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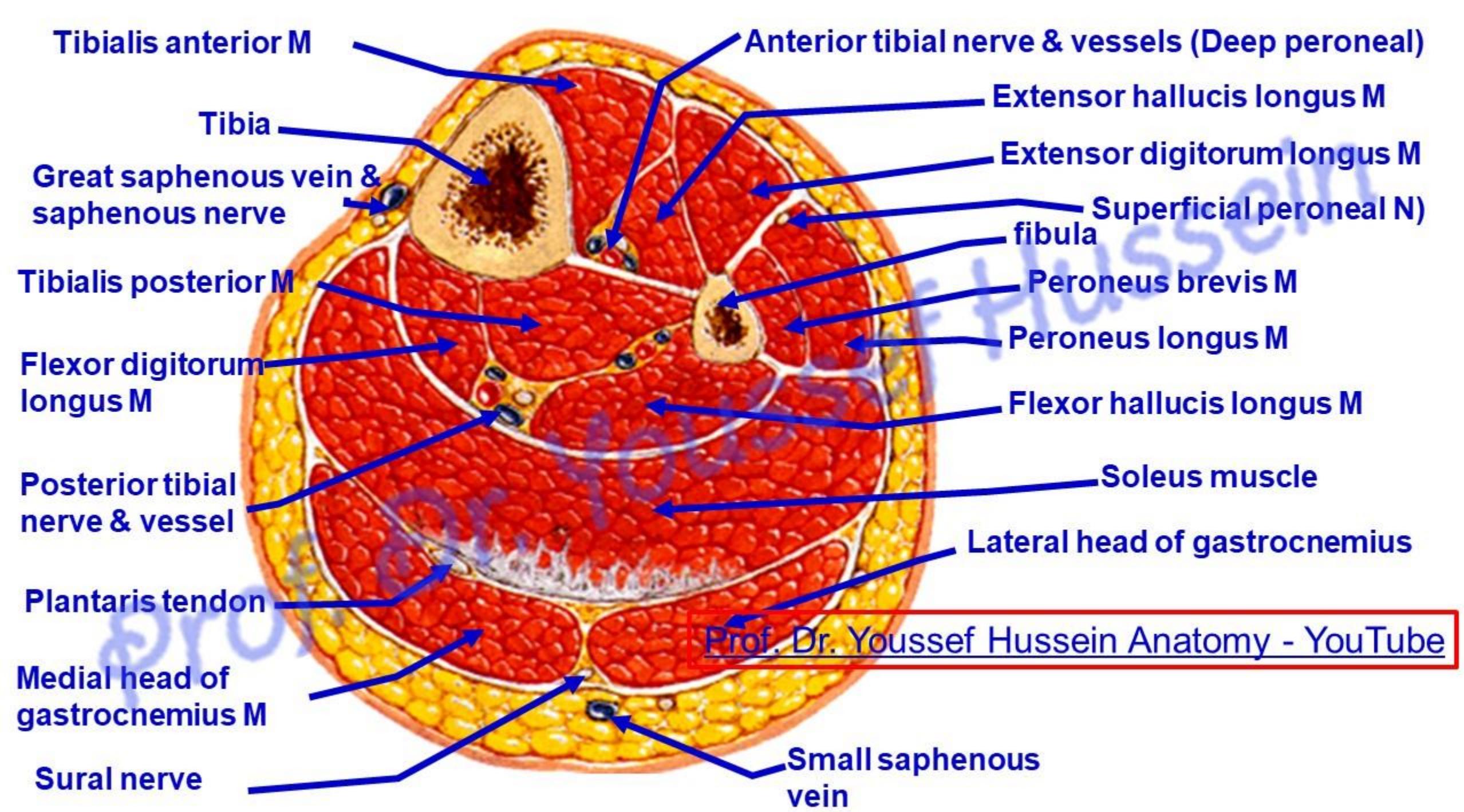
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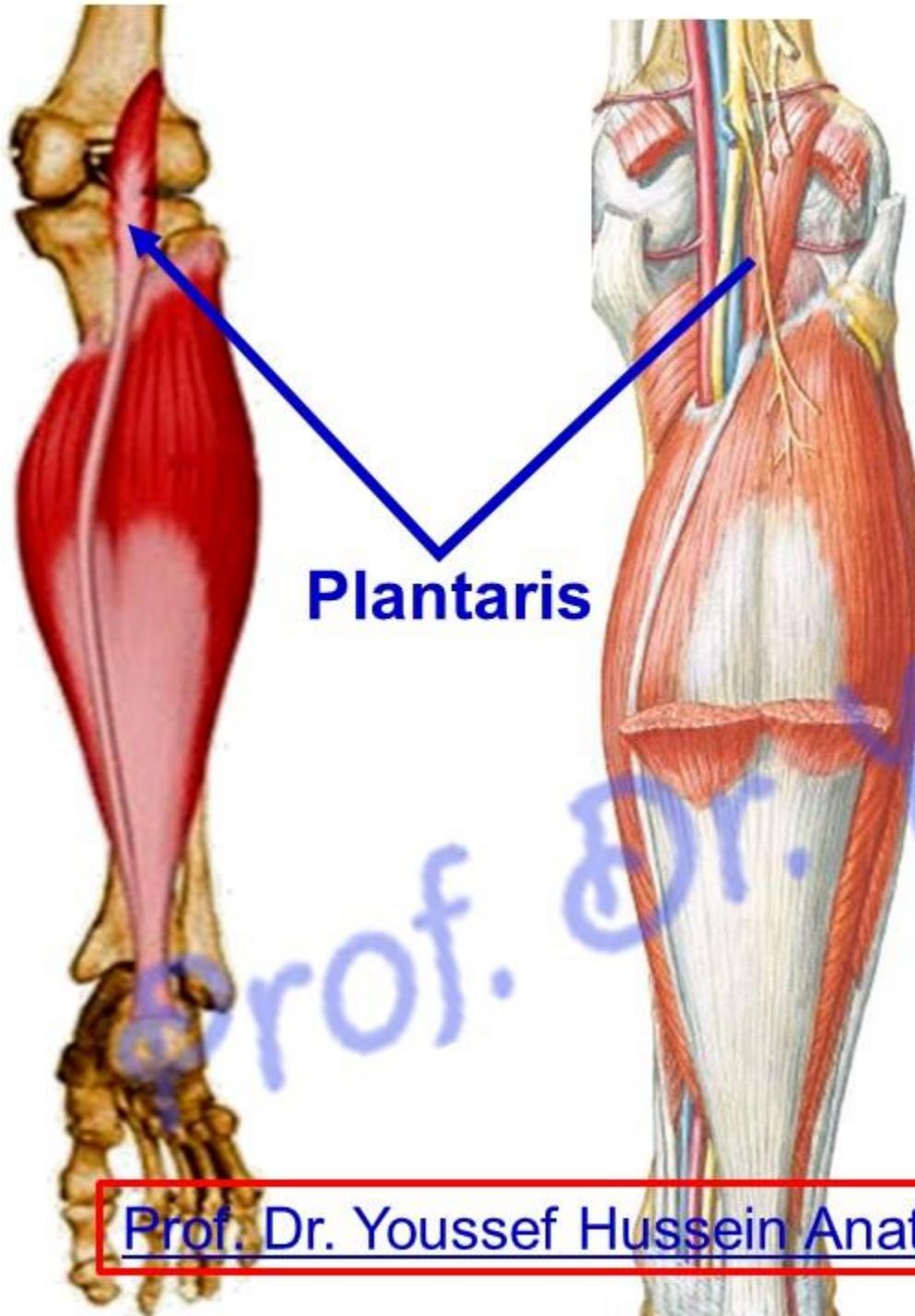
# Transverse section of the middle of the leg

Prof. Dr.



# Superficial group Posterior Compartment of the Leg

- Superficial muscles
- 1- Plantaris (Tibial nerve)
  - 2- Gastrocnemius (Tibial nerve)
  - 3- Soleus (Tibial and Posterior Tibial nerves)



- PLantaris

\*\* **Origin:** from the popliteal surface of the femur just above the Lateral condyle.

- **The muscle may be absent.**

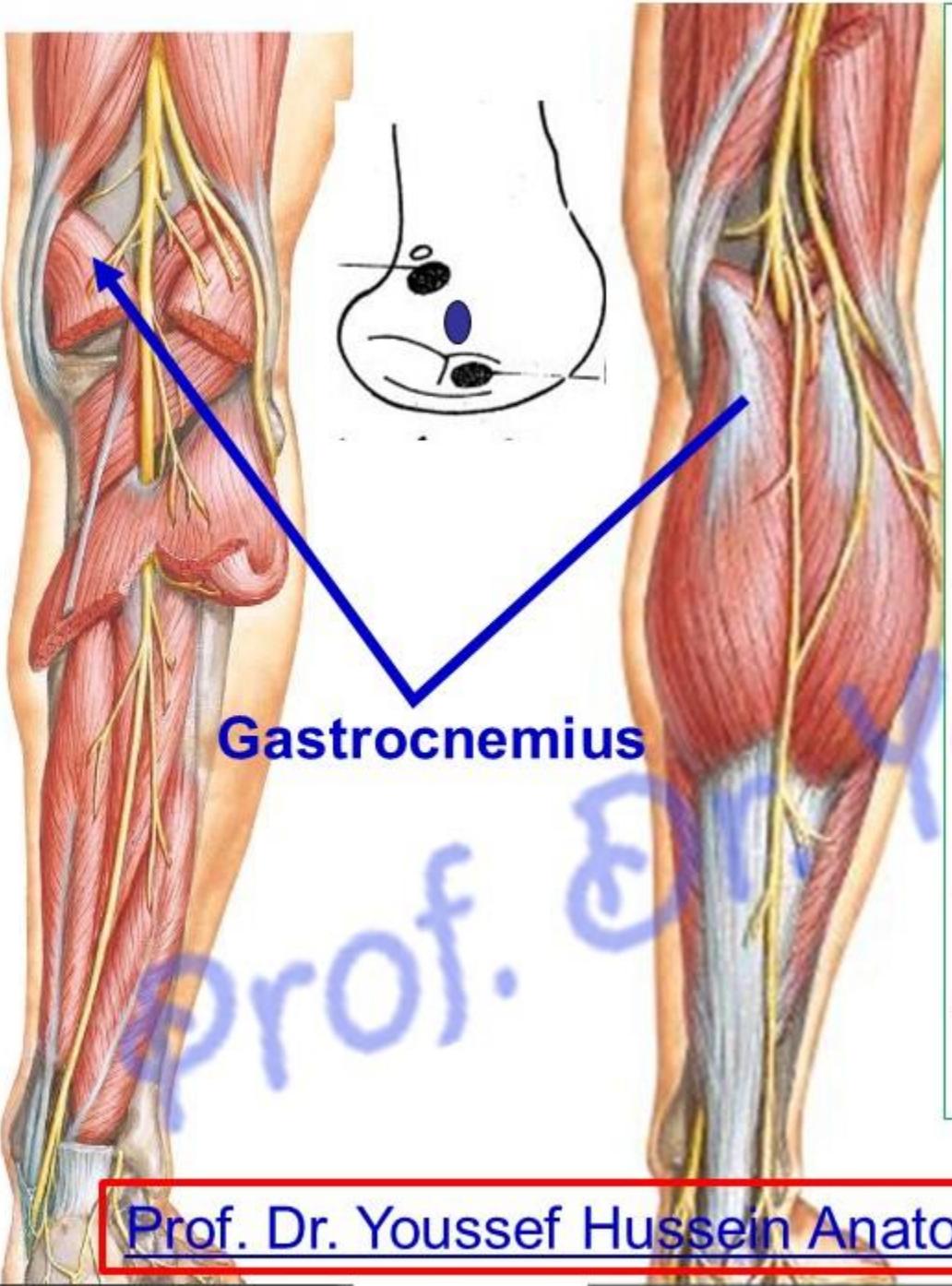
\*\* **Course:** It is a long slender tendon which descends between the gastrocnemius and soleus.

\*\* **Insertion, either** Into the tendocalcaneus.

- OR separately in the posterior surface of the calcaneus.

\*\* **Nerve supply:** Tibial nerve.

\*\* **Actions:** Plantar Flexion of the foot.



- **Gastrocnemius**

\*\* **Origin:** by 2 heads:

1- **Medial head:** From the popliteal surface of the femur just above the medial condyle.

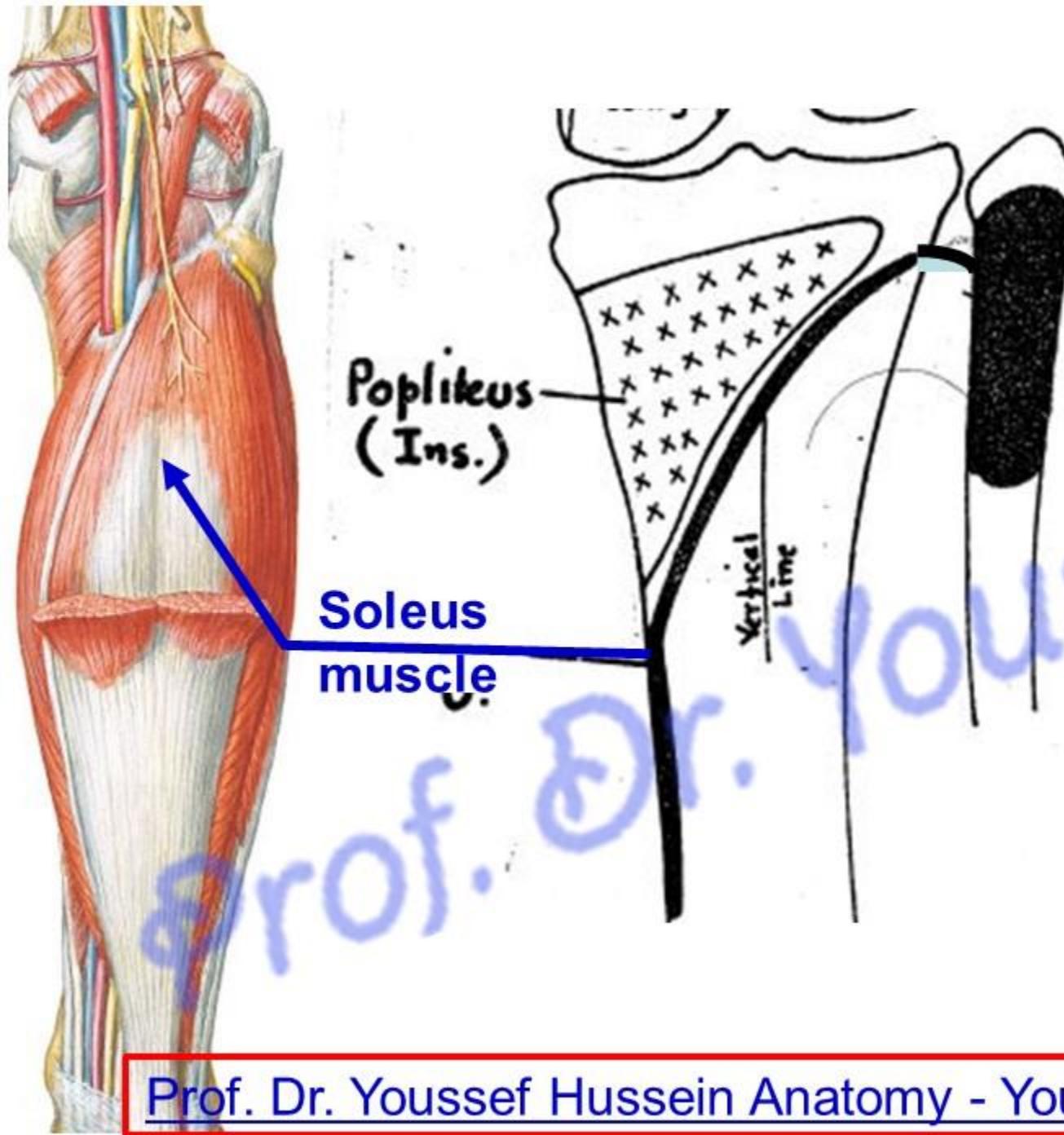
2- **Lateral head:** from lateral surface of lateral condyle of femur above and behind the lateral epicondyle. It contains sesamoid bone called **Fabella**.

\*\* **Insertion:** Tendocalcaneus into the middle of the posterior surface of the calcaneus.

\*\* **Nerve supply:** Tibial nerve (each head receive separate branch).

\*\* **Actions:** 1- Plantar flexion of the foot (at ankle joint).

2- Flexion of the knee joint.



- **Soleus**

**\*\* Origin: from**

- 1- Upper 1/3 of posterior surface of fibula.
- 2- Back of the head of the fibula.
- 3- Tendinous arch (between head of fibula and soleal line).
- 4- Soleal line of the tibia
- 5- Middle 1/3 of medial border of tibia.

**\*\* Insertion:** into the tendocalcaneus.

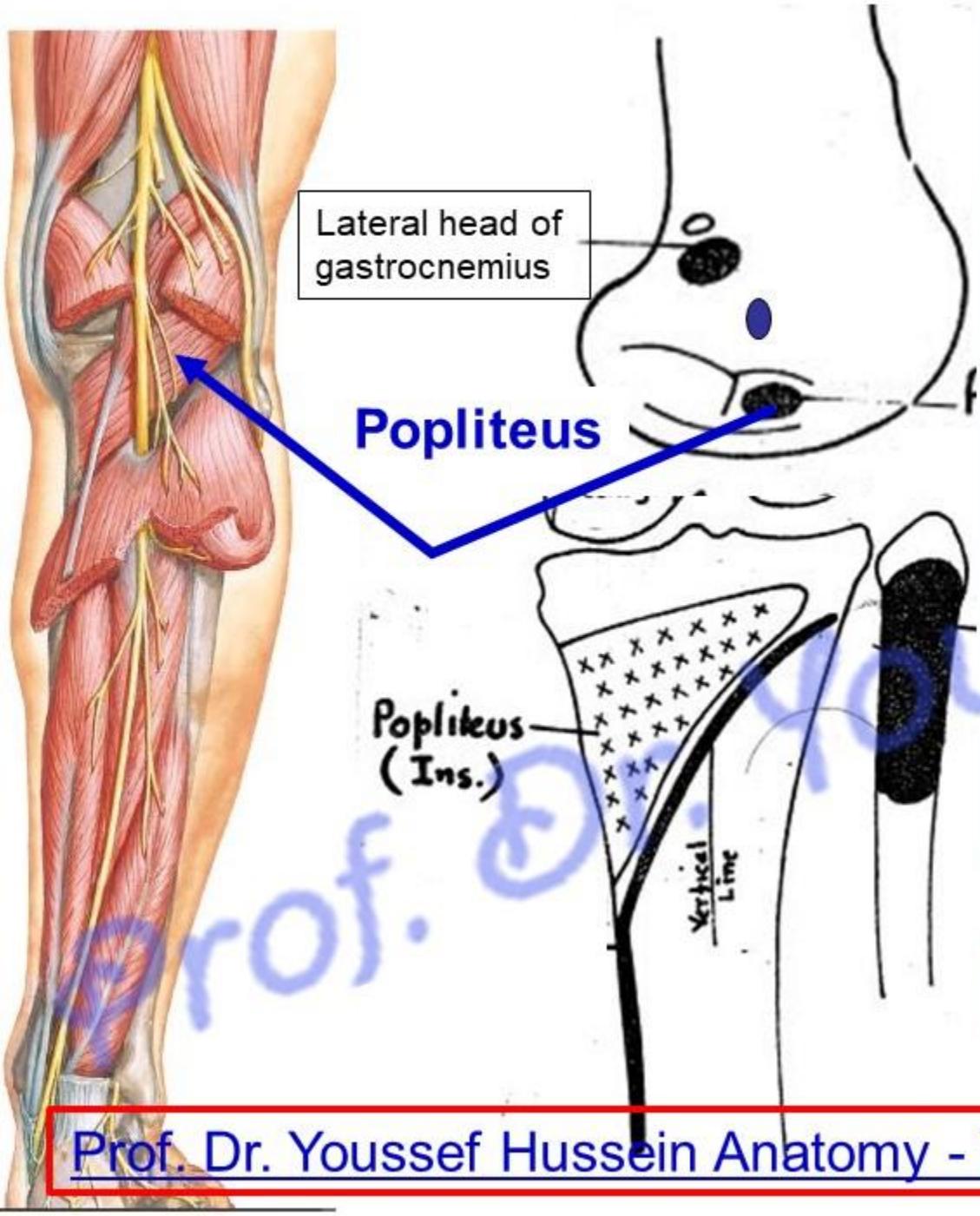
- \*\* Nerve supply:** Double nerve supply.
- 1- **Its superficial surface**, branch from the tibial nerve in the popliteal fossa.
  - 2- **Its deep surface**, branch from the posterior tibial nerve in the leg.
- \*\* Action:** powerful plantar flexor of the foot

## ❖ **Tendocalcaneus (Tendo-Achilles = Tennis player)**

- It receives insertion of **Gastrocnemius, soleus and plantaris** muscles.
- It ends in the middle of the posterior surface of the calcaneus.
- Tendocalcaneus is the strongest and thickest tendon of the body.
- **Soleus** muscle has a very strong but slow action (**like 1<sup>st</sup> gear of car**).
- When movement is under way, the quicker acting **gastrocnemius** increases the speed (**like the top gear of the car**) e.g. in **running**.
- The 2 heads of gastrocnemius and soleus are called **triceps surae**.
- **The soleus muscle** contains a rich **venous plexus** which drains the superficial veins and pumps it to the deep veins against gravity (**peripheral heart**). So, it liable to **deep venous thrombosis** especially with old age, bed rest for a long time, sitting for long time, or fracture neck of femur
- Rupture of tendocalcaneus leading to walking disability and running is impossible.
- Rupture of tendon of plantaris leading to sudden and severe pain. Due to pushing a heavy item (ground) or trauma to ankle joint during stretch of plantaris (plantar flexion of ankle joint) while simultaneously keeping knee joint straight

# Deep group Posterior Compartment of the Leg

- 1- Tibialis posterior (Posterior Tibial nerve)
- 2- Flexor digitorum longus (Posterior Tibial nerve)
- 3- Flexor hallucis longus (Posterior Tibial nerve)
- 4- Popliteus (Tibial nerve)



## • PopLiteus

- \*\* **Origin:** groove on lateral surface of **Lateral** condyle of femur below the lateral epicondyle.
  - **The muscle is intracapsular extrasynovial.**
- \*\* **Insertion:** triangular area on posterior surface of the tibia above the soleal line.
- \*\* **Nerve supply:** Tibial nerve.
  - It descends superficial to the muscle and then hooks on the lower border to supply the muscle through its deep surface.



## Unlocking of knee joint

**At the beginning of flexion of knee joint**

**Lateral rotation of femur on tibia when the foot is fixed on the ground**

**Or medial rotation of tibia on femur when the foot is raised from the ground**



**Protection of the lateral meniscus.**

- **Origin of Flexor Digitorum Longus**

\*\* Posterior surface of the tibia below the soleal line and medial to the vertical line.

- **Origin of Flexor Hallucis Longus**

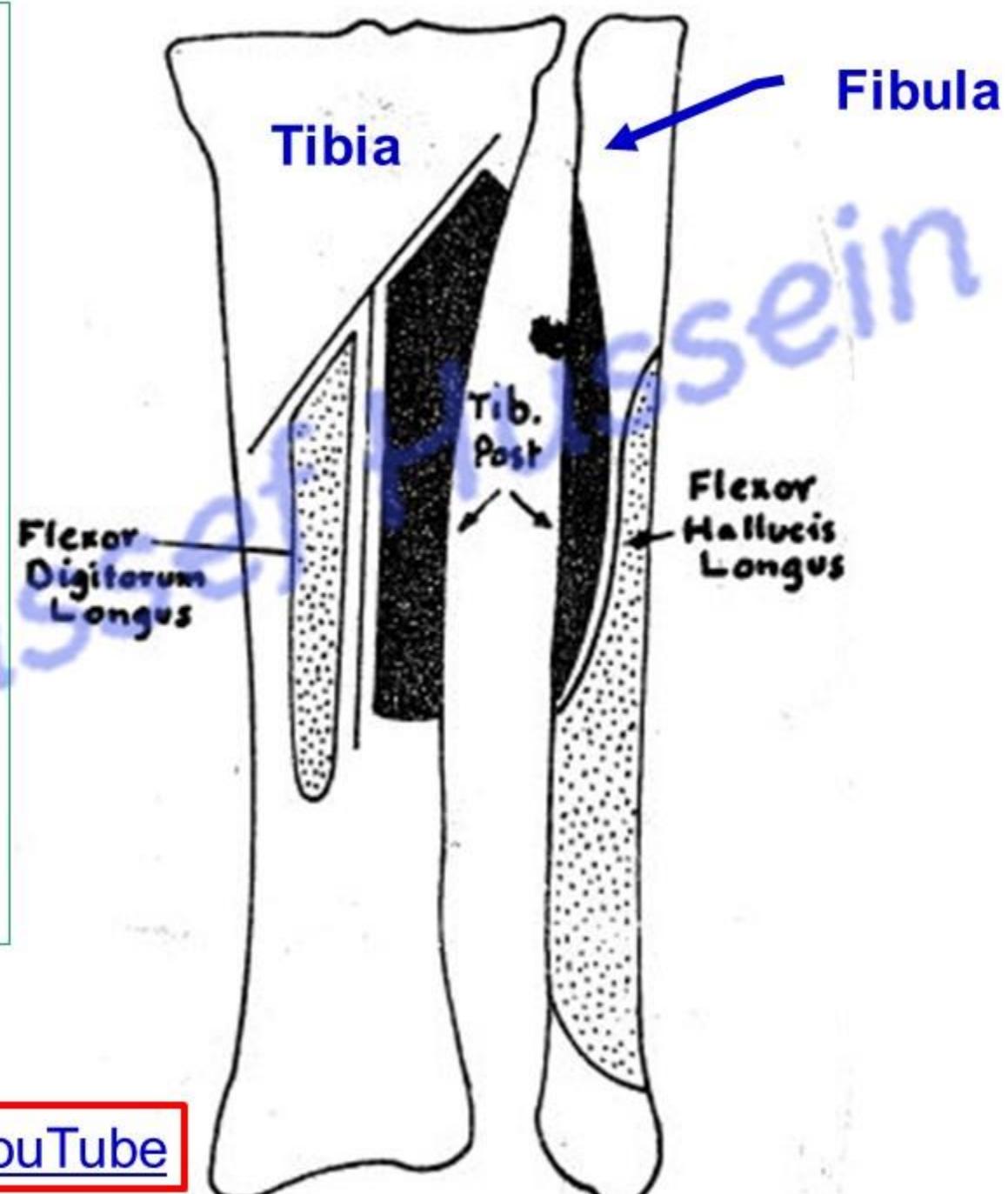
\*\* Lower 2/3 of posterior surface of fibula lateral to the median crest.

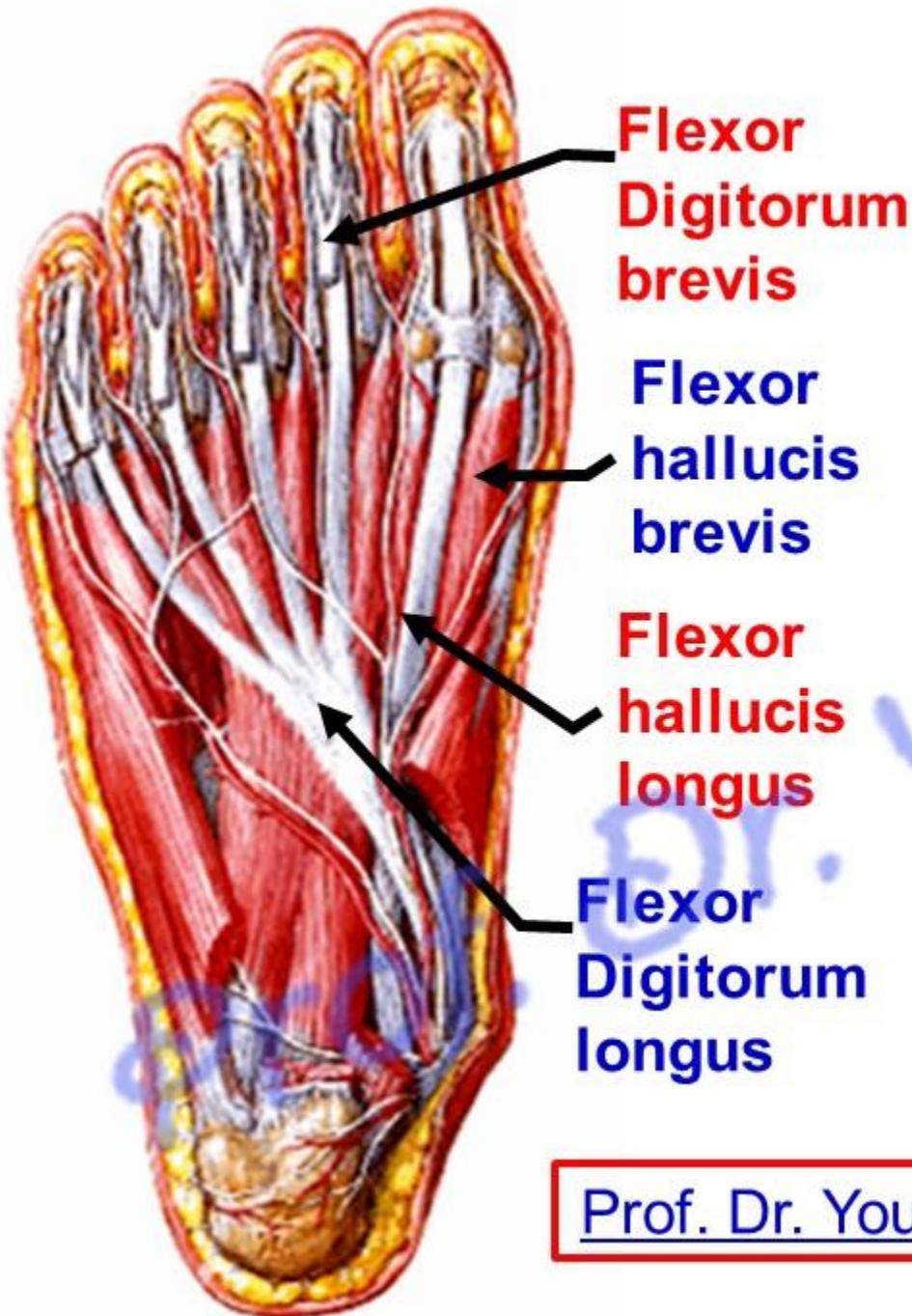
- **Origin of Tibialis Posterior**

1- Posterior surface of tibia below soleal line and lateral to the vertical line

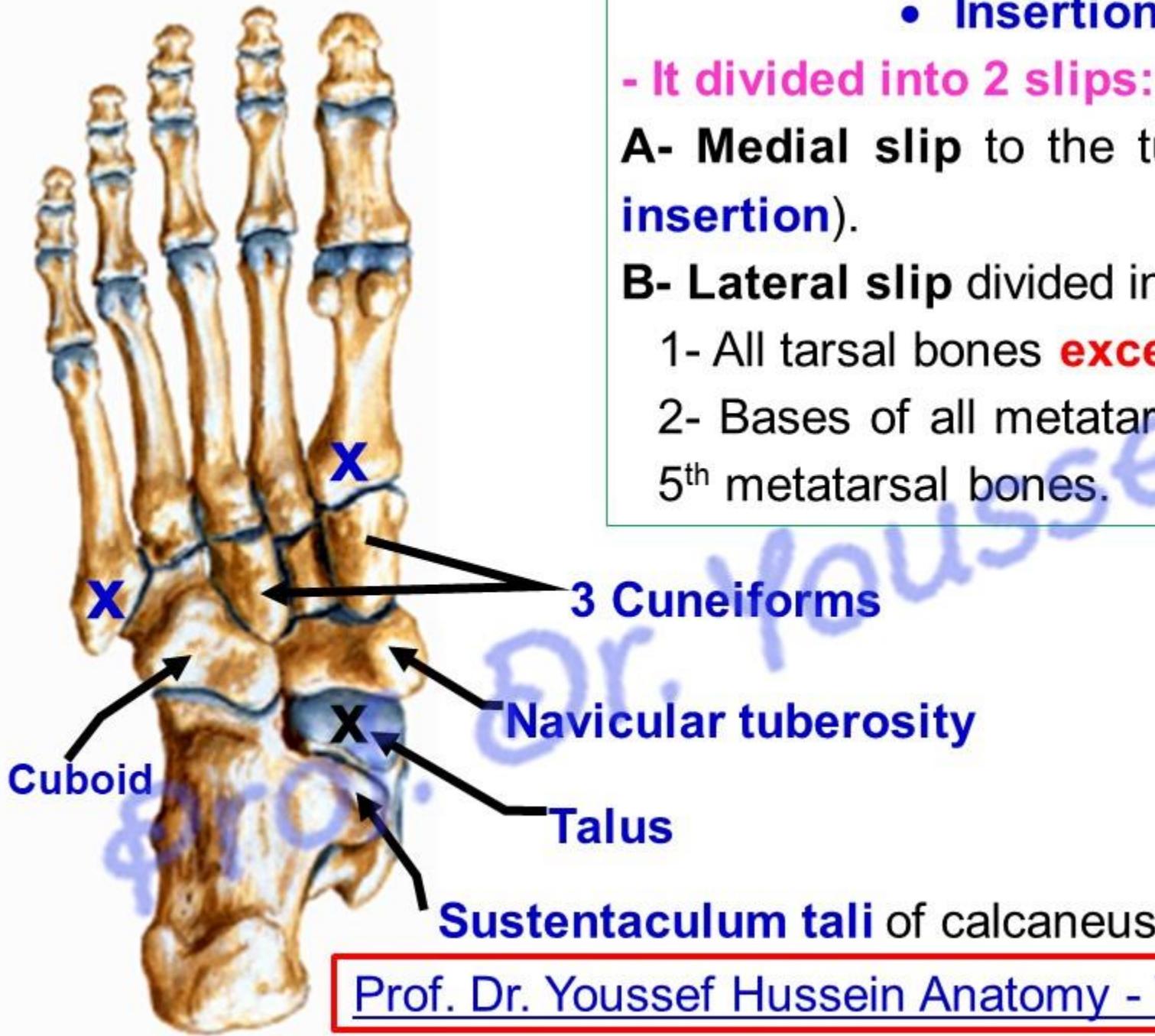
2- Posterior surface of fibula medial to median crest

3- Interosseous membrane.





- **Insertion of Flexor Hallucis Longus:** plantar surface of terminal (distal) phalanx of **the big toe (hallux)** (Flexor hallucis brevis splits into lateral and medial to allow the passage of FHL)
- **Insertion of Flexor Digitorum Longus**
  - They divide into 4 tendons which are **inserted into** plantar surface of the **distal (terminal) phalanges** of the **lateral 4 toes**.
  - Each tendon passing through an opening in corresponding tendon of **Flexor digitorum brevis** opposite the proximal phalanx.



- **Insertion of Tibialis Posterior**
- It divided into 2 slips:
- A- **Medial slip** to the tuberosity of navicular bone (**main insertion**).
- B- **Lateral slip** divided into several slips to:
- 1- All tarsal bones **except** talus.
  - 2- Bases of all metatarsal bones **except** the first and the 5<sup>th</sup> metatarsal bones.

- \*\* Actions of Flexor Hallucis Longus

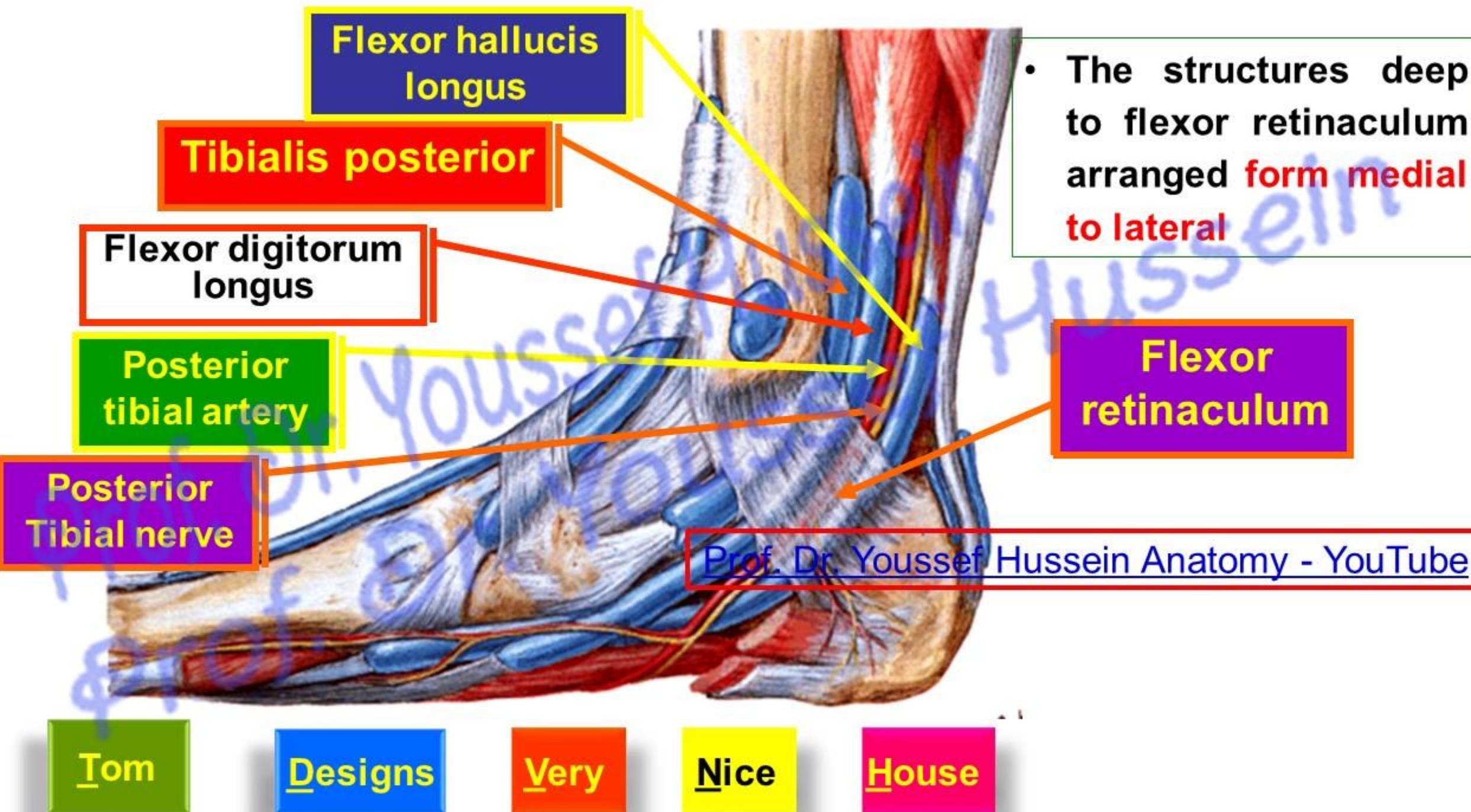
- 1- Plantar flexion of the foot.
- 2- Inversion of the foot.
- 3- Supporting the longitudinal arch of the foot
- 4- Flexion of all Joints of the big toe.

- \*\* Actions of Flexor Digitorum Longus

- 1- Plantar flexion of the foot.
- 2- Inversion of the foot.
- 3- Supporting the longitudinal arch of the foot.
- 4- Flexion of all joints of the lateral 4 toes.

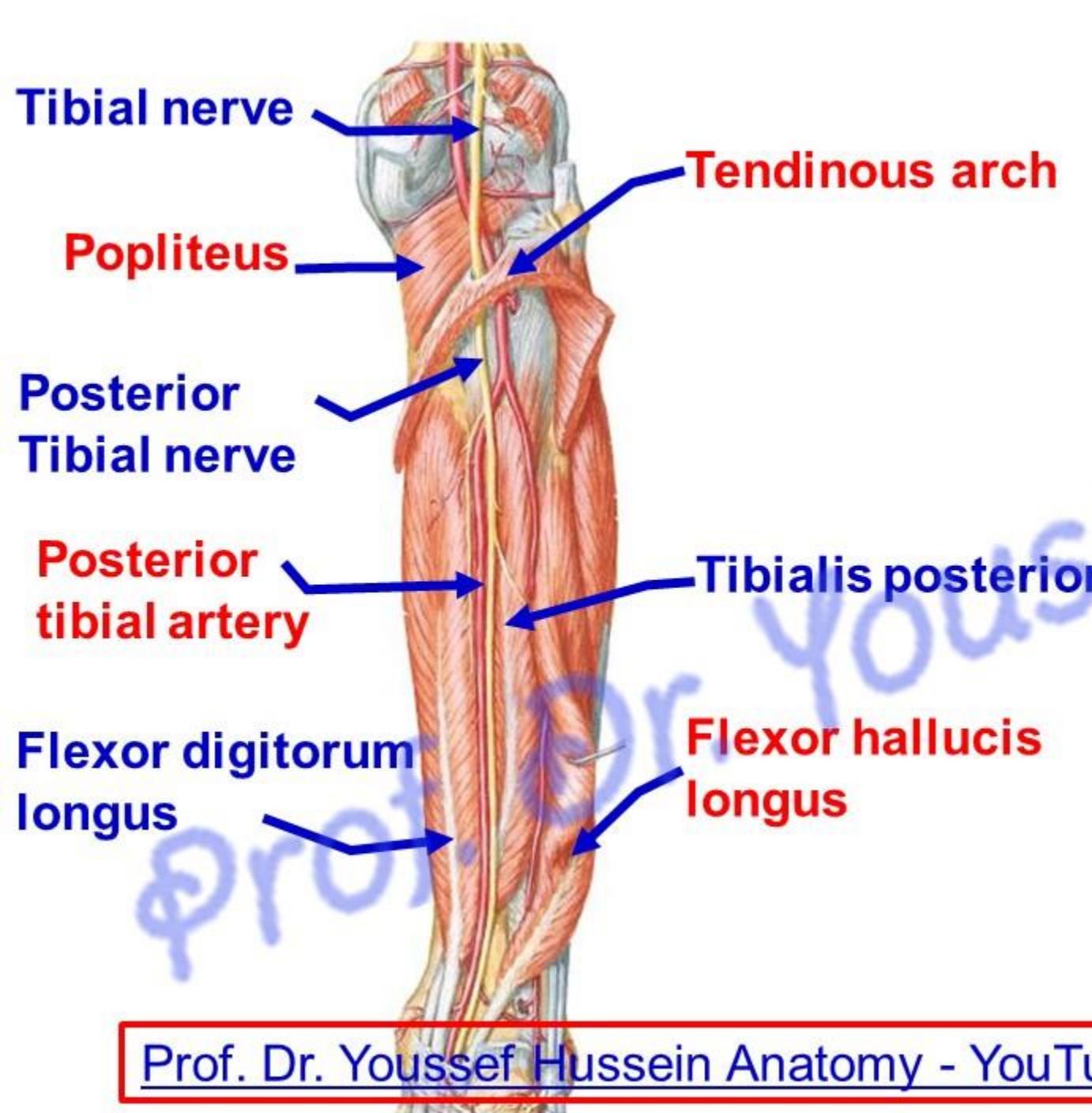
- \*\* Actions of Tibialis Posterior

- 1- Plantar flexion of the foot.
- 2- Inversion of the foot.
- 3- Supporting the longitudinal arch of the foot.



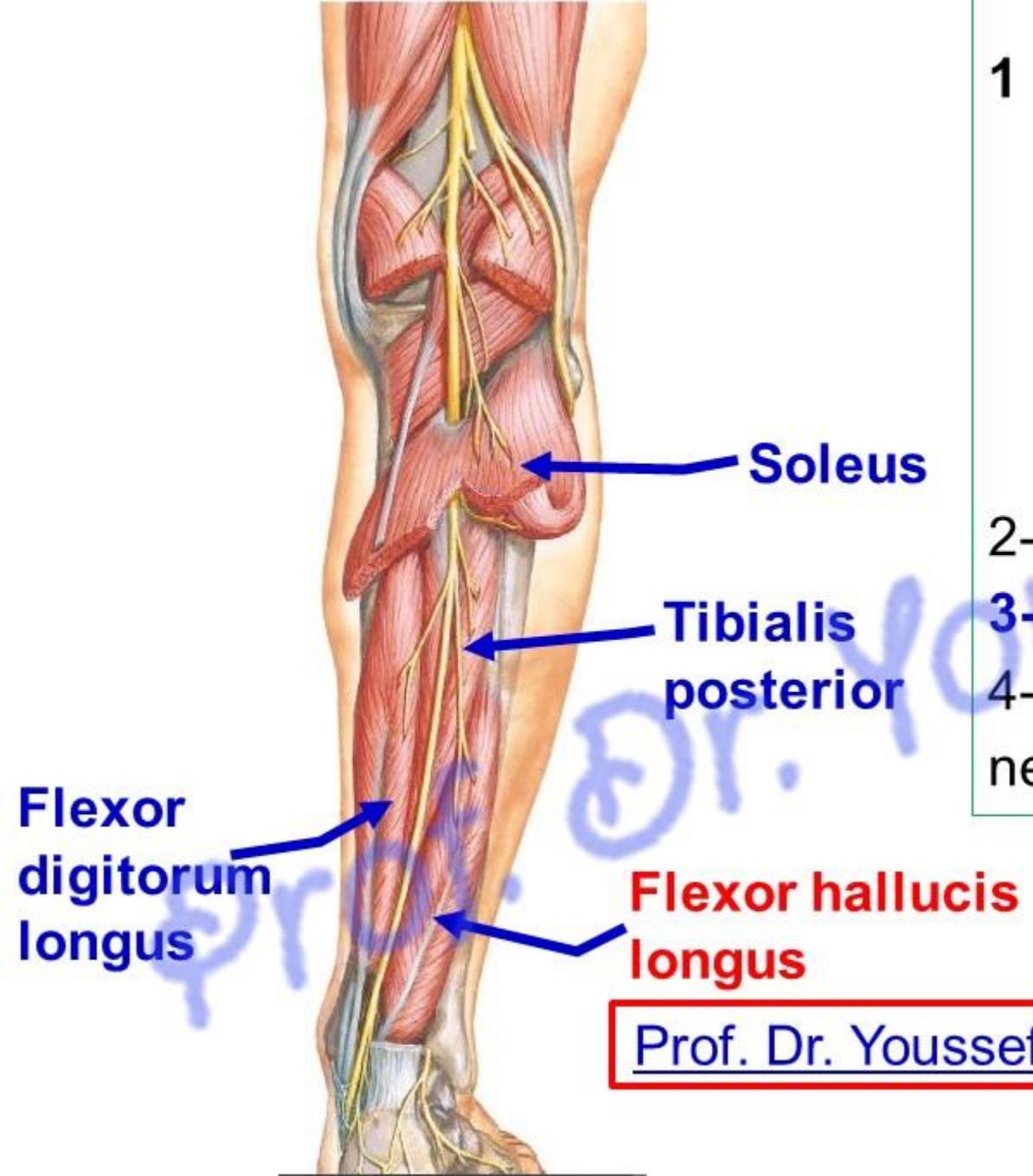
# Posterior Tibial nerve

Dr.  
Prof.



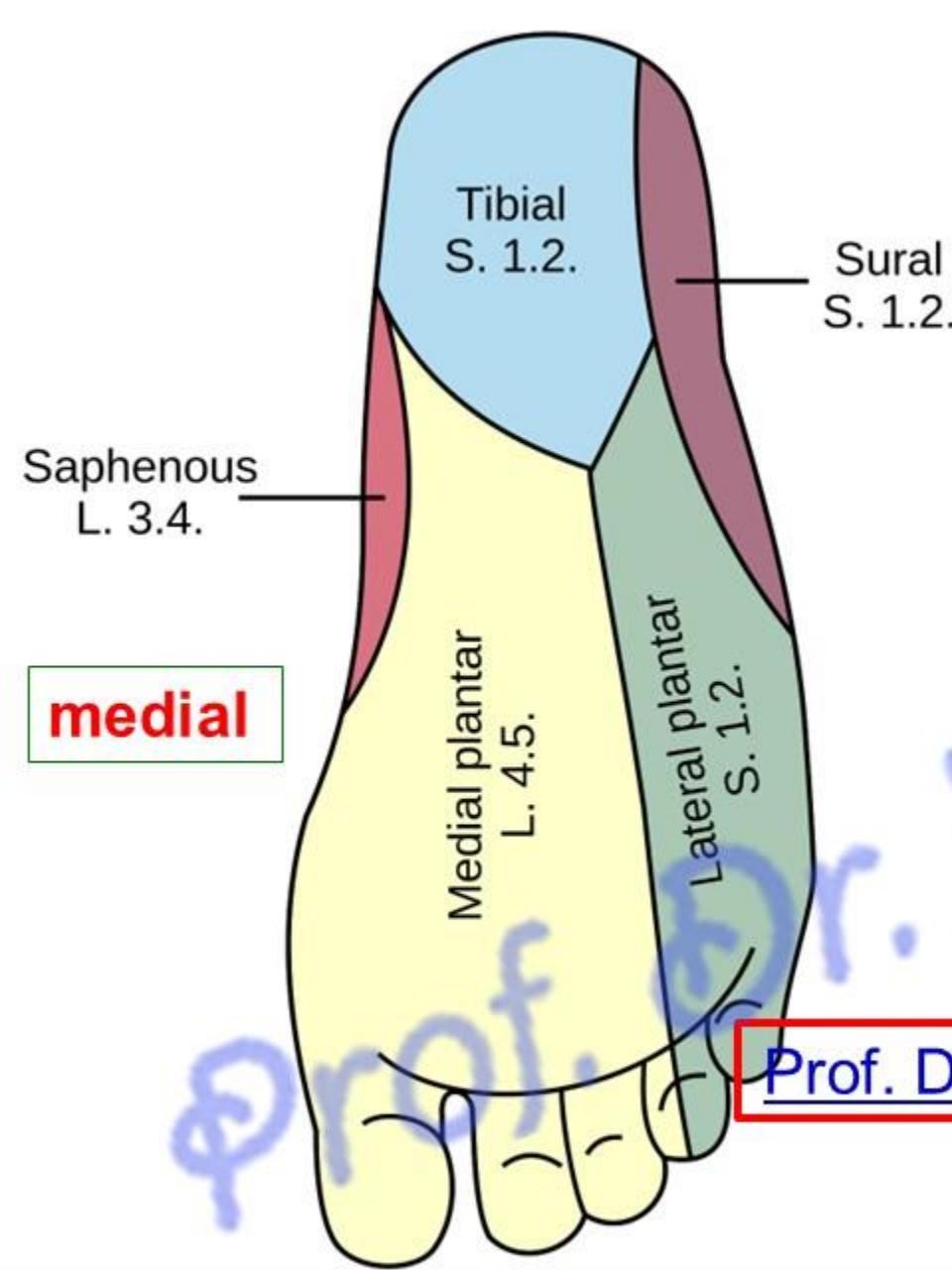
\*\* Posterior tibial nerve is the continuation of tibial nerve at the **lower border of popliteus muscle**.

- It descends deep to **tendinous arch** of soleus muscle.
- It descends downward **with** the posterior tibial artery **between** the superficial (plantaris, gastrocnemius and soleus) and deep muscles.



## \*\* Branches of posterior tibial nerve

- 1 - **Muscular branches:** soleus and 3 deep;
  - a- **Soleus** through its deep surface.
  - b- **3 deep muscles,**
    - 1) Flexor hallucis longus.
    - 2) Flexor digitorum longus.
    - 3) Tibialis posterior.
- 2- **Cutaneous:** to the skin of the heel.
- 3- **Articular branch:** to the ankle joint.
- 4- **Terminal branches:** medial and lateral plantar nerves.



- **Branches of Lateral Plantar Nerve**

- 1- **Muscular** to muscles of the sole of the foot
- 2- **Articular branches:** to the joints of the foot.
- 3- **Cutaneous branches** to skin of the lateral 1/3 of the sole of the foot and lateral one and half toes.

- **Branches of Medial Planter Nerve**

- 1- **Muscular** to muscles of the sole of the foot
- 2- **Articular branches:** to the joints of the foot.
- 3- **Cutaneous branches** to skin of the medial 2/3 of the sole and medial 3.5 toes and their nail beds.

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- **Cutaneous nerve supply of the sole of foot**

- **Injury of tibial nerve**

- The tibial nerve is **less frequently injured**.

**A- Motor effects;** leads to

1- Paralysis of muscles of the posterior compartment of the leg.

- **Deformity, Talipes calcaneovalgus** (dorsiflexion and eversion of the foot).

2- Paralysis of the muscles of the sole of the foot (**clawing of the toes**).

**B- Sensory effects;** Numbness, tingling, pain, then

1- Loss of cutaneous sensations on back of leg.

2- Loss of cutaneous sensations on sole of the foot (**trophic ulcer**).



[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVSNqbibj9UWYaJdd\\_cn0PQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVSNqbibj9UWYaJdd_cn0PQ)



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