a )

runtime: 0.015156 seconds.

b)

runtime: 1.124587

speed-up from a): 74.20078

Compared with a), the speed slow significantly, si nce the mutex would cause threads waiting for its unlock to continue.

C)

runtime: 0.031740

speed-up from a): 2.094220
speed-up from b): 0.028223

It takes longer to calculate the histogramVals compared to a), since passing local copy of histogram to main to let it calculate again would add more loops which would slow down the run-time. However, compared to b), it takes much shorter to calculate the historgram, since there is no mutex which would block the threads and slow down the run-time.

d)

runtime: 0.030251

speed-up from a): 1.995975
speed-up from b): 0.026899
speed-up from c): 0.953088

It takes longer to calculate the histogramVals compared to a), since passing local copy of histogram to main to let it calculate again would add more loops which would slow down the run-time. It only speed up a little compared with c), since there are 4 threads now running to calculate the partial histogram to combine them as a complete one. compared to b), it takes much shorter to calculate the histogram, since there is no mutex which would block the threads and slow down the run-time.