Advantages and Disadvantage of Early Release, Open Source and Free Software Licenses

	Advantages	Disadvantages
Research-Only	Increases the demand for commercial licenses by allowing industry researchers to test the software on a trial basis	Anonymous, click-through source code research licenses may tempt copyright infringers.
	Preserves the option to release more mature software under a commercial license	
	Can be a tool to manage research collaborations, including first right to publish, pre-publication review and attribution	Not favored by open source communities, and may discourage development by those communities
	Can be a tool for quality control if all contributions are approved by your group	
Open Source (BSD, MIT)	Encourages widespread use	Eliminates the value of a commercial license for the software
		Often does not result in contribution of improvements to the community
	Encourage new relationships with companies and industry consortia	Can be enhanced and redistributed by competitors (in academia and industry), creating splinter versions of the original code.
		Can lead to a loss of control over integrity of the code.
Free Software (GPL)	Encourages development by those in free software communities	Control of ongoing development could be taken over by programmers in the free software community
	Is easily recognized and readily understood by most researchers	Prevents widespread adoption by companies who cannot merge free software with own proprietary software code