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Charge Conservation in RC Circuits H. L. NEAL, Physics Dept. & CTSPS, Clark Atlanta U., Atlanta, GA 30314 — Students of introductory physics are well aware of the time constant of an RC circuit. But what if not all of the capacitors in the circuit are initially charged? This situation is not adequately discussed in textbooks. We give an analysis that emphasizes the role of charge conservation in the circuit.

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