

## 1. DEFINITION

If a function is one to one and onto from A to B, then function  $g$  which associates each element  $y \in B$  to one and only one element  $x \in A$ , such that  $y = f(x)$ , then  $g$  is called the inverse function of  $f$  denoted by  $x = g(y)$ .

Usually, we denote  $g = f^{-1}$  {Read as  $f$  inverse}

$$x = f^{-1}(y).$$

If  $\cos \theta = x$ , then may be any angle whose cosine is  $x$ , and we write  $\theta = \cos^{-1} x$ . It means that  $\theta$  is an angle whose cosine is  $x$ .

Thus,  $\sin^{-1} \frac{1}{2}$  is an angle, whose sin is  $\frac{1}{2}$ , i.e.  $\theta = \sin^{-1} \frac{1}{2} = n\pi + (-1)^n \frac{\pi}{6}$

where,  $\frac{\pi}{6}$  is the least positive value of  $\theta$ .

Function	Domain	Range(Principal Values)
$\sin^{-1}x$	$[-1, 1]$	$\left[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$
$\cos^{-1}x$	$[-1, 1]$	$[0, \pi]$
$\tan^{-1}x$	$\mathbf{R}$	$\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$
$\cot^{-1}x$	$\mathbf{R}$	$(0, \pi)$
$\sec^{-1}x$	$\mathbf{R} - (-1, 1)$	$[0, \pi] - \left\{\frac{\pi}{2}\right\}$
$\operatorname{cosec}^{-1}x$	$\mathbf{R} - (-1, 1)$	$\left[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] - \{0\}$

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**Note:**  $\sin^{-1}x$  is not to be interpreted as  $\frac{1}{\sin x}$ .

Arc is also used for inverse e.g.  $\sin^{-1}x = \arcsin x$

### Remark:

1. The inverse trigonometric functions are also written  $\arcsin x$ ,  $\arccos x$  etc.
2. 1<sup>st</sup> quadrant is common to the range of all the inverse functions.
3. 3<sup>rd</sup> quadrant is not used in inverse function.
4. 4<sup>th</sup> quadrant is used in the clockwise direction i.e.  $-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq y \leq 0$ .
5. No inverse function is periodic. Basically these functions are one to one functions.

### Illustration 1:

Find the principal values of

(i)  $\operatorname{cosec}^{-1}(-1)$

(ii)  $\cot^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)$

### Solution:

(i) Let  $\theta$  be the principal value of  $\operatorname{cosec}^{-1}(-1)$ .

$$\theta \in (-\pi/2, \pi/2) - \{0\} \text{ and } \operatorname{cosec}^{-1}(-1) = \theta$$

$$\therefore \theta = -\frac{\pi}{2} \text{ because } -\frac{\pi}{2} \in \left[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] - \{0\} \text{ and because } \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = -1$$

$$\therefore \text{Principal value of } \operatorname{cosec}^{-1}(-1) = -\frac{\pi}{2}.$$

(ii) Let  $\theta$  be the principal value of  $\cot^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)$

$$\therefore \theta \in (0, \pi) \text{ and } \cot \theta = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\therefore \theta = \pi - \frac{\pi}{3} = \frac{2\pi}{3}, \text{ because } \frac{2\pi}{3} \in (0, \pi) \text{ and } \cot\left(\pi - \frac{\pi}{3}\right) = -\cot \frac{\pi}{3} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}.$$

$$\therefore \text{Principal value of } \cot^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right) = \frac{2\pi}{3}$$

## 2. Some Properties of Inverse Trigonometric Functions

### Property I:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| (a) $\sin^{-1}(\sin x) = x;$                                 | for all $x \in [-\pi/2, \pi/2]$          |
| (b) $\cos^{-1}(\cos x) = x;$                                 | for all $x \in [0, \pi]$                 |
| (c) $\tan^{-1}(\tan x) = x;$                                 | for all $x \in (-\pi/2, \pi/2)$          |
| (d) $\cot^{-1}(\cot x) = x;$                                 | for all $x \in (0, \pi)$                 |
| (e) $\sec^{-1}(\sec x) = x;$                                 | for all $x \in [0, \pi], x \neq \pi/2$   |
| (f) $\operatorname{cosec}^{-1}(\operatorname{cosec} x) = x;$ | for all $x \in [\pi/2, \pi/2], x \neq 0$ |

### Illustration 2:

Evaluate:  $\tan^{-1} \{ \tan (-6) \}$

### Solution

We know that,  $\tan^{-1}(\tan \theta) = \theta$ , if  $-\pi/2 < \theta < \pi/2$ .

Here,  $\theta = -6$  radians which does not lie between  $-\pi/2$  and  $\pi/2$

We find that

$$2\pi - 6 \text{ lie between } -\pi/2 \text{ and } \pi/2$$

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Such that,  $\tan (2\pi - 6) = -\tan 6 = \tan (-6)$

$$\tan^{-1} (\tan (-6)) = \tan^{-1} (\tan (2\pi - 6)) = (2\pi - 6).$$

### Property II:

- (a)  $\sin (\sin^{-1} x) = x;$  for all  $x \in [-1, 1]$
- (b)  $\cos (\cos^{-1} x) = x;$  for all  $x \in [-1, 1]$
- (c)  $\tan (\tan^{-1} x) = x;$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$
- (d)  $\cot (\cot^{-1} x) = x;$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$
- (e)  $\sec (\sec^{-1} x) = x;$  for all  $x \in (-\infty, -1] \cup [1, \infty)$
- (f)  $\operatorname{cosec} (\operatorname{cosec}^{-1} x) = x;$  for all  $x \in (-\infty, -1] \cup [1, \infty)$

### Illustration 3:

Evaluate:  $\cos \left\{ \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right) \right\}.$

### Solution

$$\cos \left\{ \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right) \right\} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, \text{ as } \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \in [-1, 1]$$

### Property III:

- (a)  $\sin^{-1}(-x) = -\sin^{-1}(x);$  for all  $x \in [-1, 1]$
- (b)  $\cos^{-1}(-x) = \pi - \cos^{-1}(x);$  for all  $x \in [-1, 1]$
- (c)  $\tan^{-1}(-x) = -\tan^{-1}(x);$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$
- (d)  $\cot^{-1}(-x) = \pi - \cot^{-1}(x);$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$
- (e)  $\sec^{-1}(-x) = \pi - \sec^{-1}(x);$  for all  $x \in (-\infty, -1] \cup [1, \infty)$
- (f)  $\operatorname{cosec}^{-1}(-x) = -\operatorname{cosec}^{-1}(x);$  for all  $x \in (-\infty, -1] \cup [1, \infty)$

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### Property IV:

- (a)  $\sin^{-1}x + \cos^{-1}x = \frac{\pi}{2}$ ; for all  $x \in [-1, 1]$
- (b)  $\tan^{-1}x + \cot^{-1}x = \frac{\pi}{2}$ ; for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$
- (c)  $\sec^{-1}x + \operatorname{cosec}^{-1}x = \frac{\pi}{2}$ ; for all  $x \in (-\infty, -1] \cup [1, \infty)$

### Property V:

- (a)  $\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = \operatorname{cosec}^{-1}x$ ; for all  $x \in (-\infty, -1] \cup [1, \infty)$
- (b)  $\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = \sec^{-1}x$ ; for all  $x \in (-\infty, -1] \cup [1, \infty)$
- (c)  $\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = \begin{cases} \cot^{-1} x; & \text{for } x > 0 \\ -\pi + \cot^{-1} x; & \text{for } x < 0 \end{cases}$

### Property VI:

- (a)  $\sin^{-1} x = \cos^{-1}(\sqrt{1-x^2}) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}\right)$   
 $= \cot^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{1-x^2}}{x}\right) = \sec^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}\right) = \operatorname{cosec}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right), x \in (0, 1)$
- (b)  $\cos^{-1} x = \sin^{-1}(\sqrt{1-x^2}) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{1-x^2}}{x}\right)$

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$$= \cot^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}\right) = \sec^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = \operatorname{cosec}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}\right), \quad x \in (0, 1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(c)} \quad \tan^{-1} x &= \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}}\right) = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x^2}}\right) \\ &= \cot^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = \sec^{-1}\left(\sqrt{1+x^2}\right) = \operatorname{cosec}^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{1+x^2}}{x}\right), \quad x > 0 \end{aligned}$$

### Property VII:

$$\text{(a)} \quad \sin(\cos^{-1}x) = \cos(\sin^{-1}x) = \sqrt{1-x^2}, \quad -1 \leq x \leq 1$$

$$\text{(b)} \quad \tan(\cot^{-1}x) = \cot(\tan^{-1}x) = \frac{1}{x}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, x \neq 0$$

$$\text{(c)} \quad \operatorname{cosec}(\sec^{-1}x) = \sec(\operatorname{cosec}^{-1}x) = \frac{|x|}{\sqrt{x^2-1}}, \quad |x| > 1$$

### Property VIII:

$$\text{(a)} \quad \tan^{-1}x + \tan^{-1}y = \begin{cases} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x+y}{1-xy}\right), & x \geq 0, y \geq 0 \text{ and } xy < 1 \\ \frac{\pi}{2}, & x \geq 0, y \geq 0 \text{ and } xy = 1 \\ \pi + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x+y}{1-xy}\right), & x \geq 0, y \geq 0 \text{ and } xy > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{(b)} \quad \tan^{-1}x - \tan^{-1}y = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x-y}{1+xy}\right), \quad x \geq 0, y \geq 0$$

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### Illustration 4:

Show that  $(\tan^{-1} 1 + \tan^{-1} 2 + \tan^{-1} 3) = \pi$

### Solution

$$\tan^{-1} 2 + \tan^{-1} 3 = \pi + \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{2+3}{1-2 \times 3} \right) \{ \text{as } (2)(3) > 1 \} = \pi + \tan^{-1} (-1)$$

$$\tan^{-1} (1) + \tan^{-1} (2) + \tan^{-1} (3) = \tan^{-1} (1) + \pi - \tan^{-1} (1)$$

$$(\tan^{-1} 1 + \tan^{-1} 2 + \tan^{-1} 3) = \pi$$

### Property IX:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad \sin^{-1} x + \sin^{-1} y &= \sin^{-1} (x\sqrt{1-y^2} + y\sqrt{1-x^2}), \quad x \geq 0, y \geq 0 \text{ and } x^2 + y^2 \leq 1 \\ &= \pi - \sin^{-1} (x\sqrt{1-y^2} + y\sqrt{1-x^2}), \quad x \geq 0, y \geq 0 \text{ and } x^2 + y^2 > 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{(b)} \quad \sin^{-1} x - \sin^{-1} y = \sin^{-1} (x\sqrt{1-y^2} - y\sqrt{1-x^2}), \quad x \geq 0, y \geq 0$$

### Property X:

$$\text{(a)} \quad \cos^{-1} x + \cos^{-1} y = \cos^{-1} (xy - \sqrt{1-x^2} \sqrt{1-y^2}), \quad x \geq 0, y \geq 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(b)} \quad \cos^{-1} x - \cos^{-1} y &= \cos^{-1} (xy + \sqrt{1-x^2} \sqrt{1-y^2}), \quad x \geq 0, y \geq 0 \text{ and } x \leq y \\ &= \cos^{-1} (xy + \sqrt{1-x^2} \sqrt{1-y^2}), \quad x \geq 0, y \geq 0 \text{ and } x > y \end{aligned}$$

### Some Other Property:

$$\text{(a)} \quad 2 \sin^{-1} x = \begin{cases} -\pi - \sin^{-1} (2x\sqrt{1-x^2}), & \text{if } -1 \leq x < -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \sin^{-1} (2x\sqrt{1-x^2}), & \text{if } -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \leq x \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \pi - \sin^{-1} (2x\sqrt{1-x^2}), & \text{if } \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} < x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

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$$(b) \quad 3 \sin^{-1} x = \begin{cases} -\pi - \sin^{-1}(3x - 4x^3), & \text{if } -1 \leq x < -\frac{1}{2} \\ \sin^{-1}(3x - 4x^3), & \text{if } -1 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ \pi - \sin^{-1}(3x - 4x^3), & \text{if } \frac{1}{2} < x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

$$(c) \quad 2 \cos^{-1} x = \begin{cases} 2\pi - \cos^{-1}(2x^2 - 1), & \text{if } -1 \leq x < 0 \\ \cos^{-1}(2x^2 - 1), & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

$$(d) \quad 3 \cos^{-1} x = \begin{cases} 2\pi + \cos^{-1}(4x^3 - 3x), & \text{if } -1 \leq x < -\frac{1}{2} \\ 2\pi - \cos^{-1}(4x^3 - 3x), & \text{if } -\frac{1}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ \cos^{-1}(4x^3 - 3x), & \text{if } \frac{1}{2} < x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

$$(e) \quad 2 \tan^{-1} x = \begin{cases} -\pi + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2x}{1-x^2}\right), & \text{if } x < -1 \\ \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2x}{1-x^2}\right), & \text{if } -1 < x < 1 \\ \pi + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2x}{1-x^2}\right), & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$$



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$$(f) \quad 3 \tan^{-1} x = \begin{cases} -\pi + \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{3x - x^3}{1 - 3x^2} \right), & \text{if } x < -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{3x - x^3}{1 - 3x^2} \right), & \text{if } -1 < x < \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \pi + \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{3x - x^3}{1 - 3x^2} \right), & \text{if } x > \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \end{cases}$$

### Illustration 5:

Solve the equation:  $2 (\sin^{-1} x)^2 - (\sin^{-1} x) - 6 = 0$

### Solution

Let,  $\sin^{-1} x = y$ , we get

$$2y^2 - y - 6 = 0$$

$$2y^2 - 4y + 3y - 6 = 0$$

$$y = 2 \text{ and } y = -1.5$$

$$\sin^{-1} x = 2 \text{ and } \sin^{-1} x = -1.5$$

Since  $2 > \pi/2$  and  $|-1.5| < \pi/2$ , the only solution is  $x = -\sin 1.5$

### Illustration 6:

Solve the equation:  $\sin^{-1} 6x + \sin^{-1} 6\sqrt{3}x = -\pi/2$

### Solution

Let us transfer  $\sin^{-1}(6\sqrt{3}x)$  into the right hand side of the equation and calculate the sine of the both sides of the resulting equation:

$$\sin (\sin^{-1} 6x) = \sin (-\sin^{-1} 6\sqrt{3}x - \pi / 2)$$

$$\Rightarrow 6x = -\sin(\sin^{-1} 6\sqrt{3}x + \sin^{-1} 1) \{ \text{using } \sin^{-1} (-x) = -\sin^{-1} (x) \}$$

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$$\Rightarrow 6x = -\sin(\sin^{-1} \sqrt{1-108x^2})$$

$$\{\text{using } \sin^{-1} x + \sin^{-1} y = \sin^{-1} \{x\sqrt{1-y^2} + y\sqrt{1-x^2}\}\}$$

$$\Rightarrow 6x = -\sqrt{1-108x^2} \quad \dots(1)$$

Squaring both sides, we get

$$36x^2 = 1 - 108x^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 144x^2 = 1$$

whose roots are  $x = 1/12$  and  $x = -1/12$ .

Substituting  $x = -1/12$  in equation (1) and inverse trigonometric equation satisfy the equation but  $x = 1/12$  does not satisfy the equation (1) so only solution is  $x = -1/12$ .

### Illustration 7:

$$\text{Solve } 2\cos^{-1} x = \sin^{-1} (2x\sqrt{1-x^2})$$

### Solution

$$x = \cos y ; \text{ where } 0 \leq y \leq \pi, |x| \leq 1$$

$$2\cos^{-1} x = \sin^{-1} (2x\sqrt{1-x^2})$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\cos^{-1} (\cos y) = \sin^{-1} (2\cos y \cdot \sqrt{1-\cos^2 y})$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\cos^{-1} (\cos y) = \sin^{-1} (2\cos y \cdot \sin y)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\cos^{-1} (\cos y) = \sin^{-1} (\sin 2y)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sin^{-1} (\sin 2y) = 2y \text{ for } -\pi/4 \leq y \leq \pi/4$$

$$\text{and } 2\cos^{-1} (\cos y) = 2y \text{ for } 0 \leq y \leq \pi$$

Thus equation (i) holds only when,  $y \in [0, \pi/4]$

$$\Rightarrow x \in [\sqrt{2}/2, 1]$$

### Illustration 8:

Solve the equation  $\tan^{-1} \frac{x+1}{x-1} + \tan^{-1} \frac{x-1}{x} = \tan^{-1} (-7)$

### Solution

Taking the tangents of both sides of the equation, we have

$$\frac{\tan \left[ \tan^{-1} \frac{x+1}{x-1} \right] + \tan \left[ \tan^{-1} \frac{x-1}{x} \right]}{1 - \tan \left[ \tan^{-1} \frac{x+1}{x-1} \right] \tan \left[ \tan^{-1} \frac{x-1}{x} \right]} = \tan \{ \tan^{-1} (-7) \} = -7$$

$$\text{i.e., } \frac{\frac{x+1}{x-1} + \frac{x-1}{x}}{1 - \frac{x+1}{x-1} \frac{x-1}{x}} = -7$$

$$\text{i.e., } \frac{2x^2 - x + 1}{1 - x} = -7$$

so that  $x = 2$ .

The value  $x = 2$  is a solution of the equation

$$\tan^{-1} \frac{x+1}{x-1} + \tan^{-1} \frac{x-1}{x} = \pi + \tan^{-1} (-7)$$

### Illustration 9:

Find the sum to the  $n$  term of the series

$$\operatorname{cosec}^{-1} \sqrt{10} + \operatorname{cosec}^{-1} \sqrt{50} + \operatorname{cosec}^{-1} \sqrt{170} + \dots + \operatorname{cosec}^{-1} \sqrt{(n^2 + 1)(n^2 + 2n + 2)}$$

### Solution

$$\text{Let } \theta = \operatorname{cosec}^{-1} \sqrt{(n^2 + 1)(n^2 + 2n + 2)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta &= (n^2 + 1)(n^2 + 2n + 2) \\ &= (n^2 + 1)n^2 + 2n(n^2 + 1) + 2(n^2 + 1) \\ &= (n^2 + n + 1)^2 + 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cot^2 \theta = (n^2 + n + 1)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan \theta = \frac{1}{n^2 + n + 1} = \frac{(n + 1) - n}{1 + (n + 1)n}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \tan^{-1} \left[ \frac{(n + 1) - n}{1 + (n + 1)n} \right] = \tan^{-1} (n + 1) - \tan^{-1} n$$

Thus, sum of  $n$  terms of the given series

$$= (\tan^{-1} 2 - \tan^{-1} 1) + (\tan^{-1} 3 - \tan^{-1} 2) + (\tan^{-1} 4 - \tan^{-1} 3) + \dots + (\tan^{-1} (n + 1) - \tan^{-1} n)$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan^{-1} (n + 1) - \pi/4$$

### Illustration 10:

Find the sum of the first  $n$  terms of the series

$$\cot^{-1}(3) + \cot^{-1}(7) + \cot^{-1}(13) + \cot^{-1}(21) + \dots$$

### Solution

Let  $t_r$  denote the  $r^{\text{th}}$  term of the series 3, 7, 13, 21, ... and

$$S = 3 + 7 + 13 + 21 + \dots + t_n$$

$$\text{Also } S = 3 + 7 + 13 + \dots + t_{n-1} + t_n$$

Subtracting we get

$$0 = 3 + 4 + 6 + \dots + 2n - t_n$$

$$\Rightarrow t_n = 3 + 4 + 6 + \dots + 2n$$

$$= 3 + \frac{1}{2}(n-1)(4+2n) = n^2 + n + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Let } T_r &= \cot^{-1}(r^2 + r + 1) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{r^2 + r + 1}\right) \\ &= \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{r+1-r}{1+r(r+1)}\right) = \tan^{-1}(r+1) - \tan^{-1}r\end{aligned}$$

Thus, the sum of the first  $n$  terms of the given series is

$$\tan^{-1}(n+1) - \tan^{-1}(1) = \tan^{-1}\left[\frac{n+1-1}{1+1(n+1)}\right] = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{n}{n+2}\right)$$

### Illustration 11:

Find the sum  $\sum_{k=1}^n \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{2k}{2 + k^2 + k^4} \right)$

### Solution

We first try to put  $\tan^{-1} [(2k)/(2 + k^2 + k^4)]$  in the form

$$\tan^{-1} [(x - y)/(1 + xy)]$$

$$\text{Let } x - y = 2k \quad \text{and } xy = 1 + k^2 + k^4$$

$$\Rightarrow x(x - 2k) = 1 + k^2 + k^4 \Rightarrow x^2 - 2kx + k^2 = 1 + 2k^2 + k^4 \quad (\text{since } y = x - 2k)$$

$$\Rightarrow (x - k)^2 = (k^2 + 1)^2 \Rightarrow x - k = (k^2 + 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow x = k^2 + k + 1 \text{ and } y = k^2 - k + 1$$

$$\text{Therefore } \sum_{k=1}^n \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{2k}{2 + k^2 + k^4} \right) = \sum_{k=1}^n \tan^{-1} \left[ \frac{(k^2 + k + 1) - (k^2 - k + 1)}{1 + (k^2 + k + 1)(k^2 - k + 1)} \right]$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^n \tan^{-1} [\tan^{-1}(k^2 + k + 1) - \tan^{-1}(k^2 - k + 1)]$$

$$= (\tan^{-1} 3 - \tan^{-1} 1) + (\tan^{-1} 7 - \tan^{-1} 3) + (\tan^{-1} 13 - \tan^{-1} 17) + \dots + [\tan^{-1}(n^2 + n + 1) - \tan^{-1}(n^2 - n + 1)]$$

$$= \tan^{-1}(n^2 + n + 1) - \tan^{-1} 1 = \tan^{-1}(n^2 + n + 1) - \frac{\pi}{4}$$

### Illustration 12:

Find the sum of the series  $\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{2} + \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{8} + \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{18} + \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{32} + \dots \infty$ .

### Solution

We have

$$\begin{aligned}\tan^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{2r^2} \right) &= \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{2}{4r^2} \right) \\ &= \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{(2r+1) - (2r-1)}{1 + (2r+1)(2r-1)} \right) \\ &= \tan^{-1} (2r+1) - \tan^{-1} (2r-1)\end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{r=1}^n \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{2r^2} \right) &= \sum_{r=1}^n [\tan^{-1} (2r+1) - \tan^{-1} (2r-1)] \\ &= \tan^{-1} (2n+1) - \tan^{-1} (1) \\ &= \tan^{-1} (2n+1) - \pi/4 \\ \therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{r=1}^n \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{2r^2} \right) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\tan^{-1} (2n+1) - \pi/4] \\ &= \tan^{-1} (\infty) - \pi/4 = \pi/2 - \pi/4 = \pi/4\end{aligned}$$