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Convexity of Momentum Maps: A Topological Analysis

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We extend the Local-to-Global-Principle used in the proof of convexity theorems for momentum maps to not necessarily closed maps \$f\colon X\ra Y\$ whose target space \$Y\$ carries a convexity structure which need not be based on a metric. Using a new factorization of \$f\$, convexity of its image is proved without local fiber connectedness, and for almost arbitrary spaces \$X\$. Geodesics are obtained by straightening rather than shortening of arcs, which allows a unified treatment and extension of previous convexity results.

 Comments: 21 pages LaTeX2e. Dedicated to Tudor S. Ratiu and Alan D. Weinstein for their tireless and outstanding support, and in memory of Jerrold E. Marsden. Several parts of the content were presented at the YTM 2010 in Copenhagen, Denmark, Jun 16-20, 2010, and at Geometry, Mechanics, and Dynamics: A workshop celebrating the 60th birthday of Tudor Ratiu at CIRM, Luminy, France, Jul 12-16, 2010
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