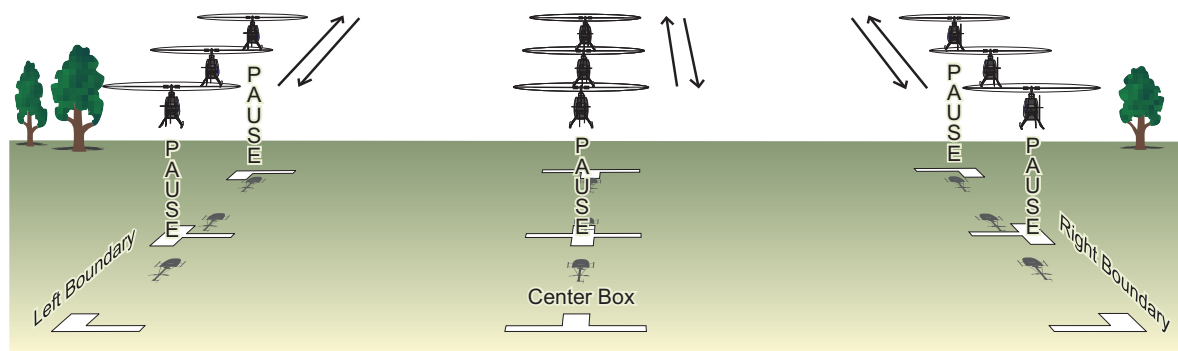
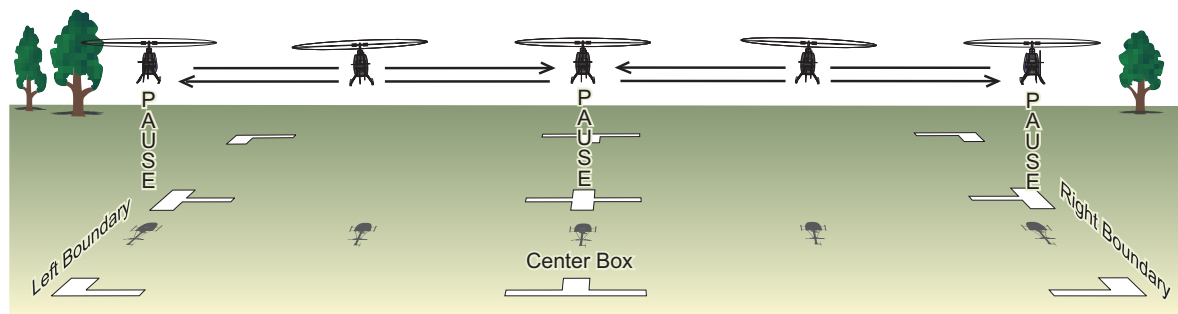


Basic Hover Maneuvering

Before attempting to maneuver, you should define a practice “box” area with points of reference to improve your consistency and help keep the heli in comfortable view. “Center box” will obviously be a comfortable distance in front of you and the left and right boundaries would ideally be marked (mowing lines, grass clumps, concrete seams, etc.). Note that the exact location of the boundaries isn’t as critical as just having something, rather than nothing, to aim for. You will have already maneuvered left and right, forward and backward to bring the helicopter back in front of you after deviations during hover practice. Now it’s time to maneuver on purpose: First, establish a stationary tail-in hover at center box, then initiate movement to your left or right followed by the appropriate tiny corrections to stabilize the movement. Stop the movement with an aileron bump near the box boundary and establish a stationary hover. When the heli is stable, initiate movement back to center box and reestablish a stationary hover in front of you before maneuvering to the other side of the box. Next, practice maneuvering forward and backward at center box and along the boundaries.

Initially practice moving the heli sideways to your right and left using the right stick to control the pace and direction of the movement and the rudder to keep the nose oriented in the same direction. Next, maneuver forward and backward at center box and along the boundaries.

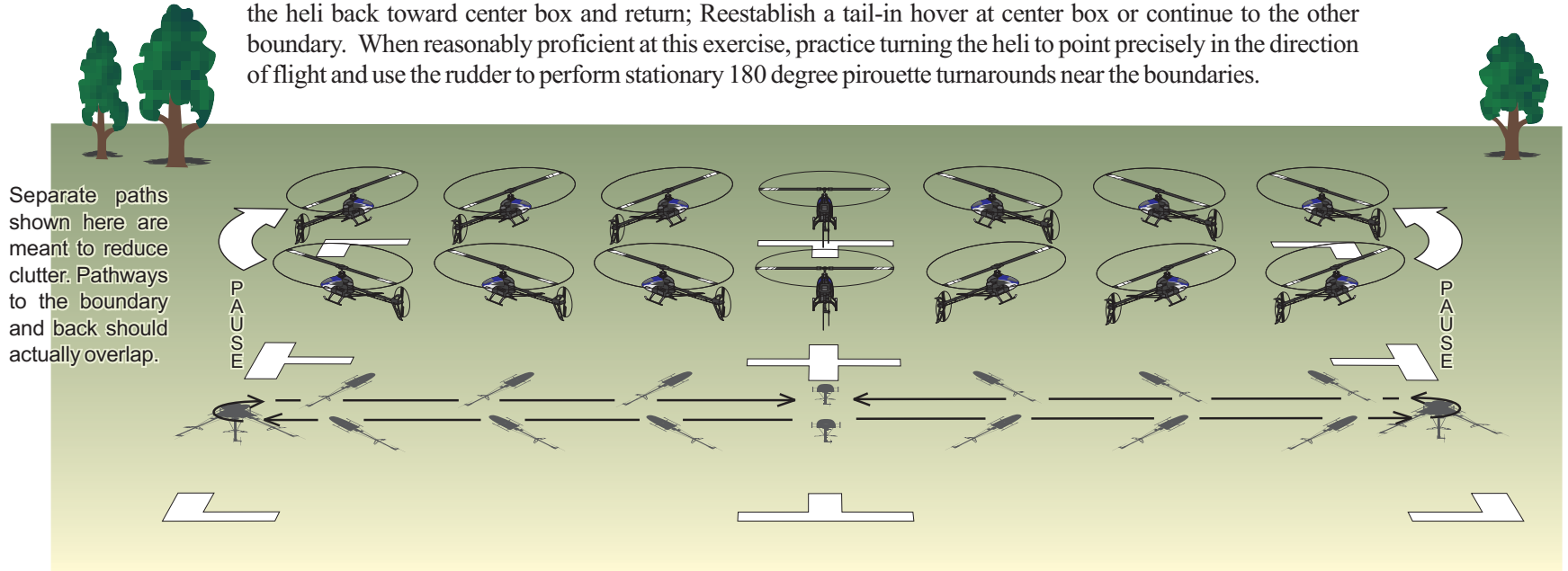
NOTICE: At this point you should also be evaluating the control response and adjusting the percentages in the radio more to your liking – just as you’ll do in the real world.



Maneuvering with Rudder and 180 Degree Pirouette (“Piro”) Turns



When you feel up to it, start using the rudder to turn the nose more into the direction of flight: Starting from a stationary tail-in hover, turn the heli 30-45 degrees to the right or left, then initiate movement with a small aileron bump. Use the right stick to continue moving in a straight line and the rudder to keep the heli oriented in the same direction; Stop the heli near the box boundary and establish a stationary hover. Then use the rudder to turn the heli back toward center box and return; Reestablish a tail-in hover at center box or continue to the other boundary. When reasonably proficient at this exercise, practice turning the heli to point precisely in the direction of flight and use the rudder to perform stationary 180 degree pirouette turnarounds near the boundaries.



Stop the movement with a small brief bump, and to reduce the odds of becoming disoriented, pause to establish a stationary hover before moving to the other side or changing direction.

