

Catenation i.e., linking of similar atoms depends on size and electronic configuration of atoms. The tendency of catenation in Group 14 elements follows the order:

(i)  $C > Si > Ge > Sn$  (ii)  $C \gg Si > Ge \approx Sn$  (iii)  $Si > C > Sn > Ge$  (iv)  $Ge > Sn > Si > C$