How do labour platforms re-organize work? This is the core question that motivates my doctoral research. I seek to answer this fundamental question by looking into labour process of delivery workers associated with the rapidly emerging digital food delivery platforms. I have studied this question by working as delivery worker for six months and followed this with survey, interviews, and hanging out with delivery workers.

My thesis is organized into eight chapters. The first chapter lays out theoretical framework, research methodology and give an overview of platform labour. Second chapter gives overview of the food delivery platforms to show how restaurant sector got platformized globally in a short period and highlight the emergence of hyper-local delivery in urban areas.

In chapter three, looks at how tools like GPS, facial recognition and customer’s ratings enable platform to subjugate delivery workers to algorithmic management practices. Fourth chapter, shows hiring and training process and unpaid contribution of the delivery workers to the platform capital. Change in the capital-labour relations in the light of mis-classification of labour as ‘partner’ and use of entrepreneurial culture is looked in the fifth chapter.

In chapter six, delves in to lives of delivery workers to show how heterogenous workers experience work differently. In chapter seven highlights various attempts towards collective action by the workers and their limitations.

Last chapter would summarize the major findings. Central to the findings of my dissertation is the role of platforms in shaping work and the effect of platformization on the workers.