CS 340

#25: Content Delivery Networks (CDNs)

Computer Systems

Dec 6, 2022 · Wade Fagen-Ulmschneider

Cloud-Scale Content Distribution

As we deploy to a cloud-scale, there are two different types of content we need to deliver:

• Static Content:

- Static Caching Policy?
- Dynamic Content:
 - o Dynamic Caching Policy?

Example: https://reddit.com/r/uiuc

reddit.com is a community organized into subreddits that focus on particular topics. r/uiuc/ is the subreddit for the UIUC community:



Static Content?

Dynamic Content?

https://reddit.com/r/uiuc

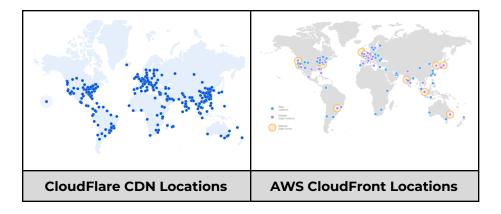
Motivation: Does the user need to visit **our server** for content that is served to all users?

- If not, what service could we rent?
- What advantages can we get by renting caches?

Content Delivery Networks (CDNs)

A Content Delivery Network (CDN) is a system of many servers physically located in geographically diverse locations.

- All CDNs must have a source for the content. This source is known as the ______.
- CDNs usually use **both** age and etag based caches strategies and store their cache on _____.
- Once the data from the origin is in the CDN cache, the CDN can serve this content. This provides five key benefits:
 - 1. [Compute]:
 - 2. [Speed]:
 - 3. [Server Security]:
 - 4. [Reliability]:
 - 5. [Bandwidth]:



How do we add a CDN to our service?

[Step 1]: Find a CDN provider we want to use:

Providers	Current Pricing
CloudFlare CDNAmazon AWS CloudFrontGoogle Cloud CDNAzure Content Delivery Networkmany others	

[Step 2]: Update Your NS Records:

[Step 3]: Result:

	DNS "A" Records with and without CDNs		
	illinois.edu (Likely No CDN)	vis.cs.illinois.edu (AWS CloudFront)	
Google DNS:	192.17.172.3	13.226.31.84, 13.226.31.51, 13.226.31.92, 13.226.31.14	
CloudFlare DNS:	192.17.172.3	52.85.61.45, 52.85.61.71, 52.85.61.96, 52.85.61.13	
Yandex DNS:	192.17.172.3	143.204.231.6 , 143.204.231.51, 143.204.231.69, 143.204.231.21	

$User \Leftrightarrow CDN$ Interaction Diagram

User	CDN	Origin
GET /page/ Host: cdn.example.com		