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*Push forwards of crossed squares*

It is well known that given a crossed module  $\partial : G_1 \rightarrow G_0$  of groups, then:

$\ker \partial$  is  $G_0$ -invariant, so that  $\ker \partial \rightarrow G_0$  is a crossed module;

the action of  $G_0$  on the abelian group  $\ker \partial$  passes to  $\text{coker } \partial$  so that  $\ker \partial \rightarrow \text{coker } \partial$  is still a crossed module.

We show that there is a corresponding result if we start with a crossed square (an internal crossed module in the category of crossed modules):

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G_1 & \xrightarrow{p_1} & \Gamma_1 \\ \partial \downarrow & & \downarrow \partial' \\ G_0 & \xrightarrow{p_0} & \Gamma_0 \end{array}$$

and we take the homotopical version of kernels and cokernels, using pullbacks for the first and push forwards for the second, so that in the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & \tilde{p}_1 & & & \\ & & & \curvearrowright & & & \\ G_1 & \xlongequal{\quad} & G_1 & \xrightarrow{p_1} & \Gamma_1 & \xrightarrow{\partial''} & G_0 \times_{G_1} \Gamma_1 \\ \bar{\partial} \downarrow & & \partial \downarrow & & \downarrow \partial' & & \downarrow d \\ G_0 \times_{\Gamma_0} \Gamma_1 & \xrightarrow{p_{G_0}} & G_0 & \xrightarrow{p_0} & \Gamma_0 & \xlongequal{\quad} & \Gamma_0 \\ & & \bar{p}_0 & \curvearrowright & \tilde{p}_0 & & \end{array}$$

both  $(p_1, \bar{p}_0)$  and  $(\tilde{p}_1, \tilde{p}_0)$  give rise to crossed squares.

References:

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