

# Efficient Neural Network Approximation of Robust PCA for Automated Analysis of Calcium Imaging Data



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**TL; DR: We introduce computationally efficient, scalable, and differentiable implementation of RPCA.**

## Motivation

- Robust Principal Component Analysis (RPCA) separates the background and foreground from data.
- Conventional algorithms are slow or not scalable for large data.
- **BEAR** is **FAST**, **SCALABLE**, and **DIFFERENTIABLE**.

## Robust Principal Component Analysis

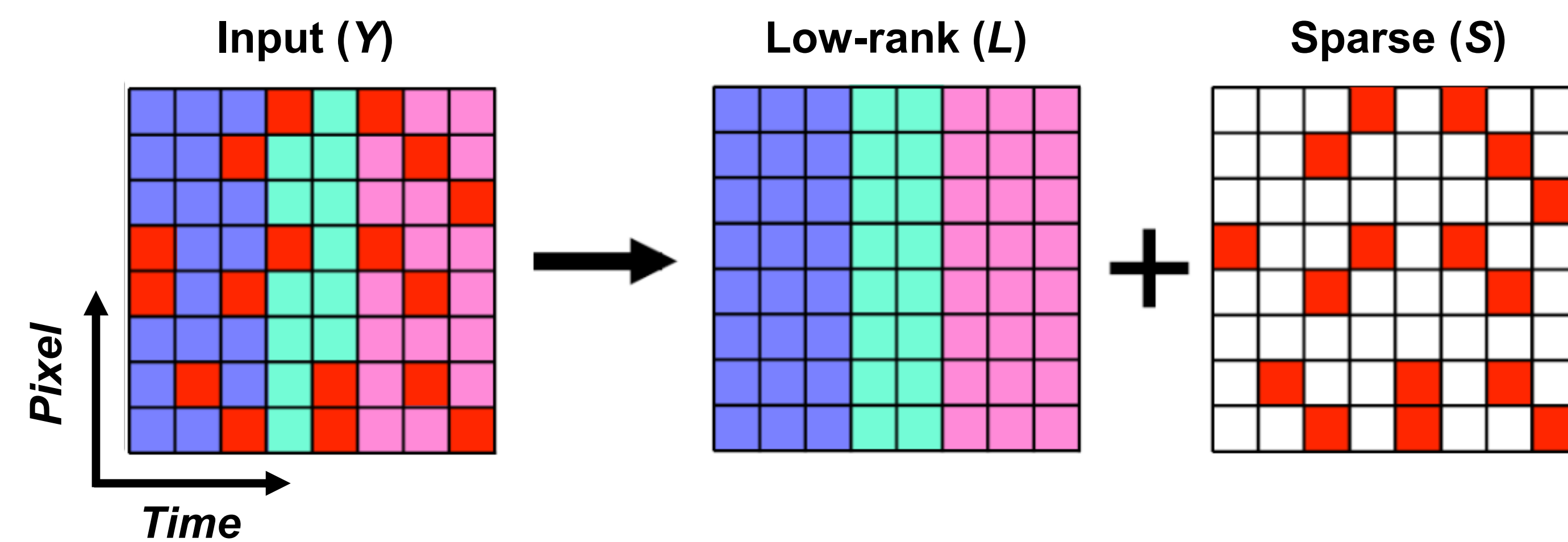


Fig 1. RPCA finds low-rank matrix and sparse matrix from input data.

With modeling the background and foreground as follows,

- Background  $\rightarrow$  Low-rank matrix ( $L$ )
- Foreground  $\rightarrow$  Sparse matrix ( $S$ )

we can find  $L$  and  $S$  from input ( $Y$ ) by solving the following,

$$\min_{L,S} (rank(L) + \lambda ||S||_0) \text{ subject to } Y = L + S,$$

where  $Y, L, S \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $m$ : # of pixels,  $n$ : # of timeframes.

This can be reformulated as,

$$\min_{L,S} (||L||_* + \lambda ||S||_1) \text{ subject to } Y = L + S,$$

It involves **SVD** which requires lots of memory and time.



Fig 2. BEAR for surveillance camera data.  
(Left) Input video ( $Y$ ) (Middle)  $L$ , (Right)  $S$

[\[VIDEO\]](#)

## BEAR – Efficient, Scalable, and Differentiable RPCA

Based on the following surrogate optimization which replaced minimization of  $||L||_*$  by the maximum rank constraint on  $L$ ,

$$\min_{L,S} ||S||_1 \text{ subject to } Y = L + S \text{ and } rank(L) \leq r,$$

By setting  $L = WW^T Y$ , we obtain a surrogate optimization problem that is differentiable by  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times r}$ .

$$\min_W ||S||_1 \text{ subject to } Y = L + S \text{ and } L = WW^T Y.$$

**FAST** no SVD, only matrix multiplication, GPU acceleration

**SCALABLE** gradient descent using mini-batch

**DIFFERENTIABLE**  $||S||_1$  is differentiable by parameter  $W$

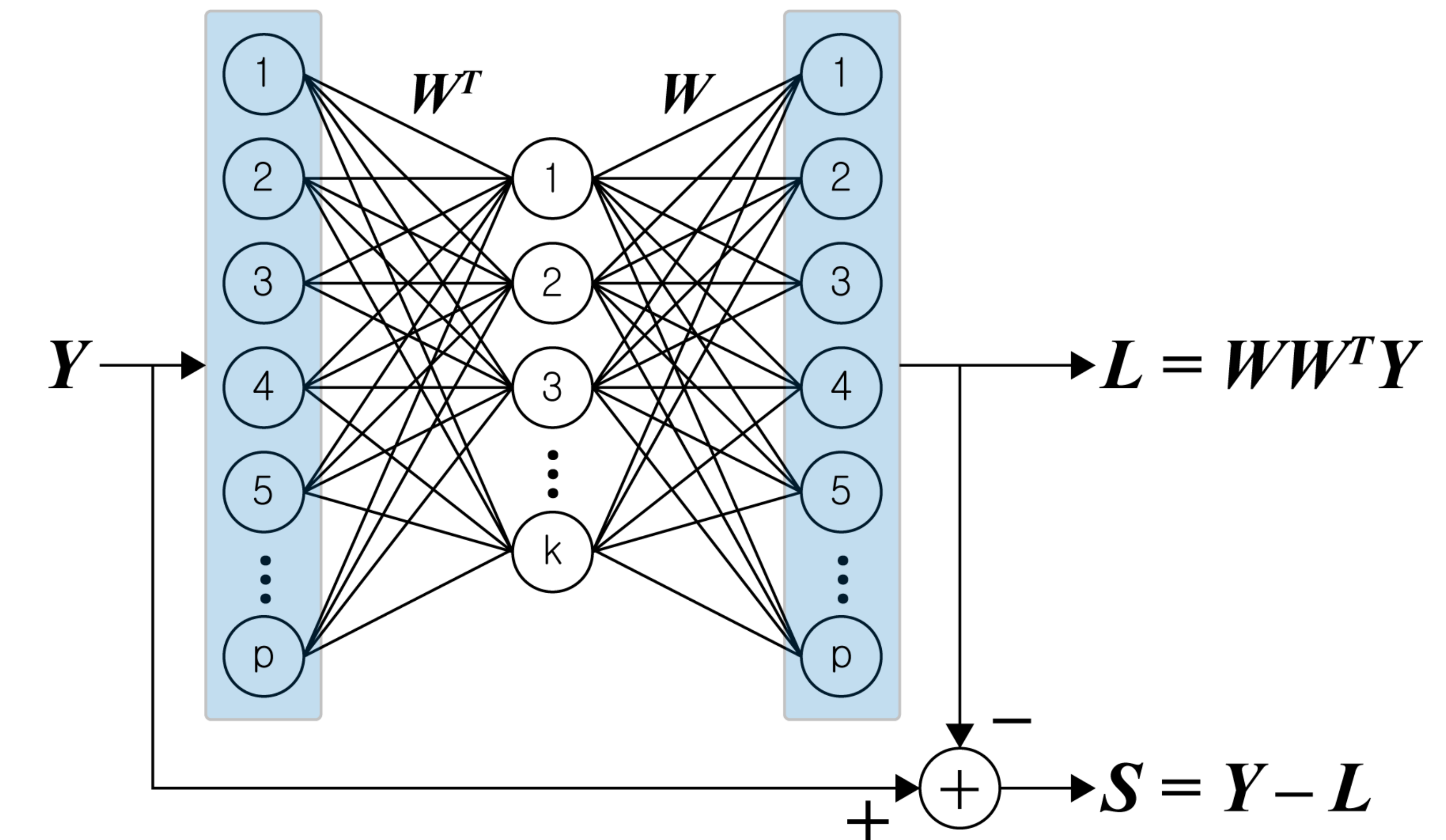


Fig 3. Solving the problem for BEAR is same as training a Bilinear neural network to minimize  $||S||_1$  objective.

## Experimental results

**BEAR** is **FAST** and **SCALABLE**

data size	PCP	IALM	GreGoDec	BEAR
$5313600 \times 150$	13814	1211	429	<b>134</b>
$5313600 \times 1000$	OOM*	OOM*	OOM*	<b>537</b>

Table 1. Computation times (s) for several algorithms. BEAR was the fastest, without \*Out Of Memory (OOM) for large data

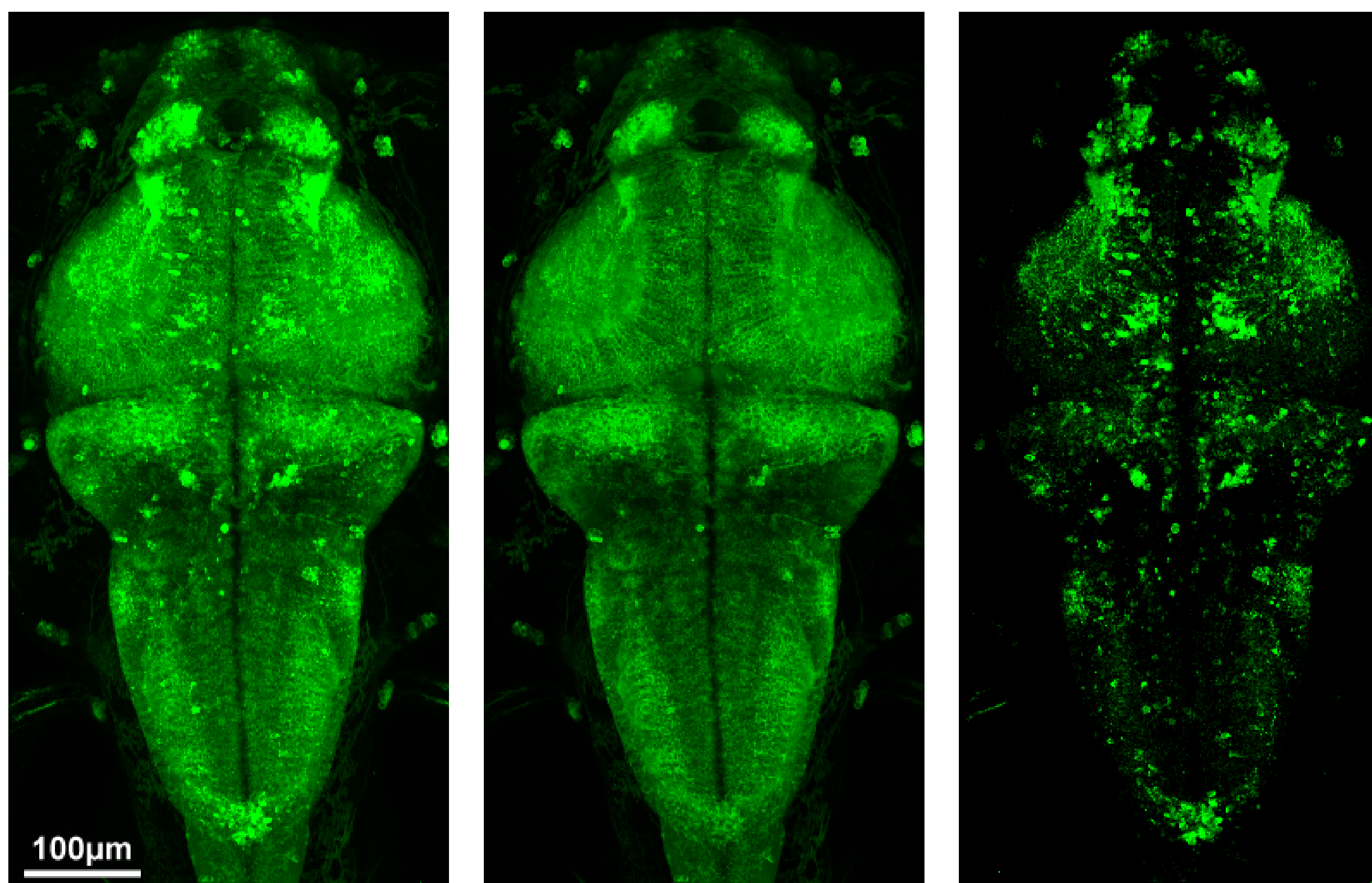


Fig 4. BEAR for large zebrafish calcium imaging data.  
(Left) Input video ( $Y$ ) (Middle)  $L$ , (Right)  $S$

[\[VIDEO\]](#)

**BEAR** is **DIFFERENTIABLE**

BEAR can be combined with other networks.

Example) BEAR with NMF for neuron segmentation.

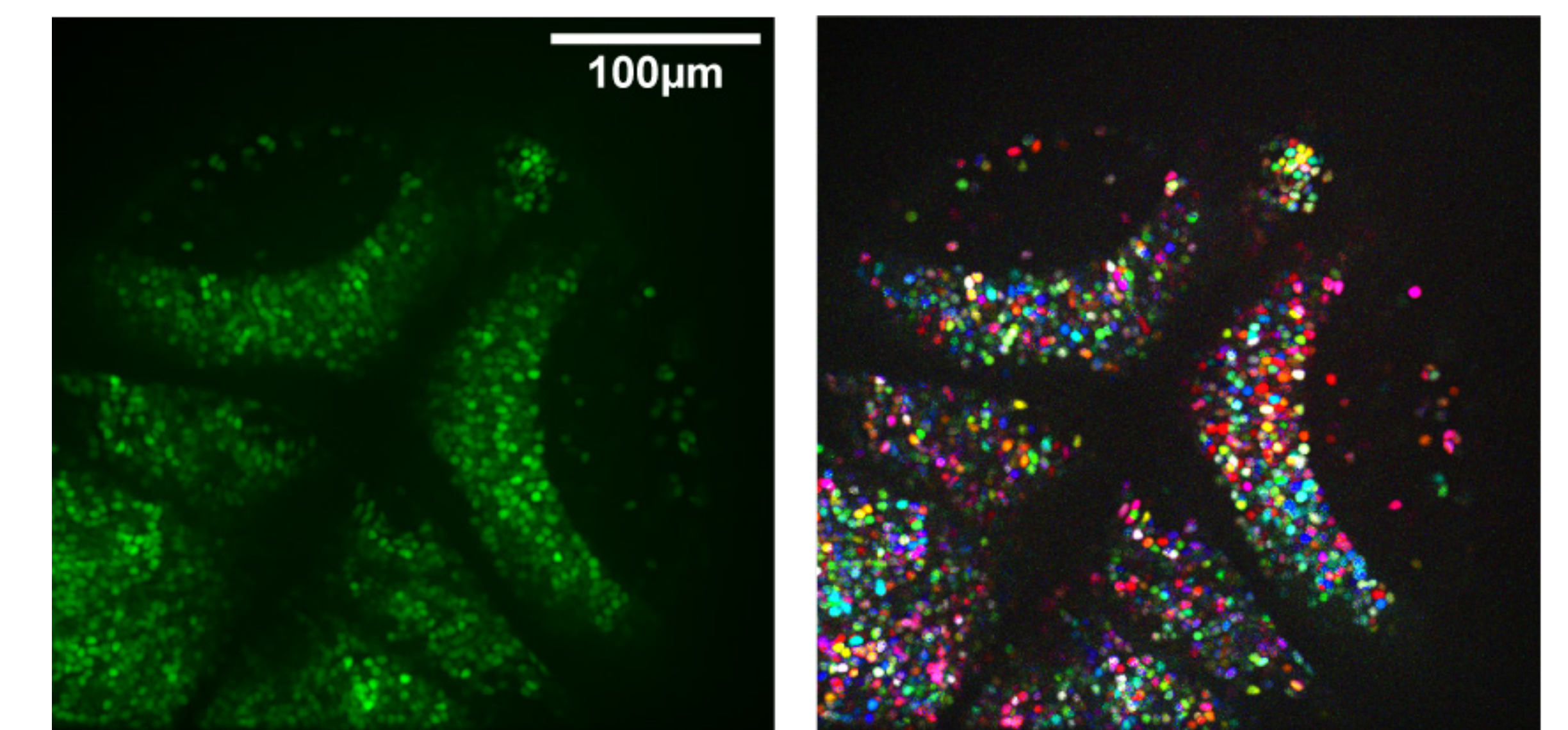


Fig 5. (Left) Calcium imaging video of zebrafish.  
(Right) Extracted spatial components are colored and overlaid.

## Conclusion

- BEAR is fast and scalable RPCA algorithm.
- It can be combined with other neural networks for end-to-end training.
- BEAR is suitable for analyzing calcium imaging data.
- Also, BEAR can be used for general RPCA applications.