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New properties of multiple harmonic sums modulo \$p\$ and \$p\$-analogues of Leshchiner's series

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In this paper we present some new identities of hypergeometric type for multiple harmonic sums whose indices are the sequences $(\{1\}^a,c,\{1\}^b),$ $(\{2\}^a,c,\{2\}^b)$ and prove a number of congruences for these sums modulo a prime \$p.\$ The congruences obtained allow us to find nice \$p\$analogues of Leshchiner's series for zeta values and to refine a result due to M. Hoffman and J. Zhao about the set of generators of the multiple harmonic sums of weight 7 and 9 modulo \$p\$. Moreover, we are also able to provide a new proof of Zagier's formula for $\frac{1}{2}^{-a}, \frac{1}{2}^{-b}$ based on a finite identity for partial sums of the zeta-star series.

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