

# Sho Hihara

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## WORK

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### Akiyaz.

Cofounder & CTO

Yugawara, Kanagawa

May 2024 – present

- Lead of product, engineering & infra of [Akiyaz](#).

### Shiftbase, Inc.

Cofounder & CTO

Tokyo, Japan

Dec 2021 – Feb 2024

- Lead of product, engineering & infra of [UNCHAIN](#), one of Japan's largest blockchain developer communities
- [Raised ¥300,000,000 JPY](#) in 2022
- Incubated [80 projects](#) out of the community, 9 of which proceeded to receive additional funding later on.
- Extensive hands-on experience with the difficulties of moderating large communities made up of adversarial groups, and experimental insights into solutions

### Independent

Technical consultant

remote

Jun 2021 – Feb 2022

- Developed a time-based [generative art collection](#) simulating the organic growth and emergence of life forms, exhibited and sold in Bright Moments gallery's London exhibition.
- Lead an R&D team on prototyping a novel architecture to increase the velocity of intellectual property circulation using smart contracts while maintaining compliance.
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### Wolfram Research

WSS20 visiting researcher

Champagne, IL

Jun 2020 – Jul 2020

- Developed [computational methods](#) to sonify (as opposed to visualize) data structures. I conceptualized and implemented the mapping function to represent data structures within sonic dimensions in a way that can potentially provide communicative cues similar to visual cues; improving information accessibility for the visually impaired, as well as the general expansion of the sensory vocabulary with which we can interact with information.

### Manai Institute of Science and Technology

Curriculum designer / Research mentor

Tokyo, Japan

Jun 2018 - Aug 2019

- Designed the curriculum and assessment method for students' research projects for the data science program.
- Mentored two research projects on the effects of fatiguing isotonic exercise on unresisted tendon reaction time.
- Provided additional lecture series on constructing sound studies with an emphasis on avoiding statistical biases.

### The Nikkei

Series Author

remote

Jun 2017 – Apr 2020

- Authored [a column essay series](#) "Minerva's Owl" where I discuss my experience at an innovative college, which recorded the most views and shares on the U22 platform of Japan's largest financial newspaper.

## EDUCATION

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### Minerva University

Bachelor of Sciences (Computational Sciences Major)

San Francisco, CA, USA

May 2021

- Cumulative GPA: 3.22/4.00
- Major Coursework: Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, Causal Inference, Mathematical Analysis, Computational Physics, Data Science & Statistics, Computational Modeling & Simulation, Quantitative Finance
- Research thesis - *Algorap: fully automated composition of rap music with Transformers and Hierarchical Variational Autoencoders*.

### Lester B. Pearson United World College of the Pacific

International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program

Victoria, BC, Canada

Aug 2015 – May 2017

- 2015 national scholar (Japan committee)
- Main Coursework & Activities: Physics, Mathematics, Economics, Marine Science, Theatre, First aid response

## SKILLS

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- Soft: Complex Problem Solving, Written and Verbal Communication, Formal & Empirical Analyses
- Languages: English (native), Japanese (native)
- Business development (yrs): Public relations (8), Product development (5), Human resources (3), Startup finance (3)
- Software development (yrs): Data Science (6), Web (5), Blockchain (3), Sysadmin (3), Cybersecurity (3)

## HONORS, AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS

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- [Masason](#) fellow (2017-present)
- [UWC](#) scholar (2015-2017)