

POPPER ON DEDUCTIVE LOGIC AND LOGICAL DEDUCTION

Peter Schroeder-Heister

[Abstract]

Although not very well known (not even among Popperians), Popper provided substantial work on logic and logical deduction. Much of it was published in the late 1940s. A re-edition of this work together with the edition of a considerable amount of unpublished material from the Klagenfurt Karl Popper archive is almost finished and will be described by David Binder in his contribution to this conference. Poppers logical writings are very remarkable both from the logical aspect and from the point of view of Popperianism. Logically, they make very significant contributions to Gentzen-style deductive systems and to what today is called "proof-theoretic semantics". However, the ideas advocated there are not perfectly coherent with the views on deductive logic that Popper otherwise held in his well-known work on scientific method, at least not at first glance. In this talk I shall try to give an overall assessment of Popper's contribution to deductive logic and to provide some ideas of how it might fit into Popper's work in general.