



## OLIVIA RODRIGO'S SOUR: HIGHLIGHTING METAPHORICAL TYPES AND FUNCTIONS

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**Abstract:** *This research discusses "OLIVIA RODRIGO'S SOUR: HIGHLIGHTING METAPHORICAL TYPES AND FUNCTIONS." This study aims to explore and describe the use of metaphors in Olivia Rodrigo's 'SOUR' album, focusing on their representation and interpretation by listeners. The research employs a qualitative descriptive method. Data collection involves listening to the SOUR album on Spotify, identifying metaphorical lyrics, and classifying the type and function. The types of metaphors are analyzed based on Lakoff and Johnson's theory, while the functions of metaphors are analyzed using the theory by Muzaffarova and Usmonovna. The findings reveal 25 instances of metaphors, categorized into three main types: ontological metaphors (62%), structural metaphors (23%), and orientational metaphors (15%). The study also identifies three functions of metaphors in Olivia Rodrigo's lyrics: psychological (38%), aesthetic (31%), and cognitive (31%). Based on the data found, ontological metaphors are the most frequently used type, and the psychological function is the most dominant metaphor function.*

**Keywords:** *Metaphor, Figurative language, Song, Lyrics.*

### INTRODUCTION

Metaphors are figures of speech that directly compare two, unlike things, highlighting their similarities to create a new meaning. According to (Zulaika et al. 2023), Metaphors is an expression that compares two different things based on certain similarities. They draw comparisons to create clearer and more engaging images in the mind of the reader or listener. By connecting different ideas, metaphors help us understand complex or abstract concepts in a more tangible way. Metaphors enrich communication by creating clear and understandable images, making it easier for the listener or reader to grasp deeper meaning. More than just figurative language, metaphors play an important role in shaping the way we think and communicate. Today, metaphors are widely used in poetry,



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movies, novels, and even by musicians in their song lyrics. One such artist is Olivia Rodrigo, who uses many metaphors in her album titled "SOUR".

Olivia Rodrigo's debut album, 'SOUR,' has received much acclaim, not only for its touching depiction of heartbreak and the emotional turmoil of youth but also for the thoughtful use of metaphorical language. This has made the album extremely popular among young people in 2021, with over 12.3 billion streams on Spotify to date. One of the songs from the album, "driver's license," became a global phenomenon. The song topped the Billboard Hot 100 for eight weeks and set a streaming record with 76 million streams in the U.S. during first week. The album's popularity didn't stop there, as other songs like "Good 4 U" have been streamed more than 2.15 billion times. The success of 'SOUR' culminated in a historic achievement. All eleven songs on the album managed to enter the Top 30 of the Billboard Hot 100. This accomplishment made Olivia Rodrigo the first female artist and the fourth artist overall to achieve this feat. The use of metaphors in 'SOUR' creates powerful and profound imagery of complex emotional experiences. Metaphors allow listeners to feel and understand the emotions expressed by Olivia Rodrigo in a deeper and more poetic way. According by (McCann 2020), metaphors facilitate communication with the audience, enhance the speaker or writer's credibility, evoke emotions, keep the listener or reader engaged and in a positive mood, and make the message more memorable. Thus, this album is not just a musical record but also a work of art that enriches the listening experience and connects listeners with the story being told.

Metaphors serve as a bridge between the listener's experience and the artist's intention, creating a shared space of understanding and empathy. In 'SOUR,' Rodrigo's metaphors range from the highly personal to the universally relatable, often referencing everyday experiences and common emotional states to articulate the nuances of her inner world. For example, the line "You my favorite color, now you seein' every shade of me" from "favorite crime" uses color as a metaphor for perception and emotional depth, depicting a shift from idealization to a more complex and

varied understanding of a relationship. The metaphor used in "favorite crime" adds depth to the lyrics in a way that might be difficult to achieve through direct description. Using color as a symbol for feelings and perception shows how relationships can change from something simple and beautiful to something complex and sometimes painful. In 'SOUR,' Olivia Rodrigo consistently uses metaphors to convey deep emotional experiences. Songs like "deja vu" and "traitor" also rely on metaphors to express feelings of jealousy, betrayal, and confusion.

In "deja vu," Rodrigo uses metaphors related to memory and repetition to describe the feeling of being stuck in a recurring emotional loop. Lines like "watching reruns" create a strong image of how memories can feel like they're replaying in our minds, reminding us of certain moments repeatedly. This use of metaphor not only makes the lyrics more engaging but also allows listeners to feel deeper and more complex emotions. On the other hand, "traitor" uses metaphors of betrayal and warfare to describe the feeling of being betrayed by someone close. These metaphors give the lyrics strong emotional weight, making the listener feel the intensity of the emotions expressed by Rodrigo. For instance, "you put a sword in my back" is a clear and sharp metaphor for betrayal, making the listener feel the same pain as the singer.

The metaphors in these lyrics not only enrich the listening experience but also create an emotional connection between the artist and the listener. (Sumolang 2021), stated that song lyrics are expressions of someone's experiences of what they see, hear, or experience, where the writer plays with words and language to create appeal and uniqueness. Listeners can feel and understand the emotions expressed by Rodrigo, making these songs more meaningful and personally resonant. This is one of the reasons why the album 'SOUR' is so successful and beloved by many. Furthermore, the use of metaphors in music can provide new perspectives on our own emotions and experiences. When we listen to songs like those in "SOUR," we might find new ways to understand and interpret our own feelings. Metaphors help us explore and express the

complex aspects of human experience that might be difficult to articulate directly. (Meek 1999) says that, metaphors are used to express things that cannot be explained directly due to a lack of vocabulary.

Although there is some research on the use of metaphors in music, there is a significant research gap regarding an in-depth and structured analysis of how metaphors emotionally and cognitively affect listeners in the context of popular music. There are several journal articles such as, Nugraheny & Yuwita, 2023; Sofian, 2022; Maoula et al., 2022; Tumanggor & Siahaan, 2023; Zulaika et al., 2023. Among the studies mentioned, much of the research only focuses on individual songs, limiting the scope of analysis. Research related to metaphors in songs can also be found in other studies, although with a different focus, for instance, Bernadetta et al., 2023; Aziz Vikri & Achmad Nurcholis, 2022; Wibowo et al., 2024. Those studies focused on identifying and analyzing different types of metaphors in instagram and songs. Each study categorizes metaphors based on a particular theoretical framework, such as Goatly's metaphor types, Abdul Wahab's syntactic types, or Parera's metaphor classification. several studies also explain metaphors in poetry written by, Ketaren & Br. Pakpahan, 2021; Muliawati et al., 2019; Cenita & Nurmaily, 2020; Marlianingsih, 2016; Raharta & Hamsia, 2016; Harahap et al., 2022. The result is to show how metaphors contribute to the expression of abstract concepts such as life, longing, racial inequality, and aging. Metaphors are used to convey emotions, personal experiences, or universal themes in ways that enrich the reader's understanding of the poems. In other studies, there are also metaphors found in novels that include, Meranggi et al., 2022; Layegh, 2020; Meyer Hajar Mutiara Ningtyas et al., 2021; Anone et al., 2023; Yanti & Lailiyah, 2018; Khairuddin, 2015; Kurniawati et al., 2014; Wibowo & Handayani, 2023. Several of these studies focus on the identification and analysis of metaphorical language, particularly the exploration of source and target domains in metaphors. Of the few studies, the study on Olivia Rodrigo's album "SOUR" filled this gap by conducting a structured analysis of

metaphors across several songs in an album. It explores the types and functions of metaphors using Lakoff and Johnson's theory of metaphor. This research goes beyond the analysis of a single song, offering a more holistic understanding of the use of metaphors in popular music.

This study aims to explore and describe the use of metaphors in Olivia Rodrigo's 'SOUR' album, focusing on their representation and interpretation by listeners. By investigating the types and functions of metaphors in the lyrics of the album, this study seeks to understand how these literary devices contribute to the emotional depth of the songs. This research answers two main questions: What types of metaphors are most used in Olivia Rodrigo's 'SOUR' album, and what role do they play in conveying emotional depth? What are the functions of metaphors in the 'SOUR' album, and what functions appear most, whether aesthetic, psychological, or cognitive, in the songs? The findings from the research on the album 'SOUR' in this paper are expected to provide several benefits, including enriching the literature by adding new insights into the field of metaphor studies, especially in the context of popular music; providing a deeper understanding of how metaphors can be effectively used in musical communication to convey messages that are emotional and complex; offering practical guidance for musicians and lyricists on how to use metaphors to create greater emotional representations and interpretations for listeners; and increasing listeners' appreciation of music by understanding how metaphors create a richer and deeper listening experience.

The study of metaphors in song lyrics, such as those found in Rodrigo's 'SOUR,' reveals not only the skilled use of language by the artist but also the cognitive and emotional mechanisms at play. Metaphors in music can evoke strong imagery and elicit powerful emotional responses, allowing listeners to connect more deeply with the songs. Using metaphor theory from scholars like Lakoff and Johnson, who argue that metaphors are fundamental to human thought and communication, this analysis will

provide insights into how Rodrigo's lyrical metaphors reflect and shape the emotional landscape of her music.

Overall, Olivia Rodrigo's album 'SOUR' demonstrates the power of language and metaphors in music. Through careful and creative use of metaphors, Rodrigo effectively conveys deep and complex emotions, creating a rich and meaningful listening experience for her audience. This is evidence that language, with all its beauty and depth, can be a powerful tool for connecting and understanding one another.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **Semantics**

Semantics is a branch of linguistics that studies meaning in language. It goes beyond merely defining words, and exploring how meanings are constructed and interpreted by language users. Semantics examines the relationships between words and the concepts they represent. For example, the word "net" can mean a fishing tool in one context but refer to the internet in another. According to (Cruse 2006), semantics not only studies lexical meaning but also the pragmatic aspects that influence the interpretation of utterances.

Semantics plays a vital role in communication, as word meanings are fluid, evolving with cultural and contextual shifts (Geeraerts 2010). It helps us understand figurative language, such as metaphors, enriching expression, and adding depth. In the digital age, semantics is essential for effective communication across platforms like social media and email, where even emojis carry nuanced meanings (Dresner and Herring 2010). As (Lakoff and Johnson 2008) noted, semantics reveals the cognitive frameworks behind our use of language and metaphors.

In summary, semantics is key to understanding language's dynamic meanings, fostering clearer and more nuanced communication in both traditional and digital contexts.

### **Figurative Language**

Figurative language is a beautiful element of human communication, as it uses figures of speech to transcend literal meanings and create richer, more vivid expressions (Minda 2021). Through metaphors, similes, and personifications, it enhances writing, deepens understanding, and helps us connect with complex ideas (Cummins 2023).

An intriguing aspect of figurative language is its reflection of cultural identity; metaphors often mirror a culture's values and worldview. In education, it proves highly effective, as figurative comparisons make abstract concepts easier to understand and remember (Zee 2020). In arts and literature, poets, novelists, and musicians use it to evoke emotion and imagination, enriching their work and resonating with audiences.

In summary, figurative language is an extraordinary tool that enriches communication, enhances empathy, and deepens understanding. Its power lies in its ability to connect us with the world and each other in profound and intuitive ways.

## **Metaphor**

A metaphor is a language used to compare something with an object that has certain similarities. According to Aristotle in the journal (Subagiharti 2023), a metaphor is a logical tool for expressing intangible ideas. This view is supported by various linguists and literary scholars who consider metaphor an important device for understanding and communicating abstract ideas. (Moran 1997) highlights the role of metaphor in literature, where living metaphors provide deep and expressive insights.

The cognitive linguistic perspective emphasizes that metaphors are not just about language but are fundamental to human thought. According to (Lakoff and Johnson 2008), metaphors shape perceptions and conceptual systems, influencing thought, action, and experience. In literature, metaphors enrich texts, bridging the gap between known and unknown concepts, making abstract ideas tangible, and enabling multiple interpretations.

Metaphors evoke emotions, create connections, and inspire actions, making them powerful in speeches, advertising, and communication. Their effectiveness lies in tapping into the audience's existing knowledge and experiences. In conclusion, metaphors are essential tools for thinking, communicating, and artistic expression, helping us understand abstract ideas, connect with others, and enrich our culture.

### **Type of Metaphor**

Metaphors are integral to our understanding of how people discuss abstract concepts, significantly influencing our understanding of figurative expressions. According to (Lakoff and Johnson 2008), there are three main types of conceptual metaphors: structural, orientational, and ontological. The following will explore each type of metaphor:

#### **1. Structural Metaphor**

A structural metaphor maps one conceptual structure onto another, allowing one concept to be understood through the framework of another. For example, war a familiar and concrete concept is often used to describe arguments or love, providing a framework of strategies, attacks, defenses, and victories for discussing abstract ideas.

#### **2. Orientational Metaphor**

Orientational metaphors organize ideas based on spatial relationships like up-down, inside-out, and front-behind. These spatial orientations structure and make sense of abstract concepts in human cognition.

#### **3. Ontological Metaphor**

Ontological metaphors help conceptualize experiences as tangible entities, making abstract ideas easier to understand by treating them as concrete substances.

The research concluded that metaphors play a crucial role in our comprehension of abstract concepts and figurative expressions. According to Lakoff and Johnson, there are three primary types of conceptual metaphors: structural, orientational, and ontological. Structural metaphors map one conceptual structure onto another, helping to understand abstract ideas through more concrete and familiar frameworks. Orientational metaphors organize ideas based on spatial relationships, illustrating how we cognitively structure and comprehend abstract concepts. Ontological metaphors allow us to conceptualize experiences as tangible entities, facilitating the understanding of abstract ideas by representing them as concrete substances. Together, these metaphors shape our perception and articulation of complex, abstract notions.

### **Function of Metaphor**

Based on (Muzaffarovna and Usmonovna 2022) analysis of the functional aspects of metaphor identifies three main areas of metaphorical activity in language:

1. **Aesthetic Function of Metaphors:**

Metaphors serve an aesthetic purpose by evoking positive emotions in the reader. Metaphors enhance the expressiveness of speech, creating a sense of novelty and surprise, thus fulfilling the classical notion of beauty. In ancient times, beauty was associated with anything that seemed aesthetically expressive and was synonymous with art.

2. **Psychological Function of Metaphors:**

Metaphors help stabilise the psychological process of human perception of the world. By using familiar words, metaphors present information visually through images. Metaphors animate inanimate objects and bring abstract concepts to life, adding dynamics and essential content.

3. **Cognitive Functions of Metaphors:**

Metaphors clarify ideas by avoiding exaggeration and expressing concepts concisely. They increase the clarity and brilliance of speech without making it meaningless or trivial. Metaphors establish a link between a concept and its specific semantic context, thus concretising its meaning.

Based on the statement above, it could be concluded that Muzaffarovna & Usmonovna (2022) highlight the diverse role of metaphors in language. Metaphors have three main functions: aesthetic, psychological, and cognitive. Aesthetically, metaphors enhance the expressiveness of speech and evoke positive emotions, aligning with classical notions of beauty. Psychologically, metaphors help stabilize human perception by presenting information through familiar and clear imagery, animating inanimate objects, and bringing abstract concepts to life. Cognitively, metaphors clarify and concretize ideas, making speech more concise and understandable without diminishing its meaning. These functions collectively emphasize the important role metaphors play in enriching communication and understanding.

## **METHOD**

This study employed a qualitative descriptive method to analyze the use of metaphors in Olivia Rodrigo's 'SOUR' album. The descriptive research approach was chosen to understand and depict the complex phenomenon of metaphor usage in song lyrics in detail. According to (Manjunatha. N 2021), descriptive research aims to characterize the population or phenomenon being studied.

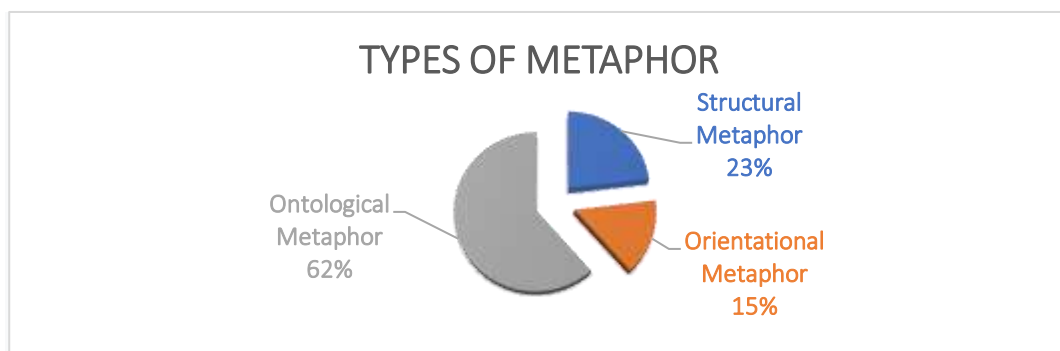
The data for this study were gathered from the lyrics of songs from 'SOUR' by Olivia Rodrigo, sourced from the Spotify platform. Seven songs from the album were selected for analysis. The lyrics were accessed and verified using Spotify's embedded lyric feature, ensuring consistency with the official song releases. Each song's lyrics were thoroughly reviewed to identify metaphorical expressions related to emotional themes such as love, betrayal, and jealousy.

The analysis was guided by Lakoff and Johnson's Conceptual Metaphor Theory, categorizing the identified metaphors into structural, ontological, and orientational types. The function of each metaphor whether aesthetic, cognitive, or psychological was determined using the framework proposed by (Muzaffarovna and Usmonovna 2022). Data collection followed four steps: First, metaphors were organized based on their type and function. Second, the lyrics were categorized according to metaphor types and functions. Third, each metaphor was assigned a code corresponding to its type and function. Finally, the findings were described in detail.

## RESULTS

The analysis in this chapter is divided into two sections. In the findings section, a diagram presents data analysis from seven selected songs in Olivia Rodrigo's album 'SOUR'. The researcher identified various metaphors, with ontological types being the most common, while the cognitive function was prevalent in conveying emotional depth. The first section examines metaphor types in the album's lyrics, using the framework from Lakoff and Johnson, and the second section explores metaphor functions based on Muzaffarovna and Usmonovna theory. A diagram below categorizes metaphor types, followed by a table summarizing metaphor functions in the songs.

**Figure 1.** Types of Metaphor



Tables 1. Function of Metaphor

No	Function of Metaphor	Frequency	Percentage
1	Aesthetic	8	31%
2	Psychological	9	38%
3	Cognitive	8	31%

### Types of Metaphor

According to the diagram above, Researchers identified 25 metaphors in Olivia Rodrigo's 'SOUR' album lyrics. Ontological metaphors are the most common, comprising 62%, followed by structural metaphors at 23%, and orientation metaphors at 15%. These metaphors enrich the lyrics, adding emotional depth and clarity to the themes expressed.

The types of metaphors identified in 'SOUR' are grounded in Lakoff and Johnson's theory, which categorizes metaphors as structural, orientational, and ontological. From the selected songs analyzed, various metaphor types were found as follows:

#### 1. Ontological Metaphors

Ontological metaphors assign physical properties to abstract ideas, enhancing emotional resonance and relatability in Rodrigo's lyrics.

##### 1. Data/01/OTM/HPPR

The metaphor in the lyric "**From all the sunlight of our past**" is ontological. The abstract notion of "the past" is described as containing "sunlight," which is usually associated with warmth, positivity, and clarity. Here, "sunlight" metaphorically represents cherished memories or joyful experiences, as though these moments were tangible rays of light illuminating the past. By representing "the past" to something we can see and feel, the lyric makes memories seem almost touchable, as if they have a presence we could

experience in a physical way. This use of metaphor gives the abstract concept of the past a concrete, ontological presence, making it feel more accessible and emotionally alive.

## 2. **Data/05/OLM/DRL**

**“God, I'm so blue, know we're through”** the metaphor in this lyric is ontological, describing a person feeling deep sadness and heartbreak after a breakup. The word "blue" here refers to the emotional state of sadness and melancholy often associated with this color in popular culture. "Blue" is a metaphor frequently used to symbolize feelings of sorrow or depression, helping to vividly convey the emotional depth of the situation.

## 3. **Data/06/OLM/JJ**

The lyric **“But it feels like that weight is on my back.”** it describes the feeling of jealousy as a burden that is physically felt on a person's back. The word "weight" here is used metaphorically to represent the emotional strain caused by jealousy. In this case, "weight" is a term often used to convey the heaviness or burden of a difficult emotion, making it relatable and tangible for the listener. Thus, the phrase serves as an ontological metaphor, attributing a physical form to an abstract feeling, which helps listeners visualize and empathize with the emotional impact of jealousy.

## 4. **Data/07/OLM/FC**

In Olivia Rodrigo's song "Favorite Crime," the lyrics **"I crossed my heart as you crossed the line"** use ontological metaphors to convey abstract ideas. "Crossed my heart" represents a broken or betrayed promise or feeling, while "crossed the line" illustrates a breach of moral or ethical boundaries. This use of language helps listeners understand

complex emotions through relatable imagery. In the context of the song, "crossed my heart" symbolizes sincerity and commitment, while "crossed the line" signifies a betrayal, adding depth to the representation of heartbreak in the lyrics.

## 5. Data/08/OLM/G4U

The line "**But your apathy is like a wound in salt**" is an ontological metaphor, where apathy is likened to a wound exposed to salt. This metaphor involves an abstract concept "apathy" being given the qualities of a tangible object "a wound in salt". Based on the lyric above, this song describes an abstract concept "apathy" being represented through a metaphor that gives it physical, tangible qualities. The word "wound" in this context evokes a sense of emotional pain, while the term "salt" intensifies this pain, illustrating how apathy can deepen emotional hurt. Ontological metaphors like these are commonly used in literature to make complex emotions or abstract ideas more understandable and clearer to the reader.

## 2. Orientational Metaphors

Orientational metaphors use spatial orientations, such as up-down or inside-out, to structure understanding and shift perspectives.

### 1. Data/01/ORM/TTR

Metaphor "**All the twisted games**" is an orientational metaphor that associates games with something "twisted" or distorted. It implies that interactions within the relationship are full of manipulation and deceit. Based on the lyric, it describes a relationship where actions or interactions are deceptive or manipulative, creating a sense of mistrust. The word "games" in the context of relationships often refers to playful, strategic, or insincere interactions, especially in situations involving power dynamics or emotional manipulation.

## 2. Data/02/ORM/JJ

The lyric **“their win is not my loss”** employs an orientational metaphor, using orientation to structure understanding of winning and losing. This orientation encourages viewing others’ successes positively, rather than competitively. According to the context of this lyric, it describes a non-competitive perspective, where achievements are viewed independently, encouraging a healthy approach to success that focuses on self-worth rather than comparison.

## 3. Structural Metaphors

Structural metaphors allow for understanding one concept in terms of another, providing clarity in complex emotions and relationships.

### 1. Data/01/STM/HPPR

The lyric **"Like cuttin' her down will make you miss my wretched heart"** uses a structural metaphor. In this context, "cuttin' her down" represents a destructive action aimed at someone else, suggesting that such an action might evoke feelings of loss or longing for the speaker’s troubled heart. The phrase "cuttin' her down" metaphorically conveys the idea of causing harm to another person to gain a reaction or awareness from a loved one. This metaphor illustrates the complexities of love and the emotional turbulence that can arise from trying to navigate relationships.

### 2. Data/02/STM/TTR

The metaphor **"Show her off like she’s a new trophy"** compares human relationships to the dynamic between a winner and a trophy, where the woman is perceived as an object of admiration. In this context, the phrase suggests that someone may showcase their partner to highlight their own success or status. This metaphor reflects a tendency in society to objectify individuals in relationships, reducing them

to symbols of achievement rather than recognizing their full humanity. The idea of "trophy" implies that the relationship is more about possession and pride than genuine connection.

### 3. Data/03/STM/G4U

The phrase **“Like a fucking sociopath”** as a structural metaphor, indicating that a person's behavior reminds us of the behavior of a sociopath. In a structural metaphor, one concept is understood through the framework of another, which suggests that an individual's actions can be compared to the behavior exhibited by a sociopath. This metaphor emphasizes the severity or abnormality of a person's behavior by likening it to the traits of a sociopath. These lyrics illustrate the use of a metaphor to convey an understanding of someone's behavior by likening it to that of a sociopath. The term ‘sociopath’ in psychological discourse refers to an individual with a specific personality disorder characterized by antisocial behavior, lack of empathy, and manipulation. ‘Like a damn sociopath’ is a phrase often used to describe someone whose actions are perceived as cold, calculating, or lacking in empathy.

### Function of Metaphor

Referring on the table above, the researcher identified 25 instances with 3 functions of metaphor in Olivia Rodrigo's album ‘SOUR.’ The functions identified include Psychological at 38%, Aesthetic at 31%, and Cognitive at 31%.

These metaphorical functions are highlighted by the theory from Muzaffarovna & Usmonovna (2022), which highlights three main functions of metaphor: Aesthetic, Psychological, and Cognitive. Based on the data above, each of these metaphor functions contributes uniquely to the depth and emotional resonance in Rodrigo's lyrics, as follows:

#### 1. Aesthetic

The aesthetic function enhances the beauty and expressiveness of language. It allows language to be more alive, engaging, or pleasing, adding an artistic quality to the message.

### 1. Data/02/ASF/TTR

Olivia Rodrigo's song 'Traitor' explores the complexity and turmoil of a troubled relationship, using the metaphor of 'twisted games' to convey deep emotional conflicts. The type of metaphor function found in lyric "**all the twisted games**" is Aesthetic function. This artistic metaphor allows listeners to feel the weight of the betrayal and intricacies involved in the connection between the two people. It highlights how love can turn into a complicated struggle filled with conflicting emotions."

### 2. Data/04/ASF/HUO

**"Address the letters, to the holes in my butterfly wings."**

This metaphor serves an aesthetic function, beautifying the lyrics with imaginative and poetic imagery. The use of "butterfly wings" suggests something beautiful yet fragile, while the "holes" emphasize a sense of loss or deep wounds.

## 2. Psychological

The psychological function of metaphor serves to influence emotions and attitudes. It reflects how metaphors shape or affect the mental and emotional state of the listener or reader.

### 1. Data/01/PSYF/HPPR

The lyric "**Like cuttin' her down will make you miss my wretched heart**" expresses feelings of hurt and betrayal. The psychological function of this metaphor emphasizes the intensity of the emotions involved, conveying a sense of deep emotional pain and loss. Based on the statement above, the type of metaphor function found is Psychological. This metaphor illustrates the intensity of the emotions,

helping listeners understand the depth of hurt and betrayal being experienced.

## 2. Data/03/PSYF/DRL

**"God, I'm so blue, know we're through,"** reflects a deep emotional struggle in Olivia Rodrigo's song "Drivers License." The metaphor here functions psychologically, conveying the speaker's profound sadness and sense of loss after a breakup. The writer uses this metaphor to express the intense feelings of heartache and emotional turmoil stemming from the end of a relationship.

## 3. Cognitive

The cognitive function of metaphor involves aiding in the understanding or conceptualization of complex ideas.

### 1. Data/01/CGF/HPPR

The lyric **"She probably gives you butterflies"** uses a metaphor function cognitive that evokes the feeling of nervousness or fluttering. This metaphor helps listeners connect with the familiar sensation of anxiety in romantic contexts, making it easier for them to understand and remember these emotions. The writer wants to convey that the metaphor helps the listener relate to and understand the feeling of nervousness in a way that is easy to understand and remember.

### 2. Data/02/CGF/TTR

**"Show her off like she's a new trophy,"** from Olivia Rodrigo's "Traitor," serves as a metaphor illustrating how one might perceive their partner as an achievement or a mere display item. This expression underscores the power dynamics and objectification within relationships, functioning as a cognitive metaphor. Based on this analysis, the type of metaphor identified is Cognitive Metaphor.

## DISCUSSION

Metaphors serve as essential linguistic tools for connecting abstract concepts with tangible experiences, enabling more profound understanding and engagement with language. As discussed by Lakoff and Johnson, metaphors play a pivotal role in shaping human cognition and communication, providing a framework for articulating complex emotions. Olivia Rodrigo's debut album 'SOOR' exemplifies this phenomenon through its intricate use of metaphorical language, contributing significantly to its widespread acclaim and billions of global streams.

The analysis of the album's lyrics revealed 25 different metaphors, with ontological metaphors constituting the majority at 62%, followed by structural metaphors at 23%, and orientational metaphors at 15%. Metaphors with psychological functions appeared most frequently, accounting for 38%, while aesthetic and cognitive functions each represented 31%. These patterns underscore the strategic deployment of metaphors to convey emotional depth, enhance lyrical expressiveness, and facilitate understanding of abstract experiences.

Ontological metaphors dominate the album, transforming abstract emotions into vivid, relatable physical sensations. For example, the metaphor "God, I'm so blue, know we're through" encapsulates sadness through the symbolic association of the color blue with melancholy. Structural metaphors, though less prevalent, contribute clarity and insight into the complex emotional themes, while orientational metaphors enrich the spatial and relational dimensions of the lyrics. The combination of these metaphor types enhances the thematic cohesion and emotional resonance of the songs.

The emphasis on ontological metaphors reflects a thematic alignment with the emotional intensity of the album, particularly its exploration of heartbreak, betrayal, and self-reflection. The psychological function of metaphors reveals their capacity to influence emotional responses, fostering empathy and a deeper connection with the narrative.

The balance between aesthetic and cognitive functions further highlights the dual role of metaphors in beautifying language while also facilitating comprehension of intricate ideas.

These findings are consistent with existing research emphasizing the cognitive and communicative significance of metaphors, as articulated by Lakoff and Johnson, and the emotional stabilizing effects noted by Muzaffarovna and Usmonovna. Unlike previous studies, which often focus on individual songs or isolated metaphors, this analysis provides a comprehensive examination of metaphorical usage across an entire album, addressing gaps in the literature. By situating metaphor analysis within the realm of popular music, this study expands the understanding of how metaphors function in diverse linguistic and cultural contexts.

The metaphorical richness of 'SOUR' illustrates the profound role of language in bridging abstract and concrete experiences, enabling listeners to navigate and articulate complex emotions. By integrating theoretical frameworks with detailed lyrical analysis, this research highlights the transformative power of metaphors in music, offering valuable insights for future studies on the interplay of language, emotion, and cultural expression.

## **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, this study demonstrates how metaphors in Olivia Rodrigo's 'SOUR' album play a key role in expressing emotions like heartbreak, betrayal, and self-reflection. Ontological metaphors, which turn abstract feelings into vivid, relatable images, were found to be the most common. These metaphors help listeners connect deeply with the lyrics by making complex emotions feel more tangible. Additionally, the psychological function of metaphors stands out, as it helps evoke strong emotions and fosters a deeper emotional connection between the music and the audience. Meanwhile, their aesthetic and cognitive functions enhance the beauty of the lyrics and make abstract ideas easier to understand.

That said, this study has its limitations. By focusing solely on one album, the findings cannot necessarily be applied to other artists or genres. Moreover, how metaphors are interpreted may vary from person to person. Future research could build on this work by examining metaphors across different artists, genres, or cultural contexts. Studies could also investigate how metaphors emotionally impact listeners to provide a more complete understanding of their effects.

This research highlights the important role metaphors play in music. Not only do they make songs more emotionally impactful, but they also enrich the listener's experience by helping them better understand and relate to the emotions being expressed. This shows how powerful language can be in creating meaningful connections between artists and their audiences.

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