

Research Motivation

- ▶ **Better streamflow estimates** are needed for hydrologic studies on Tribal lands.
- ▶ **Watershed storages** may provide *useful metrics* to improve streamflow estimates.
- ▶ **Modeling** watershed storage is necessary because *storages vary in time and space*.
- ▶ **Top-down modeling approaches** may accurately *classify watersheds* for regional pooling and identify key hydrologic landscape parameters.

Overview

“Finding your bug is a process of confirming the many things that you believe are true — until you find one which is not true.”

– Norm Matloff (describing computer programming)

Outline

- ▶ Study Area Description
- ▶ Methods
- ▶ Results
- ▶ Key Findings
- ▶ Next Steps

Study Area Description

- ▶ SW South Dakota and NW Nebraska - semi-arid mid-latitude climate (BSk) – wet spring, hot summer, dry cold winter.
- ▶ USGS streamflow gages ($N = 42$) for water years 1980-2018 in non-karstic sedimentary watersheds without dams.



Results and Discussion

Unsupervised Classification

- ▶ X-axis is hydrologic export and Y-axis is evenness ($q_{30} - q_1$)
- ▶ Classification algorithm classified by streamflow by type, where:
- ▶ Type 1 flow is a zero flow and type 9 flow is a high-flow
- ▶ Note: orientation of types - low flows are relate to q_1 & q_7 and high flows relate to q_{30}
- ▶ *Lots of overlap among ecoregions, but*

