Claims

1. A computer-implemented method, operable with a content delivery network (CDN), the method comprising:

by a node in the CDN,

(A) receiving a request for content stored in an origin server;

(B) determining information about the content;

(C) based on the determining in (B),

(C)(1) when sufficient information about the content is determined, determining an appropriate content delivery (CD) service to process the request and assigning the request to the appropriate CD service to process the request, wherein sufficient information comprises at least a size of the content; and

(C)(2) when the size of the content is not determined, assigning the request to a generic CD service to process the request; and

(D) when the request is assigned to the generic CD service in (C)(2), then the generic CD service:

(D)(1) processing the request; and

(D)(2) providing updated information about the content, including the size of the content.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the appropriate CD service and the generic CD service are selected from caching CD services.

3. The method of claim 1 or 2 wherein the request is an HTTP request for a resource.

4. The method of any preceding claim wherein the request comprises a URI or URL and wherein the determining information about the request in (B) comprises accessing a mapping from the URL to the information about the content associated with the request.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the URL corresponds to a particular resource.

6. The method of claim 4 or 5 wherein the providing updated information about the content in (D)(2) comprises updating the mapping.

7. The method of any one of claims 4 to 6 wherein the mapping is maintained in one or more databases.

8. The method of any preceding claim, further comprising:

(E) when the request is assigned to the appropriate CD service in (C)(1), then the appropriate CD service:

(E)(1) processing the request; and

(E)(2) providing updated information about the content.

9. A computer-implemented method, operable with a content delivery network (CDN), the method comprising:

by a node in the CDN,

(A) receiving a request for content stored in an origin server;

(B) attempting to determine a category for the content;

(C) based on the attempt to determine in (B),

(C)(1) when the category for the content is determined, determining an appropriate content delivery (CD) server to process the request and assigning the request to an appropriate CD service to process the request based on the category for the content; and

(C)(2) when the category for the content is not determined, assigning the request to a generic CD service to process the request; and

(D) when the request is assigned to the generic CD service in (C)(2), then the generic CD service:

(D)(1) processing the request; and

(D)(2) providing the category for the content.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the category for the content is based on a size of the content.

11. The method of claim 9 or 10 wherein the request is an HTTP request and wherein the content comprises one or more resources.

12. A computer program product having computer readable instructions stored on non-transitory computer readable media, the computer readable instructions including instructions for implementing a computer-implemented method, the method operable on a device comprising hardware including memory and at least one processor and running a service on the hardware, the method operable in a content delivery service (CDN), the method comprising, by a node in the CDN:

(A) receiving a request for content stored in an origin server;

(B) determining information about the content;

(C) based on the determining in (B),

(C)(1) when sufficient information about the content is determined, determining an appropriate content delivery (CD) server to process the request and assigning the request to an appropriate CD service to process the request, wherein sufficient information comprises at least a size of the content; and

(C)(2) when the size of the content is not determined, assigning the request to a generic CD service to process the request; and

(D) when the request is assigned to the generic CD service in (C)(2), then the generic CD service:

(D)(1) processing the request; and

(D)(2) providing updated information about the content, including the size of the content.

13. The computer program product of claim 12 wherein the appropriate CD service and the generic CD service are selected from caching CD services.

14. The computer program product of claim 11 or 12 wherein the request is an HTTP request for a resource.

15. The computer program product of any one of claims 12 to 14 wherein the request comprises a URI or URL and wherein the determining information about the request in (B) comprises accessing a mapping from the URL to the information about the content associated with the request.

16. The computer program product of claim 15 wherein the URL corresponds to a particular resource.

17. The computer program product of claim 15 or 16 wherein the providing updated information about the content in (D)(2) comprises updating the mapping.

18. The computer program product of any one of claims 15 to 17 wherein the mapping is maintained in one or more databases.

19. The computer program product of any one of claims 12 to 18 further comprising:

(E) when the request is assigned to the appropriate CD service in (C)(1), then the appropriate CD service:

(E)(1) processing the request; and

(E)(2) providing updated information about the content.