

$$4 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 10 \text{ steps for } n = 5$$

$$(N - 1) + (N - 2) + \dots + 1 = \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} i = \frac{N(N - 1)}{2} \text{ steps for } n = N$$

$$O(\frac{N(N - 1)}{2}) = O(\frac{N^2}{2} - \frac{N}{2}) = O(N^2)$$