Misperception 2: Since water vapor is a more powerful greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide (CO2) what is the point of worrying about CO2?

Response:
This point was discussed in some detail in Lesson 3 of the Tutorials on the Greenhouse Effect and if you have not yet read that Lesson, I suggest you do so.

But here is a brief summary of the situation:

The heat-trapping effect due to the average amount of water vapor in the Earth's atmosphere is about twice that of the greenhouse gases that scientists are concerned about: Primarily CO2, but also methane (CH4) and nitrous oxide (N2O) as well as other rarer gases. So the first thing to note is that even though water vapor traps more heat than CO2, the contribution from CO2 is still very significant. Moreover, the amount of CO2 is steadily increasing as more and more fossil fuel is consumed.

But there is a still more serious aspect to increased warming from CO2 which involves water vapor: The amount of water vapor that can exist in the atmosphere before it condenses into a liquid or solid before falling to Earth as rain or snow depends strongly on the temperature of the air. This is not the case for CO2 which is steadily increasing in amount and will linger in the atmosphere for a very long time.

Thus, the increasing warming caused directly by the trapping of infrared radiation due to increasing CO2 is amplified by the increased water vapor that is in the air as the air temperature increases. This is one of the most important positive feedbacks discussed in Lesson 2 on Forcings and Feedbacks.