# Alibaba Cloud Alibaba Cloud CDN

**Product Introduction** 

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## **Generic conventions**

Table -1: Style conventions

Style	Description	Example
	This warning information indicates a situation that will cause major system changes, faults, physical injuries, and other adverse results.	Danger: Resetting will result in the loss of user configuration data.
<b>A</b>	This warning information indicates a situation that may cause major system changes, faults, physical injuries, and other adverse results.	Warning: Restarting will cause business interruption. About 10 minutes are required to restore business.
	This indicates warning informatio n, supplementary instructions, and other content that the user must understand.	Notice: Take the necessary precautions to save exported data containing sensitive information.
	This indicates supplemental instructions, best practices, tips, and other content that is good to know for the user.	Note: You can use Ctrl + A to select all files.
>	Multi-level menu cascade.	Settings > Network > Set network type
Bold	It is used for buttons, menus , page names, and other UI elements.	Click OK.
Courier font	It is used for commands.	Run the cd / d C : / windows command to enter the Windows system folder.
Italics	It is used for parameters and variables.	bae log list instanceid <i>Instance_ID</i>
[] or [a b]	It indicates that it is a optional value, and only one item can be selected.	ipconfig [-all -t]

Style	Description	Example
{} or {a b}	It indicates that it is a required value, and only one item can be selected.	swich {stand   slave}

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### 1 What is Alibaba Cloud CDN?

Content Delivery Network (CDN) is built on a bearer network that uses a distributed architecture of edge node clusters located in different regions. CDN offloads traffic from origins to prevent network congestion, thereby accelerating web content distribution in different regions and various scenarios while increasing resource access speed.

Alibaba Cloud CDN caches the resources from origins to the accelerating nodes that are distributed across the globe. When a user requests access to such resources, the system does not need to direct the requests to the origin that serves the user. Instead, the system automatically obtains the resources cached on the CDN node closest to the user. For information about how to connect to Alibaba Cloud CDN, see #unique\_4.

Some CDN nodes support access through IPv6 addresses.

#### **About CDN**

The following table lists the documents that help you to better understand the functions of Alibaba Cloud CDN.

Reference document	CDN knowledge
#unique_5	Provides terms related to Alibaba Cloud CDN.
<b>CDN Learning Path</b>	Helps you quickly get started with Alibaba Cloud CDN.
API	Describes the API actions that you can call to operate Alibaba Cloud CDN.

### **CDN** pricing

The basic services and value-added services of CDN are charged separately according to different billing methods.

- For information about the billing method for basic services, see #unique\_6.
- · For information about the billing method for value-added services, see #unique\_7.

For information about the pricing of CDN services, see CDN pricing details.

### **Related products**

This section describes the CDN-related products, helping you to better understand the position and usage of Alibaba Cloud CDN in the Alibaba Cloud.

### Function

Whatcan use isCDN in OSS Offincrease website access speed and decrease the charges for Internet traffic consumed by OSS.

You can
AppenceDivin
AppearaVide
o VOD to
fdecrease the
buffer time
Vand increase
playback
smoothness.

You can use
Atherwerful,
stable parsing
Candscheduling
interfaces
Derovided
by Alibaba
Cloud DNS
to guarantee
smooth access
to resources.

### Function **Wbut**can use **E**CS to increase availability and protect origin informatio n while decreasing the operational bandwidth. **Wbut**can set the sIP address of Sarserver load L**bal**ancer as **Ethle back**toorigin address to decrease the bandwidth required for directing backto-origin traffic

### 2 Nodes

This topic describes the benefits of Alibaba Cloud Content Delivery Network (CDN) nodes and how these nodes are distributed across the globe.

### **Background information**

Each node in Alibaba Cloud CDN supports 10 Gbit/s optical NICs, 40 TB to 1.5 PB storage, 40 Gbit/s to 200 Gbit/s operational bandwidth, and 120 Tbit/s reservable bandwidth.

The widely distributed high-performance CDN nodes help to expedite data transmissi on and cope with emergencies.

### Geographical distribution

Alibaba Cloud CDN has more than 500 nodes spread out over 70 countries. Within China, Alibaba Cloud has more extensive coverage than any other cloud provider, with over 2,500 nodes strategically distributed to serve end users in highly-populated areas. See the following figure.



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### 3 Benefits

You can be abreast of Alibaba Cloud CDN's benefits in this document.

#### Stable and fast

- · Advanced distributed system architecture: 2500+ globally.
- · Adequate bandwidth and storage resources: a single node provides a bandwidth of more than 40 Gbps and a storage capacity of 40 TB to 1.5 PB.
- Stable and efficient performance indicators: greater than 95% hit rate and video fluency rate, and millisecond-level response time.
- · Mature monitoring and service systems: 24/7 network-wide monitoring, smart monitoring and scheduling based on service quality.

#### Cost-effective

- · With scalable resources, you are charged only for resources you use, and can achieve cross-carrier, cross-region network-wide coverage.
- Two billing methods are provided, PayByTraffic, and PayByBandwidth, to satisfy different business needs.
- The service automatically responds to site traffic spikes and makes adjustments without user intervention, reducing pressure on the origin site.

### Easy to use

- · You can add, delete, modify, and query domain names on your own by using a wide range of simple custom configuration options. CDN supports customizing antileech measures, cache policies, HTTP request headers, and other functions.
- The open API interfaces provide functions such as service activation, content refreshing, monitoring data retrieval, and distribution log downloads.

For more information on Alibaba Cloud CDN's functions, refer to Alibaba Cloud CDN Function List.

### 4 Scenarios

### 4.1 CDN application overview

This topic describes the application scenarios of Alibaba Cloud CDN.

CDN application scenarios consist of static content acceleration, dynamic content acceleration, and secure content delivery. Alibaba Cloud CDN serves to accelerate the distribution of static content.

The following table describes CDN application scenarios.

Service	Scenario
Images and small files	Your websites or applications mostly host images and small files in such formats as HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.
#unique_16	Your websites or applications mostly host large files greater than 20 MB, such as gaming apps, client apps, or app stores.
#unique_17	Your websites or applications mostly host VOD or short videos in formats such as MP4 and FLV.
#unique_18	Your websites or applications mostly host live streams.

### 4.2 Images and small files

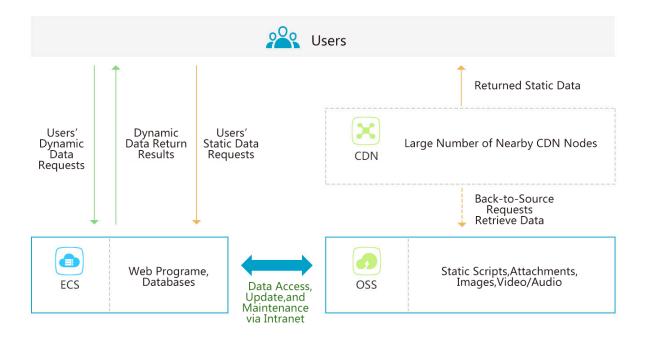
If your business requires the distribution of small static web pages or application files, such as images and files in such formats as HTML, Flash, CSS, and JavaScript, you can use CDN to accelerate the distribution of images and small files.

#### **Scenarios**

The Images and Small Files function is suitable for accelerating the distribution of large numbers of static resources on websites or applications, such as Web portals, e -commerce websites, news websites and apps, and gaming and other entertainment websites. You can separate static and dynamic content. We recommend that you use CDN to accelerate the distribution of static content, such as images and small CSS and JavaScript files. We recommend that you use CDN together with OSS to accelerate

resource loading, and improve the efficiency of distributing images and short videos on websites.

The following figure shows typical application scenarios of image and small file distribution.



### Challenges that the Images and Small Files function can solve

- · Websites respond slowly because they contain a large number of small files.
- The access speeds and output quality of media files on websites differ across regions.
- · During high concurrency of promotions, origin servers are more likely to break down due to heavy traffic and services become unavailable.
- Images cannot be compressed or optimized to fit the requirements of the destination client.

### Required Alibaba Cloud products and functions

The following table describes Alibaba Cloud products and functions required for the distribution of images and small files.

Product or function	Description
#unique_20	Alibaba Cloud CDN has more than 2,000 nodes in mainland China, and over 500 nodes spread out over Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan, and overseas. The nodes provide up to 120 Tbit/s bandwidth, and serve all major carriers in China and six continents.
Intelligent scheduling	An advanced distributed system schedules traffic in all regions and responds to requests within milliseconds.
Elastic capacity expansion	Each node responds to and adjusts traffic to prevent origin servers from overloading. Using the pay-as-you-go billing method helps to increase cost-effectiveness of services in the cloud.
Intelligent compression	Images in various formats and resolutions are compressed to fit a wide range of clients, improving overall performance while maintaining the image quality.

### **Related operations**

Before adding an accelerated domain name in the CDN console and selecting a service type, you need to learn about the application scenarios of different service types. For more information about specific operations, see #unique\_22.

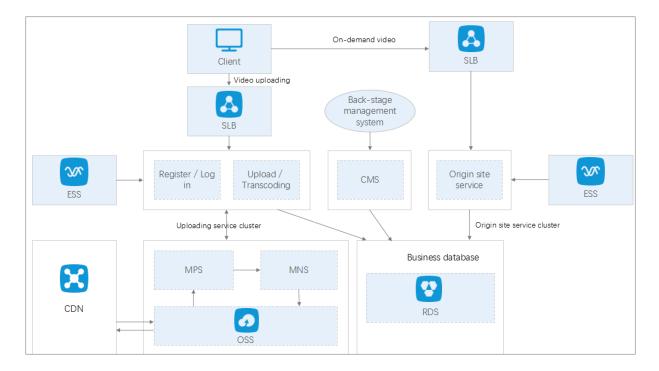
### 4.3 Large file download

If your business requires the distribution of large static web pages or application files, such as . apk game installation files, . rar application update files, patch files, and audio and video files, you can use CDN to accelerate the download of large files.

#### **Scenarios**

The Large File Download function is suitable for downloading and distributing files that are greater than 20 MB in various formats. We recommend that you use CDN together with Object Storage Service (OSS) to accelerate the back-to-origin process, which can save up to two-thirds of the back-to-origin bandwidth costs.

The following figure shows typical application scenarios of the Large File Download function.



### Challenges that the Large File Download function can solve

- · End users cannot download files, or the download speed is too low.
- · Downloads are easily interrupted when the network environment is unstable. Redownloads can cost extra resources.
- · Website content is insecure and easily hijacked.
- · File storage costs and performance requirements for the origin site are high.

### Required Alibaba Cloud products and functions

The following table describes Alibaba Cloud products and functions required for large file downloads.

Product or function	Description
ENS	Alibaba Cloud has a large network of CDN nodes, which can help users acquire nearby resources, intelligently schedule traffic among all regions, reduce response latency, and relieve pressure on the origin site.
OSS	The Alibaba Cloud ecosystem can be used with OSS to save storage costs and back-to-origin bandwidth, and ensure the high availabili ty of the origin site.
Resumable upload	This function allows resumable upload through all kinds of protocols on the client side, saving downstream bandwidth.

Product or function	Description
HTTPS acceleration	This function supports various authentication methods to prevent link hijacking.

### **Related operations**

Before adding an accelerated domain name in the CDN console and selecting a service type, you need to learn about the application scenarios of different service types. For more information about specific operations, see #unique\_22.

### **4.4 VOD**

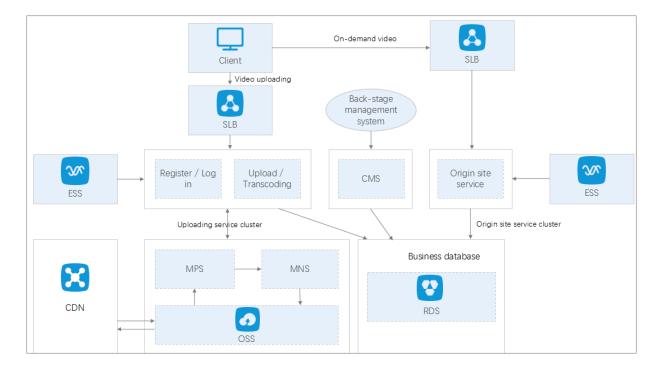
This topic describes the VOD function of Alibaba Cloud CDN. If your website or application distributes audio and video content in formats such as MP4 and FLV, you can use the VOD function to accelerate the content distribution.

### **Background information**

The VOD service is suitable for websites and applications that provide audio and video content such as movies, online education, news, and social networking.

VOD has become an independent, all-in-one solution that provides a portfolio of services including audio and video upload, automatic encoding, media resource management, and distribution acceleration. You can purchase this solution and Alibaba Cloud CDN in a service package, which reduces the overall cost by 30%. We recommend that you use CDN with OSS to increase the back-to-origin speed while reducing the operational bandwidth for directing back-to-origin traffic by two thirds. For more information, see What is ApsaraVideo for VoD.

The following figure shows the typical application scenarios of VOD.



#### **Solutions**

The VOD service helps you to resolve the following issues:

- · Videos cannot be played or freeze from time to time.
- · Complex uploading, encoding, storage, and distribution processes.
- · Video resources are susceptible to hijacking or theft.
- · Small-sized videos uploaded by users cannot be reviewed quickly.

### 4.5 Live Streaming

This topic describes the Live Streaming function of Alibaba Cloud CDN. If your website or application provides live streaming content in RTMP, HLS, or FLV format, you can use this function to accelerate the content distribution.

### **Background information**

Live Streaming is suitable for websites and vertical industry portals that provide live streaming content such as interactive online education and live game, show, or event broadcasts.

Live Streaming has become an independent Alibaba Cloud product named ApsaraVide o Live. ApsaraVideo Live provides a wide range of functions and services including uplink bitrate adaptation, narrowband HD encoding, screenshot, recording, and time-shifting to streamline stream ingest, encoding, distribution, and playback. You

can purchase ApsaraVideo Live and Alibaba Cloud CDN in a service package to reduce the overall cost.

#### **Benefits**

Live Streaming helps you to resolve the following issues:

- · Live videos freeze from time to time.
- · Video resources are susceptible to theft.
- · No mechanisms are provided to review video content.

### **Required Alibaba Cloud functions**

- Stream ingest acceleration: This function enables videos to be ingested to the CDN nodes in the best conditions, ensuring uplink transmission performance and hence reducing issues such as freeze and slow stream distribution.
- · Video acceleration: Massive CDN nodes comprise a top-ranking multiline BGP network that features low latency, low freeze rate, 98% smoothness, and PB-level storage capabilities in the event of tens of million concurrent requests.
- · Content encryption: A wide range of URL authentication and HTTPS protocols are used to protect video content against theft.
- · Video AI: This function automatically reviews video content to identify images and audios that violate local laws or regulations.

### **4.6 DCDN**

This topic describes the DCDN function of Alibaba Cloud CDN. You can use DCDN to enhance network performance and user experience. The slow response and packet loss may be caused by issues such as a combination of dynamic and static resources, cross-provider operation, network instability, dependence on single-line origins, traffic spikes, and network congestion.

### **Background information**

By default, DCDN accelerates only dynamic resources. That is, all static resource requests are directed to their origins through optimal routes. You can specify static content types or paths so that the system can automatically distinguish between dynamic and static resources. As a result, static resources are cached on edge CDN nodes and dynamic resources are distributed in acceleration to expedite the overall content distribution at full speeds.

DCDN integrates dynamic acceleration and static acceleration. It has become an independent Alibaba Cloud product named DCDN, which is widely used for e-commerce, social networking, government, enterprise, gaming, and finance platforms.

#### **Benefits**

By using DCDN, you can resolve the following issues:

- · Diverse, complex dynamic content lowers page loading speeds.
- · Issues such as dependence on single-line origins, traffic spikes, and network congestion cause page loading latency and content distribution failures.
- Traditional communications protocols cannot ensure gaming users' access to real-time, highly concurrent dynamic content while maintaining stable network performance.
- · Load imbalance incurs pressure on origins in the event of traffic spikes.
- Content is susceptible to hijacking and unauthorized changes, therefore service providers require network links and content distribution mechanisms that are more secure and efficient than HTTP.

### **Required Alibaba Cloud functions**

- Separate acceleration of dynamic and static content: Dynamic content is accelerate
  d by using intelligent routing, transmission protocol optimization, and link
  multiplexing, whereas static content is cached on edge CDN nodes to increase the
  overall resource loading speed.
- · Real-time detection and smooth internetworking: process heavy traffic loads while ensuring round-the-clock network availability.
- · Back-to-origin load balance, primary/secondary backup, connection multiplexing, and ordered back-to-origin processes: reduce pressure and fault risks on origins.
- Full-link HTTPS secure acceleration, anti-leech, and IP-based traffic policing: make origins secure.
- Rule customization, information monitoring, and alarming: You can define dynamic or static acceleration rules and cache rules, monitor data, and receive alarms in case of exceptions.

### 5 Terms

This topic explains the commonly used terms in Alibaba Cloud CDN products.

### Accelerating domain

An accelerating domain is a domain that uses CDN to accelerate content distribution. A domain is the server IP address of a website, email, or FTP server.



Note:

In this document, an accelerating domain is referred to as a domain in most cases.

### Origin

An origin is the server that provides services. Specifically, an origin specifies the IP address to which CDN redirects back-to-origin requests. You can set your origin type to OSS Domain, IP, or Origin Domain on the Alibaba Cloud CDN console.

#### **CNAME** record

A Canonical Name (CNAME) is an alias, which is used to point a domain to another domain that provides an IP address.

For example, a large amount of information is stored on your server, and you can access the information through <code>docs . example . com .</code> If you also want to be able to access the information through <code>documents . example . com , you can add a CNAME record at your DNS provider side, pointing <code>documents . example . com to docs . example . com .</code> Then, all requests destined for <code>documents . example . com are redirected to docs . example . com , from which you can obtain the requested information.</code></code>

### CNAME

After you connect to Alibaba Cloud CDN and add your domain name on the Alibaba Cloud CDN console, Alibaba Cloud CDN assigns a CNAME in \*.\* kunlun \*. com
format to your domain. You can add a CNAME record at your DNS provider side,
pointing your domain to the domain \*.\* kunlun \*. com . When the CNAME record
takes effect, all requests destined for your domain are redirected to your CDN node to
accelerate content distribution.

#### **DNS**

Domain Name System (DNS) is used to translate domain names into IP addresses that can be recognized by the Internet. A dedicated DNS server must be used to automatically translate domain names into IP addresses. For example, if you enter the domain name www . baidu . com , the DNS server automatically translates it into the IP address 220 . 181 . 112 . 143 .

### SSL/TLS

Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) is a TCP-based secure communications protocol. It helps to protect the integrity and security of data when the data is being transmitted over the Internet. After SSL is standardized, its name is changed to TLS. Therefore, SSL and TLS are collectively known as SSL/TLS.

### Edge node

In this document, the terms edge node, CDN node, cache node, accelerating node, and Alibaba Cloud node all refer to Alibaba Cloud edge node, sometimes shortened to node. The edge node concept is proposed to simplify the complex network structure. Edge nodes are located near end users on the network, therefore they can respond and connect to the network faster than origins. CDN caches the content that is frequently accessed by end users to edge nodes, increasing user access speeds and network quality.

### Origin host

An origin host specifies the host to which CDN redirects back-to-origin requests.

### Example 1:

If your origin is the domain www . a . com and your origin host is www . b . com , then CDN redirects back-to-origin requests to the IP address that is translated from www . a . com and this IP address belongs to the www . b . com host.

### Example 2:

If your origin is the IP address 1 . 1 . 1 . 1 and your origin host is www . b . com , then CDN redirects back-to-origin requests to the www . b . com host corresponding to the IP address 1 . 1 . 1 . 1 .

### Origin protocol

An origin protocol is the protocol that CDN uses to redirect back-to-origin requests. If you set Redirect Type to Follow on the Alibaba Cloud CDN console, CDN redirects

back-to-origin requests by using the same protocol as used by your client to request resources. In such case, if your client requests resources by using HTTPS (or HTTP), your CDN node redirects the requests to your origin also by using HTTPS (or HTTP) in case that the requested resources are not cached on the node.

#### Filter Parameter

Filter Parameter is a function, which enables you to filter out the parameters that follow a question mark (?) in the URL of each request based on your business needs.

- · When you enable this function, your CDN node filters out the parameters that follow a question mark (?) from each URL. In addition, if multiple URLs are the same after the parameters are filtered out, your CDN node caches only one replica for these URLs.
- · When you disable this function, your CDN node caches a replica of each URL.

If the URLs of the resources that you request contain different parameters that indicate the same content, we recommend that you enable this function to increase the cache hit ratio.

## **6 Customer Cases**

Typical Customer	Descriptions
Tmall	Tmall's use of our distributed system architecture has contributed to a significant reduction in their bandwidth usage and overhead. Users around the world can now access to the Tmall website more quickly, and the website is now able to cope with traffic spikes such as shopping festivals.
Taobao	Alibaba Cloud CDN supports Taobao's content distribution to PCs and mobile devices, allowing Taobao to respond in milliseconds and load images in seconds while facing masses of image processing requests, providing users with superior experience.
Alipay	Alibaba Cloud CDN provides financial services for Alipay. The encrypted HTTPS access not only improves user experience but also keeps the security of users' personal and banking information from theft and tampering.
Sina Weibo	By virture of Alibaba Cloud CDN, Sina Weibo enhances images downloading experience for their users. It optimizes underlying TCP protocol to accelerate image download speed by 20%. Alibaba Cloud CDN is now the main CDN provider for Sina Weibo.
Xiami.com	Alibaba Cloud CDN's innovative approach and 99.9%+ availability play a significant role in improving the business stability of Xiami.com. Alibaba Cloud's after-sales team also guarantees customers quick online response and solution to any problem.

Typical Customer	Descriptions
Zhihu	Zhihu uses Alibaba Cloud's multi-media solution. Response time has been reduced by one-third. Users' access experience is greatly improved. Response time has been reduced by one-third. Users' access experience is greatly improved.
Momo	With massive processing requests for images and short videos, Momo chose Alibaba Cloud CDN. With faster image loading and downloading speed, Momo's provides users with a superior experience.
UC	Alibaba Cloud CDN helps UC Web reduce its bandwidth consumption significan tly across the whole business. By using the OSS storage service, UC has reduced required IT hardware investment, making development and O&M much easier.

### 7 Limits on domains

This topic describes the limits that Alibaba Cloud CDN imposes on domains.

### **Domain filing**

We recommend that you use Alibaba Cloud ICP Filing to file domains. If you select a region outside Mainland China, you do not need to file domains.

#### **Content moderation**

All domains connected to CDN must go through content moderation. The unauthoriz ed content that CDN does not allow includes but is not limited to the following:

- · Content that is inaccessible or does not have any substantial information
- · Unauthorized games
- · Legendary and card games
- · Unauthorized applications
- · P2P financial websites
- · Lottery websites
- · Illegal hospital and pharmaceutical websites
- · Explicit content



### Note:

- · If any of the preceding unauthorized content is detected in a domain, CDN immediately stops and forbids the domain. In certain circumstances, CDN even may forbid all domains under your Alibaba Cloud account forever. In such case, you shall bear any possible risks that may arise.
- · If you connect a wildcard domain (for example, \*. example . com ) to Alibaba Cloud CDN and a specific domain (for example, a . example . com ) contains unauthorized content, Alibaba Cloud CDN stops and forbids the wildcard domain.
- If a domain is rejected due to content moderation, you can view the cause of rejection in the instance list on the CDN console, make modifications accordingly, and then re-submit the domain to CDN for review.

### Limits on domains

Item	Limit
Domains	Each Alibaba Cloud account supports up to 50 domains. If the average daily bandwidth required in your domains during peak hours exceeds 50 MB and adding domains to your Alibaba Cloud account does not incur business risks, you can open a ticket to apply for an increase in the number of domains that are allowed.
IP origins	By default, each domain supports up to 10 origins that use IP addresses.
Cache and refresh operations	<ul> <li>URL refresh: 2000/day/account</li> <li>Directory refresh: 100/day/account</li> </ul>

### Domain recycling rules

Scenario	Action	Solution
If your domain has not been visited for over 90 days (including the situation where the domain runs properly)	CDN automatically stops the domain but retains the records related to the domain.	Enable the domain.
If your domain has been stopped for more than 120 days (including the situation where the domain fails the content moderation)	CDN automatically deletes the records related to the domain.	Re-add the domain.