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A -hypergeometric systems are the D -module counterparts of toric ideals, and their behavior is linked closely to the combinatorics of toric varieties. I will discuss recent work that aims to explain the behavior of the solutions of these systems as their parameters vary. Our goal is to stratify the parameter space so that solutions are locally analytic within each (connected component of a) stratum, and this turns out to be closely related to certain local cohomology modules. (Received September 18, 2015)