Term: Deduction

Quote: Abduction is the process of forming an explanatory hypothesis. It is the only logical operation which introduces any new idea; for induction does nothing but determine a value, and deduction merely evolves the necessary consequences of a pure hypothesis.

Deduction proves that something must be; Induction shows that something actually is operative; Abduction merely suggests that something may be.


References: CP 5.171

Date of Quote: 1903

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-harvard-lectures-pragmatism-lecture-vi-1