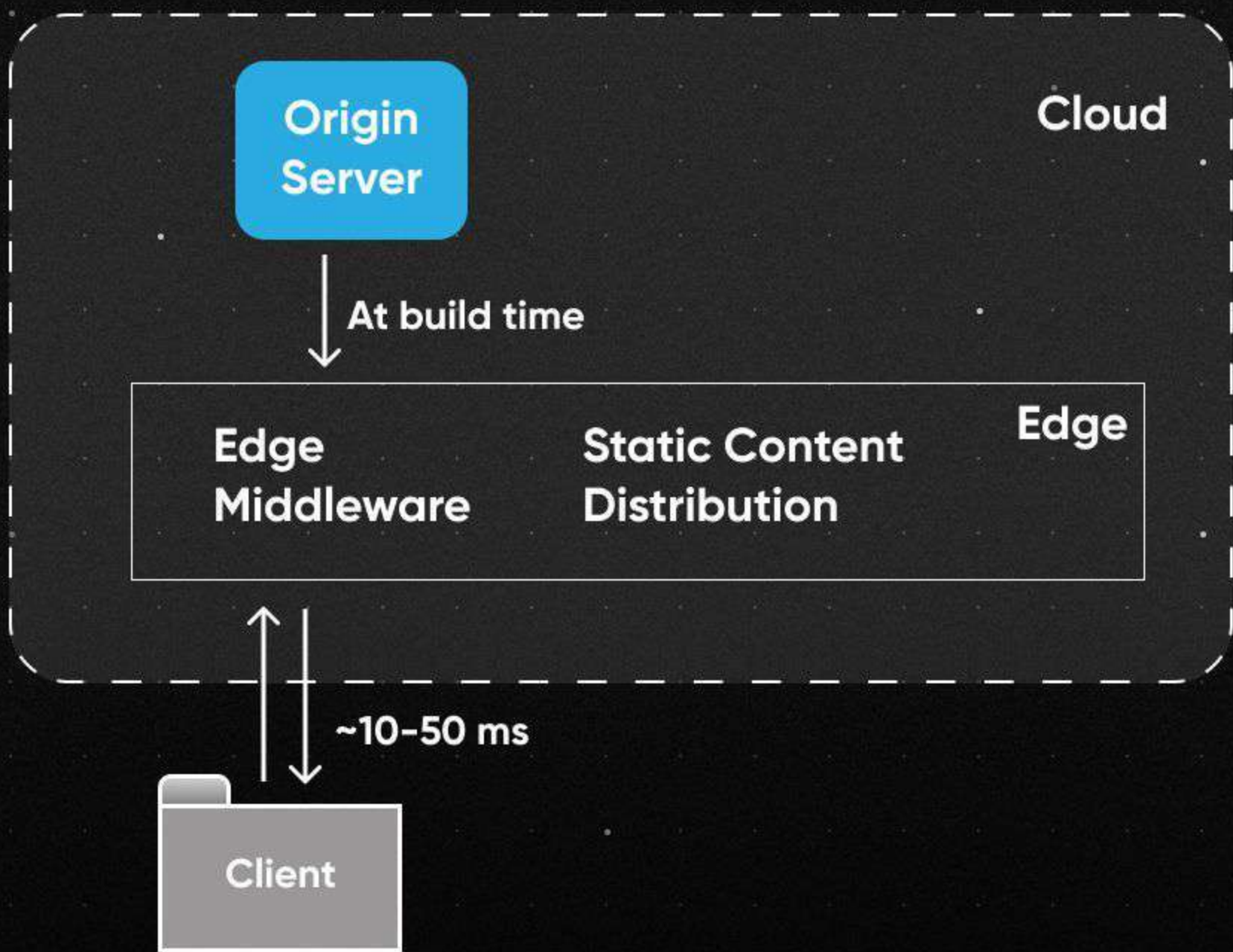


NEXT.js

# Implementing Middleware in Next.js





# What is Middleware in Next.js?

Middleware in Next.js allows you to **intercept requests and execute custom logic** before routing occurs.

```
middleware.js

import { NextResponse } from 'next/server';

export function middleware(request) {
  const url = request.nextUrl.clone();
  if (!url.pathname.startsWith('/dashboard')) {
    return NextResponse.redirect(new URL('/login',
request.url));
  }
  return NextResponse.next();
}
```

Perfect for **authentication, logging, or conditional redirection**.





# Adding Middleware to Specific Routes

You can scope middleware to run only on specific routes using the **matcher option** in `next.config.js`.

```
next.config.js

module.exports = {
  experimental: {
    middleware: {
      matcher: ['/dashboard/:path*'],
    },
  },
};
```

Limits middleware logic to **designated routes**, improving performance.





# Handling Custom Headers

Modify request or response headers dynamically using middleware.



```
export function middleware(request) {  
  const response = NextResponse.next();  
  response.headers.set('X-Custom-Header', 'MyValue');  
  return response;  
}
```

Ideal for setting **security headers** or tracking analytics.





# Middleware with Dynamic Rewrites

Rewrite URLs dynamically without changing the client-side route.



```
export function middleware(request) {  
  const url = request.nextUrl.clone();  
  if (url.pathname === '/old-route') {  
    url.pathname = '/new-route';  
  
    return NextResponse.rewrite(url);  
  }  
  return NextResponse.next();  
}
```

Useful for **SEO** or **legacy URL** management.





# Combining Middleware with Edge Functions

Middleware runs at the edge, making it a powerful tool for **real-time request handling** close to the user.



```
export async function
middleware(request) {
  const geo = request.geo;
  console.log(`Request from ${geo.city},
${geo.country}`);
  return NextResponse.next();
}
```

Great for **personalization** based on location or device.







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