Abstract

The 24μ m array on board the Spitzer Space Telescope is one of three arrays in the Multi-band Imaging Photometer for Spitzer (MIPS) instrument. It provides 5 arcmin.3 × 5 arcmin.3 images at a scale of ≈ 2 arcsec.5 per pixel corresponding to sampling of the point spread function which is slightly better than critical ($\approx 0.4\lambda / D$). A scan-mirror allows dithering of images on the array without the overhead of moving and stabilizing the spacecraft. It also enables efficient mapping of large areas of sky without significant compromise in sensitivity. We present an overview of the pipeline flow and reduction steps involved in the processing of image data acquired with the 24 μm array. Residual instrumental signatures not yet removed in automated processing and strategies for hands-on mitigation thereof are also given.