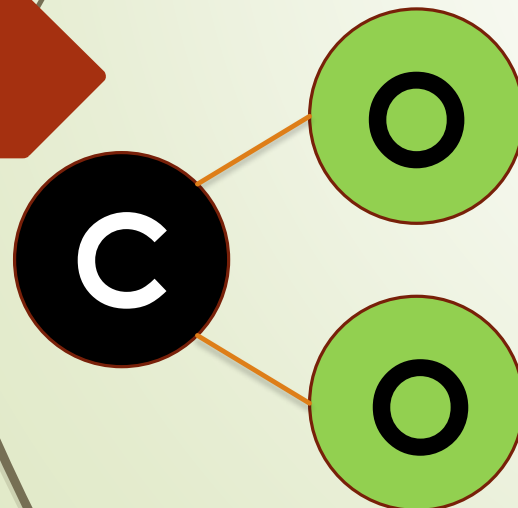


But that black Carbon molecule in CO_2 certainly looks more dangerous than the two cyan Hydrogen molecules in H_2O !

$\text{CO}_2\text{-H}_2\text{O}$



Humans are emitting a gaseous molecule that is warming the earth. The molecule consists of three atoms bonded together and is ubiquitous and essential to all life on this planet. Plants will die without this molecule. The molecule is completely non-toxic unless ingested in totally unrealistic quantities. In a completely gaseous form, the molecule is invisible. At this point in the discussion, the description applies to two molecules emitted by humans (Carbon Dioxide, CO_2 and Water, H_2O). Both molecules are considered “greenhouse gases” but only CO_2 is considered “pollution” for no other reason than its ability to warm the atmosphere. The molecule associated with this discussion is by far the most important, abundant and effective (and therefore the most “dangerous”) “greenhouse gas” emitted by humans. This molecule actually has the ability to absorb and re-emit heat in much broader wavelengths than other “greenhouse gases” (including CO_2 and is again “dangerous” based on the standards applied to CO_2). This molecule is WATER!

Using logic, it would make more sense and it would be more cost effective to limit water emissions than carbon dioxide emissions. Removing water vapour is cheaper and easier to handle than CO_2 since water can be converted to either a liquid or solid state for transport and disposal at normal atmospheric pressures. In its solid state (ice), it could be used to increase the earth’s albedo to help cool the planet. The last statement is somewhat whimsical but still factual.

If you want to put a tax on CO_2 , you should put a tax on H_2O as well. And that tax should be significantly higher since H_2O is a much more “dangerous” “greenhouse gas”.

In reality a tax on CO_2 is just as ridiculous as a tax on H_2O !