

Shotaro Ishihara

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Full-Stack Engineer with hands-on experience designing, building, and shipping production AI features — including LLM agent tooling, **OpenAI function calling** against live databases, and AI-augmented development workflows using **Claude Code**. Strong foundation across **TypeScript / Next.js, Python, and Postgres**, paired with a builder mindset informed by shipping consumer-facing products end to end. Mechanical Engineering B.S. providing systems-thinking, troubleshooting discipline, and structured problem solving.

CORE COMPETENCIES

AI agent & LLM tool design • OpenAI function calling • Agentic development workflows (Claude Code, MCP-aware tooling) • RAG / live-data grounding for LLMs • Full-stack web development (Next.js, TypeScript, Python) • API design & integration • Performance & caching • Authentication & payments • Cloud deployment & monitoring • Analytics-informed iteration

EDUCATION

University of Connecticut
B.S. Mechanical Engineering
GPA: 3.50 / 4.00

Storrs, CT
Aug. 2018 – May 2022

ENGINEERING & PRODUCT EXPERIENCE

Founder & Full-Stack Engineer

Feb. 2026 – Present

GroceryChop.com — AI-Powered Grocery Price Comparison Platform

- Designed and shipped **ChopBot**, an AI shopping assistant on **OpenAI function calling** with 8 custom tools (multi-chain search, cross-chain price compare, 90-day price history, ZIP-based store locator, etc.) wired to a live **Postgres** database — a RAG-style architecture grounding every response in live data instead of training-set memory
- Built the underlying production platform on **Next.js 14, TypeScript**, a custom **Python** scraping backend, and **Postgres** ingesting live pricing from **100+ US grocery chains** across 50+ metros; UPC + fuzzy product matching, runtime SQL rewriter, **Server-Sent Events** streaming for sub-1s first paint, three-tier **Redis** cache, and per-IP rate limiter
- Ship daily using an **agentic development workflow** with **Claude Code** — driving planning, code review, and execution via CLAUDE.md context, slash commands, and structured prompts; serving ~30 daily users while iterating on AI features and an SEO content engine (17+ long-form posts, auto-generated sitemap, OG images, Article JSON-LD)

Founder & Full-Stack Engineer

2024 – Present

Taroscoper.com — AI-Driven Web Platform

- Built and launched a production SaaS-style web platform using **Next.js, Firebase**, and cloud infrastructure with **Stripe payments**, supporting authenticated users and paid features
- Integrated **OpenAI APIs** for AI chat, image generation, and **prompt-engineered**, personalized report PDFs generated from user-specific data
- Drove growth and iteration through **analytics- and SEO-informed decisions**, scaling to around **3,000 monthly users, 1,000+ authenticated accounts**, and **20k+ Instagram followers**

Founder & Full-Stack Engineer

2023 – Present

Runnit.us — Location-Based Community Application

- Built a location-aware web application integrating mapping APIs, geolocation logic, and real-time database updates; handled hosting, domain configuration, and API troubleshooting across **AWS** and third-party services

TECHNICAL SKILLS

AI / Agentic Development: Claude Code, OpenAI function calling, prompt engineering, RAG patterns, MCP-aware tooling

Frontend: React, Next.js 14, TypeScript, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, SSE **Backend:** Python (Flask), Node.js, REST APIs, microservices, Firebase Auth, OpenAI API

Databases: PostgreSQL, Supabase, Redis, Firestore, SQLite **Cloud/DevOps:** AWS (EC2, S3, CloudFront, Route 53), Vercel, CloudFlare, Git/GitHub, CI/CD

Product/Tools: Stripe, PayPal, GA4, web scraping & data pipelines **Languages:** Japanese (Fluent)