Computing Center
Novosibirsk 630090
USSR

January 19, 1978

Mr. Yoshihiko Futamura
Tokyo

Dear Mr. Futamura,

Your letter reached me on the eve of the New Year
according our Orthodox Calendar and it was, really, the best
New Year gift. Eight months I was unsuccessfully hunting
your paper after reading a reference in a report issued by
Erick Sandewall group in Linköping (Sweden) but you have found
me first. Thank you very much indeed.

Firstly, I would like to pay the full respect to your
pioneering work in application of partial evaluation to the
theory of compilation. I acknowledge that (as I know) your
paper is the first explicit statement that object code can be
systematically obtained by partial evaluation of the language
interpreter over source text.

I am gladly sending you our recent publications related
to the subject. The papers are selfspeaking and require no
comments. The preprint is a Russian original of the English
paper "On the essence of compilation".

We are working now in several directions:

- formal treatment of mixed computation in recursive
  schemes;
- informal definition of mixed computation in "real"
  languages (with blocks, structured data and procedures);
- an experiment in obtaining an Algol 60 compiler systema-
  tically as the generating extension of an Algol 60
  interpreter;
- obtaining language oriented parsers from universal
  parsers by mixed computation.

It is too premature to make definite conclusions but in general we are, really, very enthusiastic in the work.

I hope that, following the general interest emering now to the partial evaluation concept, you can inform us on a further progress of your study of the subject. From our side we are interested very much in establishing a working contact.

Sincerely yours

Andrei Ershov

Professor Andrei Ershov, Head
Informatics Department

Printed material is sent separately.