Meaning and Metameaning

Vytautas Čyras
Vilnius University
Lithuania

Friedrich Lachmayer
Vienna

23. November 2016, Österreichische Computergesellschaft, Wien
Representing law

- **Ogden & Richards**
  - “meaning of meaning”
  - semiotic triangle
    - FRISCO tetrahedron
- **Legal documentation**
  - Texts, metadata
  - 4 views to law
    1) document view
    2) annotation view
    3) citation network view
    4) user view
- **Expert systems, 1st generation**
  - if...then rules

\[ \text{Thought} \rightarrow \text{Actor} \rightarrow \text{Referent} \rightarrow \text{Symbol} \rightarrow \text{Thought} \]
Situational Modelling in Legal Machines

- Legal meaning as entity
  1. Institutional meaning
  2. Content
- Roles, not rules
  - scenario-based
  - visual navigation through meaning
- 8 views/4 methods/4 syntheses (Schweighofer)
  - Views: 5) logical view, 6) ontological view, 7) visualization view, 8) argumentation view
  - Types of products: e-handbook, DynELC, citizens information, case-based synthesis
Machine representation

- Situational modelling
  - Scenario-based
    - law in films; visual navigation; citizens/jurists

- Strengthen/lessen the meaning ex ante
  1. Institutional meaning
  2. Content

Draft → Law → Constitution

Natural language → Logic → Legal system

Political context → Constitutional court

Void