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## Paper Session I-A - Geographic and planning characteristics of commercial spaceports: Strategic policy considerations for their future

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Geographic and planning characteristics of commercial spaceports:

Strategic policy considerations for their future

The presentation is based on two academic papers I previously wrote. I know the topic is broad but it addresses spaceports in a bigger light of regional issues required for a successful spaceport.

Space is a geographic place from which numerous private and government entities operate just as terrestrial industries. Due to government policy changes in the late 1980s commercial space industries began to spin-off from the U.S. government space program and separately evolve. At the dawn of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century commercial space industries have stabilized into viable business industrial operations referred to as space commerce. Motivated by profit, a distinct geography of space commerce and spaceports are emerging from the geography of government space activities. It appears that the geography of space commerce and spaceports follows traditional neo-classical economic industrial location theory but with a few peculiarities.

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