1135-55-1744 Henry Adams* (adams@math.colostate.edu). The theory of Vietoris-Rips complexes.

Given a metric space X and a scale parameter r > 0, the Vietoris-Rips simplicial complex has as its simplices the finite subsets of X of diameter less than r. These complexes have been applied to problems in computational topology and topological data analysis as a way to "thicken" a finite sampling. Indeed, when given a dataset sampled sufficiently densely from a manifold, the Vietoris-Rips complex of the dataset can be used to recover topological information about the manifold. In this talk I will survey known results and open questions about Vietoris-Rips complexes of manifolds, and describe Vietoris-Rips complexes of n-spheres at the first scale parameter when the homotopy type changes. (Received September 24, 2017)