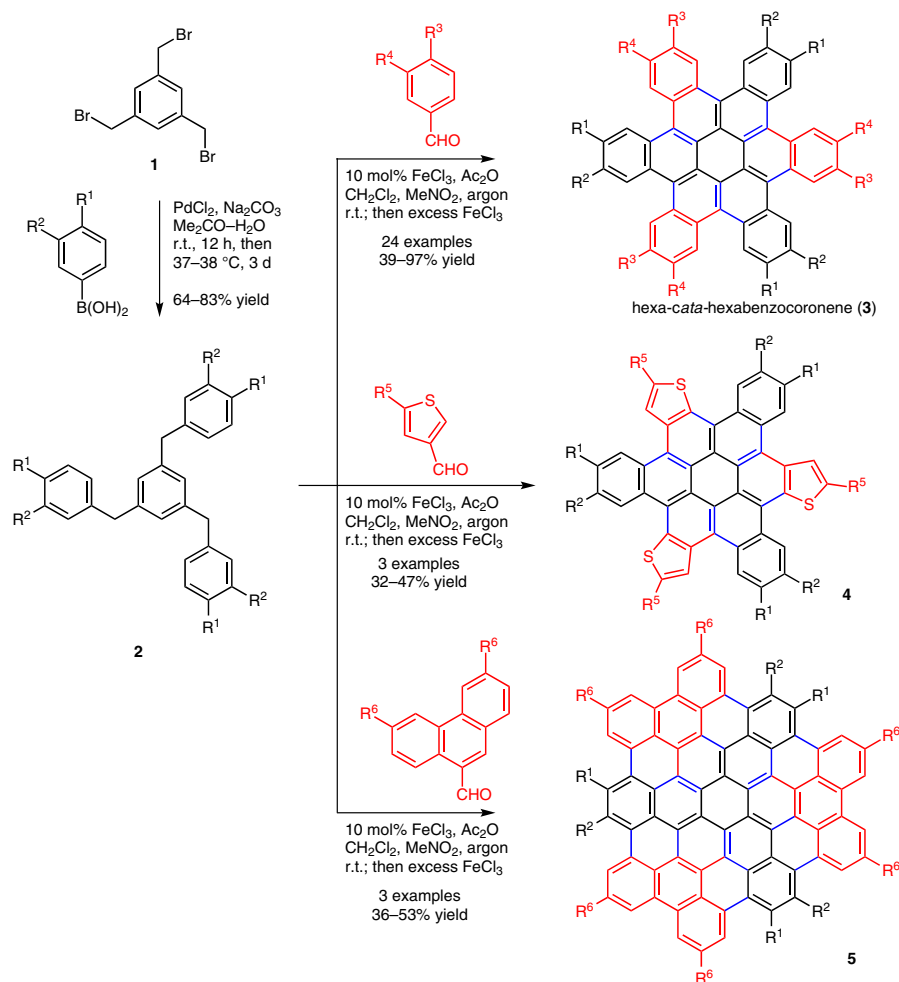


## Efficient Three-Fold Symmetrical Nanographene Synthesis



**Significance:** An efficient synthesis of nanographenes is reported. The key is recognizing that hexa-*cata*-hexabenzocoronene (*c*-HBC) possesses three-fold symmetry and that only seven of the 13 benzene rings are enough to build up *c*-HBC. **2** reacts with three equivalents of an aromatic aldehyde via Friedel–Crafts and Scholl reaction.

**Comment:** Alkoxy groups for R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> were employed to generate electron-rich compound **2** which is more reactive towards Friedel–Crafts and Scholl reaction. Bromo-substituted (R<sup>3</sup>) *c*-HBC can be potentially utilized to prepare more functionalized nanographenes.