

'Hypothesis [as a form of reasoning]' (pub. 03.02.13-17:44). Quote in M. Bergman & S. Paavola (Eds.), *The Commens Dictionary: Peirce's Terms in His Own Words. New Edition*. Retrieved from <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-minute-logic-chapter-i-intended-characters-treatise-13>.

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**Term:** Hypothesis [as a form of reasoning]

**Quote:** ... the study of Abduction. Upon this subject, my doctrine has been immensely improved since my essay "A Theory of Probable Inference" was published in 1883. In what I there said about "Hypothetic Inference" I was an explorer upon untrodden ground. I committed, though I half corrected, a slight positive error, which is easily set right without essentially altering my position. But my capital error was a negative one, in not perceiving that, according to my own principles, the reasoning with which I was there dealing could not be the reasoning by which we are led to adopt a hypothesis, although I all but stated as much. But I was too much taken up in considering syllogistic forms and the doctrine of logical extension and comprehension, both of which I made more fundamental than they really are.

**Source:** Peirce, C. S. (1902). *Minute Logic: Chapter I. Intended Characters of this Treatise*. MS [R] 425.

**References:** CP 2.102

**Date of** 1902

**Quote:**

**URL:** <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-minute-logic-chapter-i-intended-characters-treatise-13>