

The sum of possible values of  $x$  for

$$\tan^{-1}(x+1) + \cot^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x-1}\right) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{8}{31}\right) \text{ is :}$$

**A**  $-\frac{32}{4}$

**B**  $-\frac{33}{4}$

**C**  $-\frac{31}{4}$

**D**  $-\frac{30}{4}$

$$\tan^{-1}(x+1) + \cot^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x-1}\right) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{8}{31}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan^{-1}(x+1) + \tan^{-1}(x-1) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{8}{31}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{(x+1)+(x-1)}{1-(x+1)(x-1)}\right) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{8}{31}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(1+x)+(x-1)}{1-(1+x)(x-1)} = \frac{8}{31}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2x}{2-x^2} = \frac{8}{31}$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x^2 + 31x - 8 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = -8, \frac{1}{4}$$

but at  $x = \frac{1}{4}$

$$LHS > \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ and } RHS < \frac{\pi}{2}$$

So, only solution is  $x = -8 = -\frac{32}{4}$