

# **PROOF-THEORETIC SEMANTICS, SELF-CONTRADICTION AND THE FORMAT OF DEDUCTIVE REASONING**

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*Abstract:* From the point of view of proof-theoretic semantics, I argue that the sequent calculus with introduction rules both on the assertion and on the assumption side represents deductive reasoning more appropriately than natural deduction. In taking consequence to be conceptually prior to truth, it can deal with non-well-founded phenomena such as contradictory reasoning. The fact that its typed variant, the sequent calculus, has an explicit and separate substitution schema in form of the cut rule is seen as a crucial advantage over natural deduction, where substitution is built into the general framework.