Fix for MySQL Python connector installation – Baichuan Zhou

If you are having issues with the installation of the connector (‘No module named 'mysql'’), it means somehow the connector is not properly installed/configured and actually this could be fixed quickly.

(If you haven’t install Anaconda and Pycharm, please do so because it will reduce your workload)

Let’s start from the very beginning by creating a virtual environment by using Anaconda (this could be done by many other means.) You don’t have to use virtual environment but this could save you a lot of trouble (http://docs.python-guide.org/en/latest/dev/virtualenvs/). In the terminal we type the following command to create a VE called ‘VETest’ with Python 3.5. Of course you can change the version of Python as you like (check which version of python you have in your machine by ‘which python’).

```
conda create -n VETest python=3.5 anaconda
```

You will get a prompt, type ‘y’ to agree and then Anaconda will remind you to activate the VE by typing the following command:

```
source activate VETest
```

Now you could use Anaconda to install the connector to this virtual environment you just created by typing the following command:

```
conda install -n VETest mysql-connector-python
```

A lot of you might prefer a more graphic and intuitive UI to handle this and we could do this easily in Pycharm. Let’s create a project and choose the interpreter as ‘VETest’.
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If you already have your project and you don’t want to create a new one, it is also very easy to change the interpreter (i.e. the environment you want to run in). Here is the official guide if you need one: https://www.jetbrains.com/help/pycharm/configuring-python-interpreter.html

In windows, click ‘settings’. In Macs, click ‘preference’. And you will see the windows like the one below. Click the drop down menu and select ‘VETest’. Click Apply and wait for a while (for Pycharm to finish the change) and you will be able to run lab0.py in ‘VETest’.

And of course the code will fail because we haven’t installed the connector yet. The error message will look as follows:
Click ‘Setting’ or ‘Preference’ again in the menu. And click the ‘+’ in the lower left to install new package. The office guide is here: https://www.jetbrains.com/help/pycharm/installing-uninstalling-and-upgrading-packages.html
In the new windows, type ‘mysql-connector-python’ to find the package and then select ‘install package’.

After the installation, run the code again and we can see now the connector works now.