The most obvious differences between JSON and BSON for me are that the JSON is (basically) human readable. That is great for us, but not so much for our computers. Extra steps are needed for the data to be processed in the computer’s native language: binary.

It won’t look pretty to most of us, but the data withing a JSON, or especially a collection of JSONs, can be parsed, ingested, and processed much more quickly (MongoDB, n.d.). This change over to binary also permits more types of data to be stored, like images and even executable programs! An advanced enough user can even define there own data types (MongoDB, n.d.).

With some key differences out of the way, I want to address some commonalities. Both represent data in collections of field-value pairs. Both support unicode (Oracle, 2022), which is a way of storing and displaying characters of a language (i.e. English, Spanish, Japanese). To sum up with what may be the most obvious, but important, commonality: both are file types used for data serialization, which makes them a convenient format for contextual data transmission, storage, and retrieval.

Citations:

Oracle. (2022). Oracle Database JSON Developer's Guide, 19c (E96227-17). Retrieved from Oracle website: [https://docs.oracle.com/en/database/oracle/oracle-database/19/adjsn/index.html#Oracle%C2%AE-Database](https://docs.oracle.com/en/database/oracle/oracle-database/19/adjsn/index.html" \l "Oracle®-Database)

MongoDB (n.d.). json-and-bson. Retrieved from MongoDB website: https://www.mongodb.com/json-and-bson