How can emotion combine with reason for reliable judgement?

If emotion is inescapable when reasoning, questions about how it works and how it may be managed seem to take on huge significance.

Amenability to logic

Given computer worlds - e.g. farming or flight simulations - are perfectly comprehensible through logic, how does the real world compare?

- Assuming feeling good is our aim, what should we think of Jeremy Bentham's project to create a *felicific calculus* ascribing numbers to the net pleasure / pain arising from all actions?
- To what extent is *affective empathy* possible if we haven't been there e.g. living in poverty? To what extent is a *cognitive empathy* based purely on reason achievable?
- How much time should we set aside for decisions and how useful is gut feeling?

Imagination

If reality's consistent, it appears to follow its constituents must be connected.

- When a wide range of factors seem to impinge on every issue, how does exhaustively identifying them compare to dealing with them assiduously?
- If imagination and lateral thinking are key how may emotions help or hinder?
- In philosophy how much do we need examples and thought experiments when it's logically possible to come to the same conclusions through abstract reasoning?

Head & heart

Computer systems don't care about what they 'know'. How much can we know without caring?

- If there's a tension between what our head and our gut is telling us - e.g. when experiencing a phobia - which of them can we say we believe? Should our actions - e.g. meticulous precautions - be the final arbiter of what we've adjudged?
- Similarly, if we equivocate between mutually exclusive beliefs - e.g. a test will come back positive or negative - to what extent can we root the strength of the beliefs in the probabilities of each outcome?
- People dealing with momentous news hint that a sense of security - a settled narrative and a known world - is vital to us. Where does this leave reason?