Computers play an increasingly important role in helping individuals and industries make decisions. Constraint programming provides powerful support for decision-making; it is able to search quickly through an enormous space of choices, and infer the implications of those choices. The scientific objective of this proposal is to enhance the usability of constraint programming. The technological benefit will be to facilitate better decision support tools across a broad range of application domains. The methodology employed will be to apply artificial intelligence to constraint programming. Artificial intelligence, for example machine learning, is a natural field in which to explore opportunities for moving more of the burden of constraint programming from the user to the machine.

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