Using Cabal
and the
Hackage Package Database
Hackage

• Hackage is a database of Haskell packages (or modules) written by others and available for public use.

• The home page is
  – http://hackage.haskell.org/packages/hackage.html

• Browse what packages are available at:
  – http://hackage.haskell.org/packages/archive/pkg-list.html
Cabal

• Cabal is a utility (written in Haskell) that downloads and installs packages from the Hackage database

• Cabal is part of the Haskell Platform so you already have it on your computer
Simple Steps

- Open up a shell window (command window on Windows: start -> run -> command)
- Update your local copy of what packages are in the database
  - Type: cabal update
  - This takes a while, the database is big!
- Search for packages that match a search string
  - Type: cabal list haskore
- Type: Install the package you want
  - Type cabal install haskore-vintage
C:\DOCUME~1\SHEARD>cabal update
Downloading the latest package list from haskage.haskell.org
Note: there is a new version of cabal-install available.
To upgrade, run: cabal install cabal-install

C:\DOCUME~1\SHEARD>Cabal list haskore

* haskore
  Synopsis: The Haskore Computer Music System
  Latest version available: 0.1
  Latest version installed: [ Not installed ]
  Homepage: http://www.haskell.org/haskellwiki/Haskore
  License: GPL

* haskore-realtime
  Synopsis: Routines for realtime playback of Haskore songs
  Latest version available: 0.1
  Latest version installed: [ Not installed ]
  Homepage: http://www.haskell.org/haskellwiki/Haskore/
  License: GPL

* haskore-supercollider
  Synopsis: Haskore back-end for SuperCollider
  Latest version available: 0.1.1
  Latest version installed: [ Not installed ]
  Homepage: http://www.haskell.org/haskellwiki/SuperCollider
  License: GPL

* haskore-synthesizer
  Synopsis: Music rendering coded in Haskell
  Latest version available: 0.0.3
  Latest version installed: [ Not installed ]
  Homepage: http://www.haskell.org/haskellwiki/Synthesizer
  License: GPL

* haskore-vintage
  Latest version available: 0.1
  Latest version installed: 0.1
  Homepage: http://haskell.org/haskore/
  License: BSD3

C:\DOCUME~1\SHEARD>
C:\DOCUME~1\SHEARD>
Finding Packages

• If you have no idea of the name of the package you want, then `cabal list` isn’t much help.

• Browse the list of packages at the link
Google style searches supported here