Enhanced drivers for Epson 24pin and compatible printers under Windows 3.0
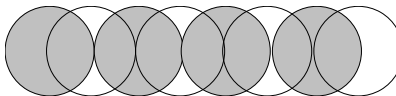
Andrew Fountain 19th March 1991

24 pin printers can usually print only every other dot, running at the maximum 360 dpi horizontally.
Unfortunately, there is a bug in the Windows 3.0 Epson 24-pin driver which means that only every 3rd dot may be printed. This gives rather poor characters. These two drivers fix this bug. They also add a "look-ahead" feature that improves print quality.

The normal algorithm for 24-pin printers:
After removing the bug, the drivers worked as follows. After a run of white dots, the first black dot is printed, the second suppressed, third printed etc. This means that the left edge of a character is well formed. When the row of black dots comes to an end, the last dot may or may not be printed, depending on whether there are an odd or even number of dots. The right edge of characters is therefore sometimes a little uneven.

The "look-ahead" algorithm:
Incorporated in these two drivers is an algorithm which looks ahead to the end of the run and adjusts the dots so that the last dot will always be black. Two versions of the algorithm are available, one giving a slightly bolder print than the other. I prefer the lighter 'b' driver, but it depends on your printer/ribbon. The normal driver is `epson24b.drv` and the heavy one is `epson24a.drv`.

Installation
Simple re-name the required driver to `epson24.drv` and copy it into your windows\system directory. Do this from outside Windows or you will probably bring the system down.

24 Pin Fonts
A font file has been included in the package: `tmsrq.fon`
It contains 10 and 12 point Tms Rmn for any 24 pin printer capable of 360*180 dpi. These fonts are in normal and ***real italics***, so you can say goodbye to Windows sloped italics. They really show off the new drivers well.

any bugs, suggestions to:-
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