**Machine code**

Machine code is the low-level binary 1s and 0s that make up the instructions to the processor. These are processed directly by the CPU and are the final output of a compiler for given CPU and operating system combination. Machine code for one CPU and OS will not run on different CPU or OS that isn’t compatible. (i.e. Intel x64 Windows OS machine code will not run on Intel x86 Windows OS ).

**Byte code**

Byte code is a virtualized machine code. Unlike machine code for a real processor, byte code is often for an idealized or virtual processor that doesn’t actually exist. Byte code is based on a CPU architecture like a register or stack machine but often uses general features common to any CPU or instructions and concepts that don’t exist on any CPU.