

# Chain rule for mult-variable functions

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

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$\gamma$

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

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

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

## Chain rule for mult-variable functions

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The tangent vectors at  $p \in S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  always belong to the span of  $\sigma_x(p)$  and  $\sigma_y(p)$ .

**Exercise.** Show that any vector that belongs to the span of  $\sigma_x(p)$  and  $\sigma_y(p)$ , is a tangent vector.

## Chain rule for mult-variable functions

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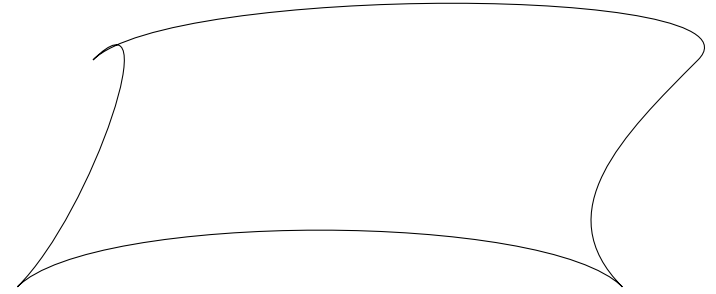
**Exercise.** Show that any vector that belongs to the span of  $\sigma_x(p)$  and  $\sigma_y(p)$ , is a tangent vector.

**Exercise.** Show that  $\sigma$  is regular at  $p$  if and only if the tangent vectors at  $p$  form a two dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

## 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”.

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

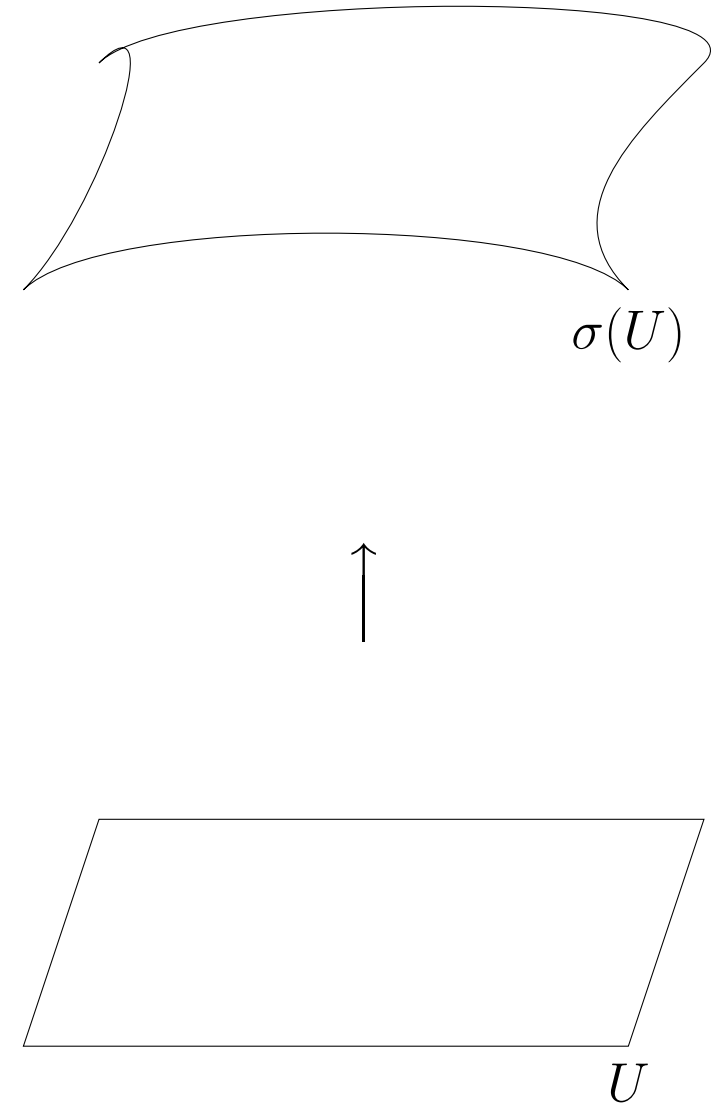


Consider a surface in space

## A curve on a surface

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

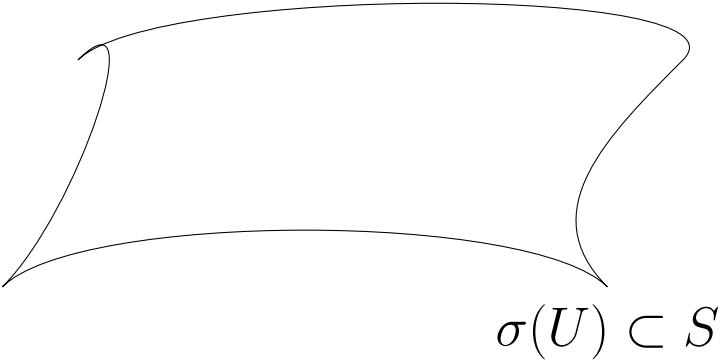


and a surface patch which is a map

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

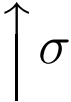
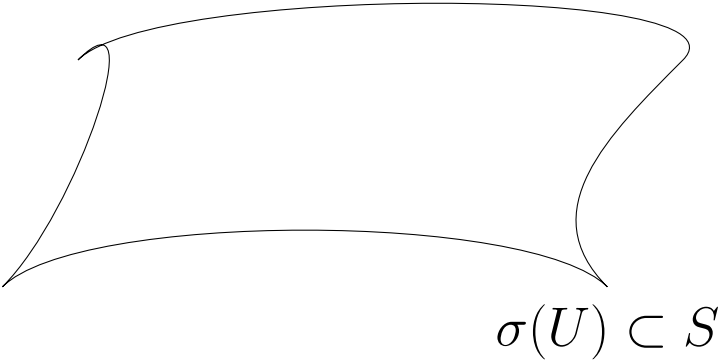


onto a part of the surface

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



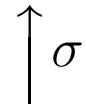
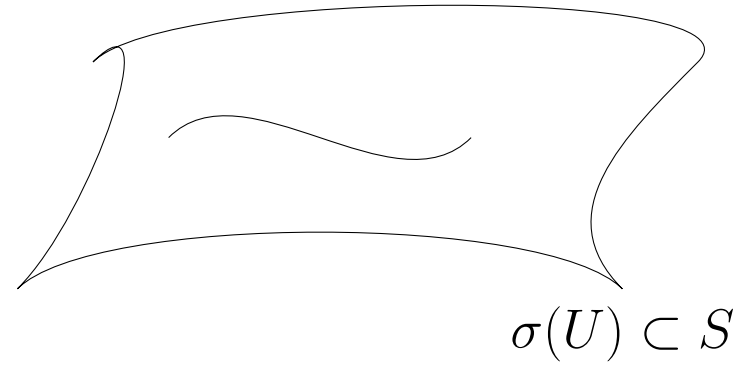
As usual we denote it by  $\sigma$ .

## 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

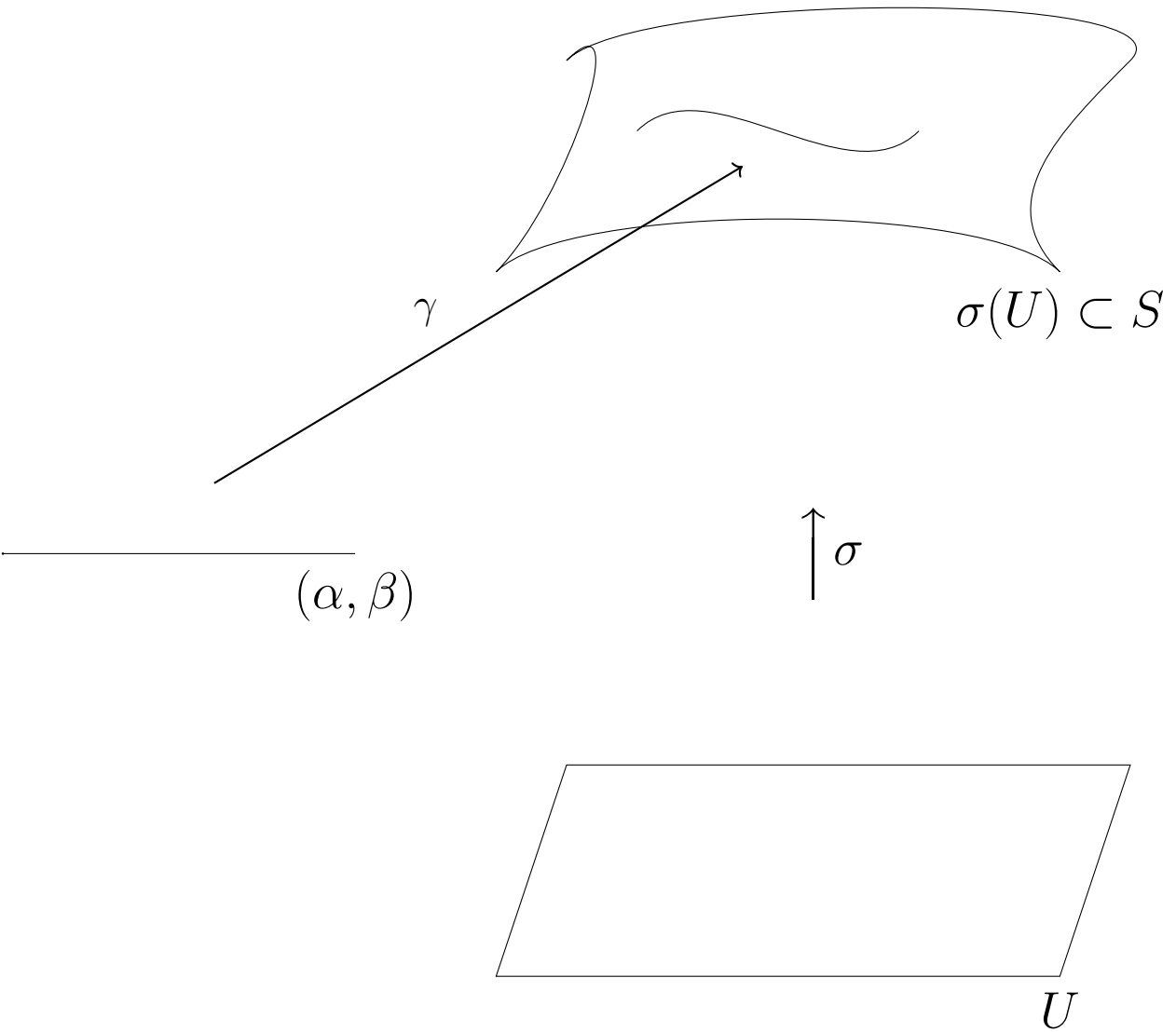


# A curve on a surface

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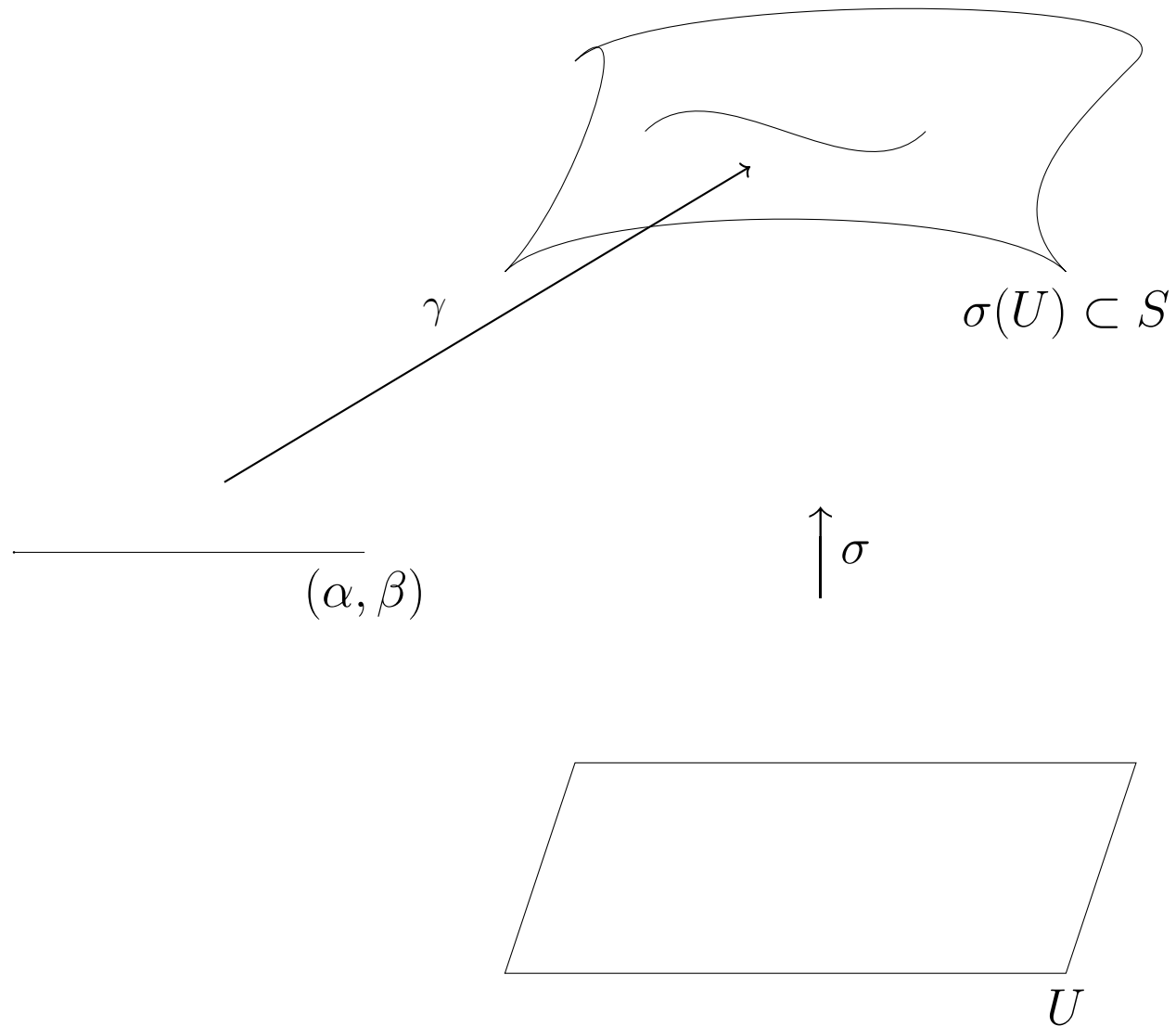
parametrized by  $\gamma$

## A curve on a surface

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

$$\gamma : (\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow \sigma(U) \subset S$$



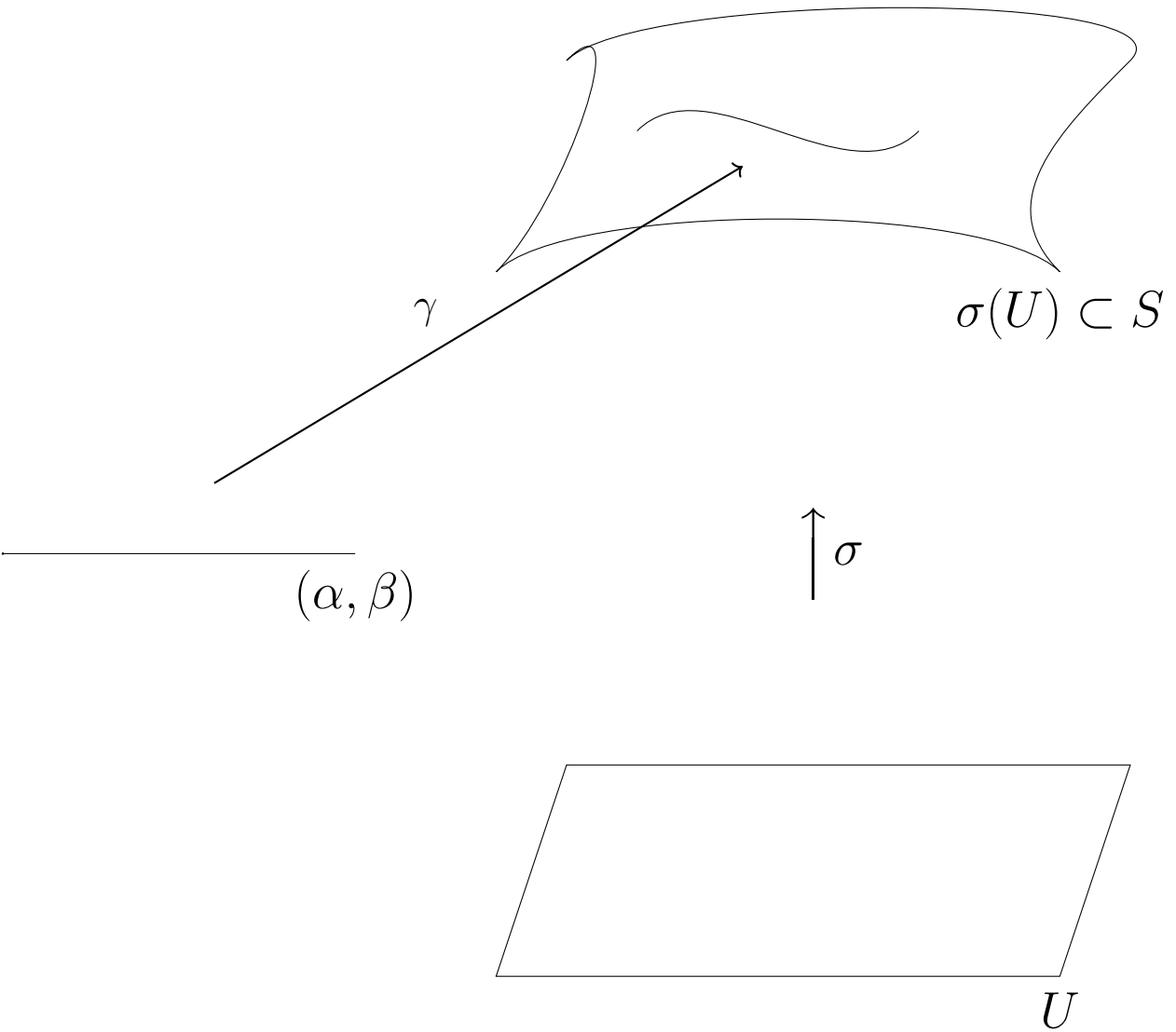
and let us assume it lies in the image of the surface patch

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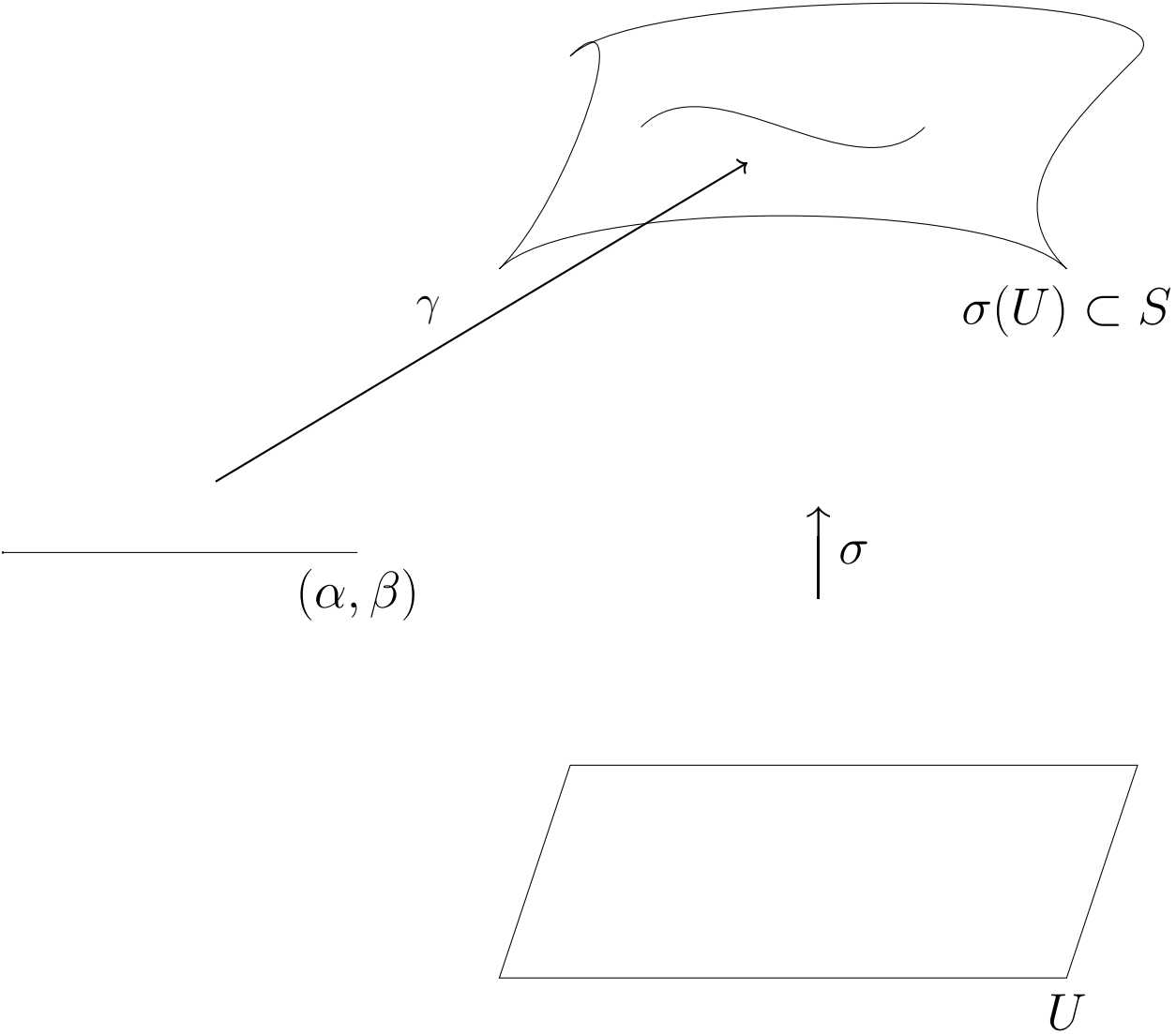
But it is also a curve in space

# A curve on a surface

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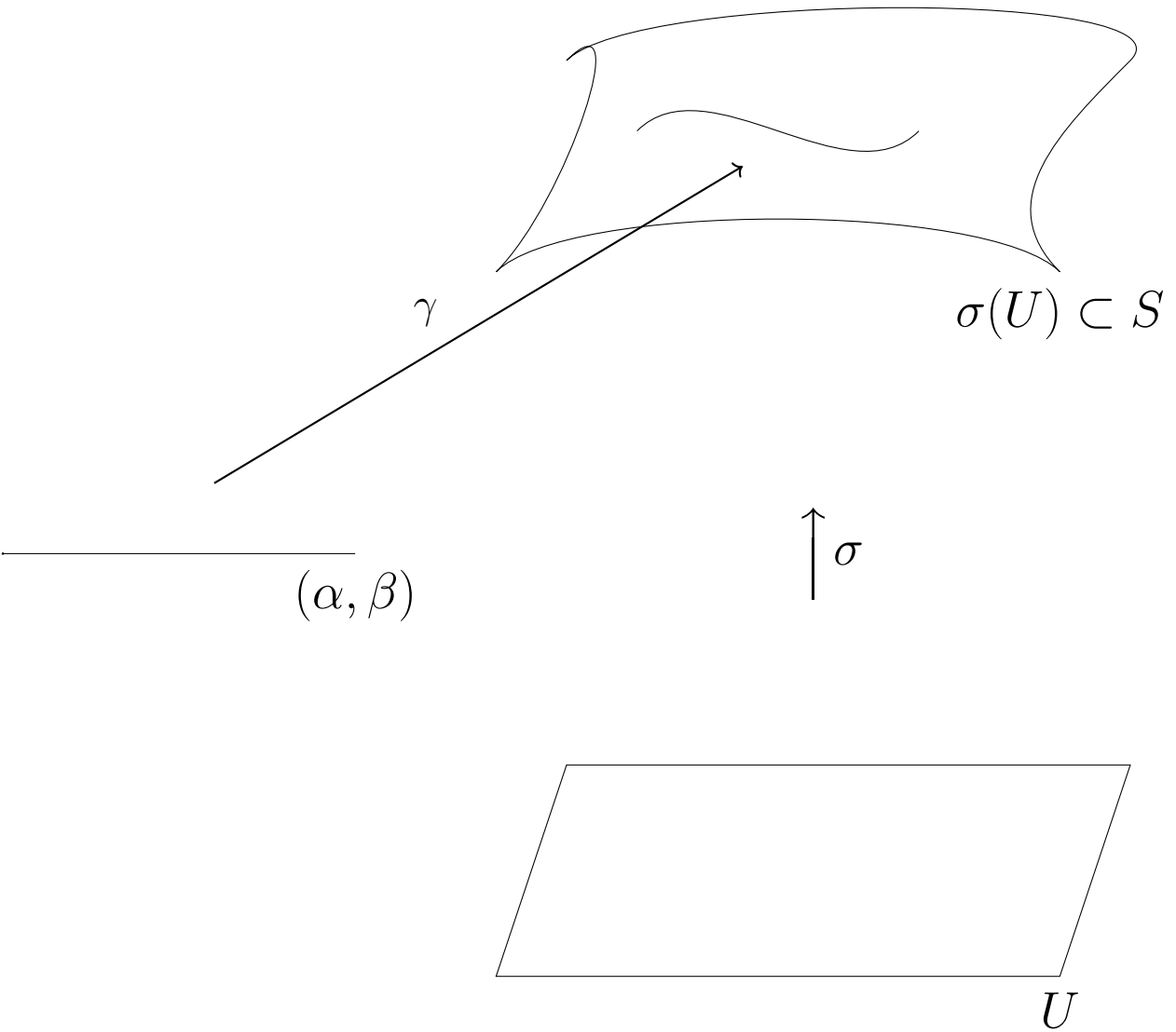
that happens to lie on a surface.

# A curve on a surface

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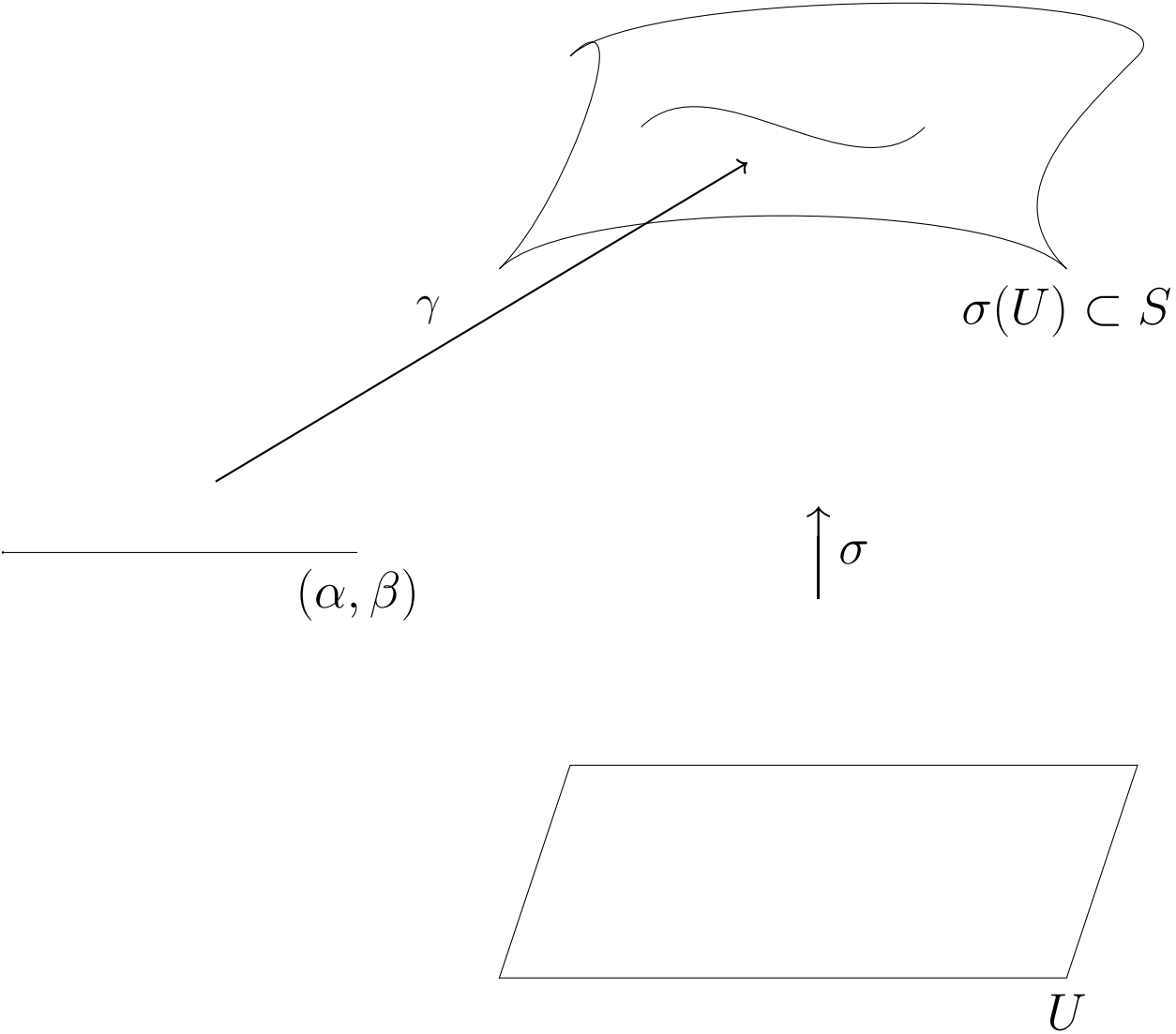
Let us see what lying on a surface

# A curve on a surface

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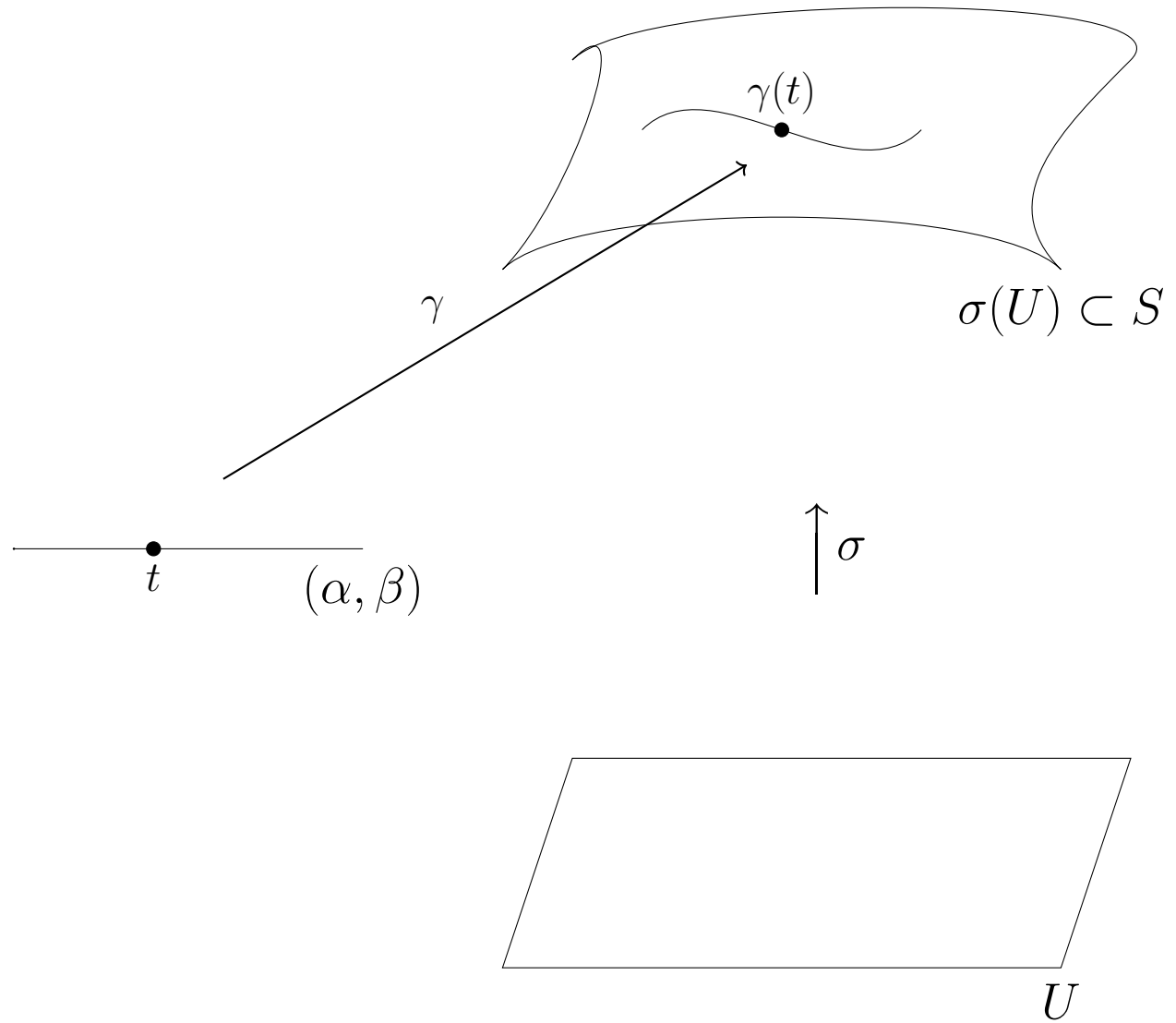
tells us about this space curve.

# A curve on a surface

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

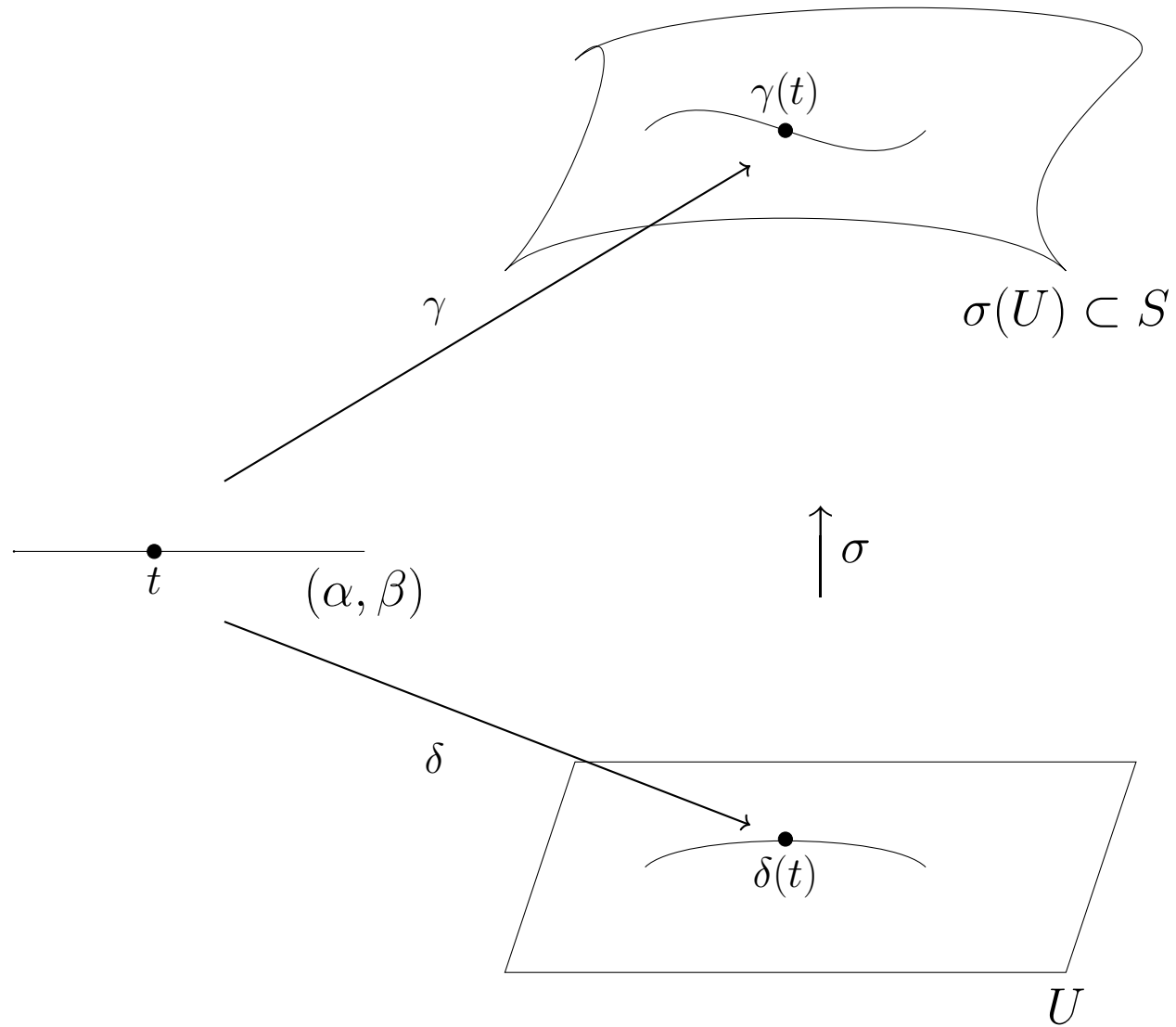
## A curve on a surface

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

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



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



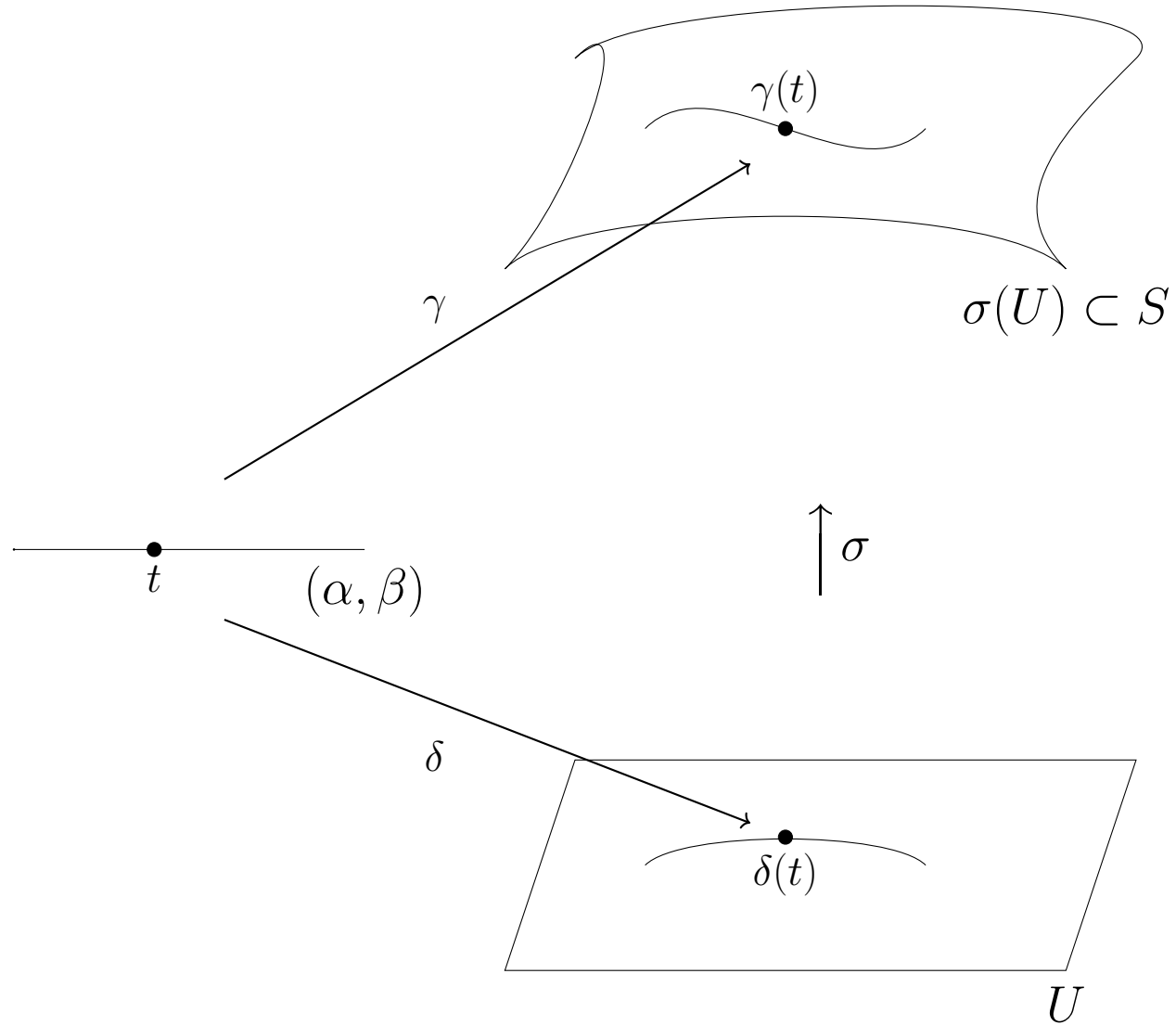
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so that  $\gamma(t) = \sigma(\delta(t))$

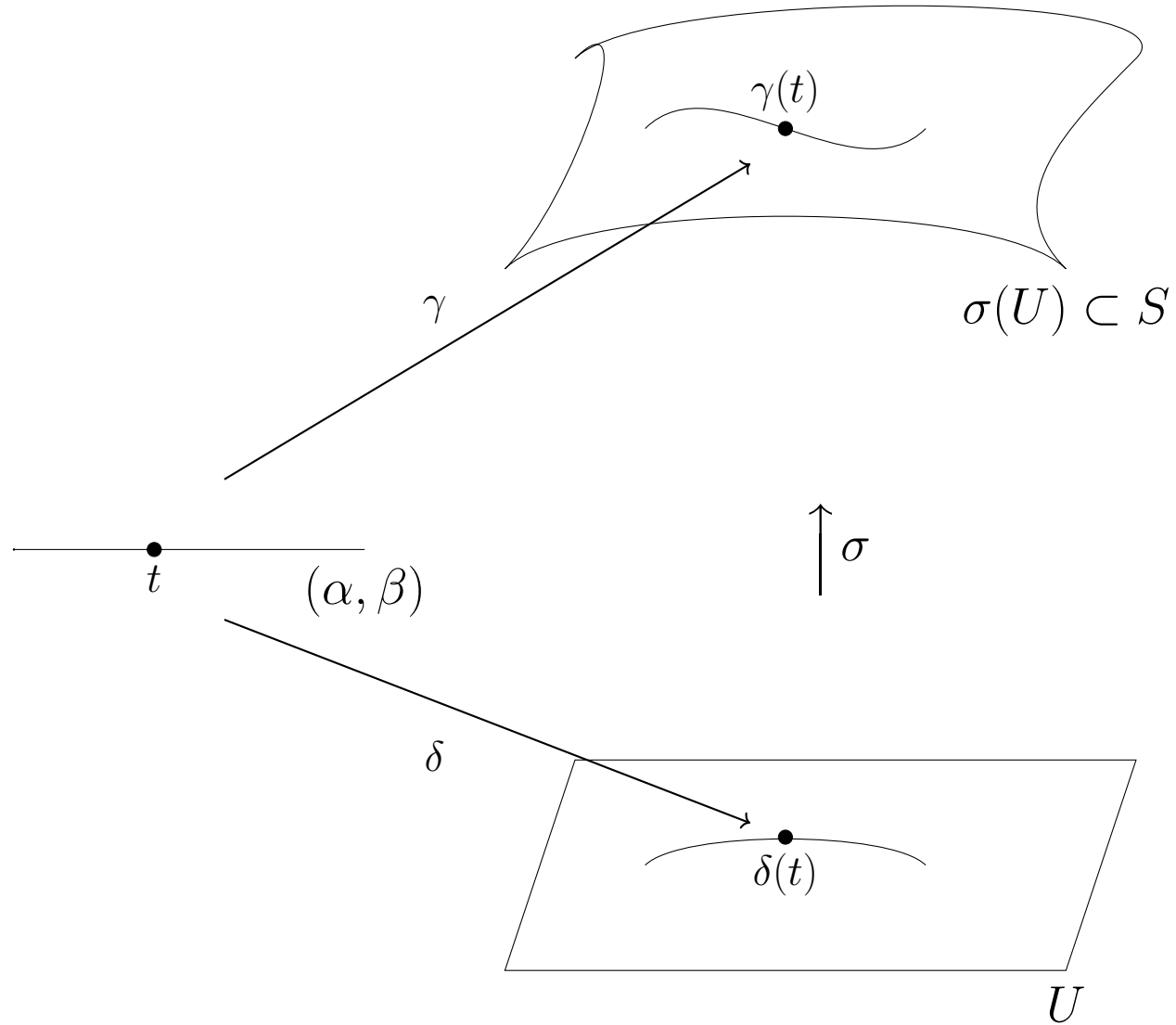
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Note that this gives a  $\delta(t)$  for each  $t$

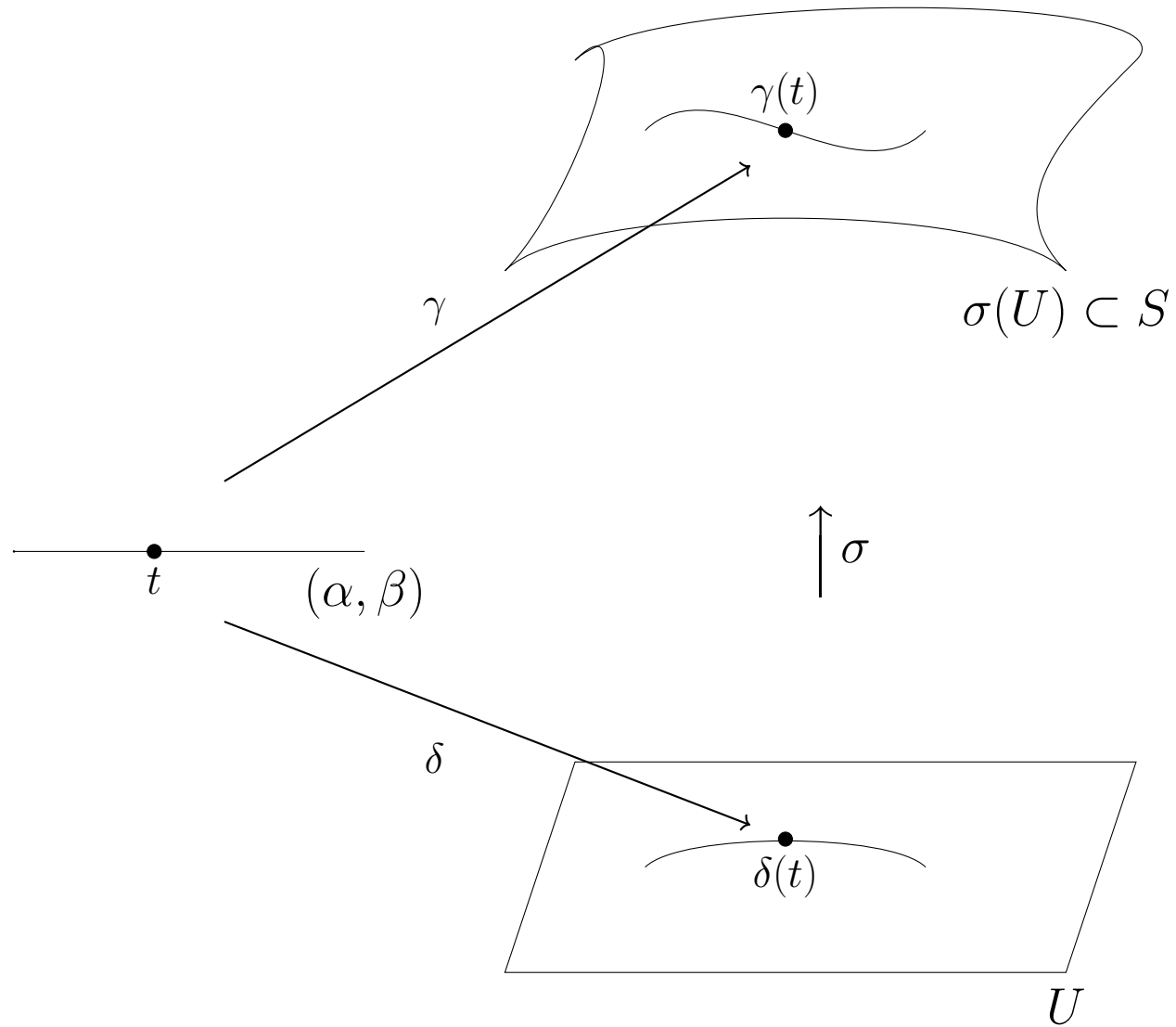
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so it defines a map.

## A curve on a surface

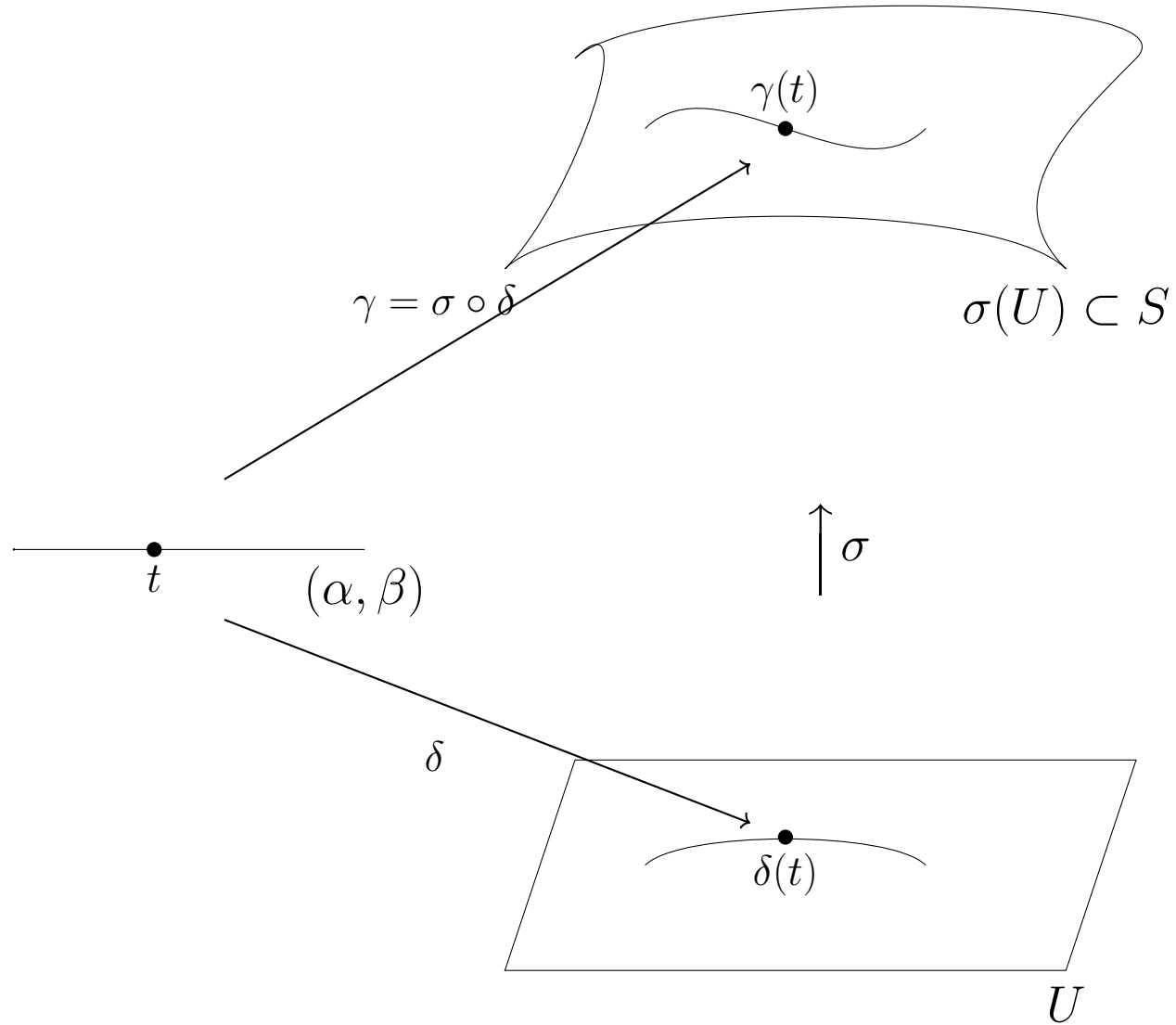
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$$\gamma(t) = \sigma(\delta(t))$$



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

## A curve on a surface

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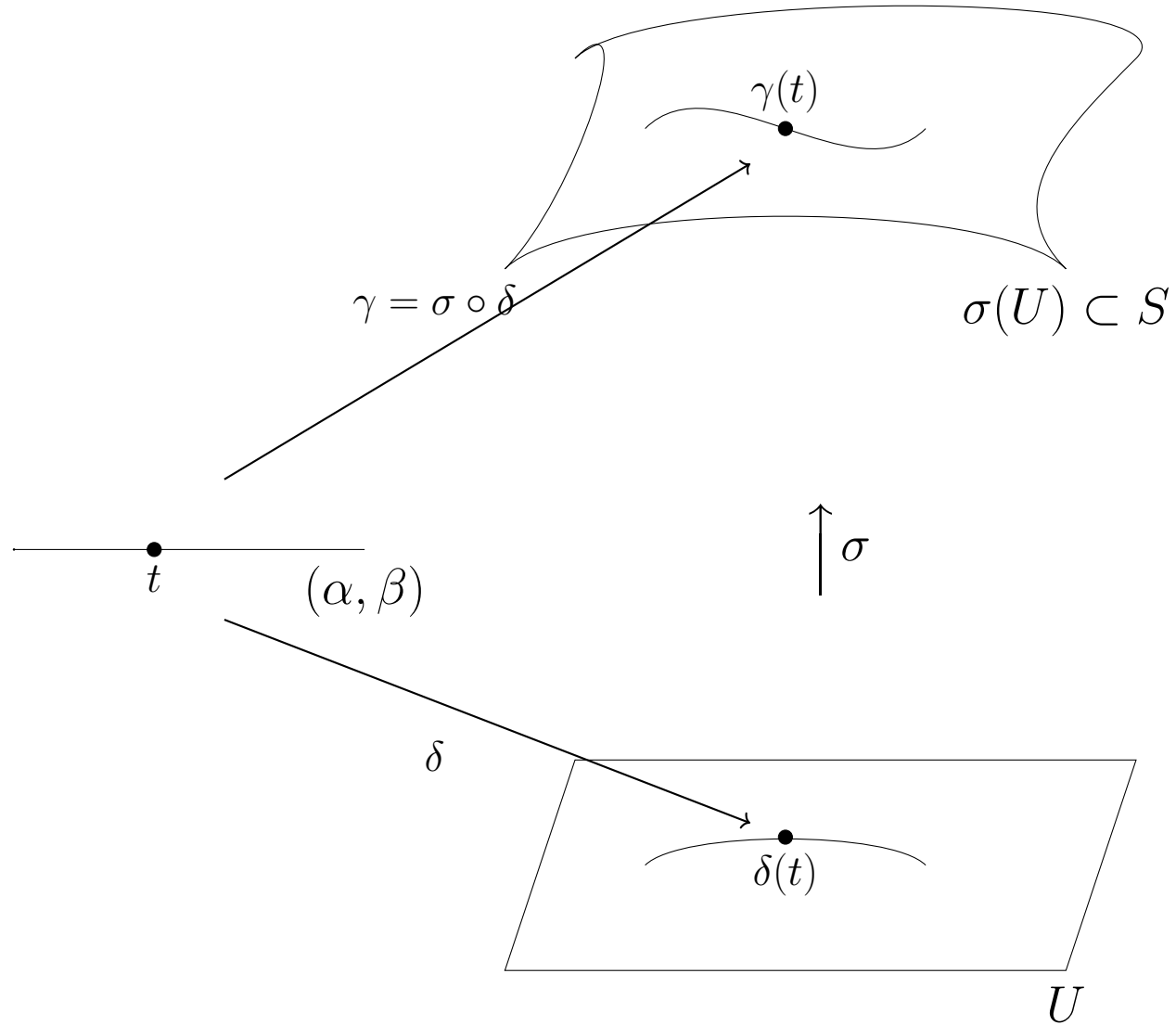
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$$\gamma(t) = \sigma(\delta(t))$$

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



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

## A curve on a surface

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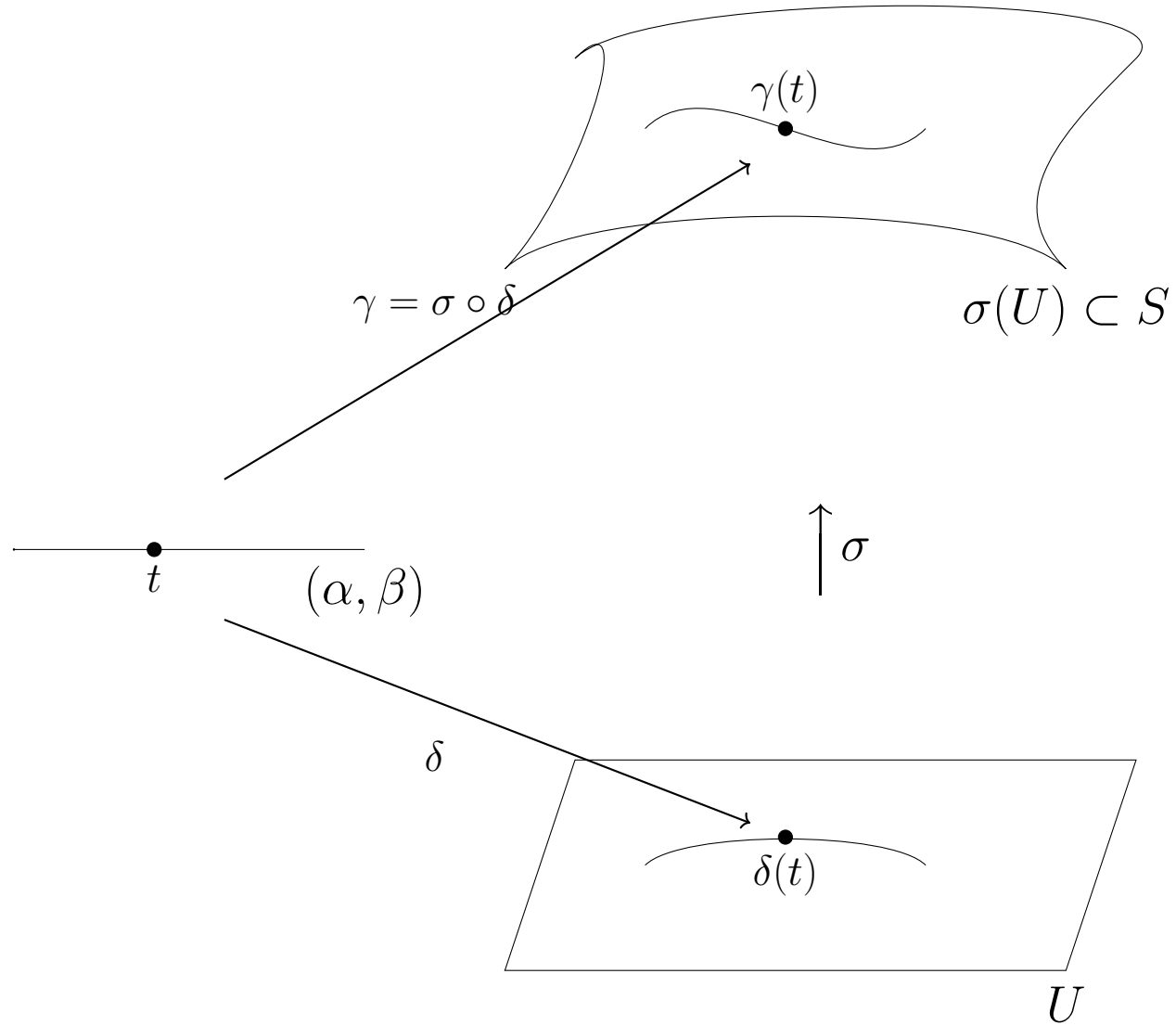
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chain rule allows us to express the derivatives

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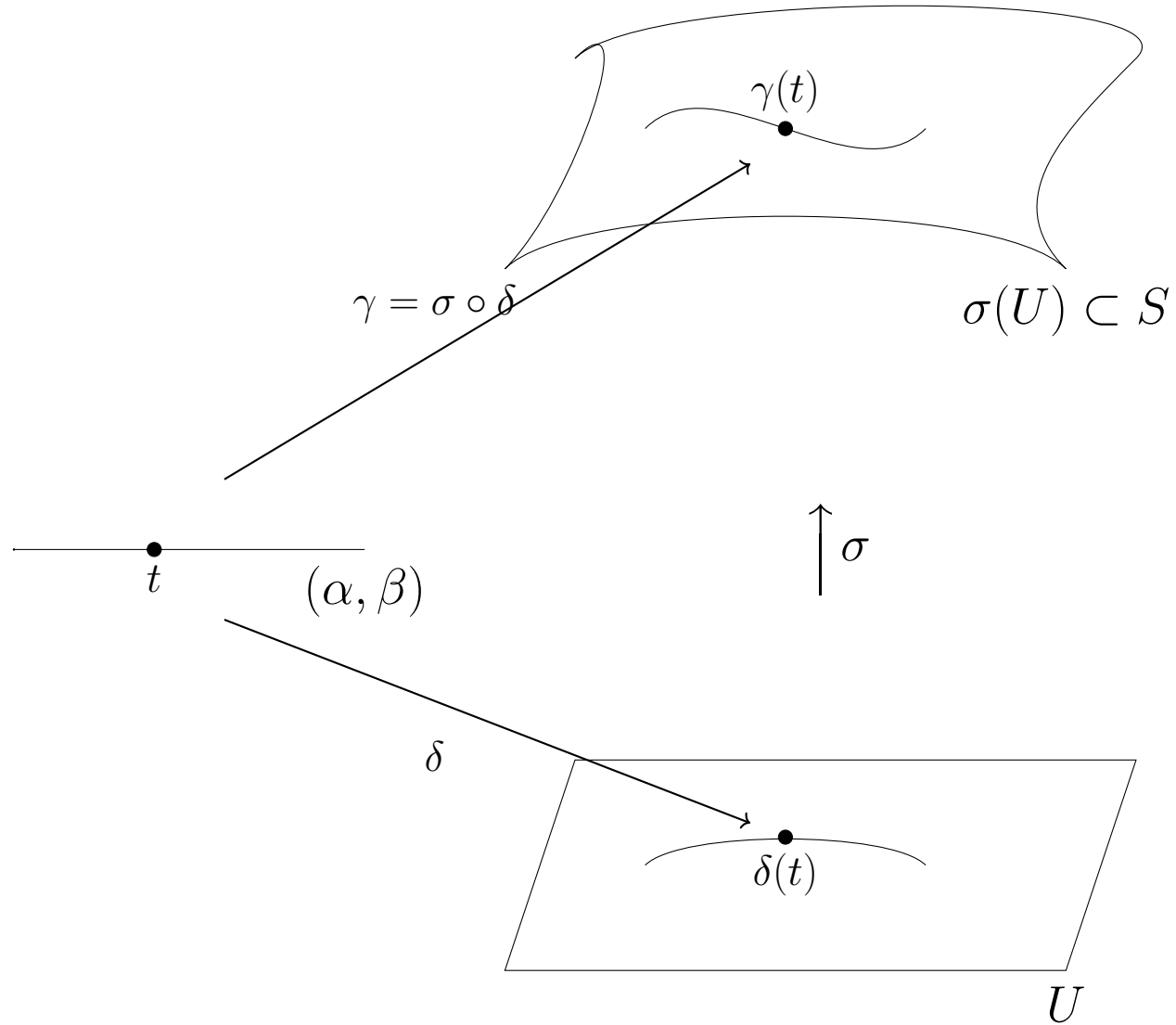
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$$\delta(t) = (x(t), y(t))$$

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



entirely in terms of the derivatives of  $\delta$  and  $\sigma$

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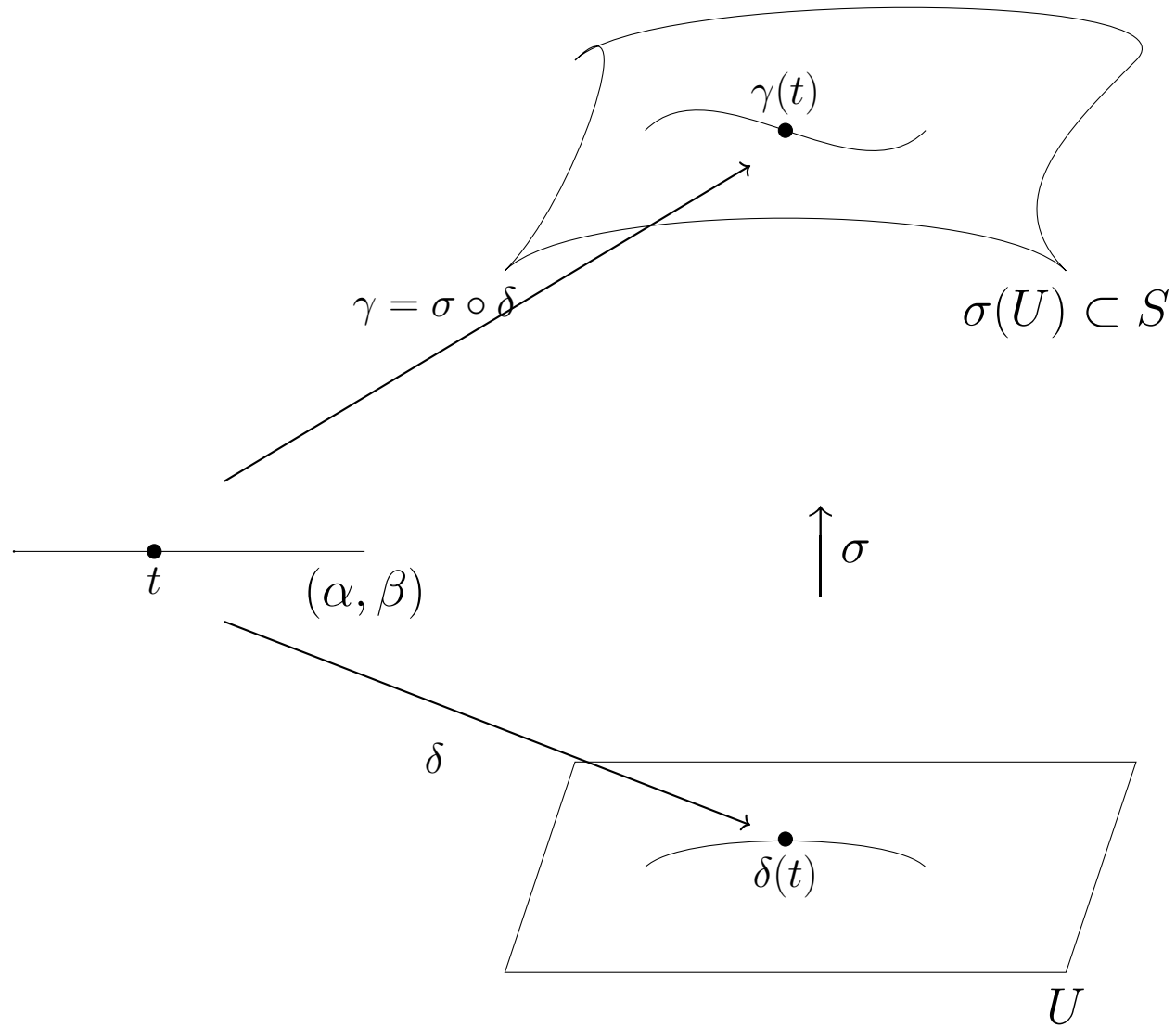
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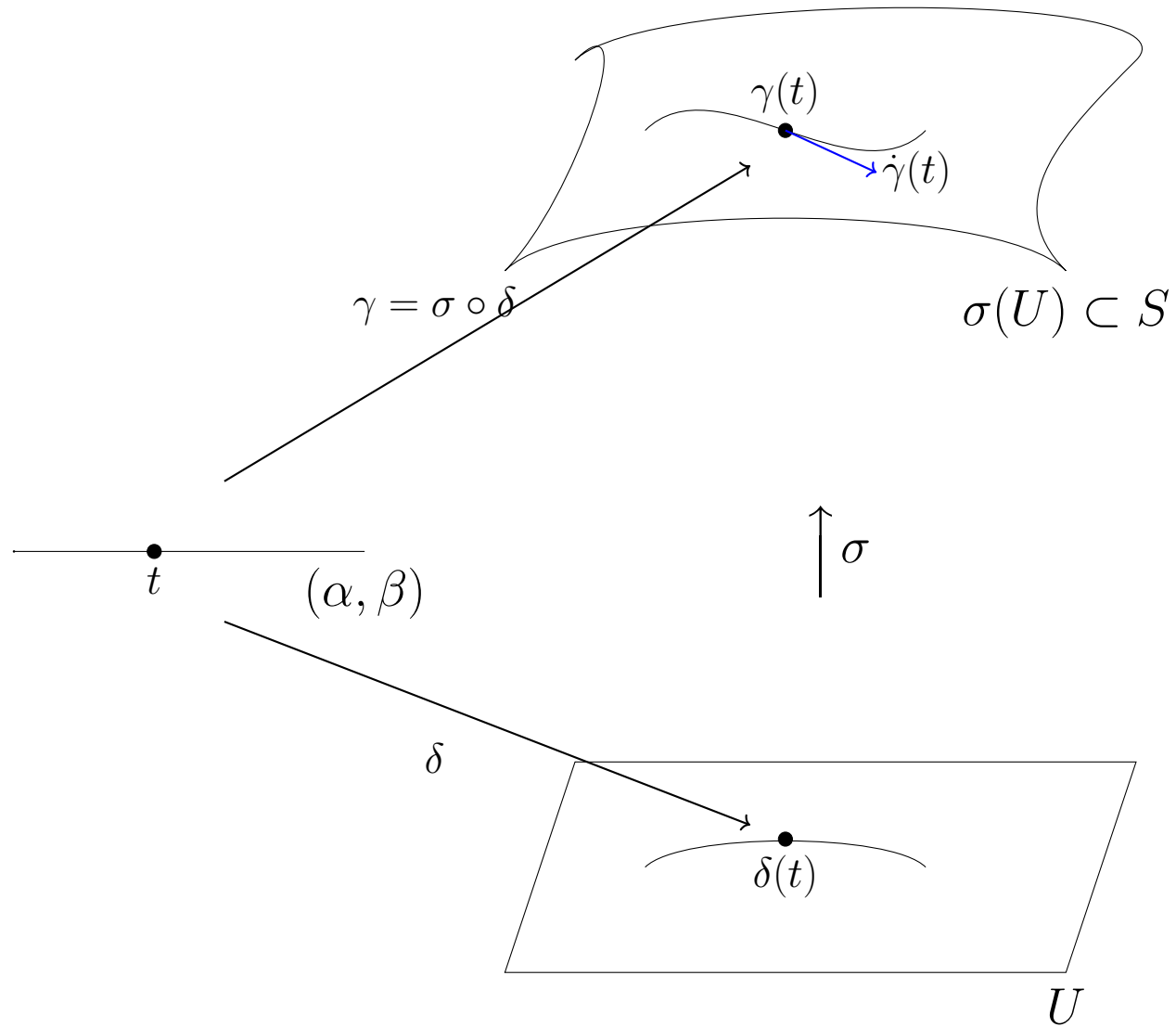
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$$\delta : (\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow U$$

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

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

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



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

## 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”.

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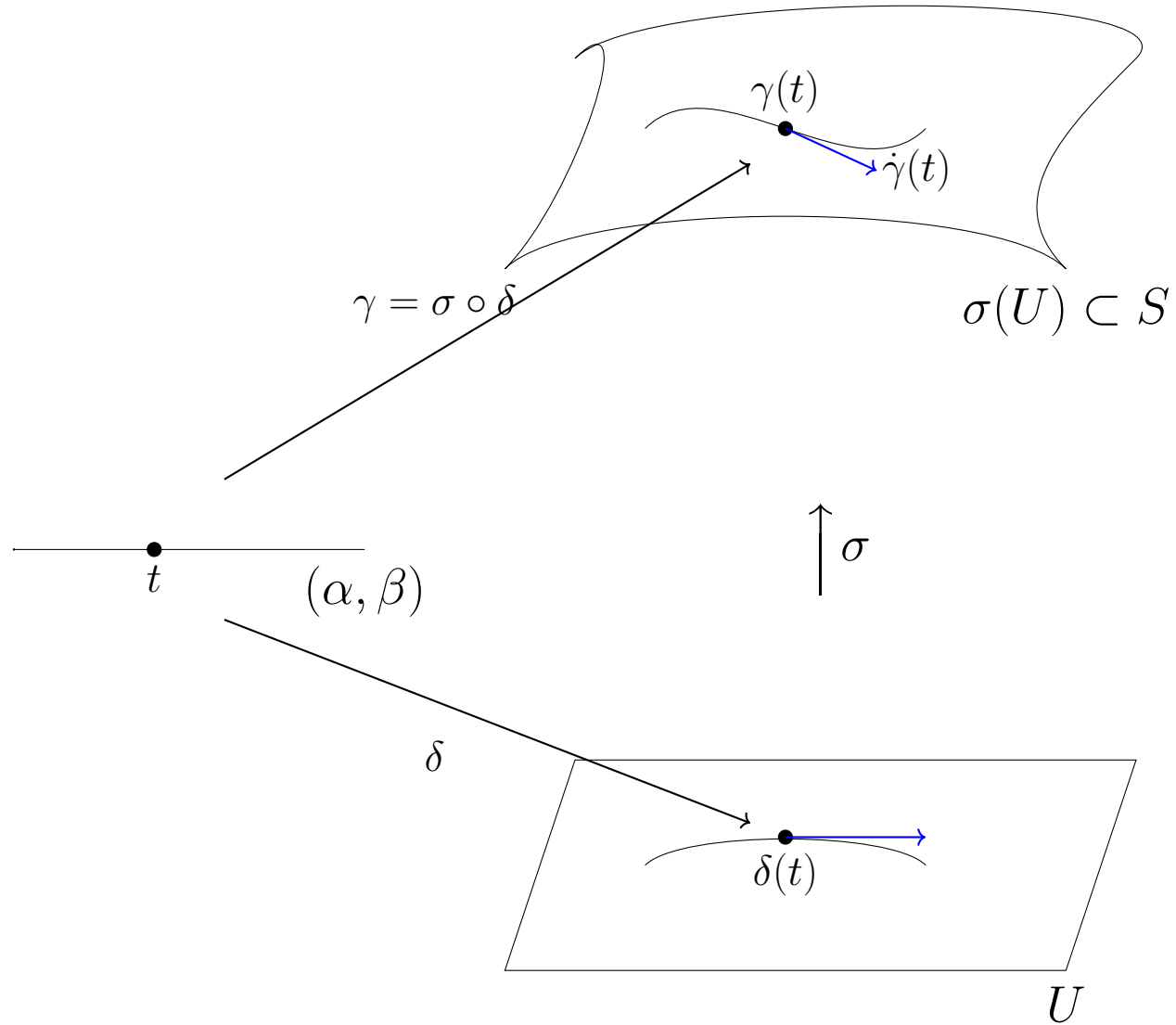
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The right hand side expresses it in terms of the patch

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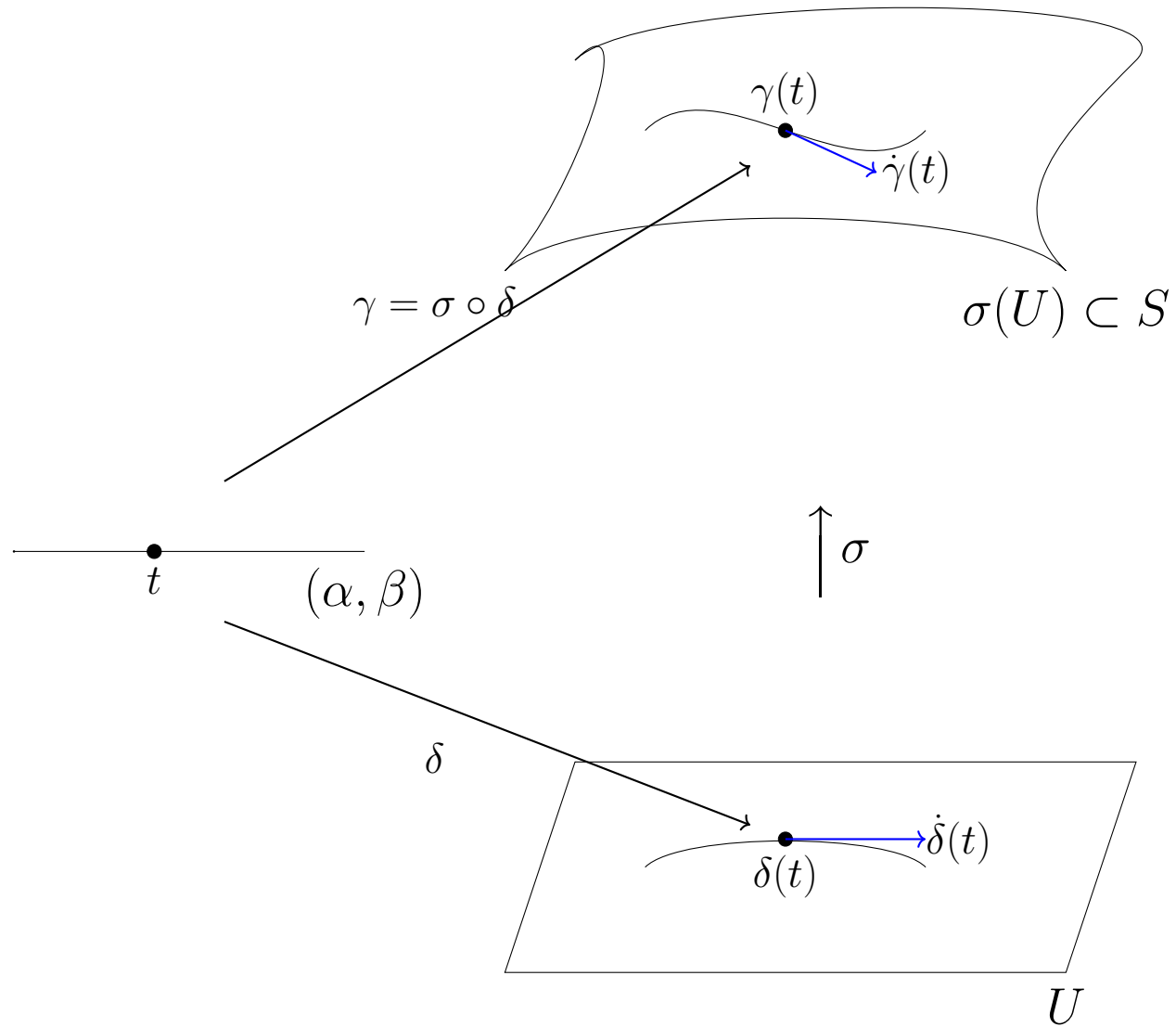
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i.e., in terms of the velocity of  $\delta$ .

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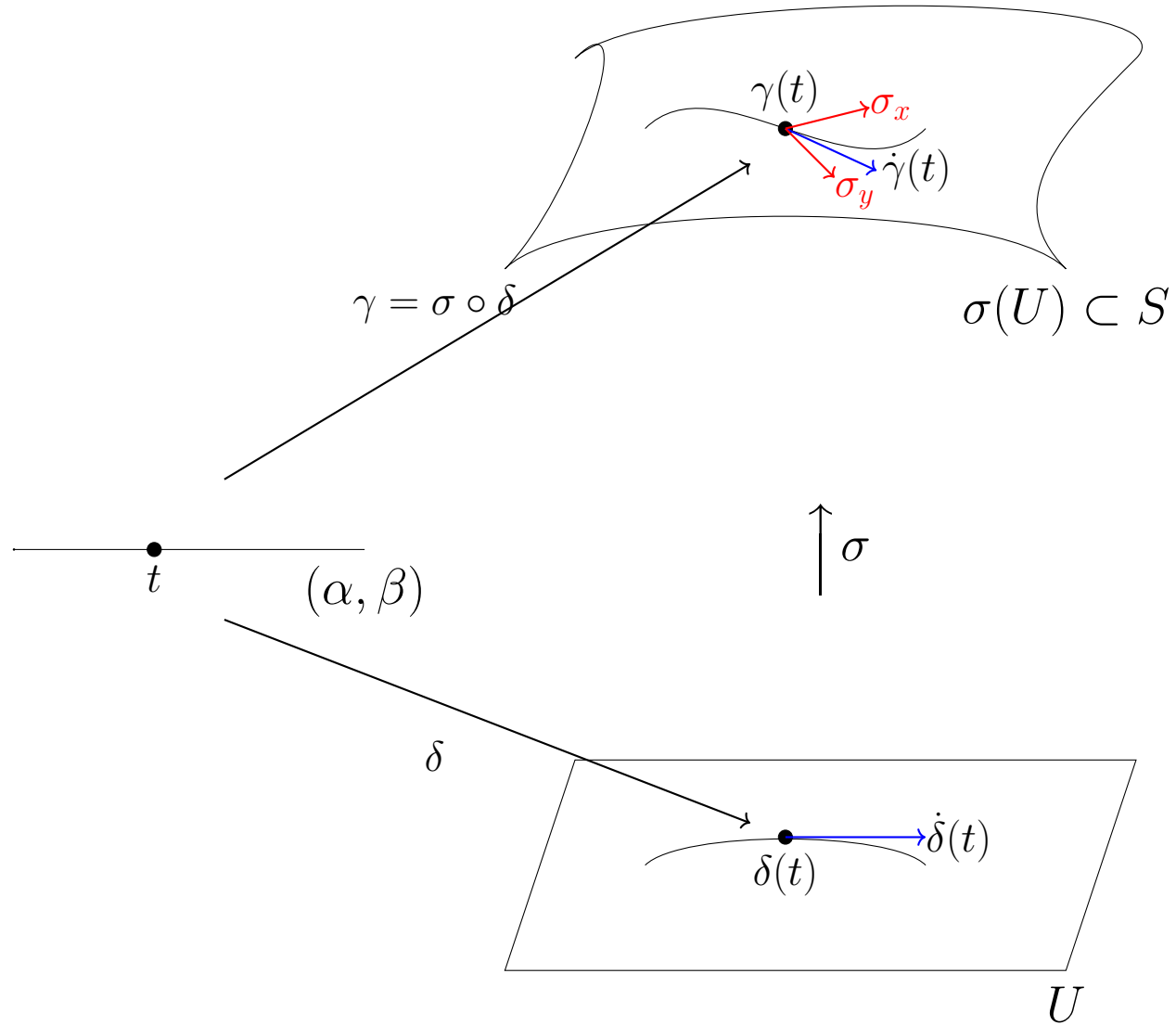
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Essentially,  $\dot{\gamma}(t)$  can be written in terms of the surface patch, specifically,  $\sigma_x$  and  $\sigma_y$ .

## A curve on a surface

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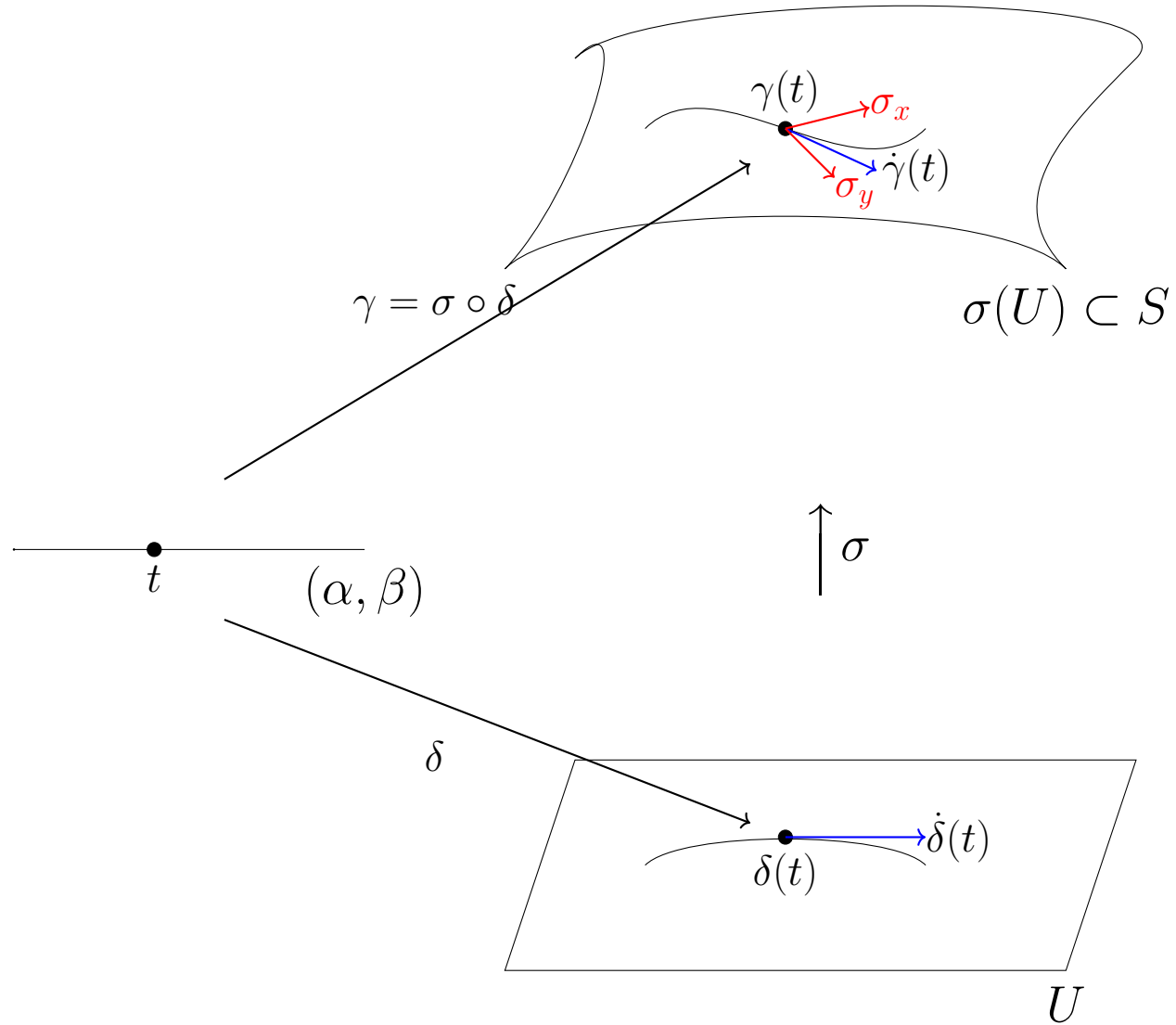
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The coefficients come from  $\dot{\delta}(t)$

## A curve on a surface

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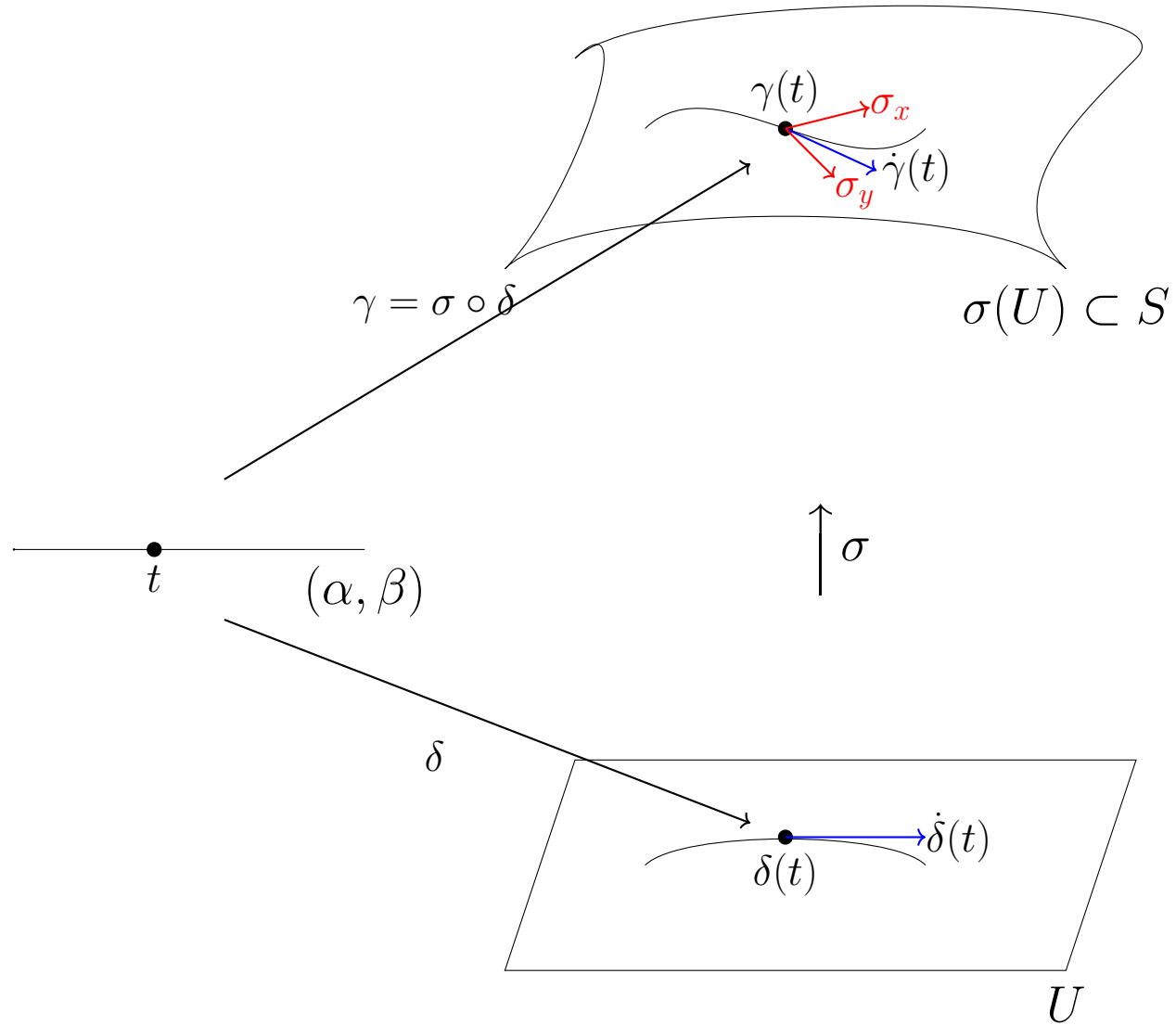
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(which is also the coordinates provided by the surface patch).

## A curve on a surface

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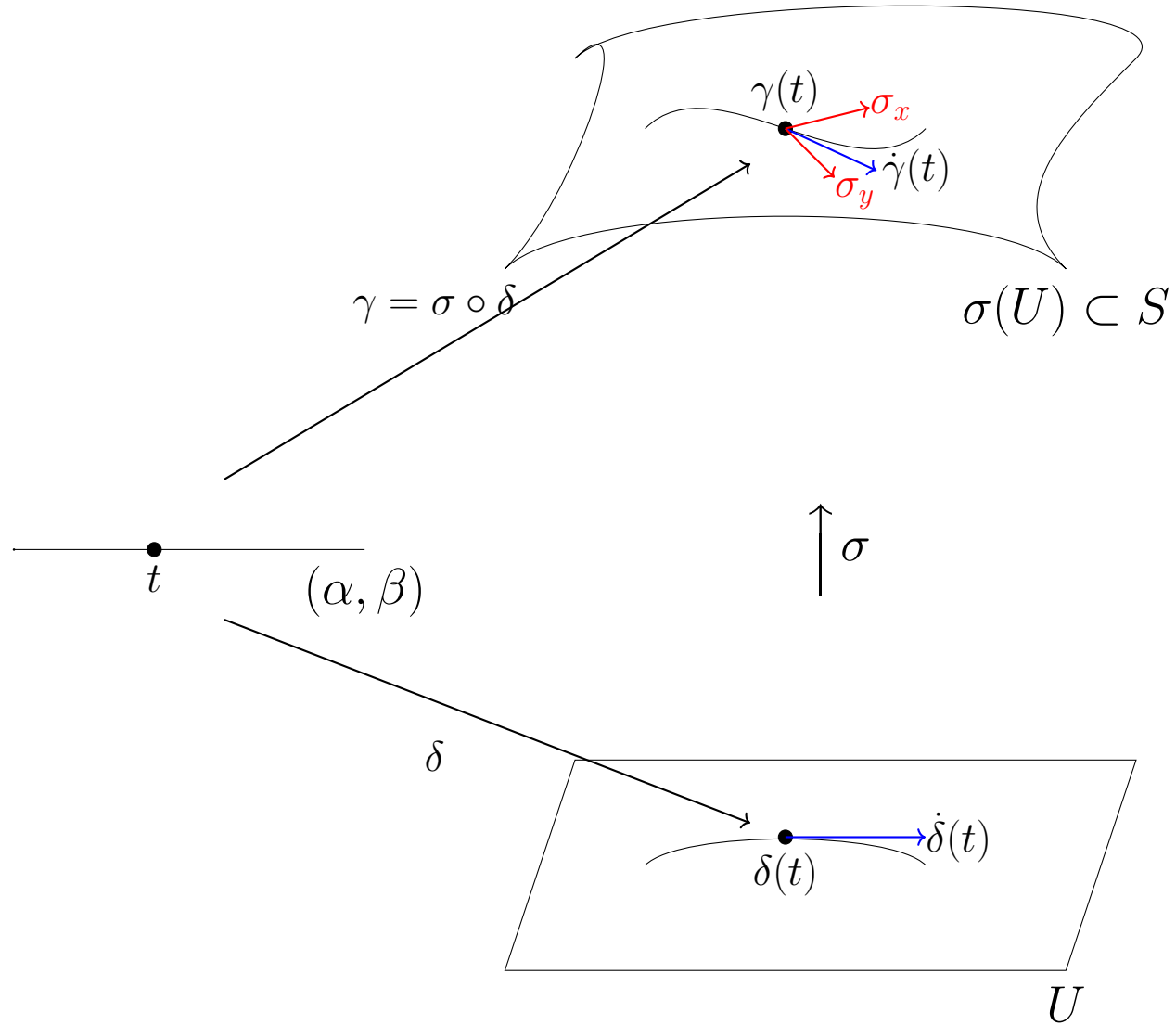
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This shows why partial derivatives feature at all

## A curve on a surface

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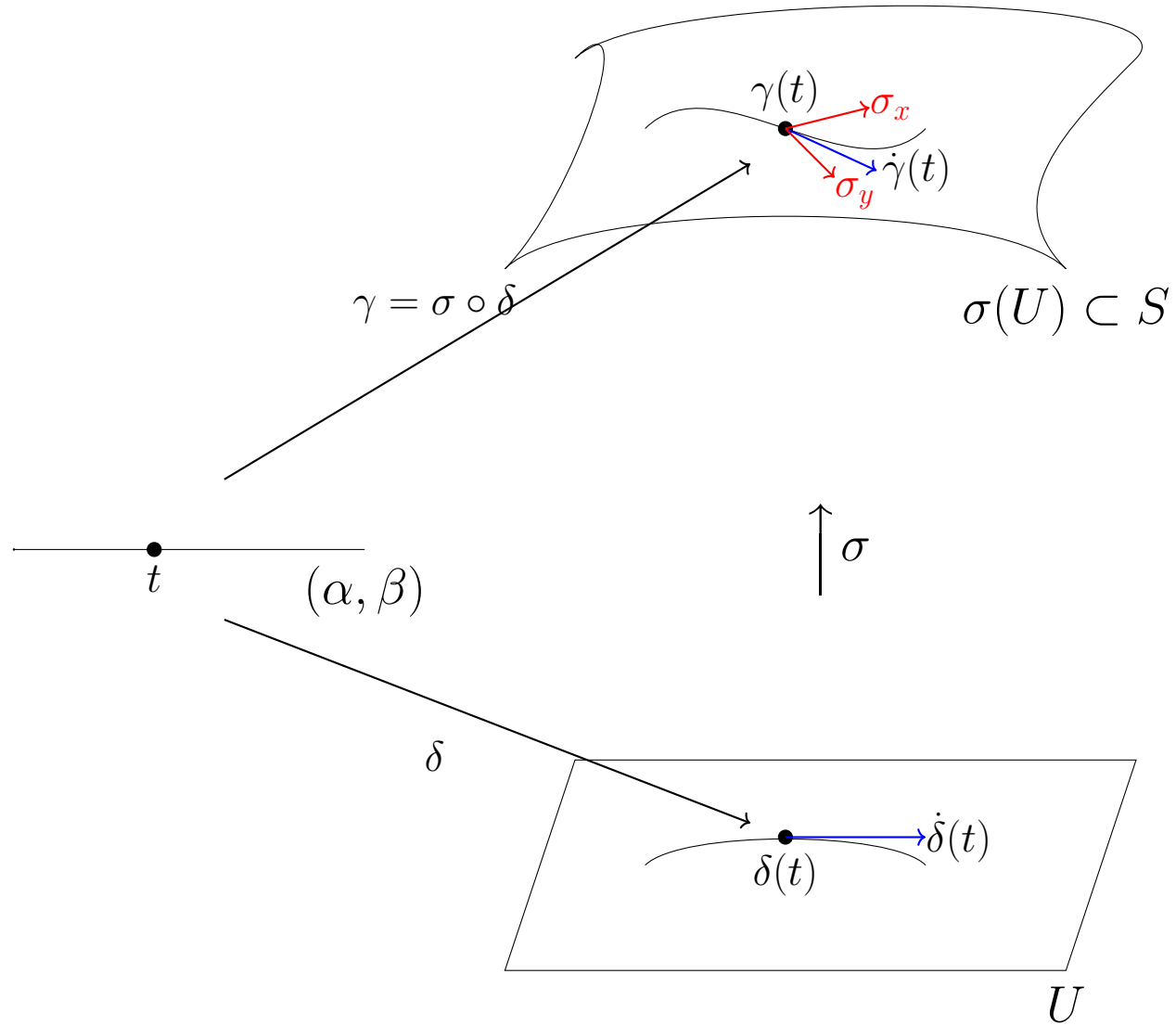
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and the importance of regularity...



## A curve on a surface

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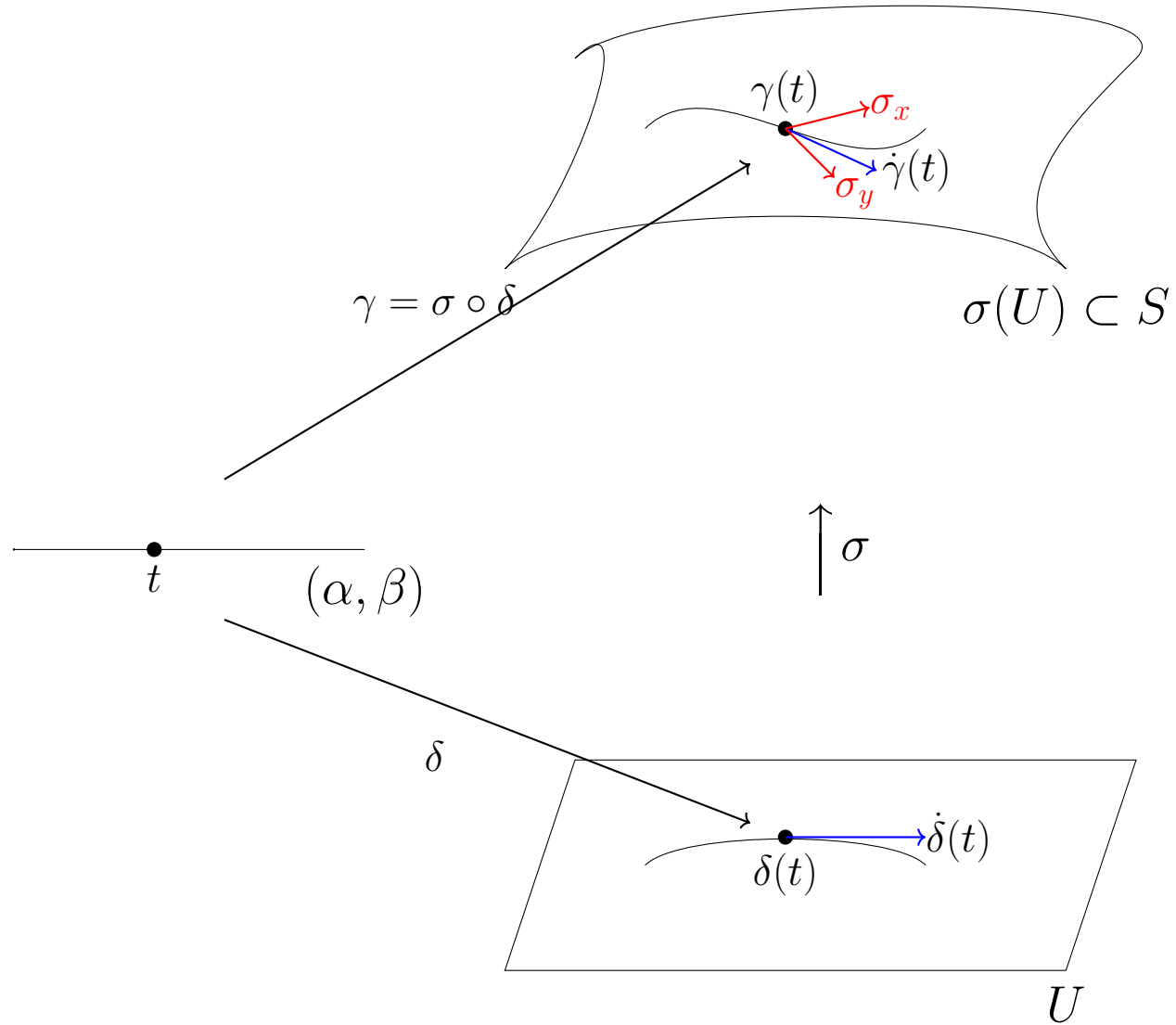
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...to ensure  $\sigma_x$  and  $\sigma_y$  are linearly independent