LARS M WIDELL (b. 1964 in Örebro) is a Policy Analyst at the Swedish Board of Agriculture since 2006. His main research interest is in international trade and regional economics.

Lars’ thesis consists of four separate essays that contribute to the empirical literature of international trade with new aspects related to either measurement of the human capital content of trade in exports relative to imports or to the measurement of tax evasion. The first essay builds on the Heckscher-Ohlin-Vanek extension to the Heckscher-Ohlin trade model and finds that the results are influenced by how the variables involved are measured. The second essay builds on the same theoretical background but introduces a quality adjustment in the calculations of the human capital content of trade in exports relative to imports. The quality adjustment is performed based on vertical intra-industry trade and shows that Sweden has a higher human capital content in exports relative to imports in 1997 and 2000. The third essay presents a new method in constructing symmetric input-output tables, later referred to as the Bohlin and Widell model in the literature. The last essay estimates the amount of tax evasion in trade between Kenya and Tanzania, focusing on the measurement errors in reported trade flows between both countries and their correlation with tax rates, and finds that the measurement error increases with the tax rate.