

Source Code (SC)
Written in any high
level language

Compiler

- Translates whole SC into object code so that it can be executed without the need for a compiler
- Compile once, run many!
- Useful if code needs to be distributed

Interpreter

- Analyses SC statement by statement and decodes and executes each one
- Interpret once, run once!
- Useful for Program Development

Object Code (OC)
Compiled from SC -
pros: portable and
secure

Machine Code (MC)
Machine language:
01011101001

Assembler

- Translates AL into MC

- First generation (Low level)
 - Machine code
 - Quick to execute
- Second generation (Low level)
 - Assembly language
 - Quick to execute
 - Occupies less space
- Third generation (High Level)
 - 3 types
 - Imperative; Declarative; Object-oriented
 - Quicker to write as less code required
 - Easier to maintain and debug
 - Machine independent → portable
 - Problem oriented

Assembly Language (AL)

Low level language close to MC and written in mnemonics specific to the computer's architecture (i.e. processor). Useful to program device drivers. 1:1 correspondence between one AL command and MC.