Term: Abduction  
Quote: Now, in an inquiry concerning a hypothesis in general, three distinct stages have to be recognized, these stages being governed by entirely different logical principles. The first stage consists in the invention, selection, and entertainment of the hypothesis. This I call the abduction.  
References: HP 2:895  
Date of Quote: 1901  
URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-proper-treatment-hypotheses-preliminary-chapter-toward-examination-humes-1