

Quine, Word and Object, 1964

Indeterminacy

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“An effect of recognizing this limitation is that the enterprise of translation is found to be involved in a certain systematic **indeterminacy**; ...” (ix)

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The incompleteness of determination of molecular behavior by the behavior of ordinary things is hence only incidental to this more basic **indeterminacy**: **both sorts of events** are less than determined by our surface irritations.”

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The firmer the direct links of a sentence with non-verbal stimulation, of course, the less that sentence can diverge from one to another from manual to manual. its correlate under any such It is in this last form, as a principle of **indeterminacy** of translation, that I shall try to make the point plausible in the course of this chapter.

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Yet one has only to reflect on the nature of possible data and methods to appreciate the **indeterminacy**. Sentences translatable outright, translatable by independent evidence of stimulatory occasions, **are sparse** and must woefully under-determine the analytical hypotheses, on which the translation of all further sentences depends.

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ON FAILURE TO PERCEIVE THE **INDETERMINACY**

Thus the analytical hypotheses, and the grand synthetic one that they add up to, are only in an incomplete sense hypotheses.

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Perhaps the doctrine of **indeterminacy** of translation will have little air of paradox for readers familiar with Wittgenstein's latter-day remarks on meaning.

...

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The **indeterminacy** of translation has been less generally appreciated than its somewhat protean domestic analogue. In mentalistic philosophy there is the ...

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One way it enters is through **indeterminacy** between the truly attributive and the syncategorematic (§ 21) use of certain adjectives.

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the enterprise of translation is found to be involved in a certain systematic **indeterminacy**; ...” (ix)

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The incompleteness of determination of molecular behavior by the behavior of ordinary things is hence only incidental to this more basic **indeterminacy**: **both sorts of events** are less than determined by our surface irritations.”

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Незавършеността на определение на молекулярно поведение от поведението на обикновени неща е следователно само случайна на тази повече основна **неопределеност**: **и типовете на събития** са по-малки отколкото определиха от нашите повърхностни ядове”.