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GUEST EDITORS' INTRODUCTION

A logic is said to be *paraconsistent* if it doesn't license you to infer *everything* from a contradiction. To be precise, let \models be a relation of logical consequence. We call \models *explosive* if it validates the inference rule: $\{A, \neg A\} \models B$ for every A and B . Classical logic and most other standard logics, including intuitionist logic, are explosive. Instead of licensing you to infer *everything* from a contradiction, paraconsistent logic allows you to sensibly deal with the contradiction.

There are a number of approaches to developing paraconsistent logic. Techniques aimed at invalidating the explosion principle have been developed in many parts of the world independently of each other. As a result, the development of paraconsistent logic has a somewhat regional flavour. In 2008 the Fourth World Congress on Paraconsistency was held at the University of Melbourne in Australia. The occasion brought together scholars from around the globe to showcase their latest developments. New systems of paraconsistent logic were presented and important issues regarding paraconsistency were discussed.

This special issue collects some of the more technical papers. There will be a companion volume which collects papers from the Congress that address a mixed (though largely philosophical) audience. The selected papers were presented at the Congress. The only exception is the paper by Kamide and Wansing who were unable to attend the Congress. The papers included in this special issue don't represent all the major approaches to paraconsistent logic. This is not meant to be a survey of major systems of paraconsistent logic. Nonetheless, the issues they

address build on several techniques developed in different parts of the world. The reader of this special issue will be able to sample some of the major techniques aimed at invalidating the explosion principle and see the latest development of paraconsistent logic.

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