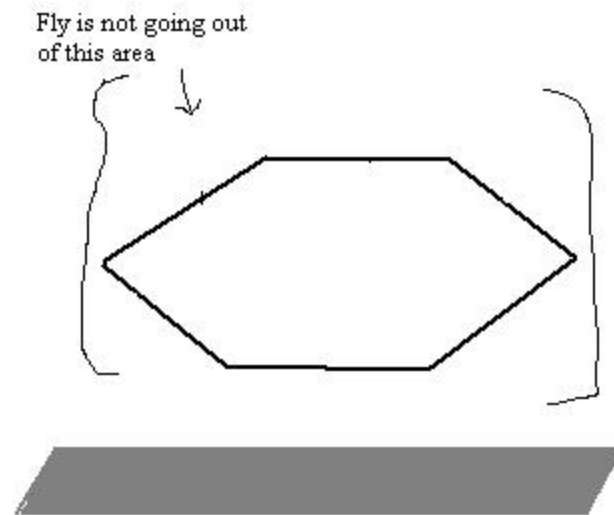


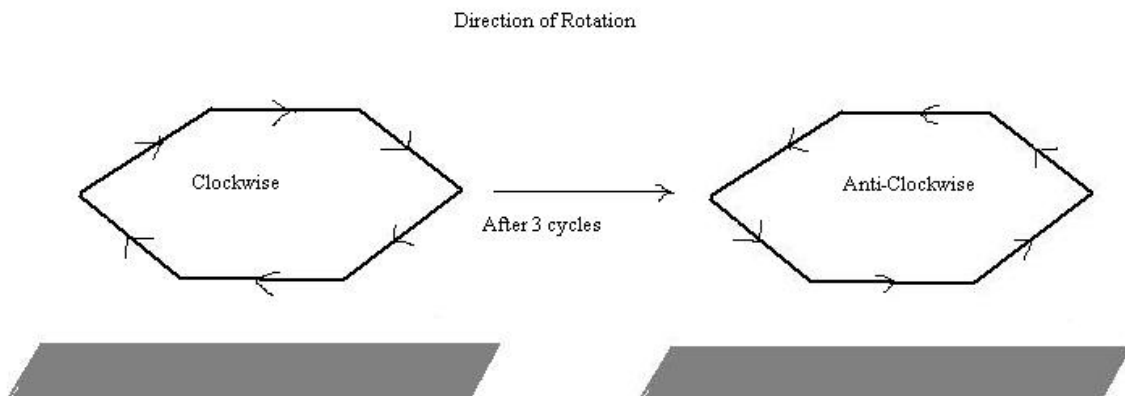
14 Feb 2006, 1:38 pm  
Moga, India

I was sitting on a chair in an open verandah in my house. There was a house fly at about a meter away from me. Its movement was very interesting. I made a strange observation:

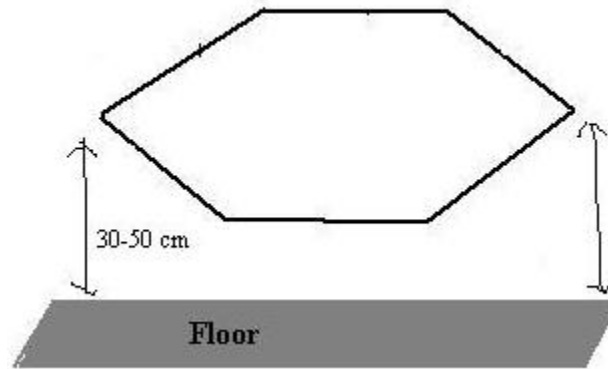
The house fly was following a specific hexagonal path continuously. Sometimes, for few seconds, it changed its speed or got a bit higher or got drifted from its hexagonal path but then quickly came back to same path and started following same hexagonal pattern on horizontal plane



I noticed that the fly was changing the direction of rotation every 2-3 hexagonal cycles. It was not following the same direction for more than 3 cycles.



The height of the plane of rotation was approximately 30-50 cm from ground. Sometimes, the fly moved out of plane and goes a bit higher but then quickly returned to same plane and pattern.

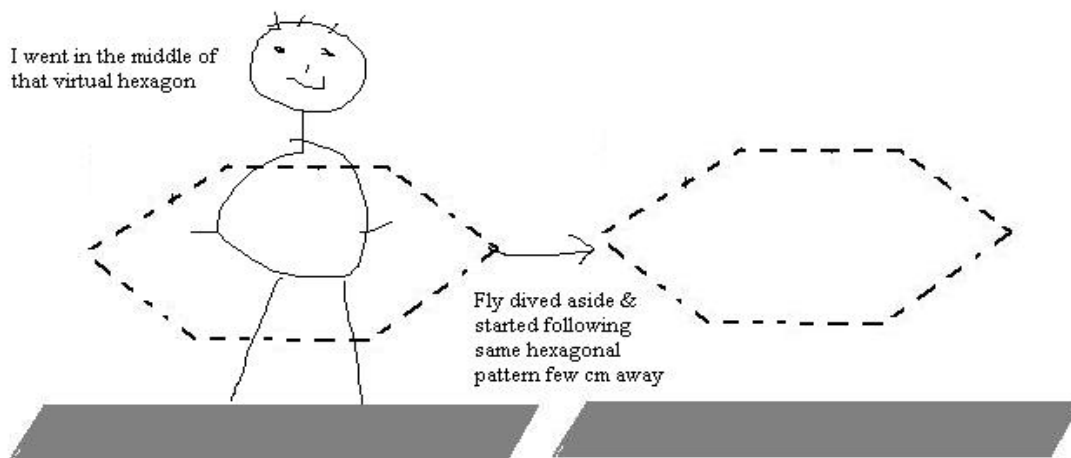


At the hexagonal edge, it took such a sudden sharp turn as if it had banged on to some unseen wall. It is to be noticed that the speed of fly was almost uniform throughout the process.

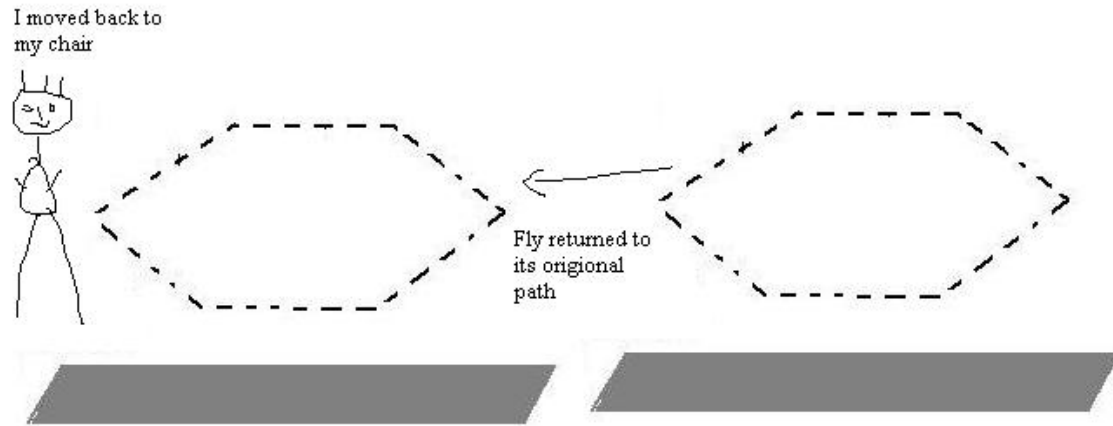
At 1:58 pm, i.e. even after 20 minutes, it was still following the same pattern. So, I tried to experiment with it. I blew the air hard towards it with my mouth. It suddenly jumped into air but to my utter astonishment, it quickly returned to same height and same plane and started following same pattern.

At 2:07, it drifted out of the marked region and had a random fly within verandah but within 6-7 seconds, it came back to same place and followed same path, at same height and same plane but in bit more random fashion. Its speed was not uniform now.

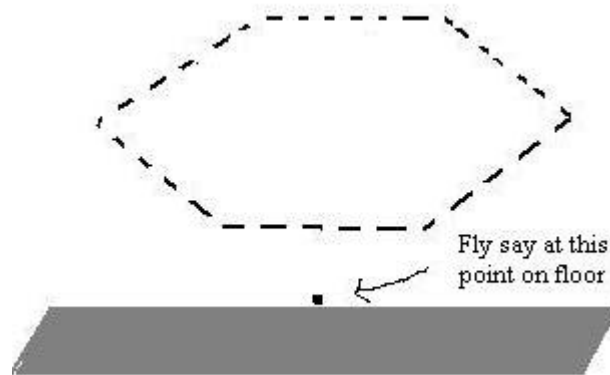
I went near to that hexagonal circuit, which it was following. The fly seemed to be unfazed by my presence. Then I tried to get into the middle of hexagonal path, the fly dived aside and started following same pattern few centimeters away from me.



When I moved out of that virtual hexagon, back to my chair (about a meter away), surprisingly, the fly came back to its original hexagonal path.



It started following the same pattern at same plane. Then suddenly, it sat on the floor, exactly in the middle of the virtual hexagon.



I regret, at that moment, mummy called me and I went to open the door.

I am very much surprised by this behavior of housefly and a question keeps on popping up in my mind again and again – WHY? I hope to receive some meaningful answer.