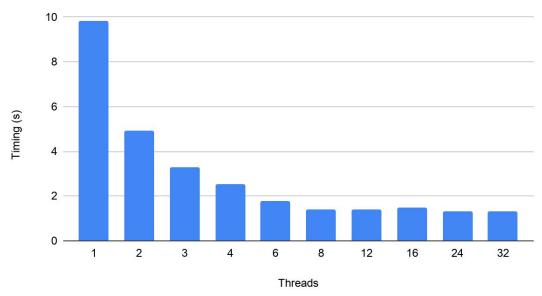
Q2:

Threads	Timing (s)
1(original)	34.416
1	9.81
2	4.903
3	3.301
4	2.523
6	1.787
8	1.4
12	1.409
16	1.475
24	1.308
32	1.315





- a) No, I only see about N-times speed up for the first few N threads, up to around 6 threads.
- b) Because after a certain number of threads, the number of available cores will bound the threads using the shared resources that are available. In this case, there are only 8 cores available so for any number of threads greater than 8, the program will start to see diminishing returns on performance.