

CS 311O

Higher-order Programming

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Review

Previously in 3110:

- Lots of language features

Today:

- No new language features
- New **idioms** and **library functions**:
Map, fold, and other higher-order functions

Review: Functions are values

- Can use them **anywhere** we use values
 - Functions can **take** functions as arguments
 - Functions can **return** functions as results
- ...so functions are *higher-order*

HIGHER-ORDER FUNCTIONS



TWO MONUMENTAL HIGHER-ORDER FUNCTIONS

map

fold

Sibling: **reduce**

MapReduce

“[Google’s MapReduce] abstraction is inspired by the map and reduce primitives present in Lisp and many other functional languages.”

[Dean and Ghemawat, 2008]

transform list elements

map

fold

Map

```
map (fun x -> shirt_color(x)) [
```



```
]
```

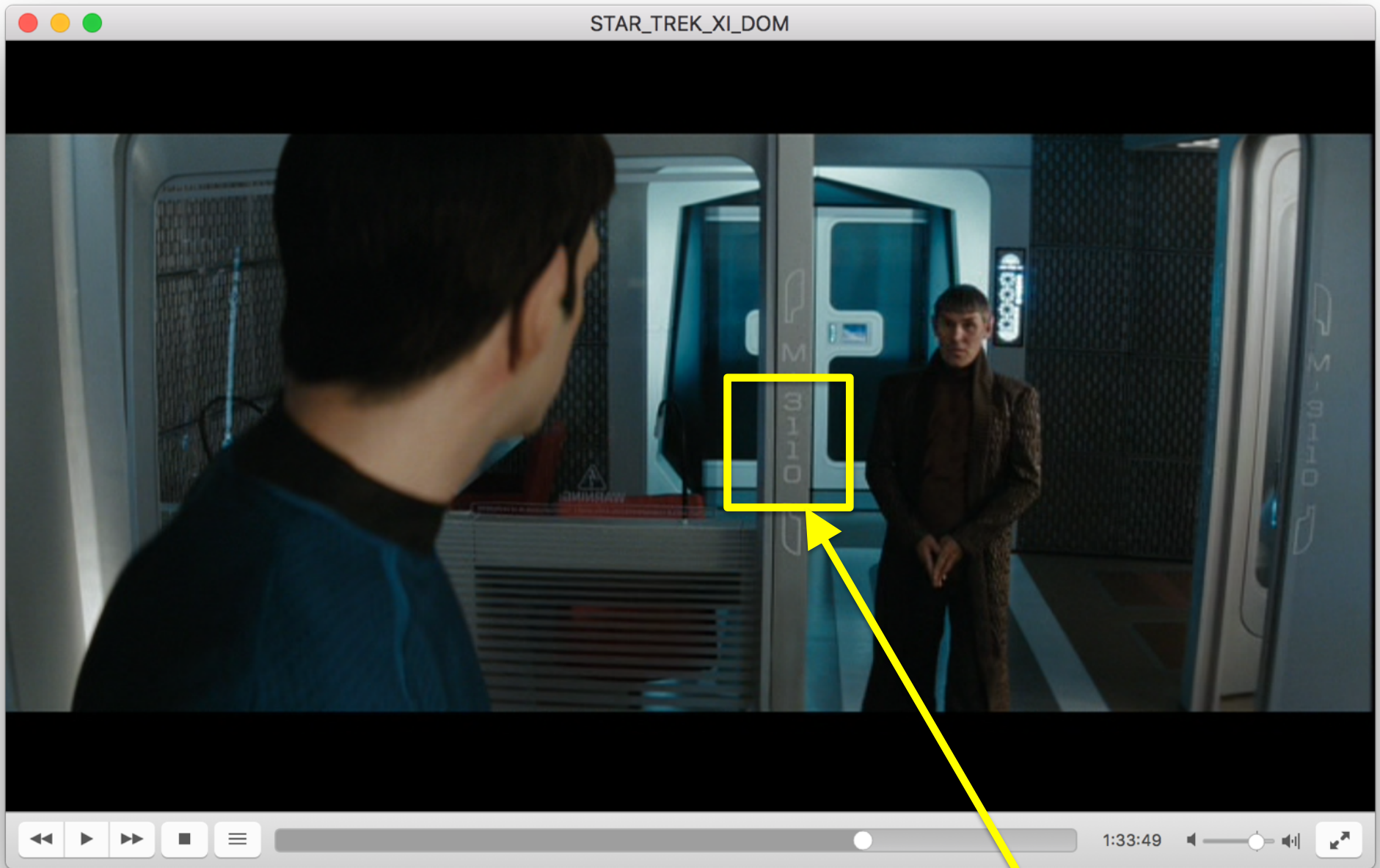
Map

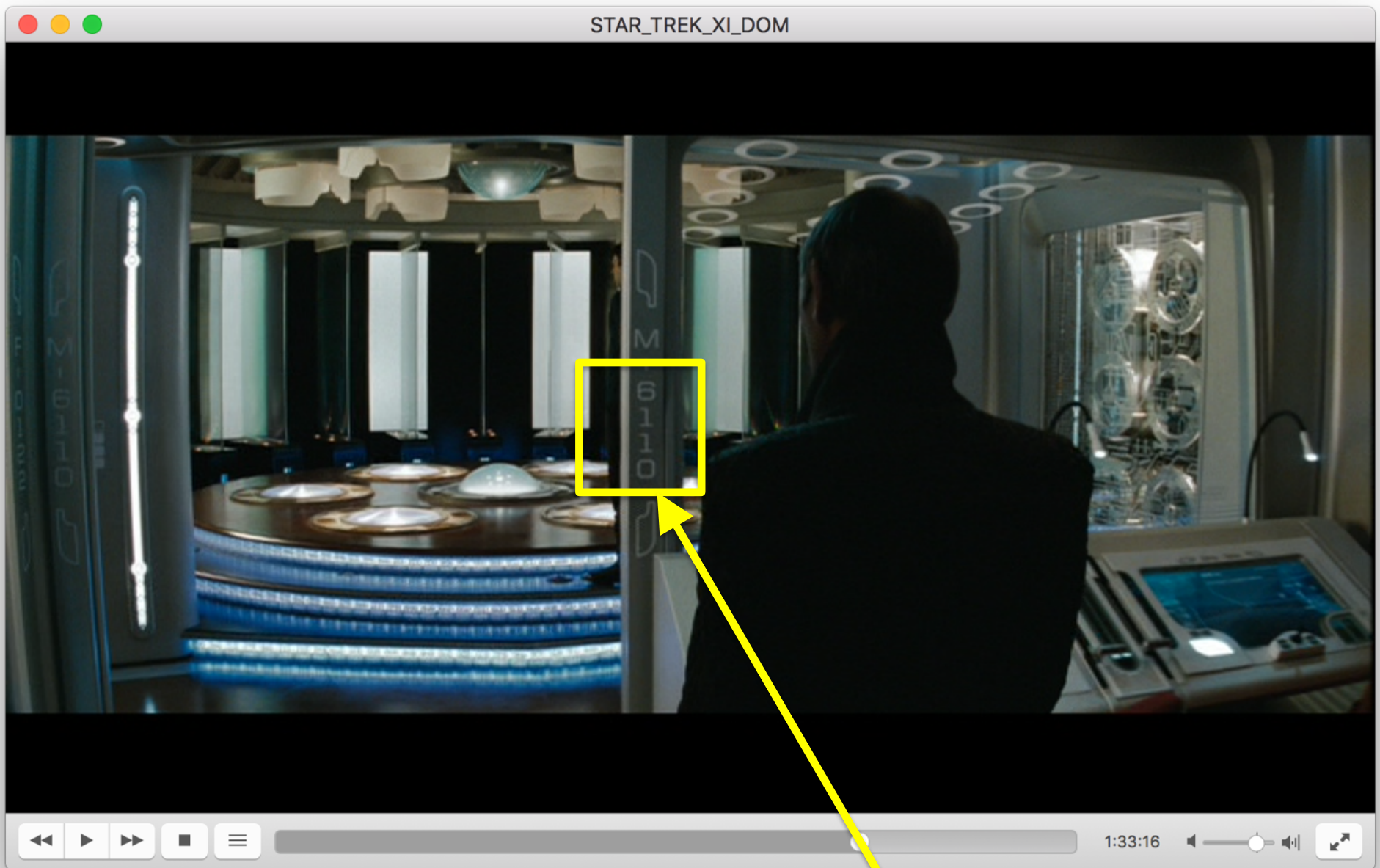
```
map (fun x -> shirt_color(x)) [
```



```
]
```

```
= [gold; blue; red]
```





Map

bad style!

```
map (fun x -> shirt_color(x)) [
```



```
]
```

```
= [gold; blue; red]
```

Map

```
map shirt_color [
```



```
]
```

```
= [gold; blue; red]
```

TRANSFORMING ELEMENTS

Map

```
let rec map f = function
```

```
| [] -> []
```

```
| h :: t -> f h :: map f t
```

```
map : ('a -> 'b) -> 'a list -> 'b list
```


Abstraction Principle

Factor out recurring code patterns.
Don't duplicate them.

map

fold

combine list elements

COMBINING ELEMENTS

Combining elements

```
let rec combine init op = function  
  | [] -> init  
  | h :: t ->  
    op h (combine init op t)
```

combining elements, using `init` and `op`, is the essential idea behind library functions known as `fold`

List.fold_right

List.fold_right f [a;b;c] init

computes

f a (f b (f c init))

Accumulates an answer by

- repeatedly applying **f** to an element of list and “answer so far”
- folding in list elements “from the right”

List.fold_left

List.fold_left f init [a;b;c]

computes

f (f (f init a) b) c

Accumulates an answer by

- repeatedly applying **f** to "answer so far" and an element of list
- folding in list elements "from the left"

Left vs. right

folding [**1 ; 2 ; 3**] with **0** and **(+)**

left to right: $((0+1)+2)+3 = 6$

right to left: $1+(2+(3+0)) = 6$

folding [**1 ; 2 ; 3**] with **0** and **(-)**

left to right: $((0-1)-2)-3 = -6$

right to left: $1-(2-(3-0)) = 2$

Behold the power of fold

```
let rev xs =  
  fold_left (fun xs x -> x :: xs) [] xs
```

```
let length xs =  
  fold_left (fun a _ -> a + 1) 0 xs
```

```
let map f xs =  
  fold_right (fun x a -> f x :: a) xs []
```


Upcoming events

- [last night] A0 was due
- [Today] A1 out
- [Monday] R2 due

This is monumental.

THIS IS 3110