Abstract: Vantage theory is a model of categorization. It holds that we construct ordinary categories on the basis of an instinctive and neurally expedited method that derives by analogy from the method through which we reckon our positions in spacetime. In applying the analogy, we unavoidably engage with every category we produce, thus driving its creation, maintenance, change, objectification, and indeterminacy. In the process, we are compelled to compose any category as one or more points of view. We alternate categorical vantages by rearranging selected perceptions, and we may name each arrangement differently so as to designate a category from distinct angles. But spacetime is a tenet of relativity physics, and it would not be clear why we would construct categories according to variables that lie far beyond everyday experience. First, the variables of special and general relativity inhere in perception as well as in the physics of velocity, and perception is prior to categorization and integral to it. Second, unlike physical events or their perception, categorization is unhampered by externals, such as the requirement to approach the speed of light to achieve a stark difference between frames. Apparently within the categorical analogy, the shift between vantages is enough to enact equivalencies of spacetime dynamics to the extent that they are observable with instruments far less exacting than a linear accelerator. Yet the equivalencies are essential to the vantage model. Either they are a coincidental illusion or the natural realm and categorization obey common principles.

Keywords: agency, conceptual viewpoint, cognitive evolution, embodiment, equivalencies between relativity physics and categorization, universals.