

# Chain rule for mult-variable functions

$f$

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$$f : \mathbb{R}^2$$

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$$f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

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$$\gamma$$

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$$(f \circ \gamma)'(t_0)$$

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$$(f \circ \gamma)_u(u_0, v_0)$$

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# Curves on surfaces

**Definition.**  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is a tangent vector of the surface  $S$  at a point  $p$ , if there is a  $\gamma$



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$\gamma : (\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  is a curve.

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$\gamma : (\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  is a curve.  
 $\sigma : U \rightarrow S$  a surface patch.

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$$\boxed{f_{\mathbf{v}}(x(t_0), y(t_0)) := (f \circ \gamma)'(t_0) = \nabla(f)(p) \cdot \mathbf{v}},$$

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## Curves on surfaces

**Definition.**  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is a tangent vector of the surface  $S$  at a point  $p$ , if there is a  $\gamma : (\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  so that  $p = \gamma(t)$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \dot{\gamma}(t)$

$\gamma : (\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  is a curve.

$\sigma : U \rightarrow S$  a surface patch.

So,  $\gamma(t) = \sigma(x(t), y(t))$

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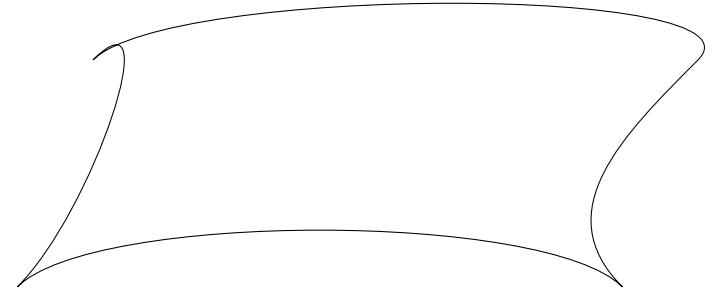
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## A curve on a surface

**Note::** This was not part of the lecture, however, since there seemed to be some confusion, this adds a diagram to support along with “subtitles”.

$$S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$$



Consider a surface in space

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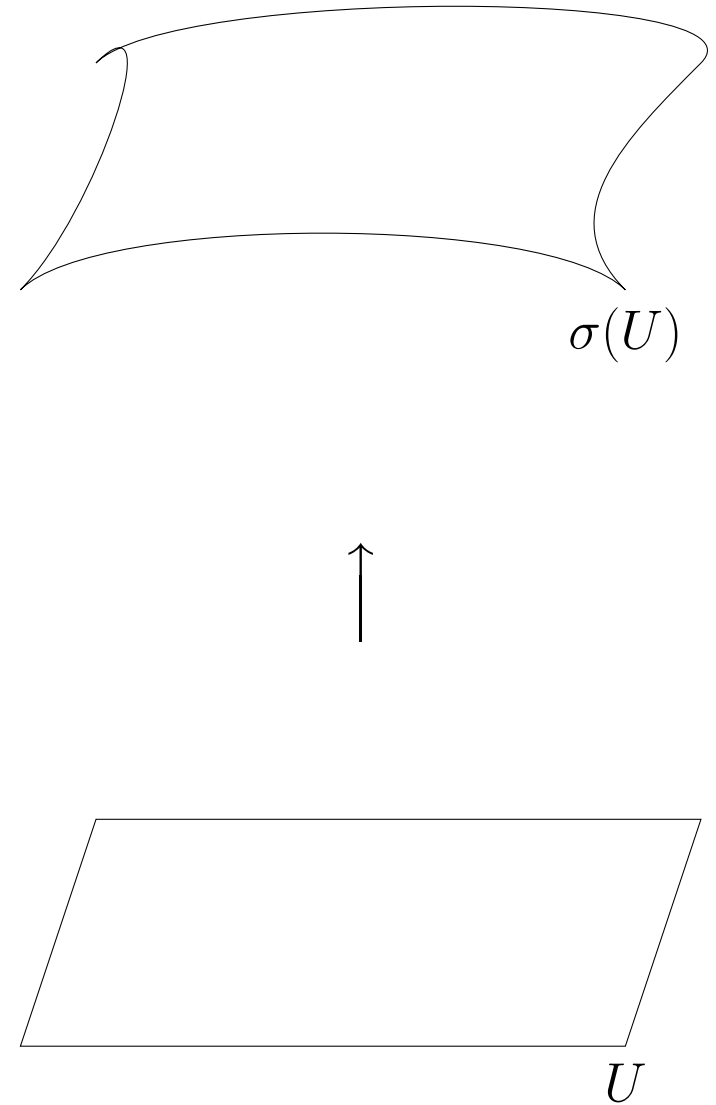
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## A curve on a surface

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$$U \rightarrow S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$$



and a surface patch which is a map

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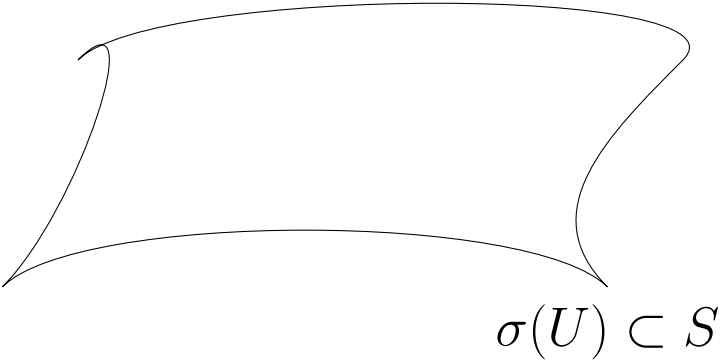
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# A curve on a surface

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onto a part of the surface



## Chain rule for mult-variable functions

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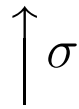
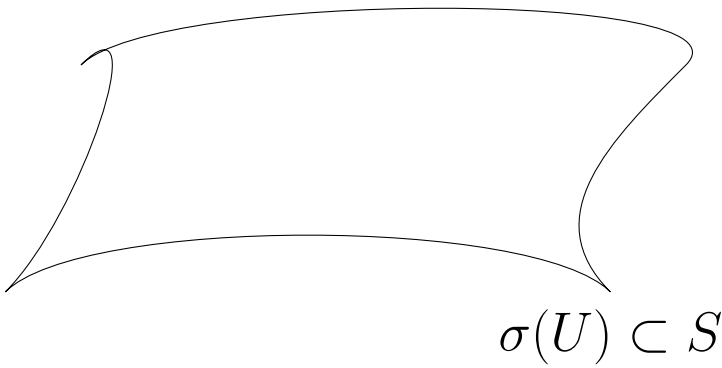
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# A curve on a surface

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$$\sigma : U \rightarrow S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$$



As usual we denote it by  $\sigma$ .

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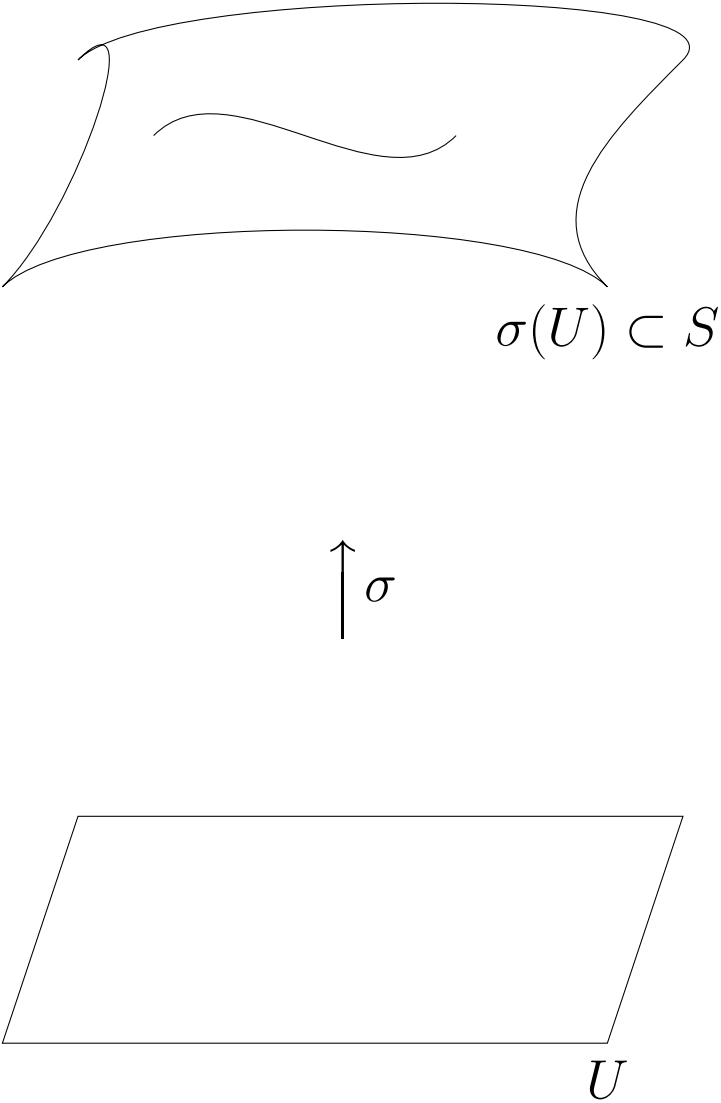
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# A curve on a surface

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$$\sigma : U \rightarrow S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$\gamma : (\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow S$$



Now consider a curve on the surface

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## Curves on surfaces

**Definition.**  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is a tangent vector of the surface  $S$  at a point  $p$ , if there is a  $\gamma : (\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  so that  $p = \gamma(t)$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \dot{\gamma}(t)$

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$\sigma : U \rightarrow S$  a surface patch.

So,  $\gamma(t) = \sigma(x(t), y(t)) = p \in S$

$$\dot{\gamma}(t) = x'(t)\sigma_x(p) + y'(t)\sigma_y(p)$$

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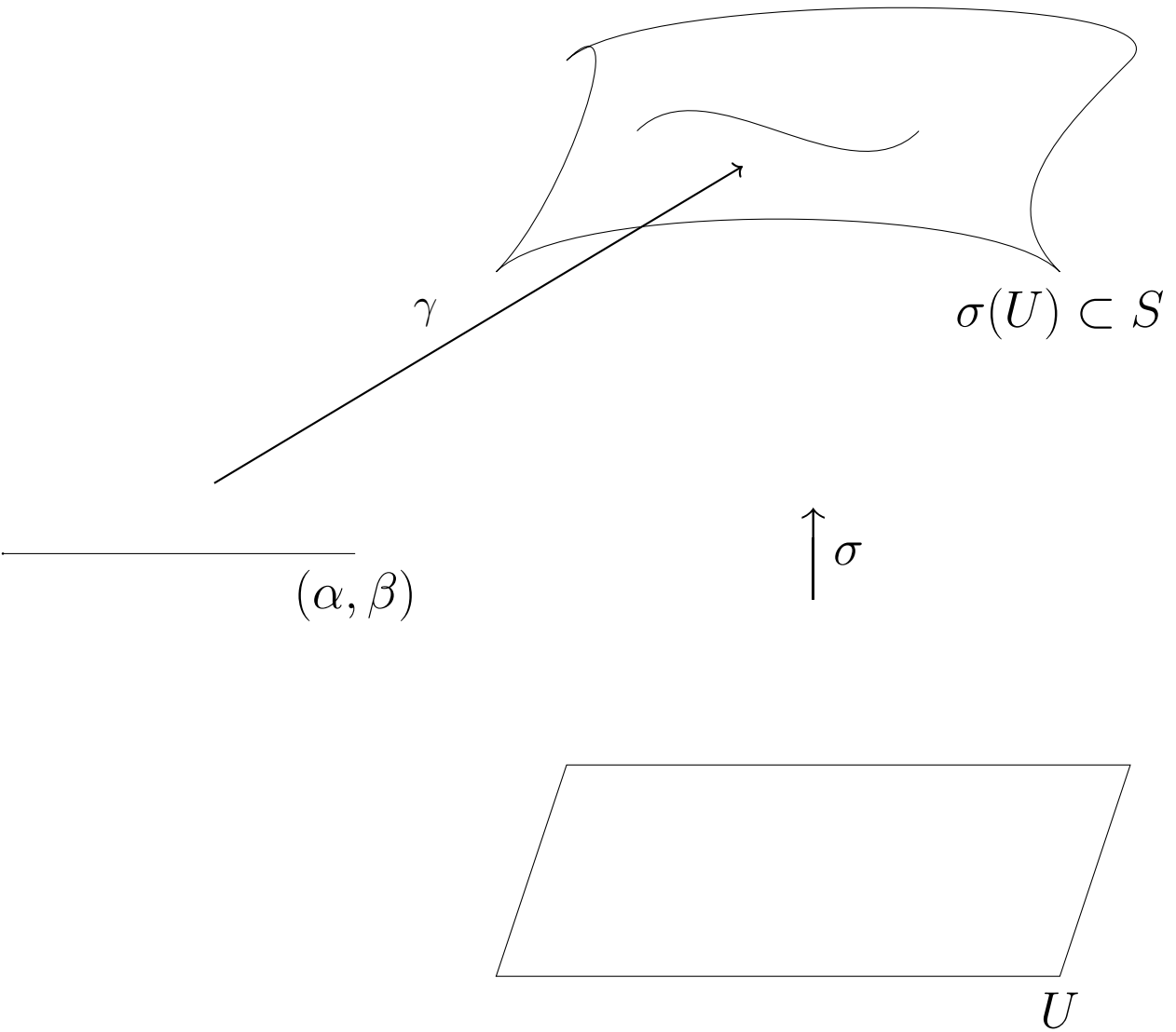
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# A curve on a surface

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parametrized by  $\gamma$

## Chain rule for mult-variable functions

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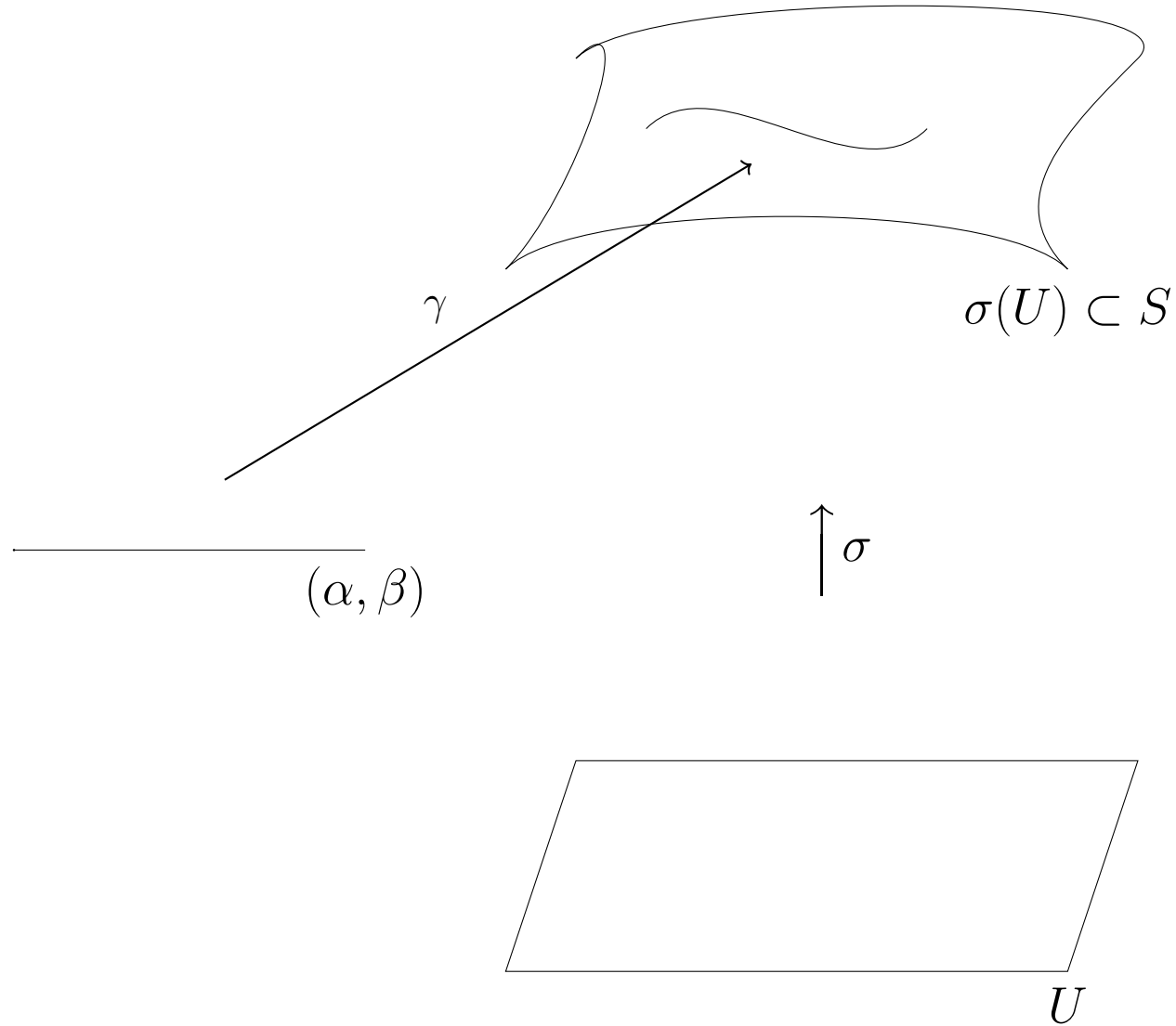
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and let us assume it lies in the image of the surface patch



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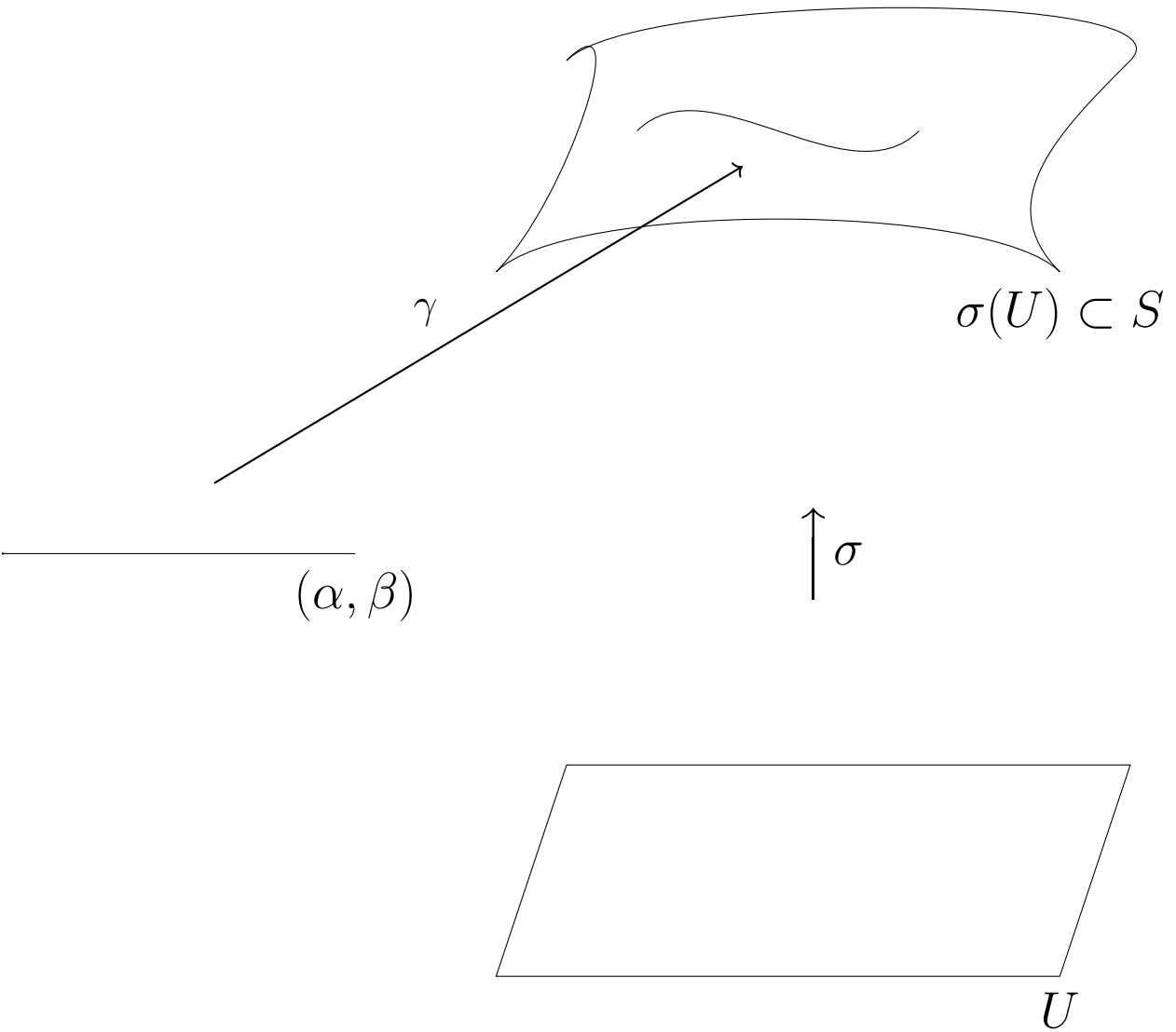
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But it is also a curve in space

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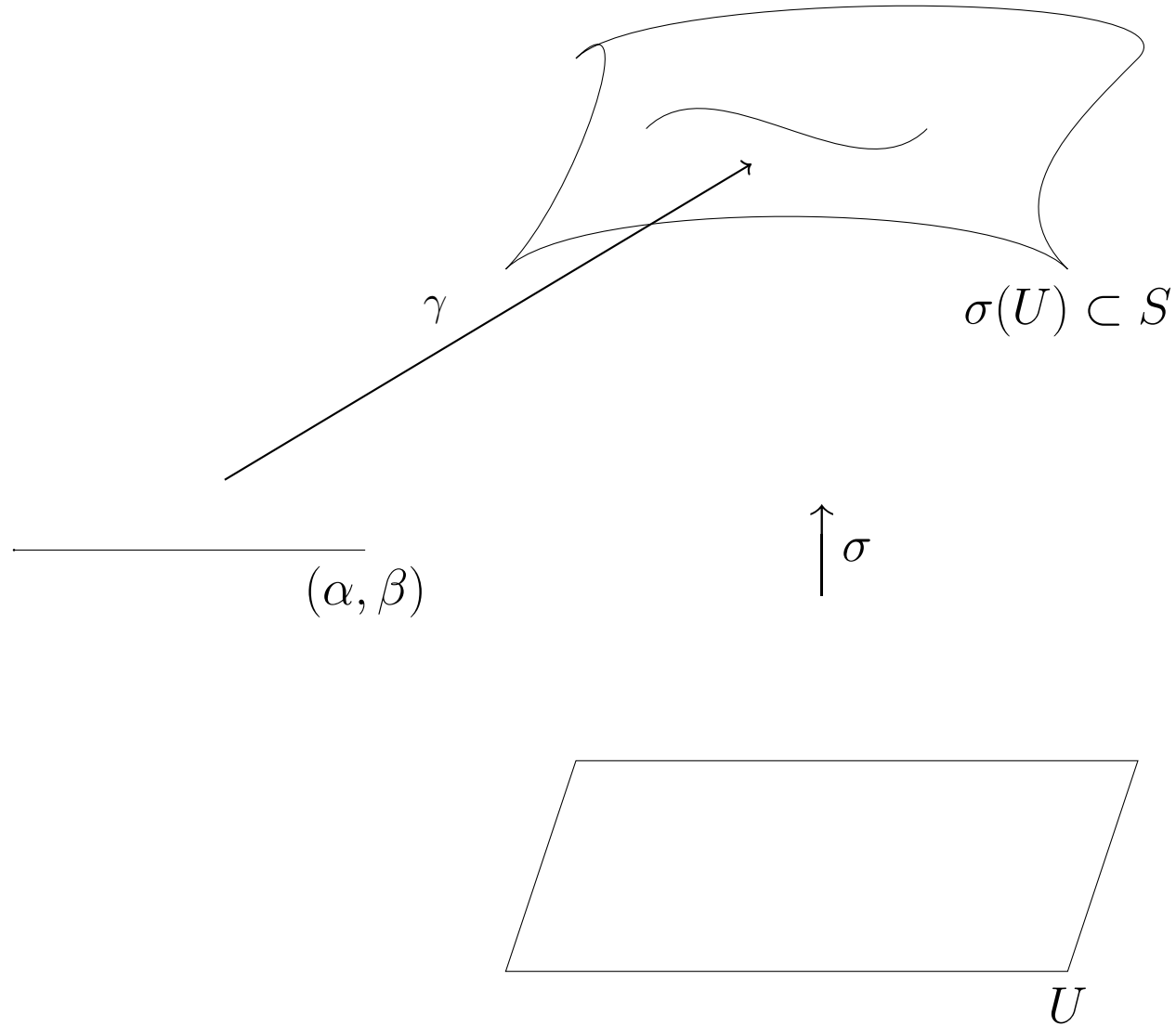
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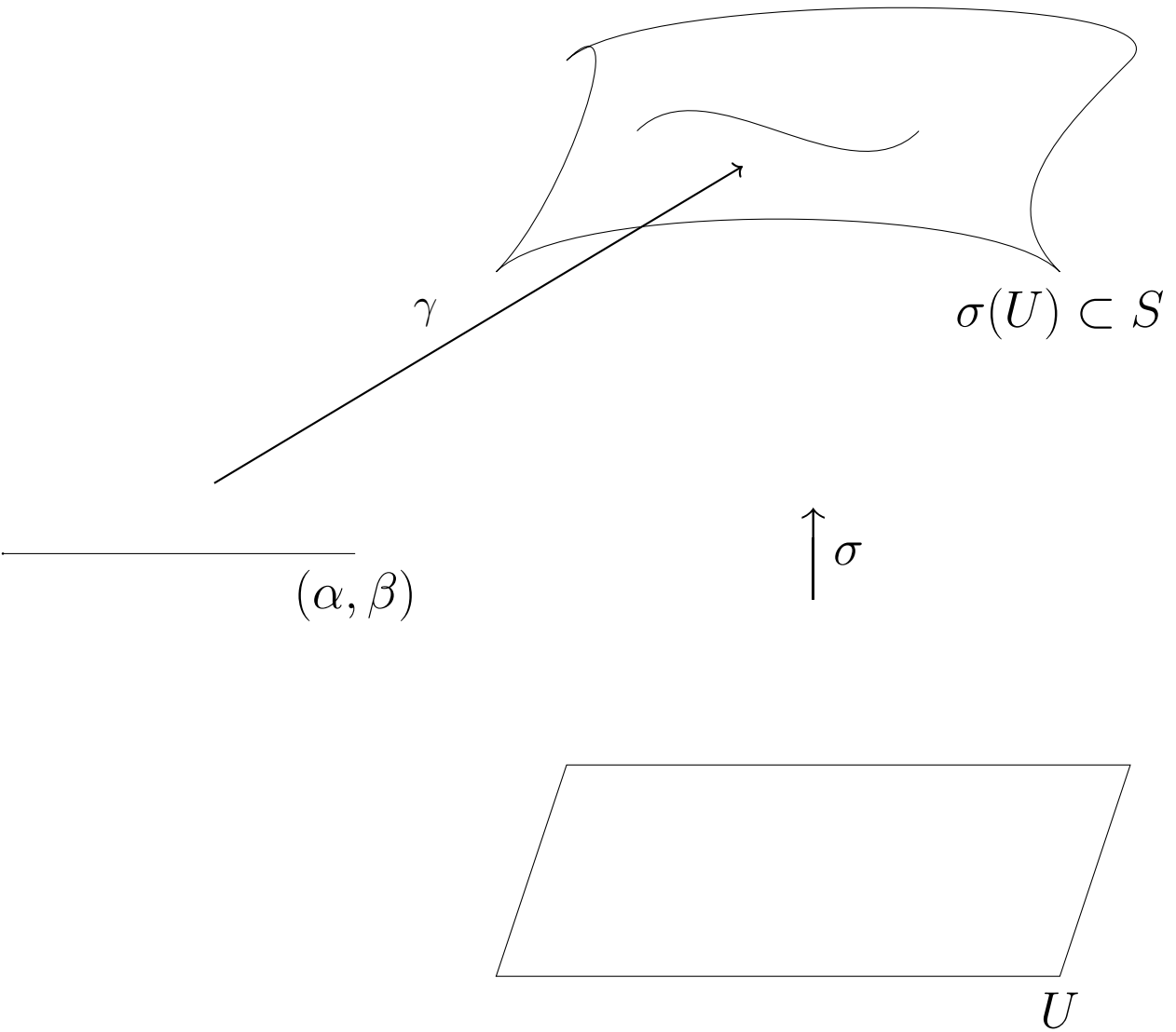
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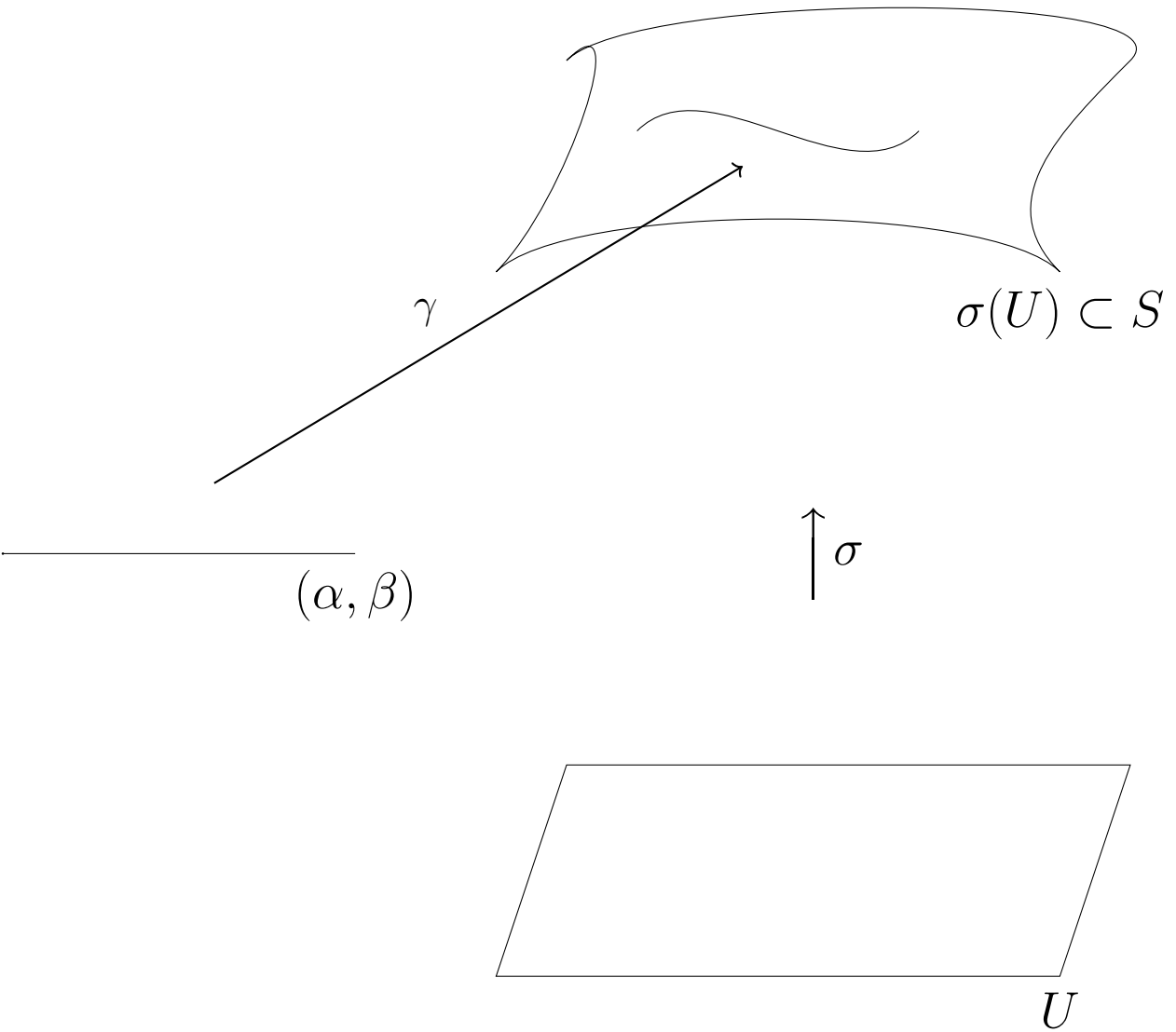
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tells us about this space curve.



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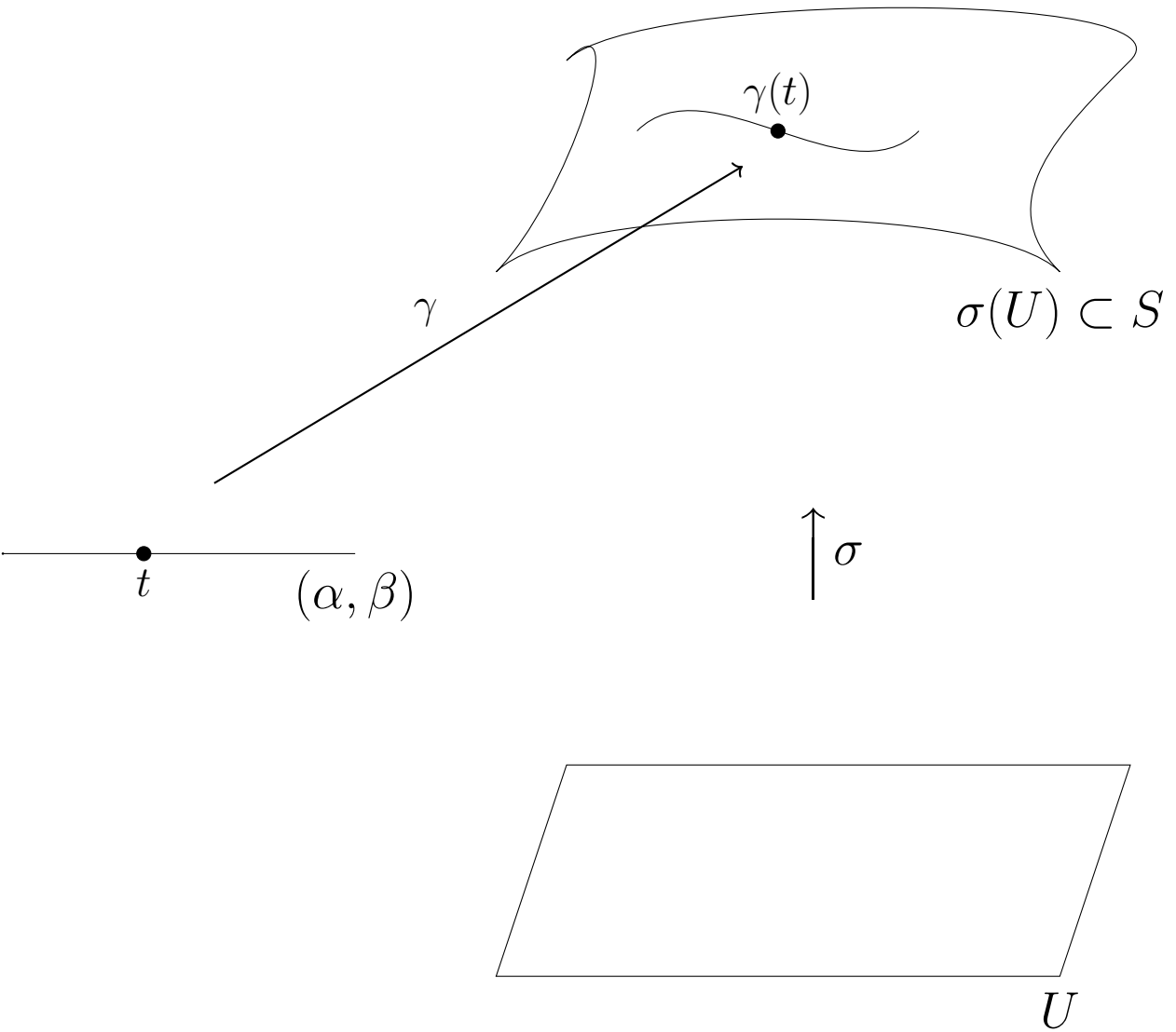
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A parameter  $t$  goes to  $\gamma(t)$

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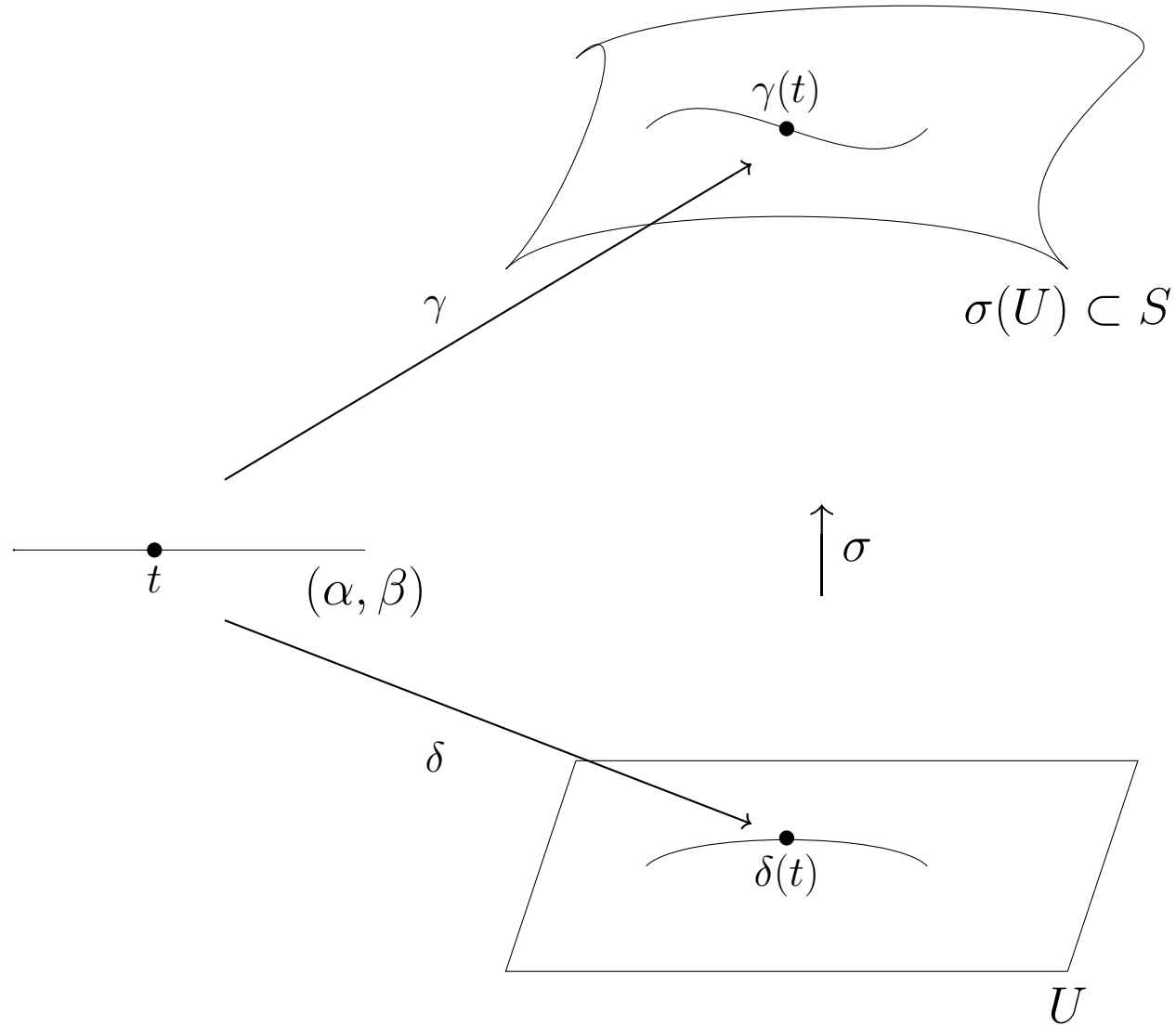
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But to each  $\gamma(t) \in \sigma(U)$ ,  $\sigma$  corresponds a  $\delta(t) \in U$

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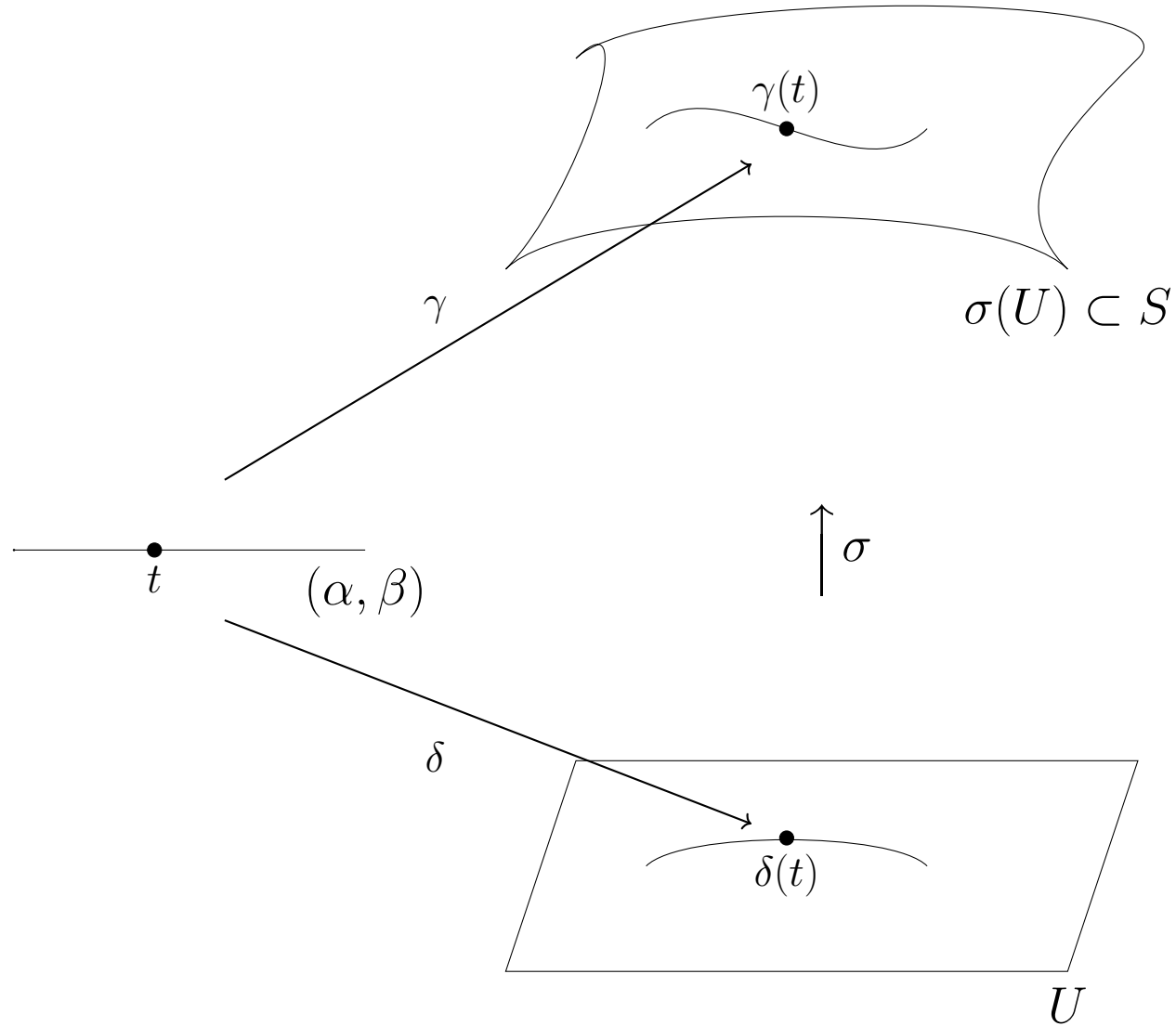
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so that  $\gamma(t) = \sigma(\delta(t))$

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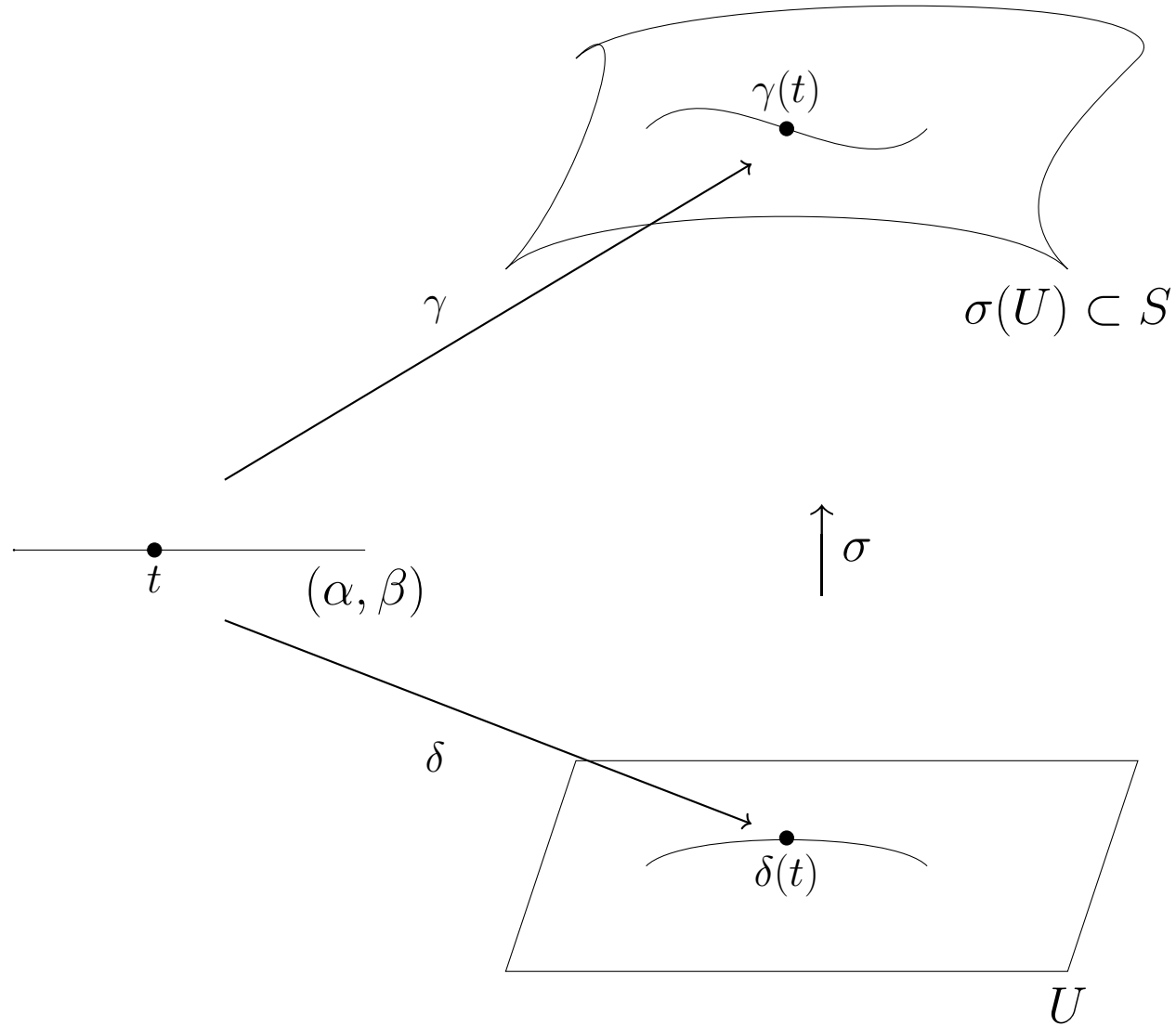
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Note that this gives a  $\delta(t)$  for each  $t$



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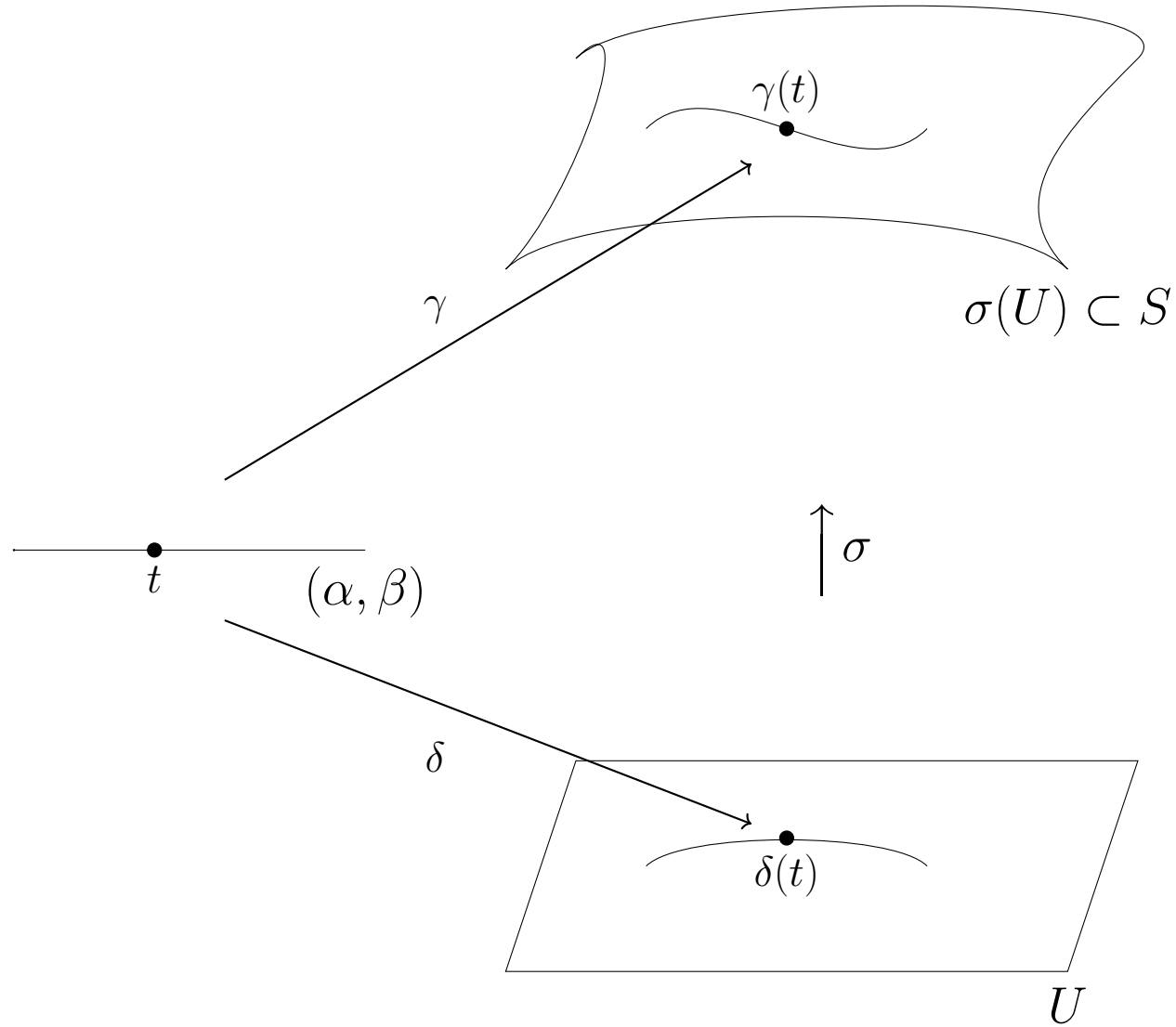
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so it defines a map.

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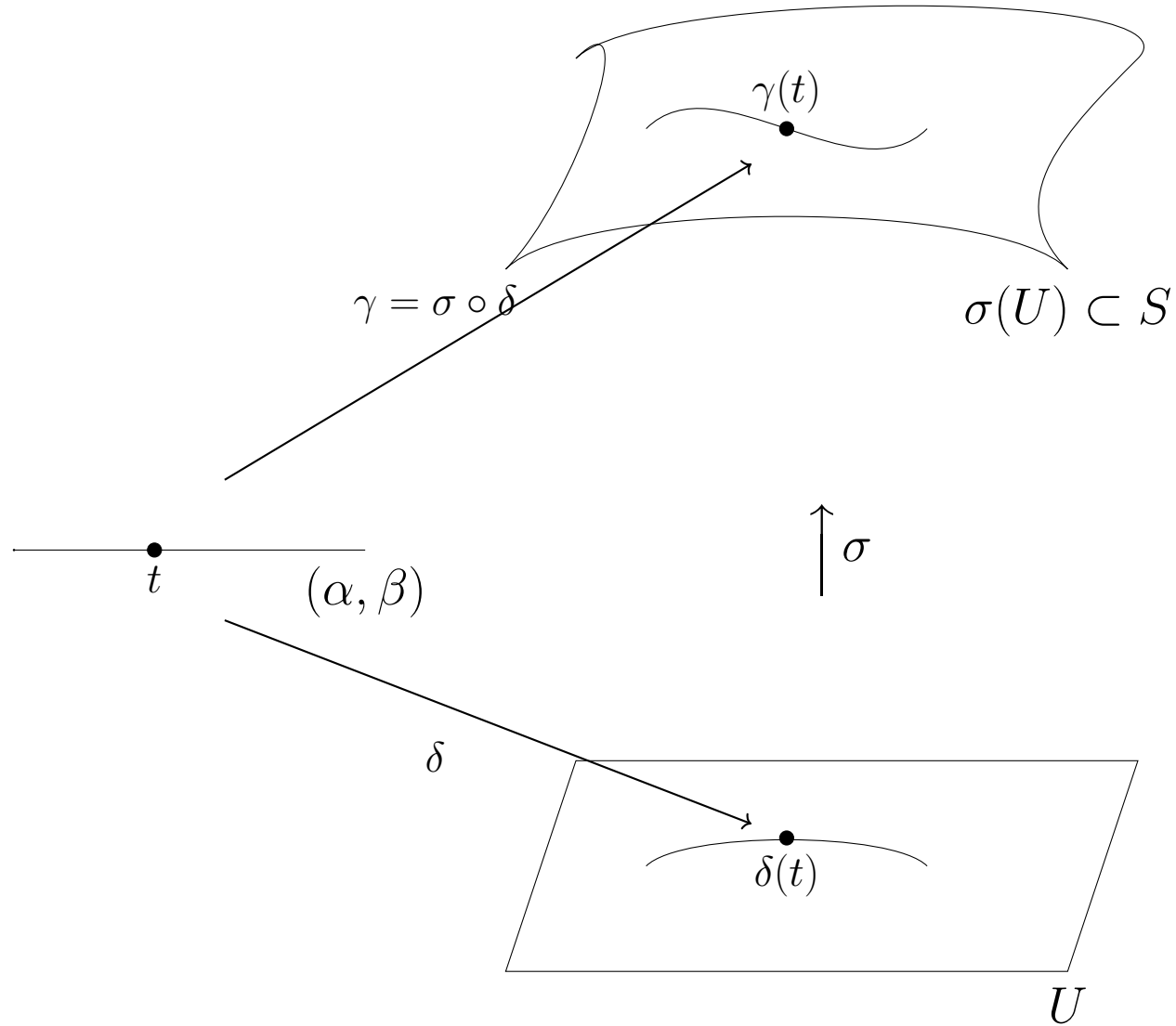
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Its smoothness takes some work, but assume it for now.

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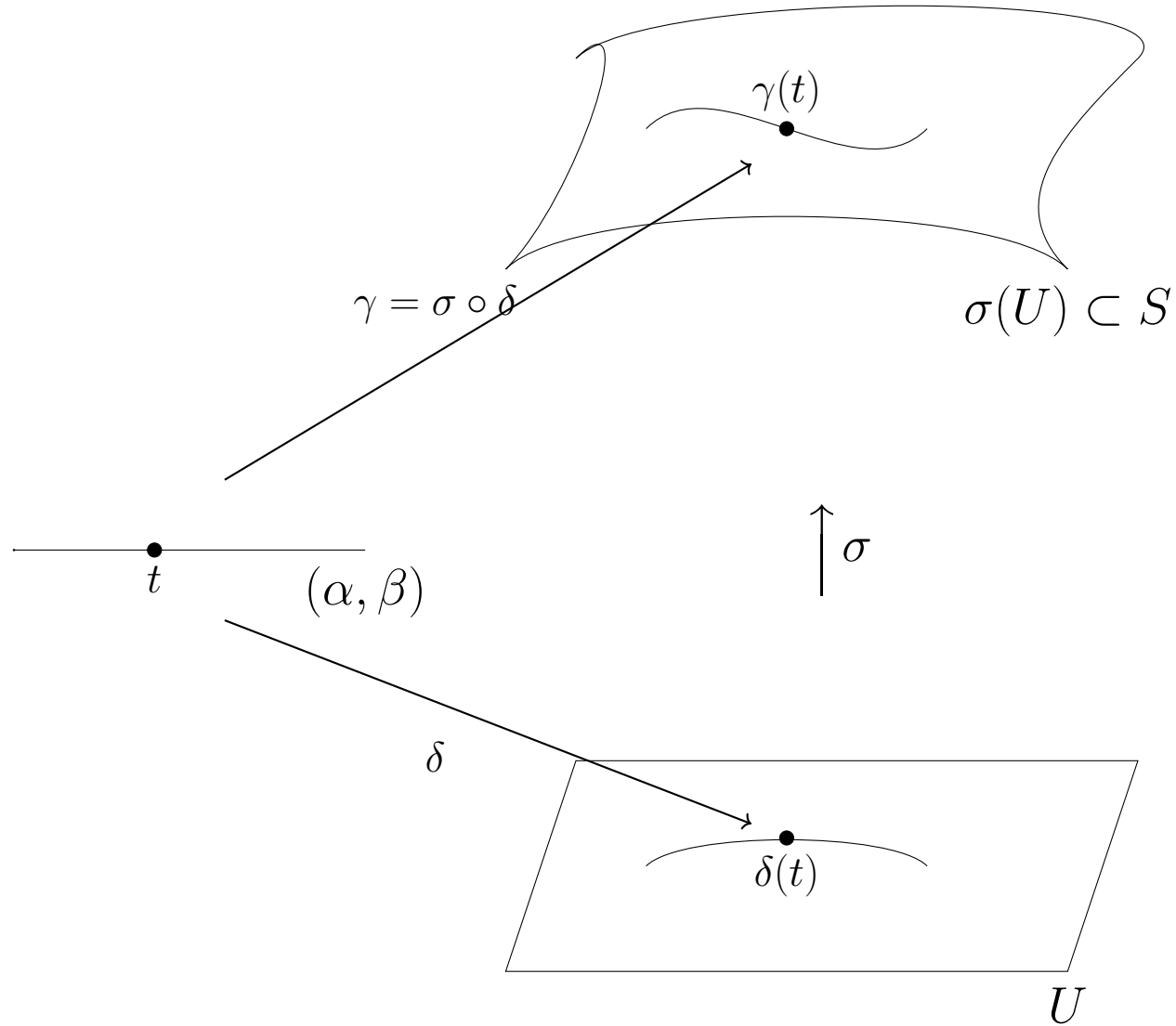
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If we let  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  denote the coordinates of  $\delta(t)$ ,

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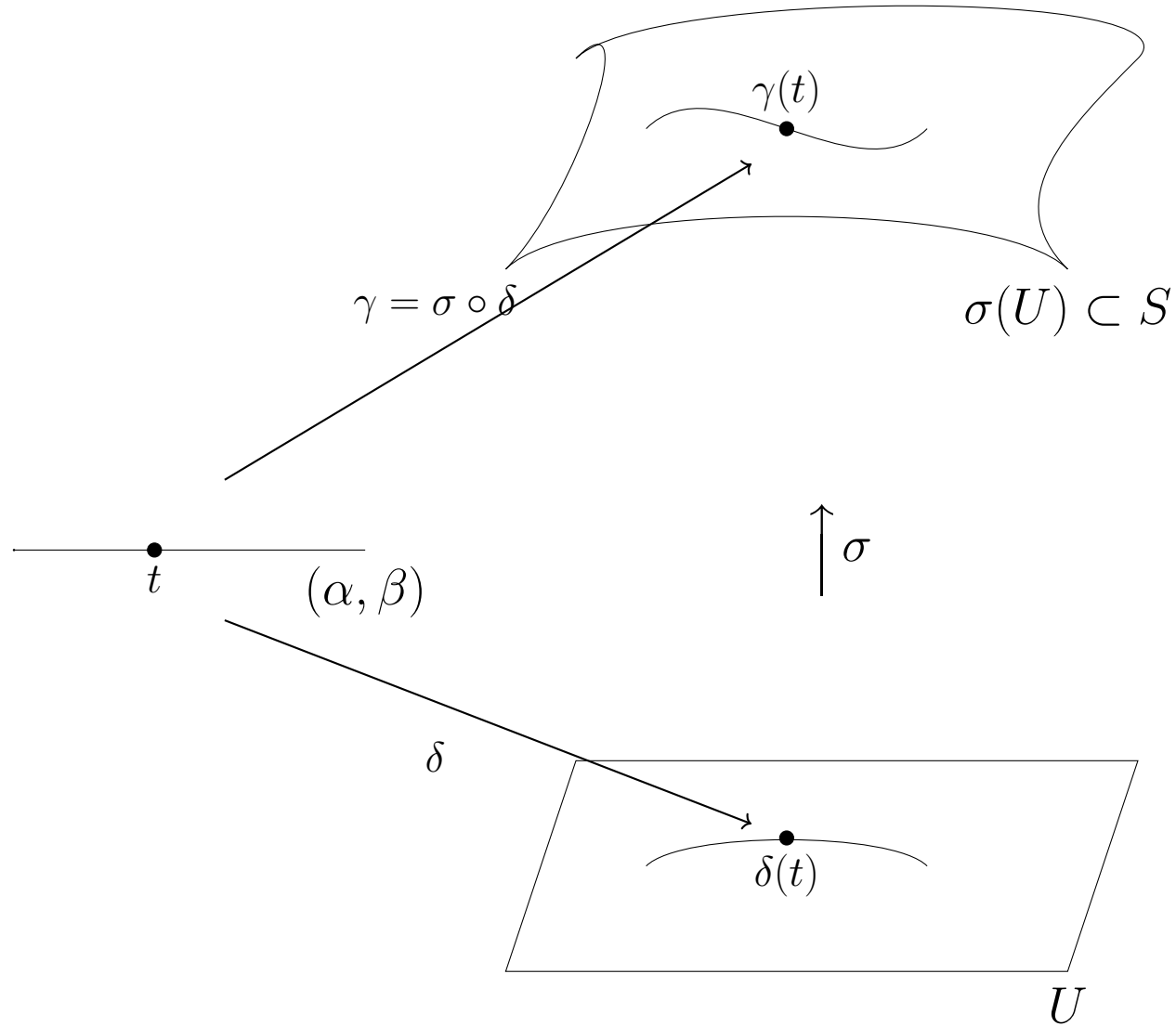
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chain rule allows us to express the derivatives



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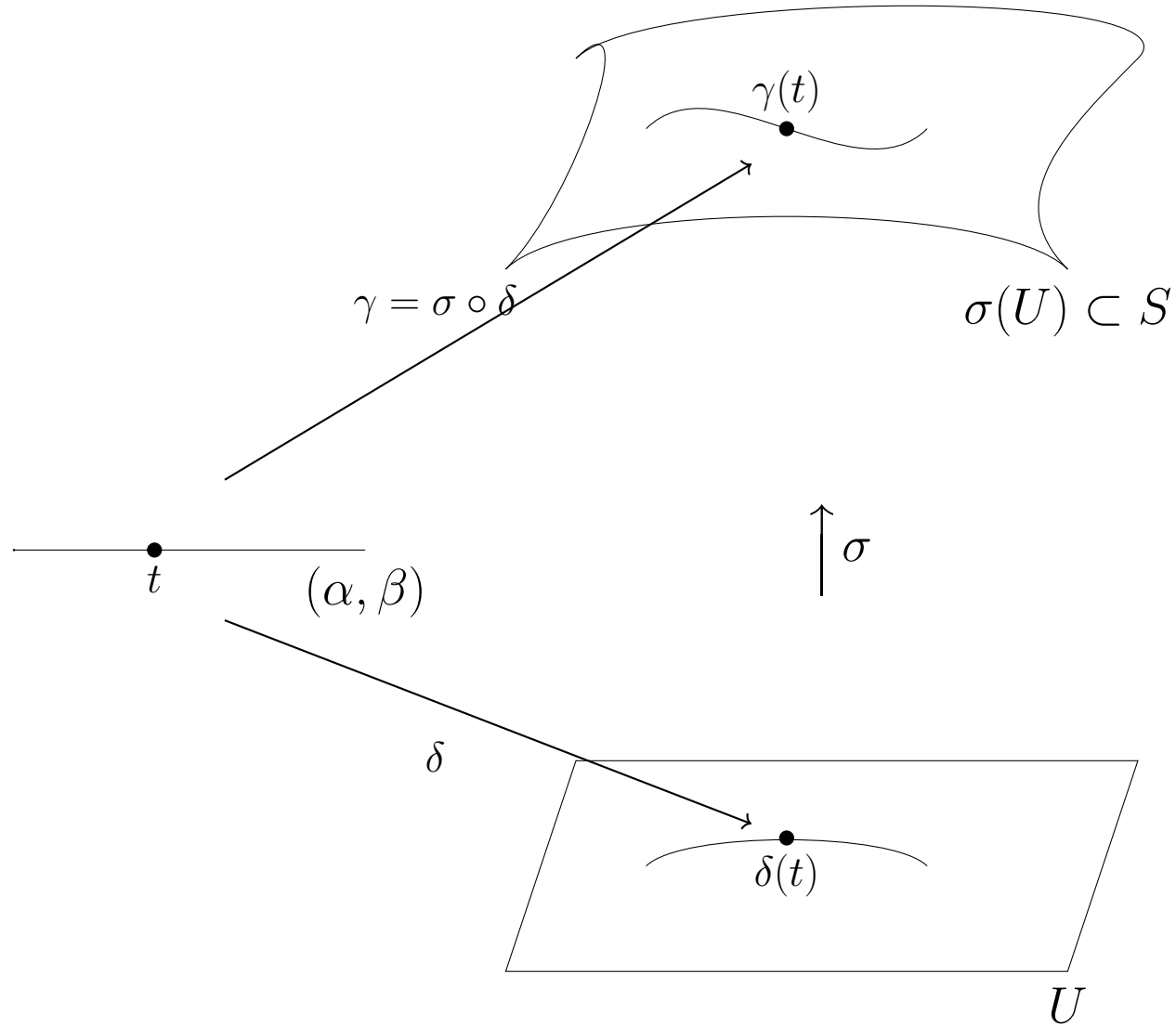
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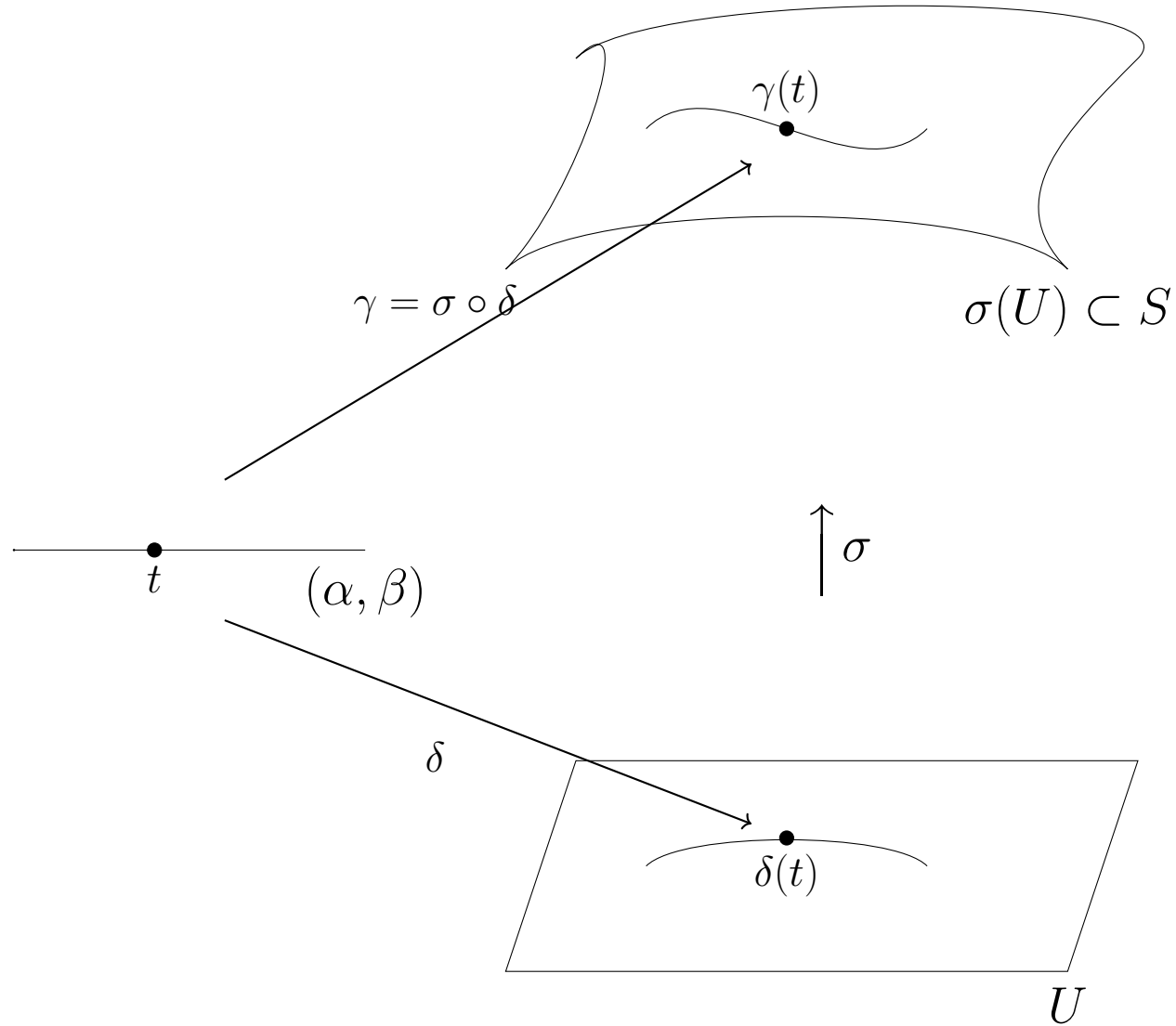
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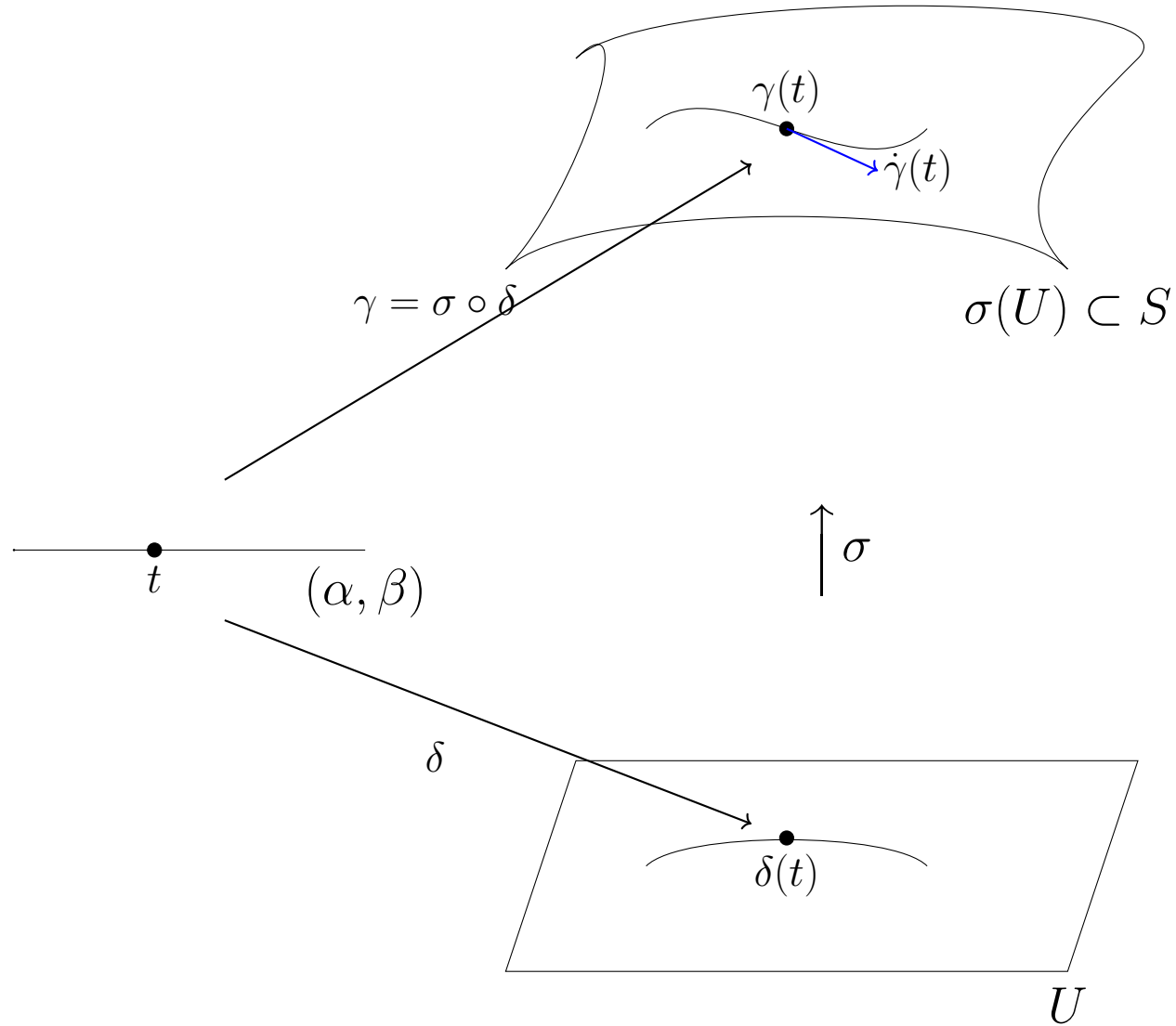
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The left hand side is the velocity vector of  $\gamma$  in space

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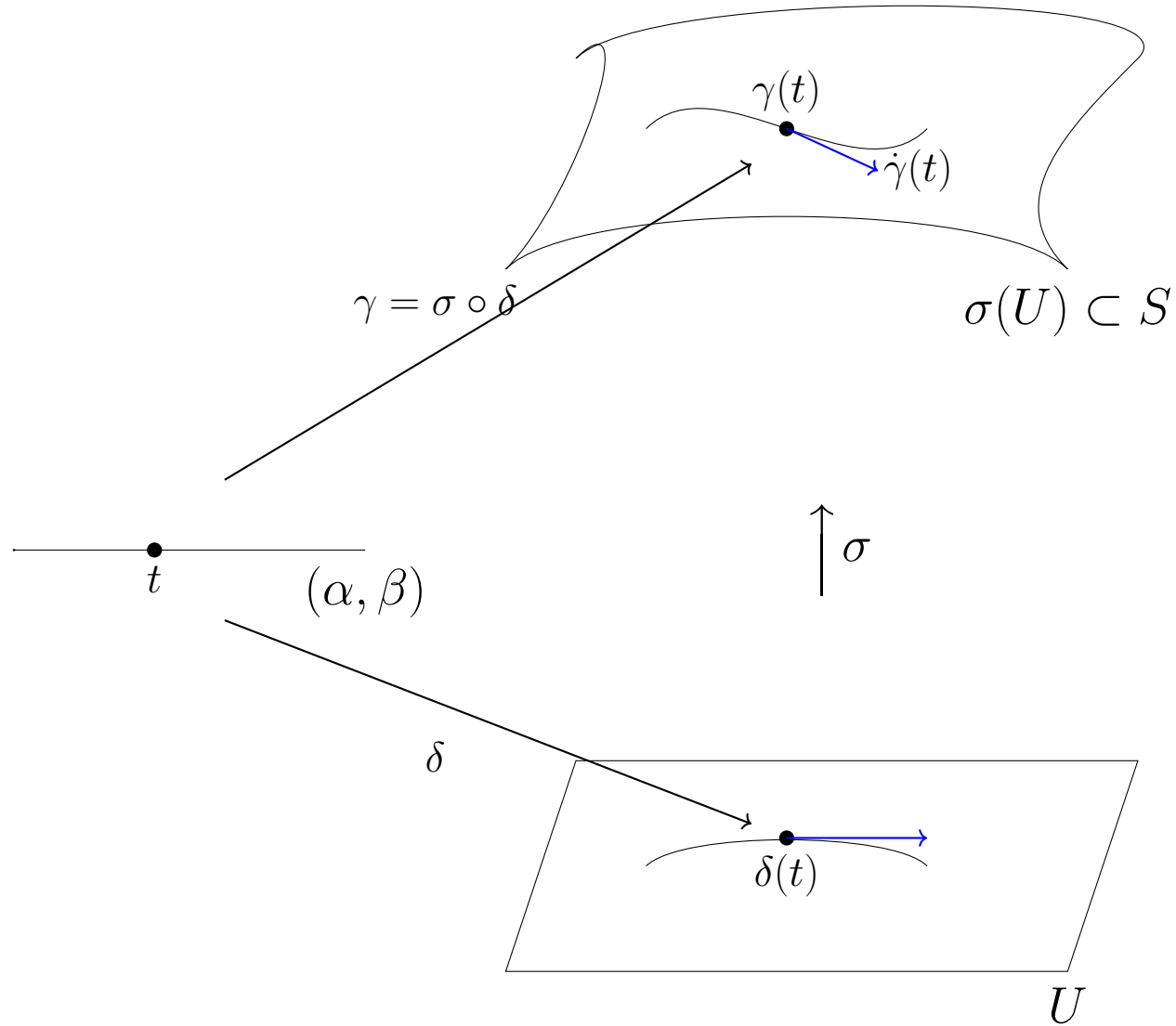
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The right hand side expresses it in terms of the patch



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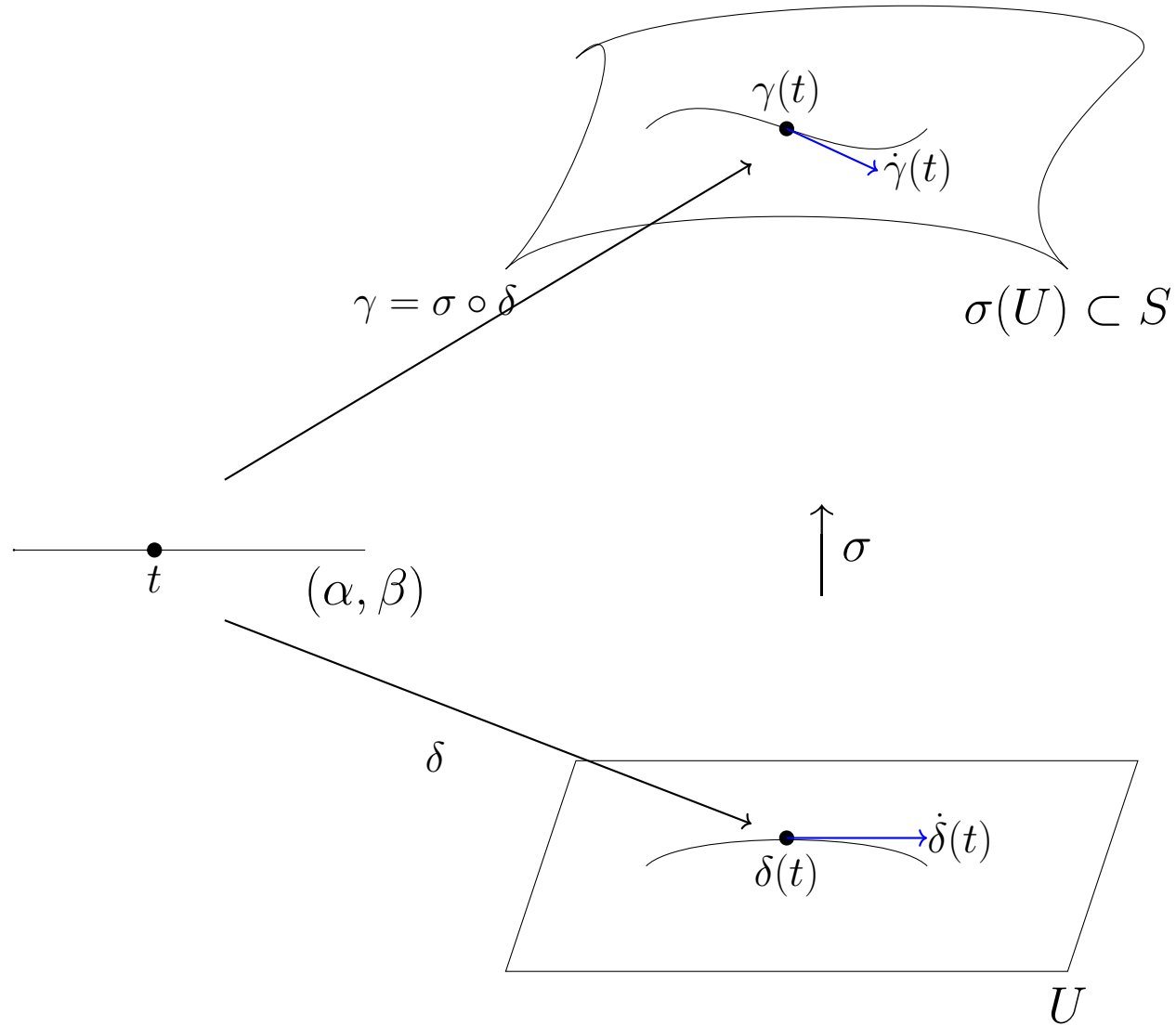
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i.e., in terms of the velocity of  $\delta$ .

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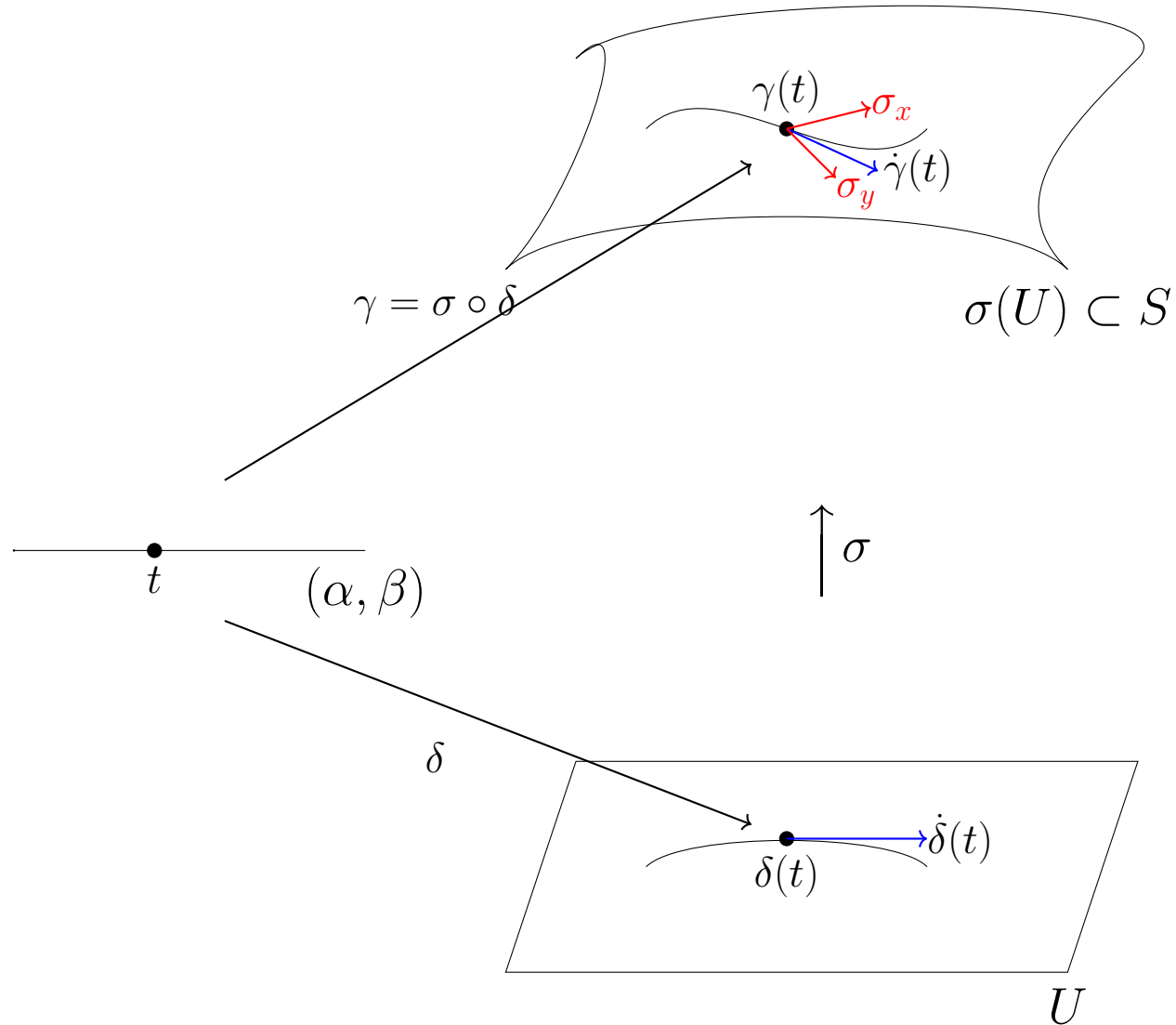
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Essentially,  $\dot{\gamma}(t)$  can be written in terms of the surface patch, specifically,  $\sigma_x$  and  $\sigma_y$ .

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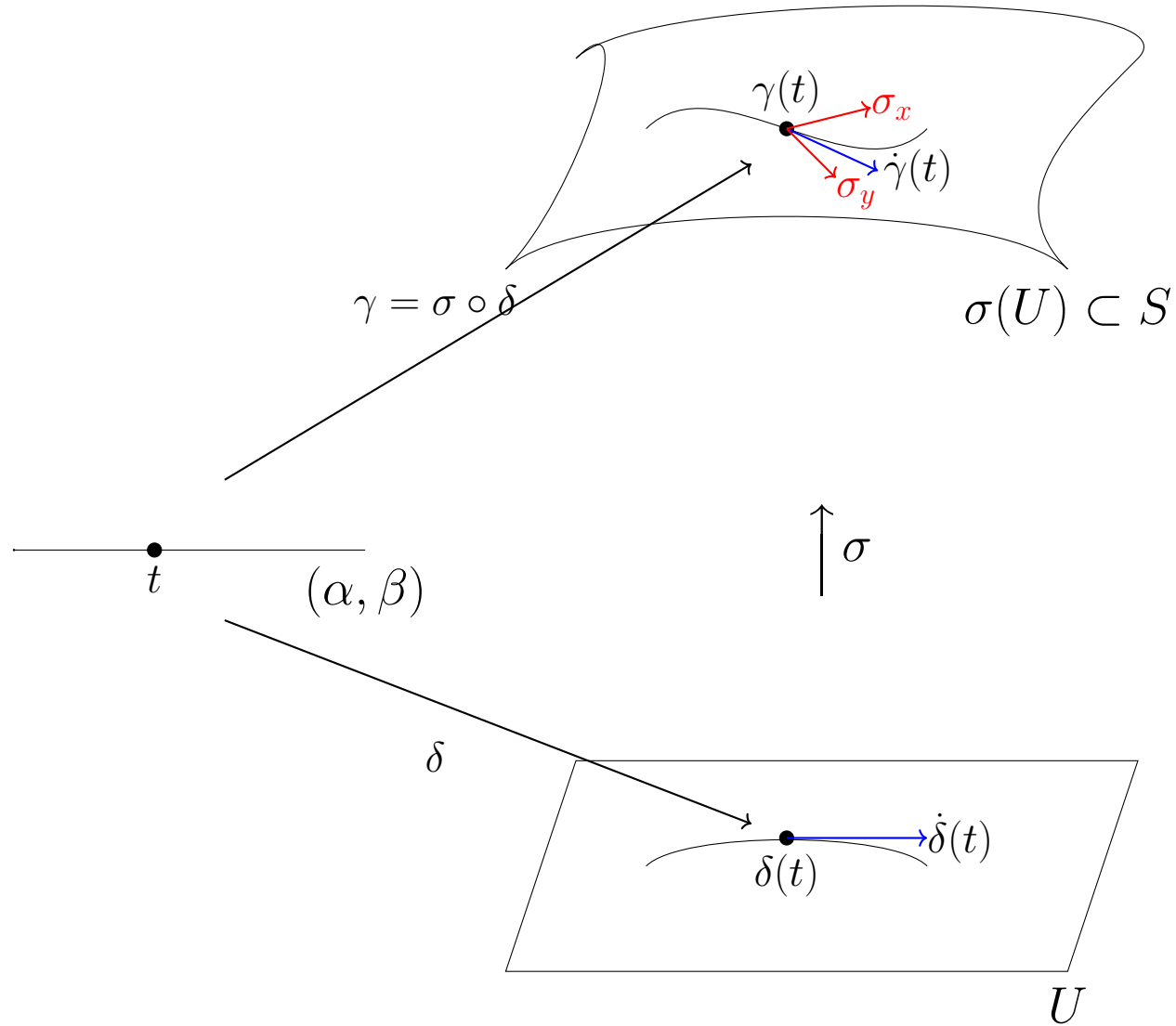
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The coefficients come from  $\dot{\delta}(t)$

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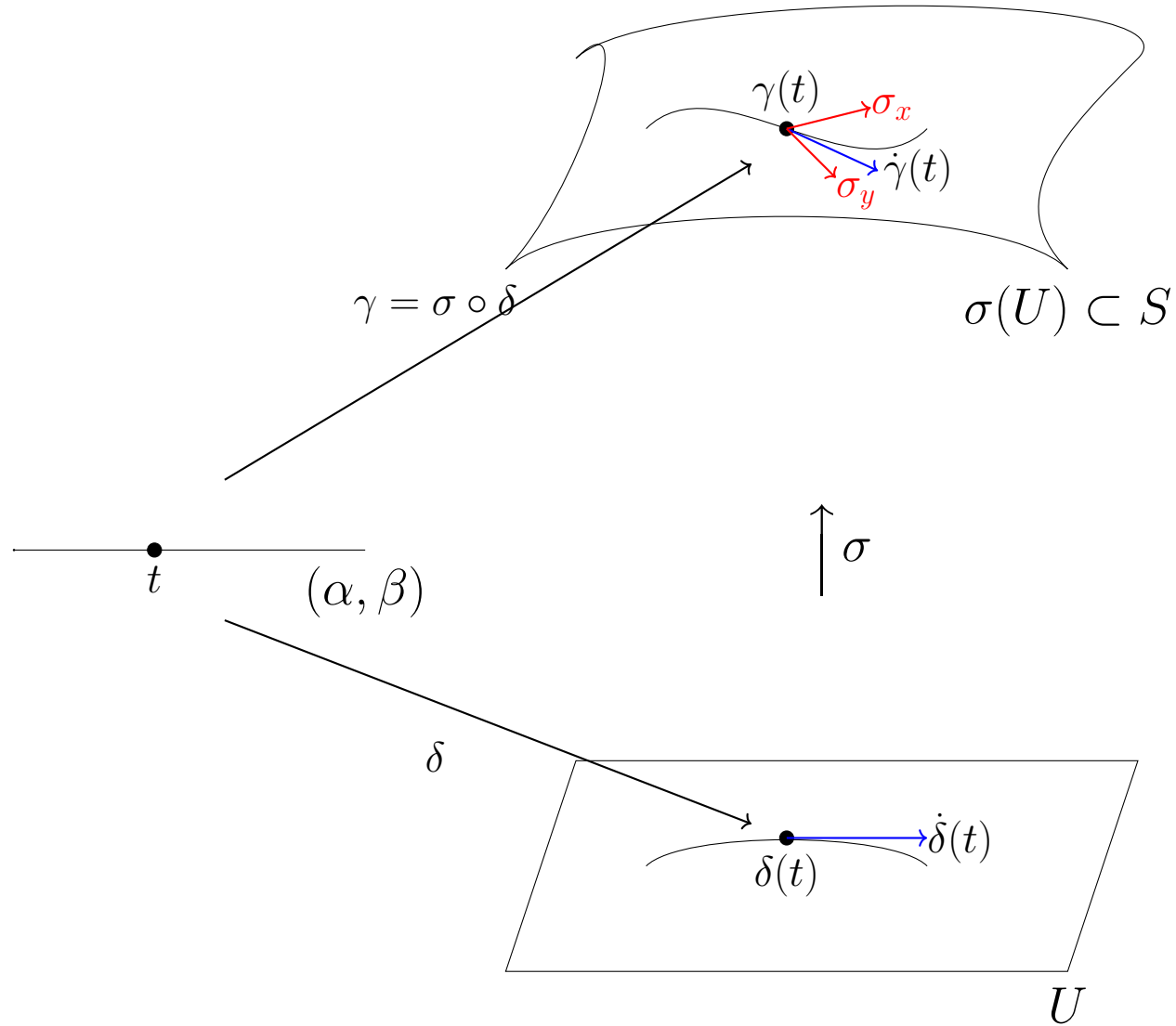
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(which is also the coordinates provides by the surface patch).



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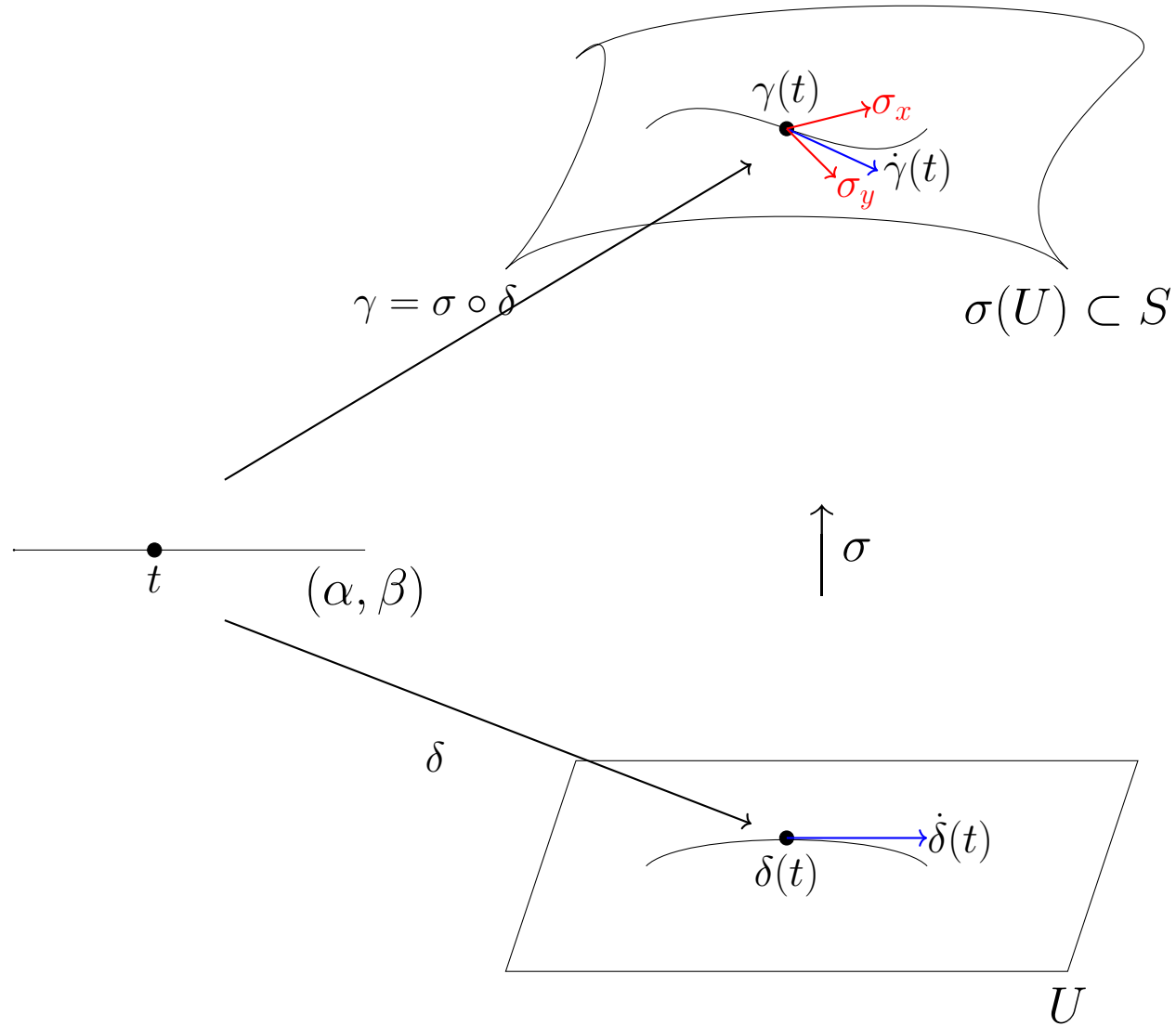
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This shows why partial derivatives feature at all

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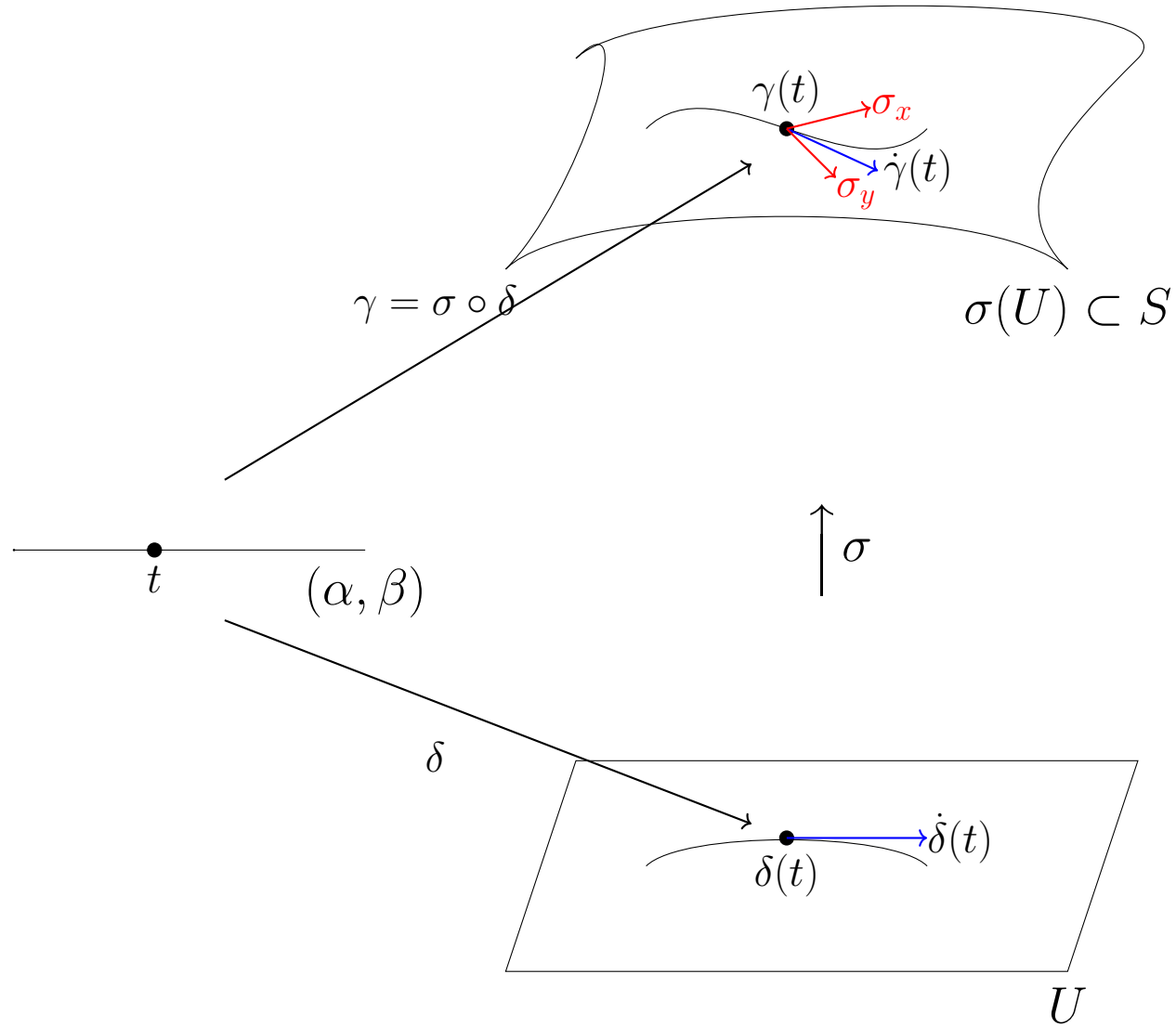
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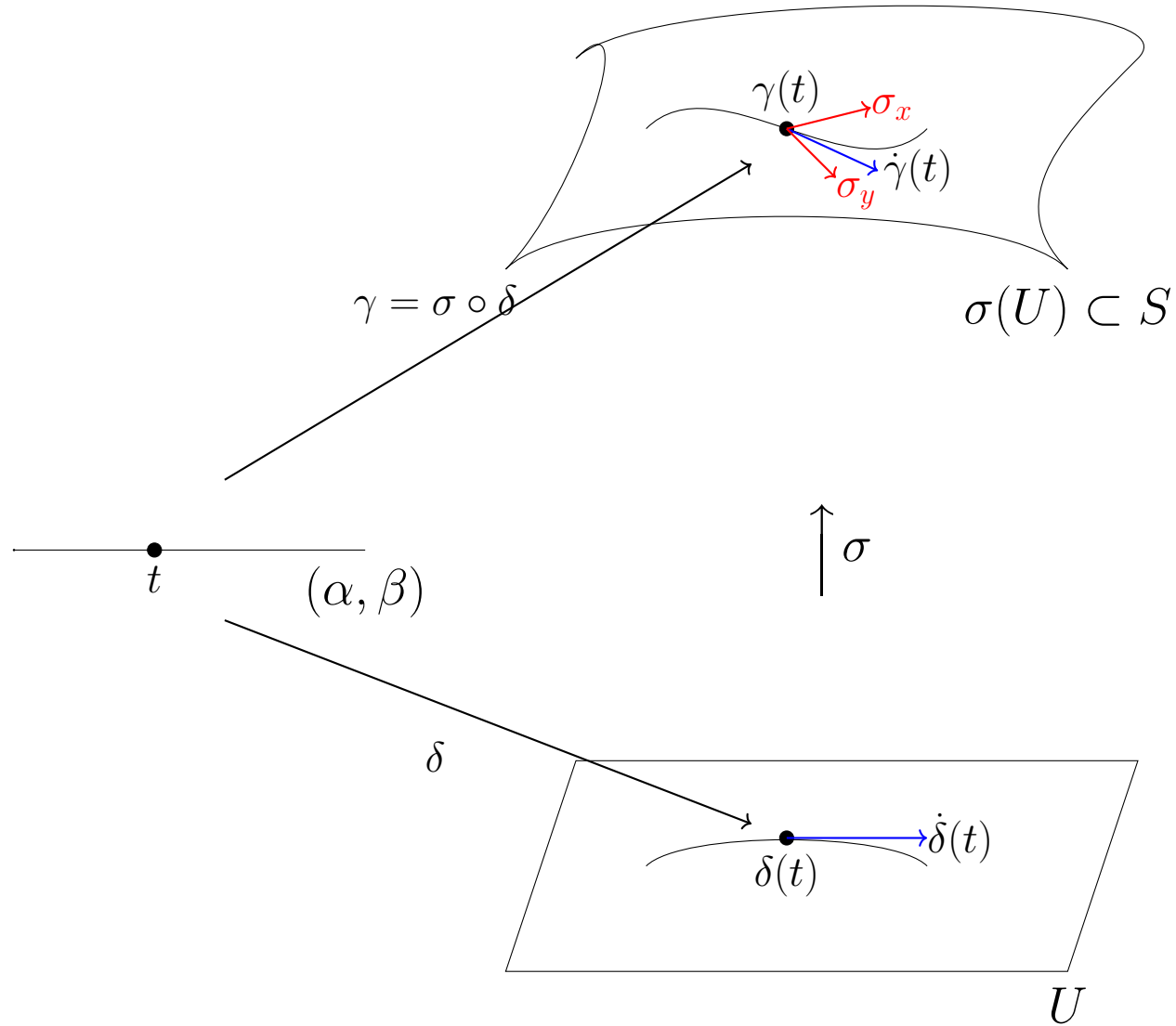
$$\gamma : (\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow \sigma(U) \subset S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$\delta : (\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow U$$

$$\gamma(t) = \sigma(\delta(t))$$

$$\delta(t) = (x(t), y(t))$$

$$\dot{\gamma}(t) = x'(t)\sigma_x(\delta(t)) + y'(t)\sigma_y(\delta(t))$$



...to ensure  $\sigma_x$  and  $\sigma_y$  are linearly independent