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Building a Production-scale AI/ML Platform

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Democratized AI: On Aug 2018, Gartner said that democratized AI will be one of the major trends which will shape our future technologies. The research is based on the so-called "Hype Cycle"(see image below), which comprises of insights from over 2,000 technologies into 35 main areas of interest and trends, with a particular focus on innovations which could give businesses a future competitive advantage. AI technologies will be "virtually everywhere" over the next 10 years, but it will be open to the masses rather than being purely commercial. Cloud computing, open-source projects, and the "maker" community will mold this trend, eventually "propelling AI into everyone's hands." AI-based Platform as a Service (PaaS) solutions, autonomous driving, mobile robots and conversational AI platforms & assistants are expected to become major enterprise technologies in the future.

"One size doesn't fit all". If you go to a clothes store and ask an employee for recommendations, the answer they'll give will likely depend on your appearance, gender, and any other information you provide. In most times, people are looking for increasingly personalized products/services when applicable. The same principle applies to the vast majority of artificial intelligence technologies: we want to act differently based on the information we're given, and a discriminative model might be preferred here instead of a generative one. This "one size doesn't fit all" trend will lead to popular needs for a production-scale ML platform which can digest tons of raw data from variety of sources and generate or enable personalized models, services and products at scale.