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The observed high volatility of prices of raw materials, commodities, financial instruments, foreign exchange rates or interest rates is one of the features of the global economy and markets (financial, commodity or raw materials) of recent decades and especially years. These fluctuations can often have a negative impact on the accounting and economic performance of companies.

The risk of changes in market prices is referred to as financial risk. Corporate stakeholders expect managers to be able to identify and reasonably manage an entity's exposure to financial risk, thereby protecting the net financial result of the enterprise. This task has been made easier for managers by the possibility of using in practice derivative instruments, i.e. forward contracts, futures, swaps or options, in order to limit the negative impact of adverse price changes and market factors on reported financial results. The presented problem applies also to companies listed on the Warsaw Stock Exchange (hereinafter referred to as the Warsaw Stock Exchange) from the non-financial sector, on which attention was focused in the empirical part of this dissertation.

The proper management of financial risk within an enterprise is a key issue. Management's hedging activities should have the effect of stabilizing the variability of a company's accounting and/or economic performance in practice.

Academic research conducted to date indicates that reducing financial result volatility at the net income level is the primary objective of using derivatives to manage financial risk. Also, the vast majority of managers focus on the issue of reducing the volatility of the financial result when making decisions on the use of derivatives to hedge financial risk. The literature also emphasizes that high volatility of the financial result reduces its predictability in the future and is not a desirable phenomenon for stakeholders.

The use of derivatives by companies is not only a practical problem but also the subject of scientific research. The analysis of domestic and foreign literature in this field allowed us to identify the following research areas, which the author considered to require attention and supplementation, especially on the ground of domestic literature. Firstly, empirical studies published so far in foreign literature concern the influence of using derivative instruments on stabilizing financial results at the level of net result, while there is no such comprehensive analysis and research within the framework of domestic literature. Secondly, in the foreign literature it is possible to identify empirical studies devoted to the topic of the impact of the choice of derivative recognition model (general model or hedge accounting model) on the variability of financial performance at the level of net income. In the domestic literature, this area is also not widely studied. Thirdly, most of the available studies are related to the period before the IFRS 9 regulation came into force, which could have potentially contributed to increase or decrease the volatility of companies' net earnings. The author sought to fill the identified research gaps by undertaking his own research, which covered quarterly financial statements prepared for 2016-2019 by 241 companies from the non-financial sector listed on the Warsaw Stock Exchange.

The dissertation is theoretical and empirical in nature and consists of five chapters.