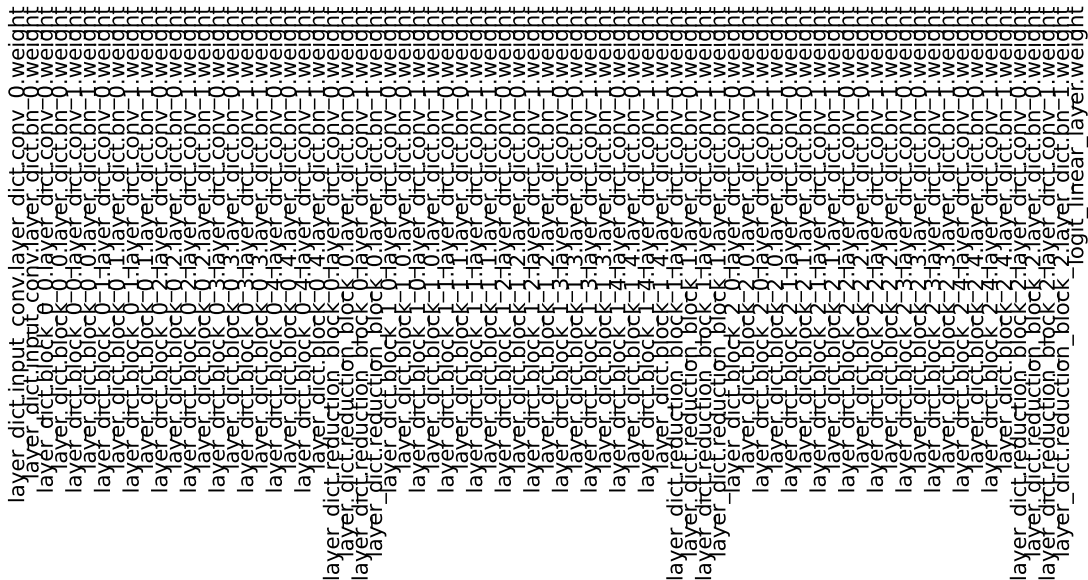Gradient flow