



# The Underdetermination of the Meaning of Logical Words by Rules of Inference

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Abstract:

The paper will present and discuss what I call ‘the *underdetermination challenge*’ to logical inferentialism. The challenge consists in arguing that some logical words are such that no set of formal, recursively enumerable rules of inference can completely fix their meaning, in that, for any candidate such set, one can show that the set is sound also with respect to a meaning different from the intended one. I will substantiate the challenge by looking at four broad classes of logical words: *monadic intensional operators*, *conditionals*, *quantifiers* and the *identity predicate*. I will close by offering a tentative diagnosis of why logical inferentialism is subject to the underdetermination challenge.

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