Coding Challenge: Build a Scalable and Undetectable API for Scraping TikTok Shop Product Data

Objective

Your task is to build a scalable and undetectable API that scrapes product data from **TikTok Shop.** The scraper must retrieve JSON response data from internal APIs used by TikTok Shop when:

- Searching products by shop.
- Searching products by category.
- Viewing a product detail page.

Target API Behaviours

Your scraper should be able to detect and extract JSON response payloads from:

- Product list API when searching by shop name or ID.
- Product list API when browsing by category.
- Product details API for individual products.

These endpoints are typically visible in the browser's DevTools > Network tab when interacting with TikTok Shop web pages.

Requirements:

1. Scraping Logic

Extract the raw JSON response from each internal API:

- Product list by shop.
- Product list by category.
- Product detail

Output should match the full JSON structure from TikTok's API responses.

Implement anti-detection strategies:

- Rotate user agents, headers, and lps.
- Use proxies or residential proxy pools.
- Use **headless browsers** (e.g., Playwright, Puppeteer) if necessary.

2. API Development

Build a REST API that supports the following endpoints:

- GET /tiktok/search-by-shop?shopId={shop_id}
- GET /tiktok/search-by-category?categoryId={cat_id}
- GET /tiktok/product-detail?productId={product_id}

Each should return the raw API JSON response from TikTok Shop.

3. Tech Stack

- Use JavaScript to implement the scraper and API.
- TypeScript is a strong plus and will be considered a bonus.

4. Hosting

- Deploy your API and expose it publicly using **Ngrok** (or similar).
- Share the public URL so we can test it.

▼ Test Success Criteria

To pass this challenge, your API must:

- Successfully retrieve data from at least 1000 TikTok Shop products.
- Maintain average latency ≤ 30 seconds per request.
- ☑ Handle scraping under light load with stability for 1 hour.
- Maintain ≤ 5% error rate.

Scraping & Proxy Notes

- X You may not use our proxies due to security concerns.
- **✓** You **must manage proxies yourself.**
- You are allowed to use free trial proxy providers.

Deliverables

Hosted API URL (via Ngrok or similar).

GitHub repo with:

Source code.

README.md with:

Setup instructions

Example API usage

Proxy configuration details.

Scraper techniques (e.g., bypass strategies).