Computing Center
Novosibirsk 630090
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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 systematically 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 emerging 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

Andreï Ershov

Professor Andreï Ershov, Head
Informatics Department

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