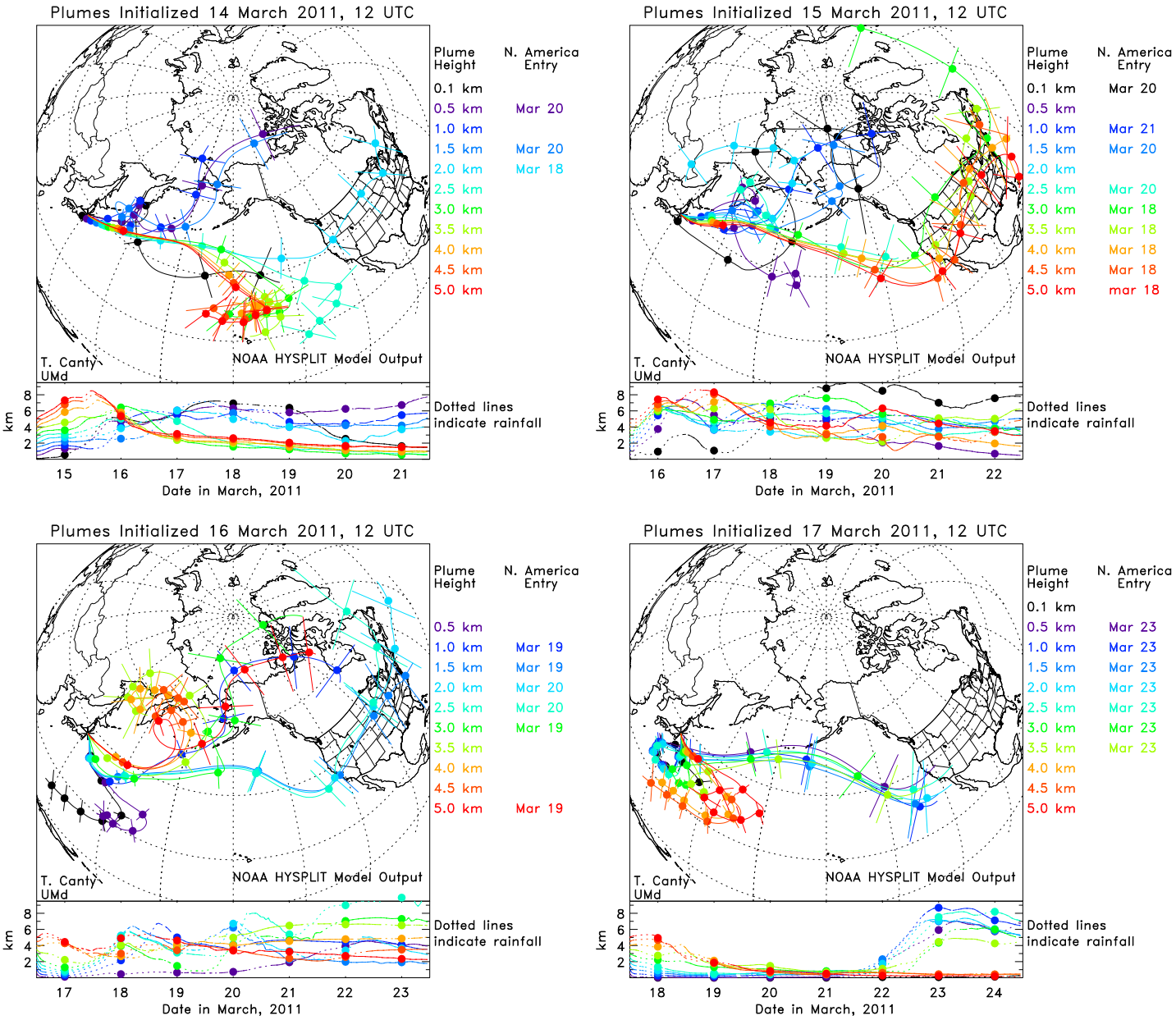

Air parcel trajectories found using the NOAA HYSPLIT model, as a function of plume height, for release over the Fukushima power plant. Each figure corresponds to release on the indicated date. The top panel of each figure shows the forecast projection of the plumes, with each circle representing a 24 hr period of time. The uncertainty in location is represented by the line segments drawn through each circle (these uncertainties are difficult to estimate at later portions of the trajectory).The bottom panel of each figure shows the forecast altitude of the trajectory. Dotted lines indicate where rainfall occurs.The entry point into North America of each trajectory is indicated.The concentration of hazardous material is greatly reduced by mixing along the trajectories. In addition, most hazardous materials are removed by rainfall.