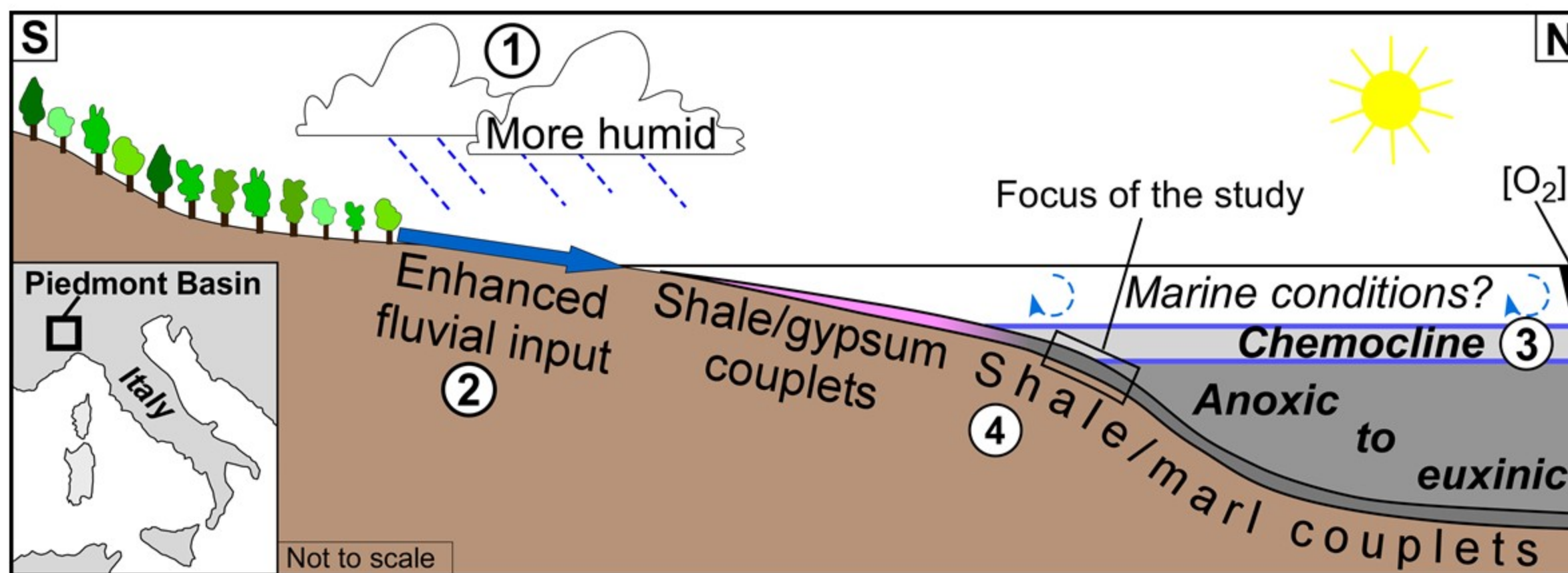


Environmental change across the onset of the Messinian salinity crisis in the northern Mediterranean (Piedmont Basin, NW Italy)

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About 6 Ma ago, the Mediterranean Basin was almost completely isolated from the global ocean

↳ *Messinian salinity crisis* (MSC, 5.97 – 5.33 Ma) → Which environmental conditions developed in the late Miocene Mediterranean?



The **northern Mediterranean** at the **MSC onset** experienced:

- 1) More humid climate conditions
- 2) Enhanced freshwater input
- 3) Stable thermohaline stratification and oxygen-deficient conditions in the deeper part of the water column
- 4) Control on sedimentary facies