

Animation

We'll sometimes want animations to visualize data (e.g., imagine an animated map of Madison showing traffic incidents over time).

Many Python libraries are based on ffmpeg; install it here: <https://ffmpeg.org/>. Make sure the binary program is in the PATH (i.e., you can execute `ffmpeg` in the terminal). `ffmpeg` can take many images, use them as frames, and stitch them together into a video clip.

```
In [1]: 1 %matplotlib inline

In [2]: 1 import pandas as pd
2 import geopandas # we'll use this to read shapefiles
3 from shapely.geometry import Polygon, Point
4 from matplotlib import pyplot as plt
5 from matplotlib import animation
6 from IPython.display import HTML

In [3]: 1 %%capture
2 fig, ax = plt.subplots()

In [4]: 1 city = geopandas.read_file("city")
2 lakes = geopandas.read_file("lakes")
3
4 def update_func(frame_num):
5     # each time this gets called, we compute new coordinates based on frame_num
6     points = pd.DataFrame([
7         {"loc": Point(-89.406749 + frame_num/100, 43.071478)},
8         {"loc": Point(-89.384054, 43.074617 + frame_num/100)},
9     ])
10    points = geopandas.GeoDataFrame(points, geometry="loc")
11
12    ax.cla() # clears plot area (try removing it!)
13    city.plot(color="lightgray", ax=ax)
14    lakes.plot(color="darkgray", ax=ax)
15    points.plot(color="black", marker="x", markersize=200, ax=ax)
16    ax.set_axis_off()
17
18    if frame_num > 10:
19        ax.text(-89.384054, 43.074617, "bye!")
20
21    HTML(animation.FuncAnimation(fig, update_func, frames=15, interval=200).to_html5_video())
```

- `%%capture` suppresses output for that cell
- `FuncAnimation` in the `animation` submodule of `matplotlib` calls the given update function (`update_func`) 15 times (`frames` parameter), once every 200 milliseconds (`interval` parameter).
- `.to_html5_video()` converts the video to HTML code that you could copy/paste into a site
- `HTML(...)` embeds that returned HTML directly into the notebook