Information retrieval (**IR**) in <u>computing</u> and <u>information science</u> is the process of obtaining <u>information system</u> resources that are relevant to an information need from a collection of those resources. Searches can be based on <u>full-text</u> or other content-based indexing. Information retrieval is the science of searching for information in a document, searching for documents themselves, and also searching for the <u>metadata</u> that describes data, and for <u>databases</u> of texts, images or sounds.