## A <u>Physical</u> Pendulum as Simple Harmonic Motion



Rigid body with Mass **M** and **cg** fixed location CG is rotated by an angle  $\theta$  wrt vertical Rigid body will rotate about a pivot point **O** Rotation is due to torque  $\tau$  from weight The component of weight Mg sin $\theta$  gives  $\tau$ 

 $\tau = -Mg \sin\theta L = I\alpha = -I (d^2\theta/dt^2)$  $d^2\theta/dt^2 = -(MgL/I)\sin\theta$ 

Not exactly a restoring force equation Make the small angle approx.  $\sin\theta = \theta$  $d^2\theta/dt^2 = -(MgL/I)\theta$ 

Solution:  $\theta(t) = \theta_m \cos(\omega t + \phi)$ with  $\omega^2 = MgL/I$ SHM for a *physical* pendulum

Resolving the weight force Mg Component perpendicular to L provides  $\tau$  n  $\theta$