

# PHASE 0 — Project Idea Clarity

## Target User

Primary target user for MVP:

**Hardware / robotics / rocketry project teams (like IGNITION)**

This includes:

- Student engineering teams
  - Robotics & electronics labs
  - Experimental hardware projects
  - Simulation + testing-heavy workflows
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## Final Core Idea (Crisp & Defensible)

**LabLedger is a process-centric project and experiment management system designed for hardware and robotics teams, where learning happens through trials, failures, iterations, and observations — not just through final code.**

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## “Why not GitHub?”

### Answer:

- GitHub tracks **files and code**
- LabLedger tracks **experiments, decisions, failures, and learning**

For teams like IGNITION:

- Many experiments don't even produce code

- Value lies in *why something failed*, not just *what worked*
- Data is scattered across notebooks, WhatsApp, PDFs, and memory

👉 LabLedger becomes the team's shared engineering memory.

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## Key Differentiators (Contextual)

### 1 Experiment-first, not code-first

- Every task is an **experiment**
- Logs are structured: objective → procedure → observation → outcome
- Failures are explicitly recorded and preserved

This directly mirrors how you work in real hardware teams.

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### 2 User-defined customization

Hardware teams need:

- Voltage
- Current
- Temperature
- RPM
- Firmware version
- Test conditions
- Environment notes

So:

- Users define **custom fields**

- Users define **experiment templates**
- One team ≠ another team

This alone makes the project **non-trivial and original**.

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### 3 Append-only engineering logs

- You can't "rewrite history"
- Every iteration stays
- Clear traceability of decisions

This is **real engineering discipline**, not just CRUD.

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### 4 Designed for intelligence later (ML-ready)

Not ML-heavy now — but **ML-meaningful later**.

Examples:

- "Which parameters most often cause failures?"
- "Summarize all propulsion tests"
- "What changed between successful and failed runs?"

These questions *naturally emerge* in teams like IGNITION.

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## Important Realization (This is BIG)

A software system that formalizes how engineering teams actually think and work

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# PHASE 1 — SYSTEM DESIGN

Goal of Phase 1:

Convert the *idea* into a **clear, stable system blueprint** that won't change later.

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## 1.1 Design Philosophy

Before diagrams, we freeze **how the system thinks**.

### Core principles

- **Experiment-first system**
  - **Append-only knowledge**
  - **User-defined structure**
  - **Failure is data**
  - **Process > outcome**
- 

## 1.2 Actors (WHO uses the system)

Actor	Description
Admin	Manages users, roles, global settings
Engineer (Contributor)	Logs experiments, creates projects
Reviewer / Mentor	Views logs, adds comments, feedback

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## 1.3 Core Entities (REFINED & EXTENDED)

### 1 Team (Top-level organization)

Represents the **entire organization**.

**Example:** IGNITION

## Fields

- team\_id
- name
- domain (rocketry / robotics / electronics)
- description
- created\_at

👉 A Team can have **multiple SubTeams** and **multiple Projects**.

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## 2 SubTeam (Department / Division)

Optional but powerful.

### Examples

- Payload
- Propulsion
- Avionics
- Structures

## Fields

- subteam\_id
- name
- description
- parent\_team\_id

◆ A SubTeam:

- Belongs to **one Team**
- Has **its own members**

- Can create **independent projects**
- Still stays visible to the parent Team

This matches real-world department autonomy.

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## 3 User (Member)

Unchanged conceptually, but role handling improves.

### Fields

- user\_id
- name
- email
- team\_id
- subteam\_id (nullable)

A user may:

- Belong to only Team
  - Or Team + one SubTeam
- 

## 4 Project

Projects can exist at **two levels**.

### Project Types

1. **Team-level Project**
  - Example: *IgniteX Rocket*
  - Involves all subteams
2. **SubTeam-level Project**

- Example: *Hybrid Engine Development*
- Owned by Propulsion subteam

## Fields

- project\_id
  - name
  - description
  - project\_type (TEAM / SUBTEAM)
  - team\_id
  - subteam\_id (nullable)
  - project\_lead\_id
  - status
- 

## 5 Project Lead

This is a **role**, not an entity.

### Responsibilities

- Owns the project
- Approves access
- Assigns project-specific roles
- Controls visibility (read/write)

Think of it like:

**Project-level IAM admin**

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## 6 Module / Subsystem

Applies to both project types.

## Examples

- Combustion
- Injector Design
- Control Logic
- Testing

## Fields

- module\_id
  - name
  - project\_id
- 

## 7 Experiment

This is the heart of LabLedger.

- experiment\_id
- title
- objective
- hypothesis (optional)
- module\_id
- created\_by
- created\_at

Experiments are **intentional actions**, not tasks.

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## 8 Experiment Logs (Append-only)

Each experiment has **multiple logs**.

- log\_id
- experiment\_id
- timestamp
- procedure
- observations
- outcome
- learnings
- status (success / fail / partial)

! Logs can never be edited — only appended.

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## 9 Parameters & Attachments

This is where your differentiation shines.

- parameter\_id
- experiment\_id
- key (Voltage, Temp, RPM)
- value
- unit
- user\_defined

This allows **domain-specific logging**.

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## 8 Attachments

- file\_id
- linked\_to (log\_id)

- file\_type
  - storage\_url
- 

## 1.4 Role & Permission Model

We introduce **hierarchical + customizable roles** (AWS-style).

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### Role Levels

- ◆ Team-level Roles
    - Team Lead
      - Overall owner of the team
      - Creates subteams
      - Assigns subteam leads
    - Team Member
      - Default access (read-only unless granted)
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- ◆ SubTeam-level Roles
    - SubTeam Lead
      - Owns subteam projects
      - Assigns project leads
    - SubTeam Member
      - Works on subteam projects
- 

- ◆ Project-level Roles (CUSTOMIZABLE)

Defined by Project Lead.

Examples:

- Project Lead
- Contributor
- Reviewer
- Viewer

Roles are:

- **Project-scoped**
- **User-defined**
- **Permission-mapped**

Example permissions:

- Create experiment
  - Add logs
  - Upload files
  - Comment
  - View only
- 

## 1.5 Access Control Scenarios

Let's test the design with real cases 

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### Case 1 — Full Rocket Project

- Project: *IgniteX*
- Type: TEAM project
- All subteams involved

- Team Lead assigns Project Lead
- Each subteam contributes via modules

- ✓ Everyone collaborates
  - ✓ Clear ownership
  - ✓ Central visibility
- 

## Case 2 — Propulsion Engine Development

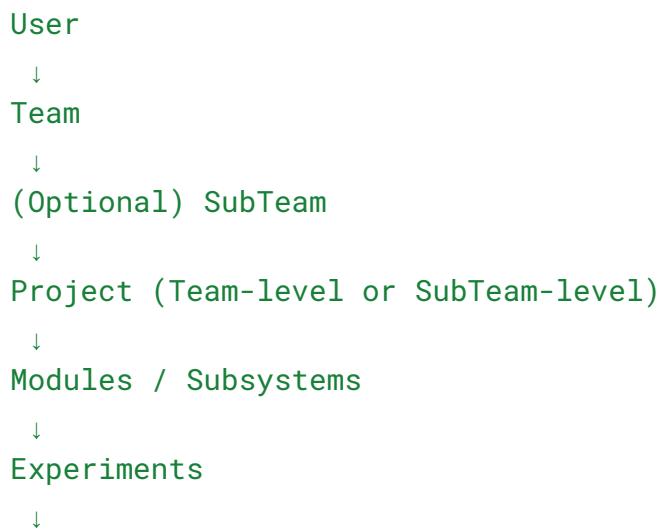
- Project: *Hybrid Engine v1*
- Type: SUBTEAM project
- Owned by Propulsion subteam

Access:

- Propulsion members → full access
- Other subteams → read-only (on approval)

- ✓ Isolation + transparency
  - ✓ No clutter
  - ✓ Knowledge sharing without interference
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## 1.6 Updated System Flow (High-level)



## Logs (Append-only)

This flow is **clean, scalable, and realistic**.

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# PERMISSIONS & ACCESS CONTROL DESIGN

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## 1 Design Philosophy

Before tables, freeze the **rules of power**:

1. Permissions are hierarchical
2. Ownership > Membership
3. Project autonomy is respected
4. Visibility ≠ Editability
5. Roles are customizable, permissions are atomic

Think **AWS IAM + GitHub + Lab workflow**, simplified.

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## 2 Levels of Control (Hierarchy)

Permissions exist at **three levels**:

TEAM LEVEL



SUBTEAM LEVEL



PROJECT LEVEL

Lower levels **cannot override higher-level hard blocks**,  
but higher levels **should not micromanage projects**.

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## 3 Role Types

### A. Team-Level Roles

Applies across the entire organization.

Role	Description
<b>Team Lead</b>	Supreme authority for the team
<b>Team Member</b>	Default member

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### B. SubTeam-Level Roles

Applies only inside a department.

Role	Description
<b>SubTeam Lead</b>	Owns department projects
<b>SubTeam Member</b>	Works in that department

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### C. Project-Level Roles (Customizable)

Defined **per project** by Project Lead.

Examples (not fixed):

- Project Lead
- Contributor

- Reviewer
- Viewer
- Analyst
- Observer

👉 These are **labels**, permissions are what matter.

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## 4 Atomic Permissions (The Real Control Units)

These are the **smallest permission blocks**.

### Core Permission Set

#### Project Management

- CREATE\_PROJECT
- DELETE\_PROJECT
- ASSIGN\_PROJECT\_ROLES
- APPROVE\_ACCESS

#### Experiment Control

- CREATE\_EXPERIMENT
- EDIT\_EXPERIMENT\_META
- ADD\_EXPERIMENT\_LOG
- COMMENT\_ON\_LOG

#### Log & Data Control

- UPLOAD\_FILES
- VIEW\_LOGS

- EXPORT\_DATA

### Structure Control

- CREATE\_MODULE
  - MODIFY\_MODULE
- 

## 5 Permission Matrix (CRITICAL SECTION)

### ■ Team-Level Permissions

Action	Team Lead	Team Member
Create SubTeams	✓	✗
Assign SubTeam Leads	✓	✗
View all projects	✓	✓
Override access (emergency)	✓	✗

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### ■ SubTeam-Level Permissions

Action	SubTeam Lead	SubTeam Member
Create SubTeam projects	✓	✗
Assign Project Leads	✓	✗

Full access to subteam projects  

Approve read-only access  

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## Project-Level Permissions (Example Default)

Action	Project Lead	Contributor	Viewer
Create experiments			
Add logs			
Upload files			
Comment			
View logs			
Assign roles			

 Project Lead can **customize this table per project**.

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## Access Scenarios (Your Real Use Cases)

### Scenario A — Full Rocket Project (TEAM Project)

- All subteams involved

- Team Lead → assigns Project Lead
- SubTeam Leads manage their modules
- Members contribute via experiments

- ✓ Collaborative
  - ✓ Structured
  - ✓ No chaos
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## Scenario B — Propulsion Engine R&D (SUBTEAM Project)

- Owned by Propulsion
- Only propulsion members have write access
- Others can request **read-only**

Approval flow:

Request → Project Lead → Approved → View-only

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- ✓ Isolation + transparency
  - ✓ Knowledge sharing without interference
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## 7 Conflict Resolution Rules

These rules prevent ambiguity:

1. **Project Lead > SubTeam Lead > Team Member**
2. **Higher scope cannot silently edit lower scope**
3. **Read-only never implies comment**
4. **No one edits logs once submitted**
5. **Team Lead override is logged & auditable**

Mentioning *auditable overrides* makes this look very professional.

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## 8 Why This Permission Model Is STRONG

From an evaluator's view, you've shown:

- Multi-level RBAC
- Custom role definition
- Least-privilege principle
- Real organizational modeling
- Inspiration from industry IAM systems

This is **far beyond CRUD authentication.**

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# DIAGRAMS:

## 1 ER DIAGRAM (Entity Relationship Diagram)

### Purpose

To model **data structure, ownership, and relationships** in LabLedger.

This diagram answers:

*What data exists and how is it connected?*

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### Entities to Include (FINAL & FROZEN)

#### Core entities

- User
  - Team
  - SubTeam
  - Project
  - Module
  - Experiment
  - ExperimentLog
  - Parameter
  - Attachment
  - Role
  - Permission
-

# **Relationships (VERY IMPORTANT)**

## **Team ↔ SubTeam**

- One **Team** has many **SubTeams**
- Each **SubTeam** belongs to exactly one **Team**

**Relationship:** Team 1 – N SubTeam

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## **Team ↔ User**

- One Team has many Users
- A User belongs to one Team

**Relationship:** Team 1 – N User

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## **SubTeam ↔ User**

- One SubTeam has many Users
- User may or may not belong to a SubTeam

**Relationship:** SubTeam 1 – N User (optional)

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## **Team/SubTeam ↔ Project**

- Team-level projects: linked to Team
- SubTeam-level projects: linked to SubTeam

**Relationship:**

- Team 1 – N Project
- SubTeam 1 – N Project (optional)

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## **Project ↔ Module**

- A Project has multiple Modules

**Relationship:** Project 1 – N Module

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## **Module ↔ Experiment**

- Each Module contains many Experiments

**Relationship:** Module 1 – N Experiment

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## **Experiment ↔ ExperimentLog**

- Each Experiment has multiple Logs
- Logs are **append-only**

**Relationship:** Experiment 1 – N ExperimentLog

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## **ExperimentLog ↔ Parameter**

- Each log has multiple parameters

**Relationship:** ExperimentLog 1 – N Parameter

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## **ExperimentLog ↔ Attachment**

- Each log can have multiple attachments

**Relationship:** ExperimentLog 1 – N Attachment

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## User ↔ Role ↔ Project

- Users are assigned Roles **per project**
- Roles map to Permissions

This is a **many-to-many** relationship:

- User ↔ Project via Role
- 

## ER Diagram Justification

- Clear separation of **organizational structure** (Team, SubTeam)
  - Project-level isolation ensures scalability
  - Append-only logs enforce auditability
  - Role–Permission abstraction supports AWS-style IAM
  - Schema supports both hardware and software workflows
- 

## 2 USE CASE DIAGRAM

### Purpose

To show **who can do what** in the system.

This diagram answers:

*Which actors interact with the system and how?*

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### Actors to Include

- Team Lead

- SubTeam Lead
  - Project Lead
  - Team/SubTeam Member
  - Reviewer (read-only)
- 

## **Core Use Cases (Group them logically)**

### **◆ Team Management**

- Create Team
- Create SubTeam
- Assign SubTeam Lead
- Add Members

**Actor:** Team Lead

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### **◆ Project Management**

- Create Project
- Assign Project Lead
- Approve Access Requests
- Define Project Roles

**Actor:** Team Lead / SubTeam Lead / Project Lead

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### **◆ Experiment Management**

- Create Experiment

- Define Parameters
- Add Experiment Log
- Upload Attachments

**Actor:** Contributor / Project Lead

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◆ **Review & Learning**

- View Logs
- Comment on Logs
- Export Experiment Data

**Actor:** Reviewer / Viewer

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## Associations to Draw

- Team Lead → all management use cases
- SubTeam Lead → subteam project use cases
- Project Lead → project-specific role & access control
- Members → experiment & logging use cases
- Reviewer → view-only use cases

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## Use Case Diagram Justification

- Clear role separation avoids privilege confusion
- Supports least-privilege principle
- Reflects real engineering hierarchy

- Aligns with permission matrix previously defined
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## 3 ACTIVITY DIAGRAMS

You should include **at least 2 activity diagrams**.

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### Activity Diagram 1: Experiment Logging Workflow

#### Flow (step-by-step)

1. Start
  2. User logs in
  3. Select Project
  4. Select Module
  5. Create / Select Experiment
  6. Enter Procedure
  7. Enter Observations
  8. Add Parameters
  9. Upload Files
  10. Submit Log
  11. System locks log
  12. End
- 

#### Control Flow Notes

- **Decision node:** “Is user authorized?”

- **No loop back** after submission (immutability)
  - Clear linear progression
- 

## Justification

- Models real lab workflow
  - Ensures accountability
  - Prevents data tampering
  - Supports audit trail
- 

## Activity Diagram 2: Access Request & Approval Flow

### Flow

1. Start
  2. User requests access
  3. System notifies Project Lead
  4. Decision:
    - Approve → Grant Read-only
    - Reject → Notify user
  5. End
- 

### Fork / Join (Optional)

- Notification + logging can happen in parallel
-

## **Justification**

- Explicit approval prevents unauthorized edits
  - Supports transparency across departments
  - Models real-world engineering governance
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# TECH STACK

## Design Principle for Stack Selection

The stack must serve the system design, not the other way around.

Your system needs:

- Strong RBAC (permissions)
  - Clean REST APIs
  - Structured + flexible data
  - Cloud deployment
  - Future ML integration
  - Easy demo & grading
- 

### PRIMARY STACK

#### Backend

**Node.js + Express.js**

#### Why

- Excellent for REST APIs
- Huge ecosystem for auth & RBAC
- Easy JWT handling
- Easy ML add-ons later (Python microservice can plug in)
- Fast to develop

#### Key libraries

- express

- jsonwebtoken (JWT)
  - bcrypt (password hashing)
  - multer (file uploads)
  - cors
  - dotenv
- 

## Database

### PostgreSQL

#### Why

- Strong relational modeling (perfect for Team → SubTeam → Project hierarchy)
- ACID compliance (important for logs)
- JSONB support → perfect for **user-defined parameters**
- Industry-standard, prof-approved

#### Key design choice

- Use relational tables for core entities
- Use **JSONB** column for:
  - Custom parameters
  - Role permission mappings

This is a *very smart hybrid approach*.

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## Frontend

### React (basic, not fancy)

#### Why

- Component-based → role-based UI rendering
- Industry relevance
- Easy to keep simple
- Prof won't penalize minimal UI

## UI focus

- Functional, not aesthetic
- Role-aware pages
- Forms for experiments & logs

You can even say:

“UI is intentionally minimal; focus is system design.”

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## Authentication & Authorization

### JWT + Role-Based Access Control

#### Why

- Stateless
- Scales well
- Clean permission checks at API layer

#### Flow

1. Login
  2. JWT issued
  3. Role + permissions encoded
  4. Backend validates every request
-

## File Storage

### Cloud Object Storage

Choose ONE:

- AWS S3 (best industry value)
- Supabase Storage (simpler)
- Firebase Storage (easy)

### Why

- Attachments don't belong in DB
  - Scales naturally
  - Clean separation of concerns
- 

## Deployment

### Recommended combo (simple + powerful)

Component	Platform
-----------	----------

Backend	Render / Railway
---------	------------------

Frontend	Vercel
----------	--------

Database	Supabase / Railway PostgreSQL
----------	----------------------------------

Storage	Same provider or AWS
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This gives you:

- Public URLs
  - Environment variables
  - Logs
  - Easy redeploy
- 

## Architecture Diagram (Textual)

React Frontend

↓ HTTPS

Express Backend (RBAC + APIs)

↓

PostgreSQL (Core Data + JSONB)

↓

Cloud Storage (Files)

Simple, clean, defensible.

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## ML EXTENSION STRATEGY (IMPORTANT)

You do **not** add ML now.

But your stack allows this later:

### Option A — Python Microservice

- Flask / FastAPI
- Reads logs from DB
- Generates summaries / insights

- Exposed via REST API

## Option B — Rule-based Engine (MVP)

- Detect missing logs
- Flag repeated failures
- Simple analytics

You can proudly say:

“ML hooks are architecturally supported but out of MVP scope.”

That's a **mature engineering statement**.

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## ALTERNATIVE STACKS

### Option 2 — Java Stack (If prof prefers)

- Backend: Spring Boot
- DB: PostgreSQL
- Auth: Spring Security + JWT

More boilerplate, but very academic-friendly.

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### Option 3 — Python Stack

- Backend: Flask / FastAPI
- DB: PostgreSQL
- Frontend: Simple React or Jinja

Fast to build, slightly less enterprise-looking.

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## What We Are NOT Using (On Purpose)

-  Microservices
-  Kubernetes
-  GraphQL
-  MongoDB-only design
-  Serverless overkill

Avoids red flags.

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# LabLedger — FINAL MVP FEATURES & CUTS

## 🎯 MVP OBJECTIVE (LOCKED)

Build a cloud-deployed, experiment-first project management system for hardware teams, where **engineering decisions, failures, and iterations are preserved through append-only logs with role-based access control**.

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## ✅ FINAL MVP FEATURES (MUST WORK END-TO-END)

### 1 Authentication & Access

- Login with email + password
  - JWT-based authentication
  - **Seeded users** (no invite/signup flow):
    - Team Lead
    - Contributor
    - Viewer
  - Backend-enforced authorization (403 Forbidden on violation)
- 

### 2 Team & SubTeam Structure

- Single Team (seeded)
- SubTeams:
  - Create SubTeam
  - Assign users to SubTeam
- SubTeam exists mainly for **project ownership context**

 No multi-team support in MVP

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### ③ Project Dashboard (Context Dashboard)

- Landing page after login
- Lists **projects the user can access**
- Shows:
  - Project name
  - Project type (TEAM / SUBTEAM)
  - User role in project
- Button: **Open Project**

 No analytics

 No metrics

 No activity feed

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### ④ Projects

- Create Project
- Project types:
  - TEAM project
  - SUBTEAM project
- Assign Project Lead (seeded logic)
- Project visibility controlled by role

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### ⑤ Breadcrumb Navigation (MANDATORY)

Displayed on all pages below Project level.

Example:

Purpose:

- Navigation clarity
  - Demo safety
  - Zero UX confusion
- 

## 6 Modules / Subsystems

- Create modules inside a project
- Simple list view
- No hierarchy inside modules

Examples:

- Combustion
  - Avionics
  - Testing
- 

## 7 Experiments

- Create experiment inside a module
- Required fields:
  - Title
  - Objective
- Linked to exactly one module

 No tags

 No hypothesis (optional, can exist but ignored)

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## 8 Experiment Logs (CORE FEATURE — MUST BE PERFECT)

Each experiment supports **append-only logs**.

Log fields:

- Procedure
- Observations
- Outcome
- Parameters (key–value list)
- Timestamp (auto-generated)

**Rules (NON-NEGOTIABLE):**

-  No edit log endpoint
-  No delete log endpoint
-  Logs are append-only
-  Immutability enforced at API layer

This is the heart of LabLedger.

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## 9 Parameters (SAFE IMPLEMENTATION)

- UI uses:
  - Key input
  - Value input
  - “Add Parameter” button
- Backend converts list → JSONB

- Stored per log

✗ No raw JSON input  
✗ No validation rules  
✗ No templates UI

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## 10 File Uploads (Evidence-Based Logging)

- Upload **one file per log**
- Any file type
- Stored in cloud object storage
- Only file URL saved in DB

✗ No preview  
✗ No delete  
✗ No versioning

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## 11 Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)

Hardcoded roles (no UI):

Role	Permissions
Project Lead	Full access
Contributor	Create experiments, add logs
Viewer	Read-only

### Enforced in backend middleware

Frontend may show disabled buttons, but backend is source of truth.

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## 12 Authorization Error Visibility (DEMO-CRITICAL)

- Unauthorized actions return **403 Forbidden**
- Error shown via:
  - Toast notification OR
  - Network tab (demo)

This proves backend security, not UI hiding.

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## 13 Cloud Deployment

- Backend deployed (Render / Railway)
- Frontend deployed (Vercel)
- PostgreSQL (cloud)
- Object storage for files

Public URL must work end-to-end.

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## ✗ FINAL CUTS (NOT IN MVP — DO NOT BUILD)

These features **do not exist at all** in MVP:

- ✗ Custom role creation UI
- ✗ Permission editor
- ✗ Notifications
- ✗ Activity feed
- ✗ Analytics / charts
- ✗ Search

- ❌ Experiment templates UI
- ❌ CSV / export
- ❌ Comments on logs
- ❌ Multi-team support
- ❌ User invite system
- ❌ Real-time features
- ❌ Audit dashboards

If it's not listed under MVP features — it doesn't exist.

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## FROZEN FEATURES (EXIST BUT MINIMAL)

These exist only to support the core flow:

Feature	MVP State
Roles	Seeded only
Permissions	Hardcoded
Parameters	Key-value only
SubTeams	Flat, no hierarchy
UI Styling	Minimal, ugly but clear
ML	Mentioned in README only



## README / DEFENSE STATEMENTS (IMPORTANT)

You explicitly state:

"LabLedger is an experiment-first system.

Logs are append-only by design to preserve engineering truth.

Advanced features (ML, analytics, notifications) are architecturally supported but intentionally excluded from MVP to maintain scope discipline."

This turns cuts into **design decisions**.

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## FINAL MVP SUCCESS CRITERIA

Your MVP is **DONE** if you can:

- Login
- Open dashboard
- Open project
- Create experiment
- Add append-only log
- Upload evidence
- Login as Viewer
- Attempt edit → blocked with 403
- Show breadcrumb navigation
- Access public deployed URL

If all of that works → **full marks**.

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# IMPLEMENTATION ROADMAP — LabLedger (MVP)

## CORE PRINCIPLE FOR EXECUTION

**Backend first → API stable → Frontend thin → Deploy early**

If backend is solid, everything else is easy.

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## OVERALL PHASE SPLIT

Phase	Goal	Outcome
Phase A	Foundation	Auth + DB ready
Phase B	Core Data Model	Projects → Experiments
Phase C	Logging Engine	Append-only logs
Phase D	File Uploads	Evidence attached
Phase E	Permissions	RBAC enforced
Phase F	Frontend	Minimal but complete

Phase Deployment Public working app  
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Phase Polish & Docs Submission-ready  
H

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## ◆ PHASE A — FOUNDATION (Day 1–2)

### A1. Repo & Project Setup

- Create GitHub repo
- Setup:
  - `backend/`
  - `frontend/`
- Setup `.env` handling

#### Checkpoint

- Repo exists
  - Server starts without errors
- 

### A2. Backend Skeleton

- Node.js + Express
- Base folders:
  - `routes`
  - `controllers`

- services
- middleware
- models

### Checkpoint

- `/health` endpoint returns OK
- 

## A3. Database Setup

- PostgreSQL (cloud or local)
- Tables (initial):
  - users
  - teams
  - subteams

No relations yet — just schema.

### Checkpoint

- DB connected
  - Can insert & fetch users
- 

## ◆ PHASE B — AUTH + ORG STRUCTURE (Day 3–4)

### B1. Authentication

- Register
- Login
- Password hashing

- JWT issuance

#### **Checkpoint**

- Login returns JWT
  - Protected route rejects unauth users
- 

## **B2. Team & SubTeam Logic**

- Create Team (once)
- Create SubTeams
- Assign users to SubTeams

#### **MVP simplification**

- One team only
- Team Lead created manually (seed data)

#### **Checkpoint**

- Users linked to subteams
  - Data visible via API
- 

## **◆ PHASE C — PROJECT & MODULES (Day 5–6)**

### **C1. Project Entity**

- Create Project
- Project type:
  - TEAM

- SUBTEAM
- Assign Project Lead

#### **Checkpoint**

- Project created with correct ownership
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## **C2. Modules / Subsystems**

- Create modules per project
- Simple CRUD

#### **Checkpoint**

- Project → modules relationship works
- 

## **◆ PHASE D — EXPERIMENT ENGINE (Day 7–8)**

 This is the **heart of the system**.

### **D1. Experiments**

- Create experiment
- Link to module
- Objective mandatory

#### **Checkpoint**

- Experiments list under modules
- 

### **D2. Append-Only Logs (CRITICAL)**

- Add experiment log
- Fields:
  - procedure
  - observations
  - outcome
  - parameters (JSON)
- Auto timestamp
- No edit / delete endpoints

### **Checkpoint**

- Logs append correctly
- Older logs untouched

This alone makes your project strong.

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## ◆ **PHASE E — FILE UPLOADS (Day 9)**

### **E1. Cloud Storage Setup**

- AWS S3 / Supabase / Firebase
  - Secure credentials via env
- 

### **E2. Upload per Log**

- Upload file
- Store:
  - file name

- type
- URL
- log\_id

#### Checkpoint

- File uploaded
  - URL accessible
  - Linked to correct log
- 

## ◆ PHASE F — PERMISSIONS (Day 10)

### F1. Backend RBAC Middleware

- Check role from JWT
- Enforce:
  - who can create projects
  - who can log experiments
  - who is read-only

Hardcode permissions (no UI).

#### Checkpoint

- Unauthorized actions blocked
  - Viewer cannot modify anything
- 

## ◆ PHASE G — FRONTEND (Day 11–13)

⚠ Keep UI ugly but functional.

## G1. Auth Pages

- Login
  - Register
- 

## G2. Dashboard

- List projects user can see
  - Click → project details
- 

## G3. Experiment Flow UI

- Select module
- Create experiment
- Add log
- Upload file

Forms only. No fancy UI.

### Checkpoint

- Full workflow doable from browser
- 

## ◆ PHASE H — DEPLOYMENT (Day 14)

### H1. Backend Deployment

- Render / Railway
- Env vars set
- DB connected

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## H2. Frontend Deployment

- Vercel
- Backend URL wired

### Checkpoint

- Public URL works
  - Prof can open & test
- 

## ◆ PHASE I — POLISH & DOCUMENTATION (Day 15)

### Final Touches

- Seed demo data
  - Add README
  - Screenshots
  - Architecture explanation
  - Known limitations
  - Future scope
- 



## FINAL SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

You must be able to show:

- Live URL
- Login works
- Create project

- Log experiment
- Upload evidence
- Read-only access enforced
- Logs immutable

If yes → **project is DONE.**