

2.4 Variables Make Makefiles Simpler

In our example, we had to list all the object files twice in the rule for edit (repeated here):

```
edit : main.o kbd.o command.o display.o \  
      insert.o search.o files.o utils.o  
cc -o edit main.o kbd.o command.o display.o \  
    insert.o search.o files.o utils.o
```

Such duplication is error-prone; if a new object file is added to the system, we might add it to one list and forget the other. We can eliminate the risk and simplify the makefile by using a variable. Variables allow a text string to be defined once and substituted in multiple places later (see [How to Use Variables](#)).

这种重复很容易出错；如果一个新的目标文件被添加到系统中，我们可能会将它添加到一个列表中而忘记另一个。我们可以通过使用变量来消除风险并简化生成文件。变量允许定义一次文本字符串，然后在多个位置替换（请参阅如何使用变量）。

It is standard practice for every makefile to have a variable named `objects`, `OBJECTS`, `objs`, `OBJS`, `obj`, or `OBJ` which is a list of all object file names. We would define such a variable `objects` with a line like this in the makefile:

```
objects = main.o kbd.o command.o display.o \  
          insert.o search.o files.o utils.o
```

每个 makefile 都有一个名为 `objects`、`OBJECTS`、`objs`、`OBJS`、`obj` 或 `OBJ` 的变量，这是所有对象文件名的列表，这是标准做法。我们将在 makefile 中用这样的一行定义这样的变量对象：

```
objects = main.o kbd.o command.o display.o \  
          insert.o search.o files.o utils.o
```

Then, each place we want to put a list of the object file names, we can substitute the variable's value by writing `'$(objects)'` (see [How to Use Variables](#)).

然后，在每个我们想要放置目标文件名列表的地方，我们可以通过写 `"$(objects)"` 来替换变量的值（参见如何使用变量）。

Here is how the complete simple makefile looks when you use a variable for the object files:

```
objects = main.o kbd.o command.o display.o \  
         insert.o search.o files.o utils.o  
  
edit : $(objects)  
      cc -o edit $(objects)  
main.o : main.c defs.h  
      cc -c main.c  
kbd.o : kbd.c defs.h command.h  
      cc -c kbd.c  
command.o : command.c defs.h command.h  
      cc -c command.c  
display.o : display.c defs.h buffer.h  
      cc -c display.c  
insert.o : insert.c defs.h buffer.h  
      cc -c insert.c  
search.o : search.c defs.h buffer.h  
      cc -c search.c  
files.o : files.c defs.h buffer.h command.h  
      cc -c files.c  
utils.o : utils.c defs.h  
      cc -c utils.c  
clean :  
      rm edit $(objects)
```