Qualcomm's Latest 8S Gen 3 Chip Aims to Make High-End Phones More Affordable, Says Report

Description

Qualcomm has recently unveiled a new chipset, the Snapdragon 8S Gen 3, positioned just below their current flagship model in terms of performance and pricing. This chipset is designed to bring many of the advanced features of the 8 Gen 3 to more budget-friendly smartphones, including support for on-device generative AI models. It represents a new tier within the top-of-the-line 8-series chips, offering impressive capabilities at a slightly lower price point.

The 8S Gen 3 features a GPU similar to the standard 8 Gen 3 but with slightly lower performance specifications. It uses a previous-generation modem and supports hardware-accelerated ray tracing for smooth gaming experiences. In terms of AI capabilities, it enables on-device generative AI and large language models up to 10 billion parameters.

According to Qualcomm, the Snapdragon high-level tiers can be further subdivided, with the 8S Gen 3 occupying a position just below the standard 8 Gen 3. Despite some confusion in the market, manufacturers are embracing these new chipsets for upcoming device releases.

The 8S Gen 3 is set to debut in devices from various brands such as Honor, iQOO, Realme, Redmi, and Xiaomi in the near future. These new smartphones are expected to hit the market within the coming months, offering consumers a taste of the latest in mobile technology.

Before we get into all that, let's start with the straightforward stuff: the 8S Gen 3 includes a GPU similar to the standard 8 Gen 3, though it has one less performance core and runs at a lower frequency — the prime core runs at up to 3.0GHz versus 3.4GHz on the 8 Gen 3. The new 8S Gen 3 also uses a previous-gen modem, the X70 5G, which includes Wi-Fi 7 support. There's also support for hardware-accelerated ray tracing so photorealistic games run more smoothly, which seems to be kind of a benchmark of phone flagship-iness these days.

Naturally, there's AI. The 8S Gen 3 supports multimodal generative AI on-device and can run large language models of up to 10 billion parameters — that includes the likes of Llama 2 and Gemini Nano. It doesn't offer all of the AI capabilities of the Snapdragon 8 Gen 3, but it does support gen AI virtual assistants and image expansion.

The way Qualcomm's Deepu John, senior director of product management, explains it, each Snapdragon high-level tier can be broken down into three sub-categories. There are Snapdragon 8, 7, 6, and 4 series chipsets, and within those, up to three different offerings. This "S" series chip sits just below the standard 8

Gen 3, and if Qualcomm ever releases an 8 Plus Gen 3, it would sit on top.

Got it? Great, it gets even more confusing when you remember that phone manufacturers are still using 2022's flagship, the Snapdragon 8 Gen 2 in not-quite flagship phones like the OnePlus 12R. There's also the Snapdragon 7 Gen 3 sitting just below the 8S Gen 3, though it has only turned up in a handful of phones. Qualcomm seems to be slicing the high-end phone market awfully thin, maybe in an attempt to keep OEMs from turning to MediaTek for their less-than-flagship devices.

In any case, the 8S Gen 3 should start appearing on the market soon enough, though not in devices readily sold in the US. Honor, iQOO, Realme, Redmi, and Xiaomi have all said that they'll be using the platform, with new devices expected "in the coming months."

Vocabulary Insights:

Generative (adjective): Capable of producing new content or information.

Modem (noun): A device that enables communication between electronic devices via a network.

Accelerated (adjective): Increased in speed or progress.

Benchmark (noun): A standard or point of reference for comparison.

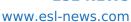**Subdivided** (verb): Divided into smaller parts or categories.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Chipset** // (noun): A group of integrated circuits designed to work together for a specific purpose.
2. **Flagship** // (noun): A company most important productdesigned to represent the best quality.
3. **Tier** // (noun): A level or rank in a systemorganizationor structure.
4. **Budget-friendly** // (adjective): Affordable or suitable for someone on a budget.
5. **Ray tracing** // (noun): A technology used in graphics to simulate the way light interacts with objects.
6. **Multimodal** // (adjective): Involving or providing several different modes or forms.

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What is the name of the geophysicist in the scenario?

   Option: Alice
   Option: Dawn

Option: Eve
Option: Grace

2. Which technology is known for simulating the path of light as it interacts with virtual objects?

Option: Quantum computing
Option: Ray tracing
Option: Artificial intelligence
Option: Nanotechnology

3. Which astronomical objects are clusters of stars dust and dark matter held together by gravity?

Option: Planets
Option: Nebulae
Option: Stars
Option: Galaxies

4. What is the name of the artificial intelligence system mentioned in the context?

Option: Oracle
Option: Lyra
Option: Gemini AI
Option: Athena

5. What kind of waves are disturbances that travel through a medium by compressing and expanding the medium?

Option: Light waves
Option: Sound waves
Option: Radio waves
Option: X-rays

6. What are obstacles or difficulties that need to be overcome in the given context?

Option: Achievements
Option: Milestones
Option: Challenges
Option: Successes

7. In the context what term is used to refer to a level or rank in a hierarchy?

Option: Node
Option: Tier
Option: Group
Option: Layer

8. Which component of a computer system integrates the circuits and functionalities of various other components?

Option: Motherboard

Option: CPU
Option: RAM
Option: Chipset

9. What term is used to describe systems or devices that can process and interact with multiple modes of input?

Option: Unimodal
Option: Monomodal
Option: Bimodal
Option: Multimodal

10. What is the term used to describe all of space time matter and energy in existence?

Option: Galaxy
Option: Solar system
Option: Universe
Option: Constellation

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The company introduced its new _____ product to showcase its latest technology.

12. With the advancement of technology many tasks can now be done through _____

access.

13. The business is _____ its operations to reach new markets.

14. The advertising team came up with a _____ campaign that caught the audience's

attention.

15. The soldiers fought with _____ courage against the enemy forces.

16. After the system upgrade the website was _____ for maintenance.

17. The software developer encountered some _____ while debugging the code.

18. Despite the challenges the team pushed _____ and completed the project on time.

19. The students were _____ about the upcoming field trip to the science museum.

20. The manager was _____ about meeting the quarterly targets due to slow sales.

21. The hikers had a sense of _____ as they approached the dark cave.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

22. The artist painted a masterpiece that showcased her innovative and imaginative skills.
23. The scientist delved deep into the of the universe to understand its beginnings.
24. The concept of in cosmology deals with the redshift of distant galaxies.
25. The accuracy of the data input is for the success of the experiment.
26. At the of her career the researcher made groundbreaking discoveries in seafloor mapping.
27. The physicist proposed a new to explain the behavior of subatomic particles.
28. Despite initial setbacks the team moved and successfully launched the product.
29. The expert on the latest research findings in the field of artificial intelligence.
30. The company's store in the city attracted a large number of customers on opening day.
31. The astronaut had to overcome her of heights during the spacewalk.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Dawn 2. Ray tracing 3. Galaxies 4. Gemini AI 5. Sound waves 6. Challenges 7. Tier 8. Chipset 9. Multimodal 10. Universe
Gap-Fill: 11. flagship 12. remote 13. expanding 14. creative 15. valiant 16. down 17. trouble 18. ahead 19. excited 20. worried 21. fear
Matching sentence: 1. Creative 2. Origins 3. Tired Light 4. Crucial 5. Dawn 6. Theory 7. Ahead 8. Commented 9. Flagship 10. Fear

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL2

Date Created
2024/03/18
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