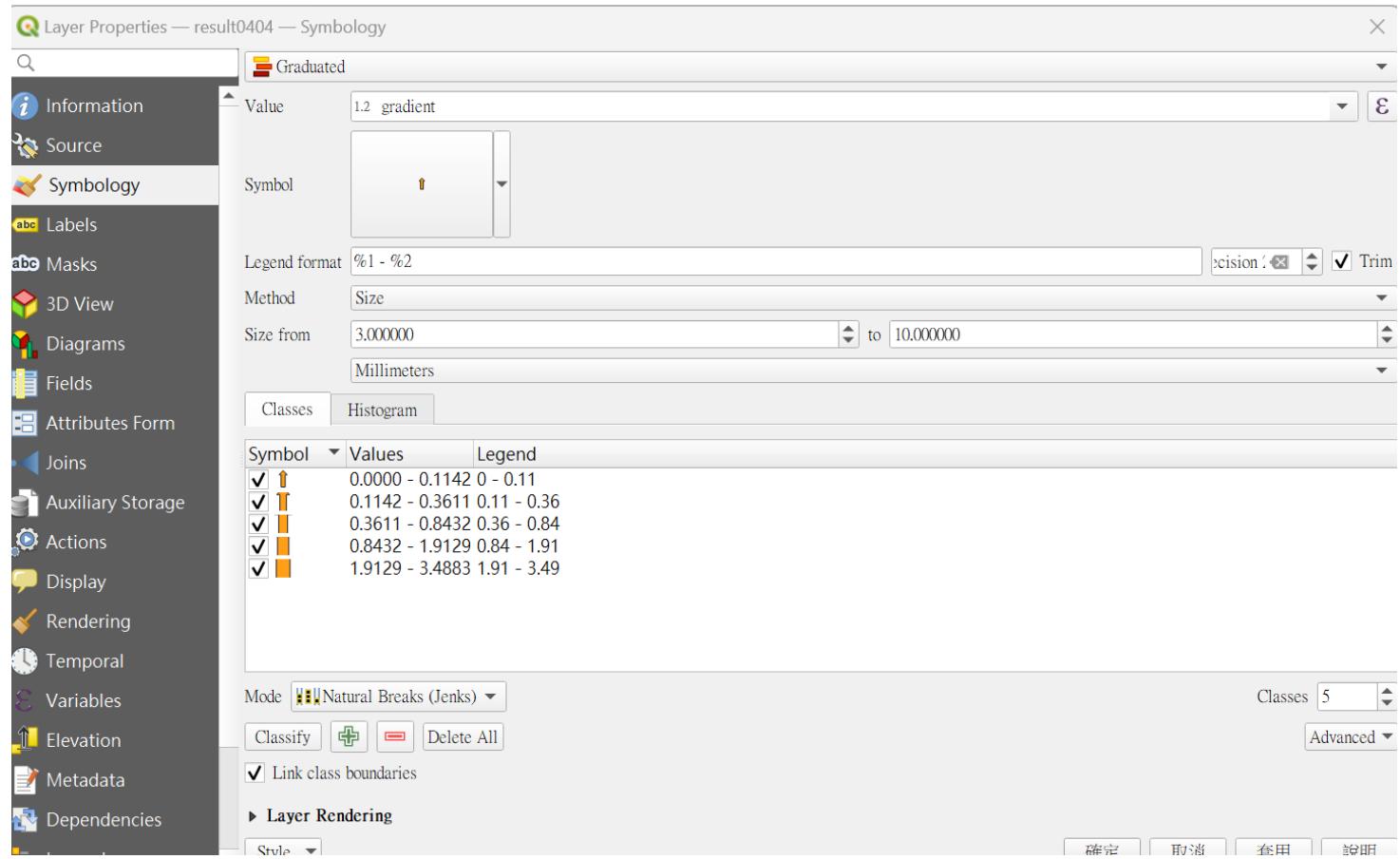
## 2. CSV file:

- Original file

name\_initvec.csv: It is the initial vector of each period. The Ai field represents the azimuth of the i-th period, and the Gi field represents the gradient of the i-th period.

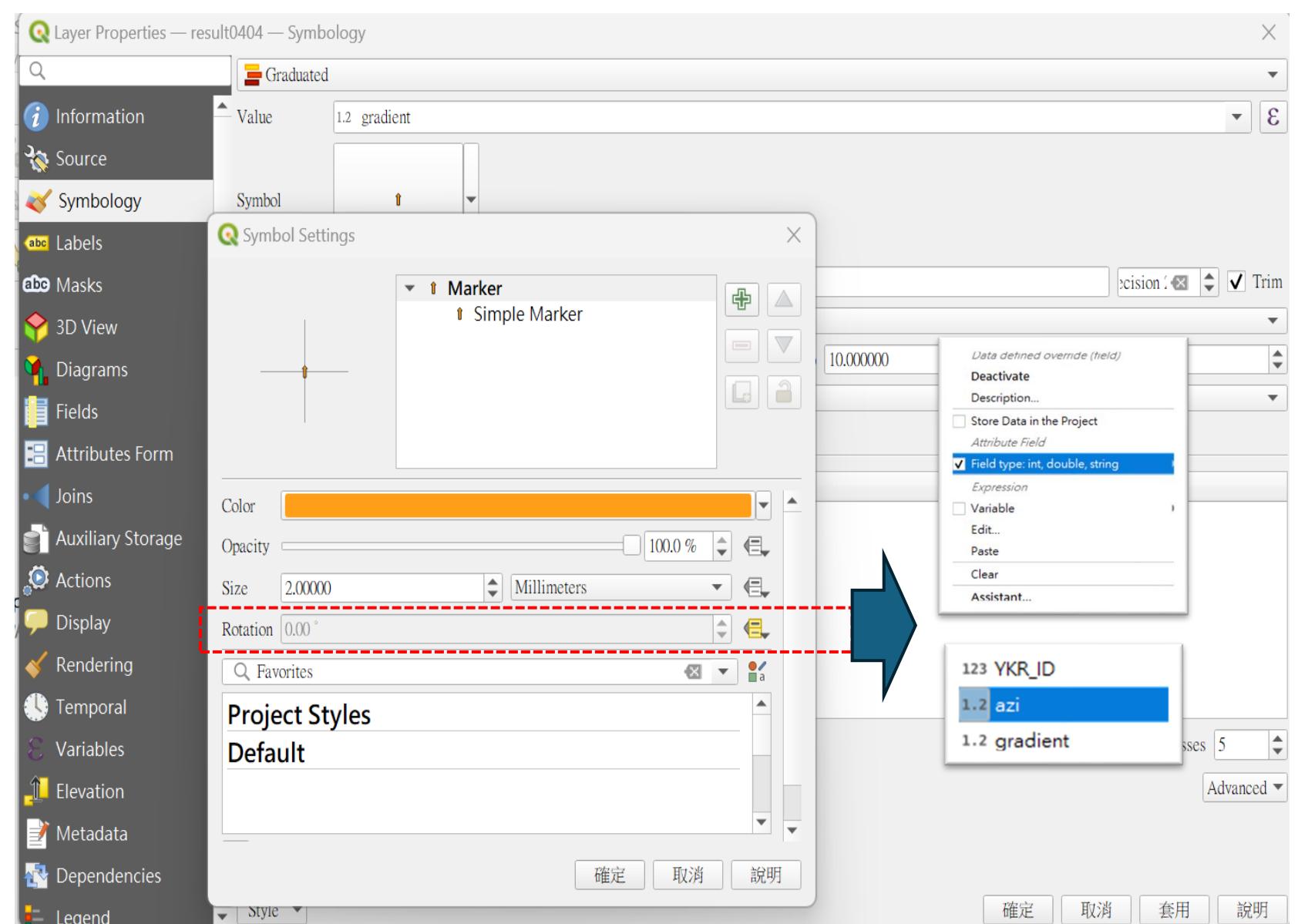
- Original file

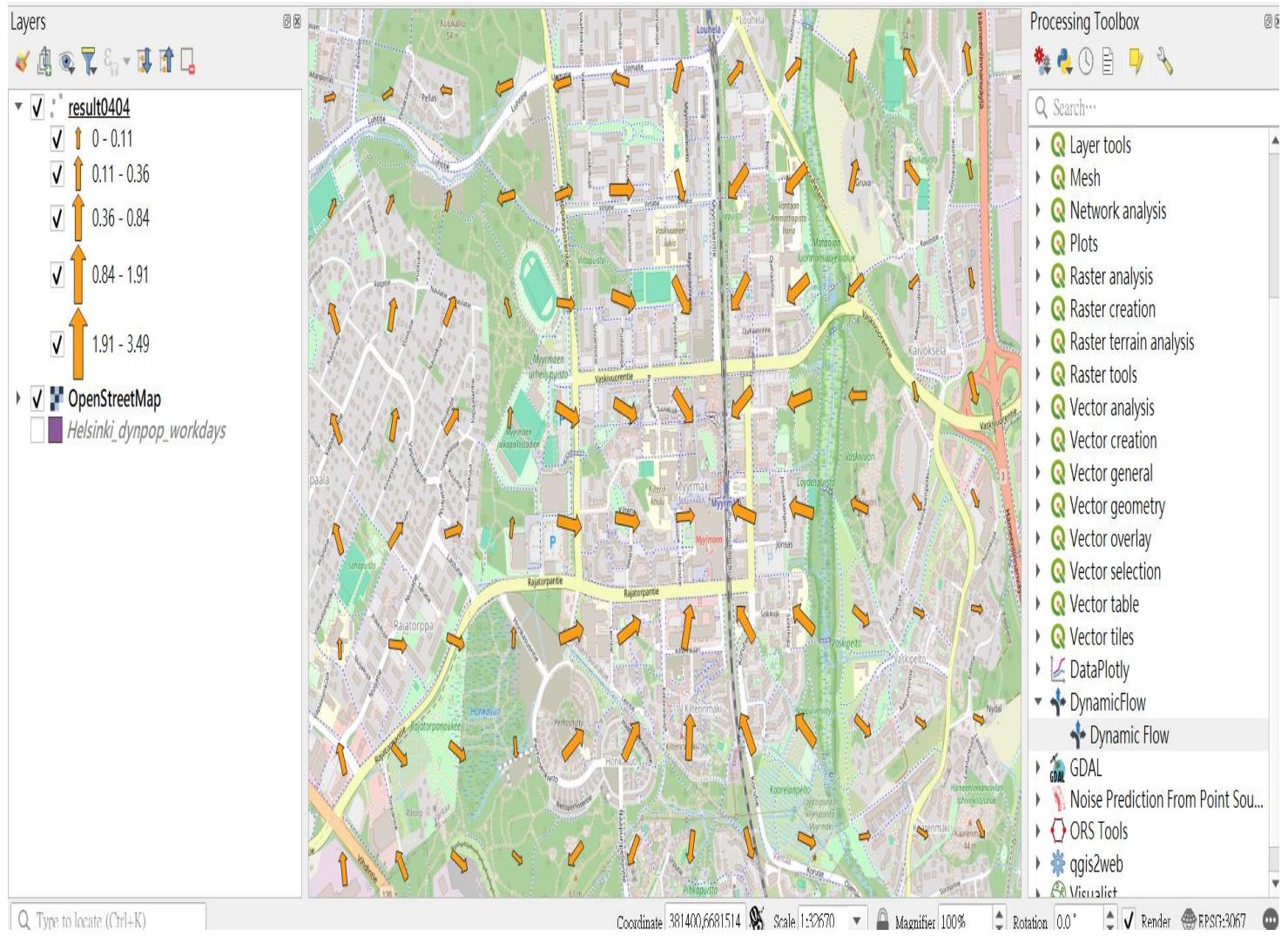
name\_vcomp.csv: It is the three components of the initial vector of each period, v\_i\_x represents the gradient x component of the i-th period, v\_i\_y represents the gradient y component of the i-th period, v\_i\_t represents the gradient of the i-th period t component



## Step 2: Visualize the gradients and flow direction

1. Start the symbology
2. Select Grading as the symbol type.
3. Select the gradient of the value
4. Click on the symbol: - Simple mark changes to arrow symbol  
- Turn on advanced spin options  
- Click the field type, a window will pop up to provide selectable numeric fields, and then select the orientation field
5. Method selection size
6. Set size to...
7. Select Natural Breaks in the classification mode Mode.
8. Press the sort button
9. Finally press OK





# Step 3: Overlay the OpenStreetMap (OSM) and observe the specific POI