Term: Analogy

Quote: The formula of analogy is as follows:-

\[ S', S'', S''' \] are taken at random from such a class that their characters at random are such as \( P', P'', P''' \).

\( t \) is \( P', P'', P''' \).

\( S', S'', S''' \) are \( q \);

\( \therefore t \) is \( q \).

Such an argument is double. It combines the two following:-

1

\( S', S'', S''' \) are taken as being \( P', P'', P''' \).

\( S', S'', S''' \) are \( q \).

\( \therefore (\text{By induction}) \) \( P', P'', P''' \) is \( q \).

\( t \) is \( P', P'', P''' \).

\( \therefore (\text{Deductively}) \) \( t \) is \( q \).

2

\( S', S'', S''' \) are, for instance, \( P', P'', P''' \).

\( t \) is \( P', P'', P''' \);

\( \therefore (\text{By hypothesis}) \) \( t \) has the common characters of \( S', S'', S''' \).

\( S', S'', S''' \) are \( q \).

\( \therefore (\text{Deductively}) \) \( t \) is \( q \).

Owing to its double character, analogy is very strong with only a moderate number of instances.


References: W 2:46-47; CP 2.513

Date of Quote: 1867

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-natural-classification-arguments

Commens: Digital Companion to C. S. Peirce (http://www.commens.org)