

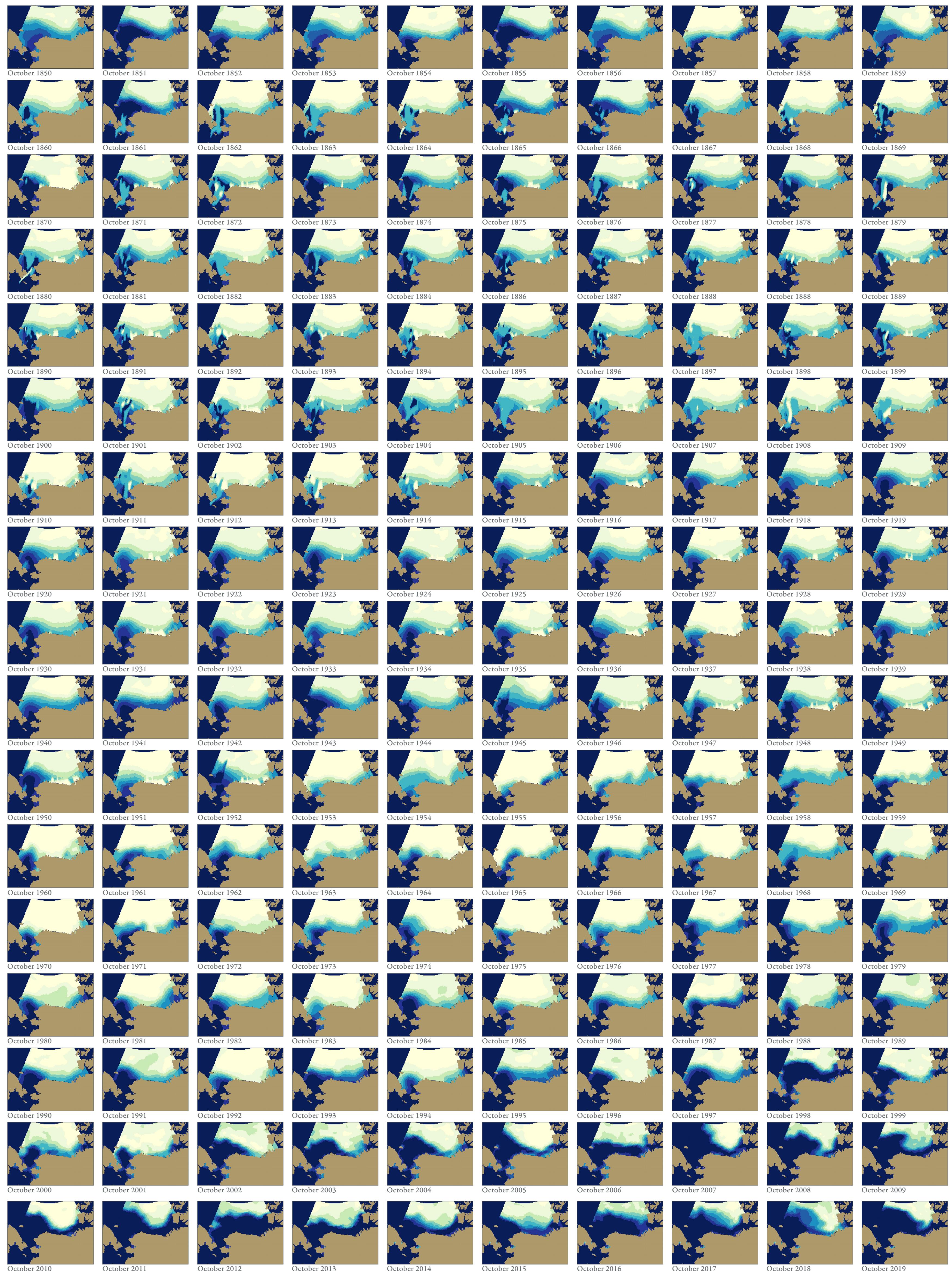


International Arctic  
Research Center

# SEA ICE off ALASKA

## 1850–2019, October

These images summarize almost two centuries of declines in Arctic sea ice, which typically reaches its lowest extent in the fall. These visualizations were made using the Historical Sea Ice Atlas web tool, online at [hsia.mapventure.org](https://hsia.mapventure.org). The idea of “small multiples” (see box at right) aids understanding of this data-rich display.



### About “small multiples”

Here, the same design structure repeats for a large set of images.

Once viewers understand the design for one slice of data, they can understand the rest.

As the eye moves between images, this constancy of design allows viewers to focus on changes in information rather than changes in graphical composition.

A steady canvas makes for a clearer picture.

— Edward Tufte, *Envisioning Information* —