**SOFTWARE** 

## PERSONALIZED PDFS

22.01.2022

## 31.5.2022

Learned only today that back in January @json\_dirs was able to identify also an hashcode injected by Elsevier. Interesting that "just" exiftool is sufficient for that.

More fun publisher surveillance:

Elsevier embeds a hash in the PDF metadata that is \*unique for each time a PDF is downloaded\*, this is a diff between metadata from two of the same paper. Combined with access timestamps, they can uniquely identify the source of any shared PDFs. pic.twitter.com/D9KxnXkMVu

— jonny saunders (@json\_dirs) January 25, 2022

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PAGES: **1 2 3** 4