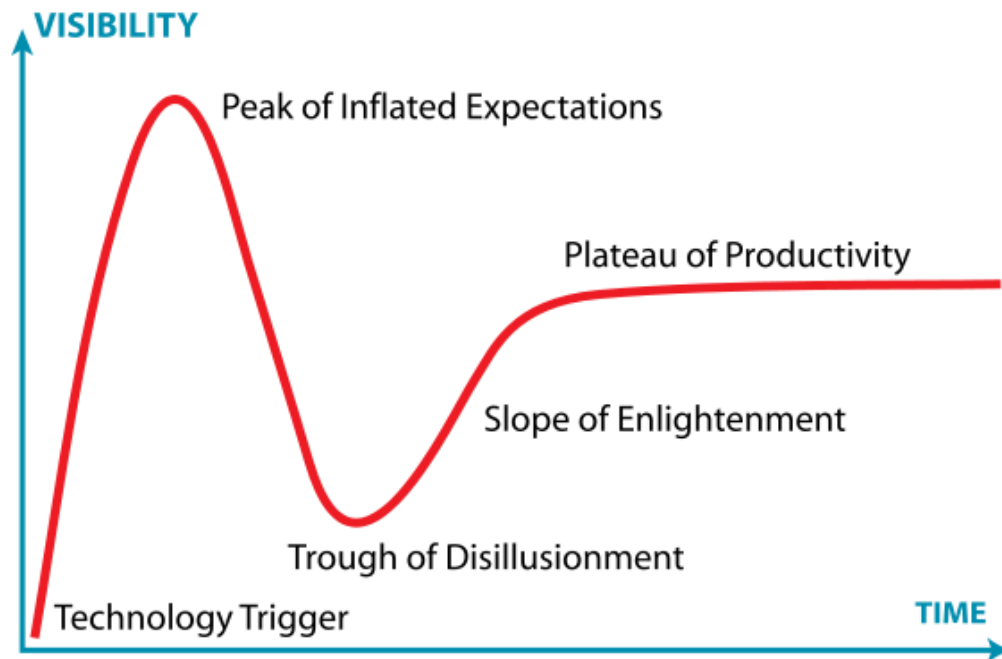# Tools for Knowledge Workers

Gartner Hype Cycle

The Hype Cycle, developed by IT research and advisory firm Gartner is depicted above. It arrays the visibility of an innovation or new development over time. The cycle begins with some kind of technology trigger and quickly rises to a peak of inflated expectations. People expect too much from the innovation. These inflated expectations are quickly doused by the cold water of reality and then followed by a trough of disillusionment and low visibility as the innovation falls from favor. Then comes a more gradual rise in visibility as people become more enlightened regarding the true nature and value of the innovation or technological development. Last comes a plateau of productivity where realistic expectations lead to good use of the innovation. There is a very good write-up of this tool for thinking about hype cycles on Wikipedia at this link. Gartner plots various innovations along this cycle. You can read more from Gartner's perspective here.