Sluicing-COMP generalization (Merchant 2001, p. 62)

In sluicing, no non-operator material may appear in COMP.

- No T-o-C movement in sluicing:
  1. A: Max has invited someone.
     B: Really? Who (*has)?
  2. A: Max has jemanden eingeladen.
     B: Echt? Wen (*hat)?
  3. A: Max heeftmmand uitgenodegid.
     B: Ja? Wie (*heeft)?

- South Slavic 2nd position clitics are standardly put in COMP.
     Š. aux bought something someone what aux who
     ‘Spela bought something to someone. What to whom?’

Merchant (2001) gives the generalization according to which, in sluicing, C is always null.

- ‘operator’ = ‘syntactic wh-XP’
- ‘meant to include complementizers, verbs, clitics, agreement morphemes, and the like.’

Sluicing-COMP generalization (Merchant 2001, p. 62)

These discourse particles do not seem to be located inside the wh-phrase:

- Simple questions: They are located after the clitic cluster (clitics do not break syntactic constituents in Slovenian)

- When wh-word stays in situ, these particles cannot follow it.

These particles are not...

- operators, in our case wh-elements, since all wh-elements in Slovenian are composed with a morpheme k-č/*č (in pronouns kdo ‘who’, kaj ‘what’, česa ‘what-gen’, in phrases kateri x ‘which x’). But overt operators can be found in some languages (cf. Cranenbroeck and Lipták 2006 for Hungarian).

- in the wh-phrase. → They should be in C.

So how does sluicing work in Slovenian:

Slovenian is a multiple wh-fronting language & sluicing has multiple remnants. In multiple wh-questions particles typically follow the first and precede the 2nd wh-word.

Since only IP gets deleted in sluicing → both wh-phrases have to move higher, the first one to the higher FocP, the lower one to FinP.

Prediction: particles can also appear in wh-sluices of other multiple wh-fronting languages which also have sluicing with multiple remnants.

When wh-word stays in situ, these particles cannot follow it.

| (6) A: Peter je videl Janeza. B: Koga druža *(š)je? |
| Peter aux saw Janez. Who else PTCL | ‘Peter saw someone. Who else?’ |
| b. B: Koga druža je še videl? |
| Who else aux PTCL see | ‘Who else did he see?’ |
| c. Koga je še videl Peter? | aux clitic > še | ‘Who else did Peter see?’ |
| Who aux PTCL see Peter | ‘Who is it that Peter saw?’ |
| (7) a. Koga je pa Peter videl? |
| Who aux PTCL see Peter | ‘Who is it that Peter saw?’ |
| b. Koga je že Peter videl? |
| aux clitic > že | ‘Please tell me again, who did Peter see?’ |
| c. Koga je to Peter videl? |
| aux clitic > to | ‘Who is it that Peter saw?’ |

In Slovenian some discourse particles can appear after the wh-word in sluicing constructions (from here on, examples in Sloj.):

(5) a. A: Peter je videl nekoga. B: Koga pa <je videl>?
     Peter aux saw someone. Who PTCL aux saw
     ‘Peter saw someone. Who?’

b. A: Peter je videl nekoga. B: Koga že <je videl>?
     Peter aux saw someone. Please tell me again, who?
     ‘Peter saw someone. Who else?’

- Somebody came. ‘Who?’
- Ivan came. ‘Who else?’

Some discourse particles do not seem to be located inside the wh-phrase:

- In simple questions they are located after the clitic cluster (clitics do not break syntactic constituents in Slovenian)

- These discourse particles can be stacked - in a fixed word order.

- When wh-word stays in situ, these particles cannot follow it.

- Operators, in our case wh-elements, since all wh-elements in Slovenian are composed with a morpheme k-č/*č (in pronouns kdo ‘who’, kaj ‘what’, česa ‘what-gen’, in phrases kateri x ‘which x’). But overt operators can be found in some languages (cf. Cranenbroeck and Lipták 2006 for Hungarian).

- These particles are not...

- Operators, in our case wh-elements, since all wh-elements in Slovenian are composed with a morpheme k-č/*č (in pronouns kdo ‘who’, kaj ‘what’, česa ‘what-gen’, in phrases kateri x ‘which x’). But overt operators can be found in some languages (cf. Cranenbroeck and Lipták 2006 for Hungarian).

- These particles come in a certain order — heads in the expanded left periphery. Assuming the expanded left periphery of Rizzi (1997), we can put them in the structure like this:

Further questions:

- What gets deleted in sluicing? → IP
- How to link the generalization and the expanded left periphery?

So how does sluicing work in Slovenian:

Slovenian is a multiple wh-fronting language & sluicing has multiple remnants. In multiple wh-questions particles typically follow the first and precede the 2nd wh-word.

Since only IP gets deleted in sluicing → both wh-phrases have to move higher, the first one to the higher FocP, the lower one to FinP.

Prediction: particles can also appear in wh-sluices of other multiple wh-fronting languages which also have sluicing with multiple remnants.

Possibility/Conclusion:

Sluicing COMP-generalization holds only for single wh-fronting languages (e.g. English), where the single wh-word moves to FinP. 

Only the head of FinP should be silent.